

Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem

Report on the Israeli Colonization Activities in the West Bank & the Gaza Strip

Volume 127, February 2009 Issue

<http://www.arij.org>



Bethlehem

- The Israeli Occupation Forces stormed the Supermarket of Daoud Al Muhseri from Ad Duheisha refugee camp in Bethlehem city and searched it thoroughly. Wafa (February 3, 2009).
- A large number of Israeli Occupation soldiers have shut down all three routes into the village of Tequa, southeast of Bethlehem, declaring it a 'closed military zone.' Residents have been prevented from moving in or out. No reason has been given for the closure. Maannews (February 8, 2009).
- Israeli settlers from the Beitar Illit Settlement built on the land of several western Bethlehem towns opened fire on Husan Village Monday. Settlers entered the town and began firing at houses and along the streets. PNN (February 10, 2009).
- Israeli troops raided Bet Ta'mar village and stormed the house of Dannoun Family. The IO troops also confiscated his computer and mobile phone. Maannews (February 12, 2009).

- Dozens of settlers stormed the land adjacent to the settlement of Efrat built on lands of Al Khader village west of Bethlehem city and set up two mobile 'Kravan', in an attempt to take over the lands. Wafa (February 9, 2009).
- Israeli settlers placed three mobile caravans in 'Ein Al Qasees area (located between the settlements of El'azar and Neve Daniel). There are currently 15 total caravans in the area. The owner of the land, who is from Al Khader village, reports that he has a court decision proving ownership of the land and ordering that the caravans be removed. OCHAOPT (February 10, 2009).
- More than 300 people ascended to the Eitam hill (Giv'at Ha'eytim) north of Efrat settlement to celebrate Tu Bishvat (is a minor Jewish holiday in late January or early February, that marks the "New Year of the Trees") and tried to take over Khallet An Nahla and Khalet Al Za'roor in Artas and Al Khader Villages west and southwest of Bethlehem city and annex them to Efrat Settlement. Settlers came to the sites and set up their tents guarded by Israeli Border Police. The targeted land is estimated at 160 dunums. PNN (February 14, 2009).
- The Israeli Civil Administration declared 1770 dunums of Palestinian lands located north of Efrat settlement in Bethlehem Governorate as "State lands" after rejecting eight appeals by Palestinians against the move. The ICA decision paves the way for the West Bank settlement outpost (Giv'at Ha'eytim hill) to start the process of seeking government approval to build there. Some 2,500 housing units are expected to be built in the area. [Haaretz \(February 16, 2009\)](#).
- Israeli forces prevented Dozens of Palestinians and some 50 foreign volunteers from throughout the world to help farmers grow olive trees in the face of Israeli occupation at the site known as "the Creek." which the Israelis razed for a military checkpoint in Jab'a Village in western Bethlehem Governorate. Israeli soldiers declared the western Bethlehem area a "closed military zone" and forced Jab'a farmers, members of the nonviolent resistance, and dozens of foreigners to leave. Maannews (February 17, 2009).

- The Israeli Civil Administration served citizens of Al Jab'a village southwest of Bethlehem city two military orders. The first order holds number 11/09 and states to “evacuate” or clear-cut the 300 newly planted Olive trees in the land owned by Citizen Khaled Masha'lah. The second order "Israel **Military Order No. 378. Order** Concerning Security Provisions, declares 940 dunums of lands of Al Jab'a village as closed military area. Maannews (February 18, 2009).
- Israeli police and soldiers uprooted 170 newly planted olive trees from privately owned Palestinian land in the West Bank village of Al-Jab'a, southwest of Bethlehem. Israeli personnel uprooted each of the young trees individually, along with plastic protective tubes and wooden stakes. A crew of American and European volunteers had planted the trees last Sunday with a program organized by the Joint Advocacy Initiative (JAI) of the YMCA of Palestine. A farmer named Abu Firas, who has documents dating to the Ottoman era proving ownership of the land, owns the land. Maannews (February 19, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation forces staged into Um Rukba neighborhood in Al Khader village, stormed the house of Kahlil Marzouq Salah, took over it, and transformed in into a military post. Al Quds (February 22, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation Troops staged into Um Rukba neighborhood in Al Khader village, stormed a number of Palestinian houses, and messed with the contents. Among owners, the following were known: Mahoud Al Wahsh and Abdullah Sbeih. Wafa (February 24, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation troops staged into Al 'Asakrah village in Berthlehem Governorate and stormed the house of Sami Muhammad 'Iweda. Wafa (February 25, 2009).

Jerusalem

- The Israeli army had bulldozed four dunums of land belonging to Al-A'bbasi family in Al-Bustan neighborhood of Silwan, near the Al-Aqsa Mosque-area illegal settlement of David City, itself adjacent to Al-Mughrabi Gate into East Jerusalem's Old City to establish a parking lot for visitors to the "City of David," located near the Dung Gate in Jerusalem city. Maannews (February 1, 2009).

- A floor collapsed at a United Nations-affiliated school in East Jerusalem injuring 17 Palestinian schoolchildren. The floor collapsed because of excavations that Israeli antiquities authorities have been carrying out under the Old City, particularly near the Al-Aqsa Mosque, which is located just 100 meters from the damaged school. Girls fell into a 1.5 to 2-meter deep ditch that opened up when the floor collapsed during the students' fifth period class. Maannews (February 1, 2009).
- Israel has invested close to NIS 200 million during the past two years in preparing infrastructure for construction of housing units to create a contiguous block between Ma'ale Adumim and East Jerusalem. The Ma'aleh Adumim Municipality is planning to build 3,500 housing units at the E1 area (12,000 dunum north of Route 1, between Jerusalem and Ma'aleh Adumim) which, in an official statement, will constitute "contiguous construction between our city to the capital Jerusalem and will be the Zionist response that will prevent the division of Jerusalem and the dislocation of Ma'aleh Adumim and Gush Adumim from the capital of Israel." The other side of the coin is that this sort of contiguity will prevent Palestinian construction between East Jerusalem to Ramallah, and will make it difficult to reach agreement between Israel and the Palestinians on the question of permanent borders. Haaretz (February 1, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Bulldozers demolished the three-storey house of 'Imran Ghayth in Ras Khamis neighborhood in Jerusalem city due to its location close to the Israeli Segregation Wall. Each floor occupies a total land area of 140 meters square and is still under construction. The IO bulldozers also demolished the 160 meters square and under construction house of Nabil Ghayth in Ras Khamis neighborhood. It is worth mentioning that Mr. Nabil received a house demolition order on the 29th of January 29, which gave him 15 days to object the demolition process, but the Israeli bulldozers rushed to demolish his house. Loses are estimated at 100 thousand NIS. PNN (February 3, 2009).
- The Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem gave the green light to Arya King, a member of the Ateret Cohanim Jewish Organization to build "Sha'are Mezrach" in Ras Shihada neighborhood in Shu'fat Refugee camp north of Jerusalem city under the pretext of being unlicensed. PNN (February 3, 2009).

- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers demolished the garage of Net Transportation Company in Jabal Al Zaytoun neighborhood in At Tur area in Jerusalem City, which is owned by Citizen Sami Abu Dayyah and is established on 5 dunums of land. The Bulldozers also demolished the wall surrounding the office, which is 250 meters long. In addition, the Israeli bulldozers demolished a wall, which surrounds a 2-dunums vacant land owned by Citizen Sami Abu Dayyah at the entrance of Az Zayyem town. Wafa (February 3, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers also demolished a large warehouse for construction materials located on 2 dunums land in At Tur area. Estimated losses are 80 thousand NIS. Wafa (February 3, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers demolished Idkeik Gas Station (600 meters square) in Az Zayyem town in Jerusalem city owned by Hasan Khalil Idkeik. The bulldozers also demolished two offices (30 meters square) in the Gas station and the infrastructure of the Station and the car wash section and Gas Tanks. Wafa (February 3, 2009).
- The Israeli settlers closed with cement blocks the windows of Al Kurd Family in Ash Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood. Al Quds (February 4, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation authorities closed down Zayed bin Thabet Quran center in Sur Baher city and confiscated its contents. Al Quds (February 3, 2009).
- The commander of the Israeli occupation forces in the West Bank issued a new military order number S/02/09 in accordance with the 1970 military order number 378. The new order called for the declaration of a “seam zone” in Jabal Al Soumod (Al Soumod Mountain) Area in Ar Ram Town. According to the new order, Palestinian citizens and owners of lands located beyond the Wall must apply to the occupation forces to get a special permit to access their land. Also, accessing the land will only be permitted through specific crossing points including the following:
 - Az Z'ayyem Crossing
 - Mazmuryia crossing
 - DahiyatAl Bareed Gate
 - Beit Hanina East Gate
 - Beit Hanina West Gate

- Rachel's Tomb Crossing
 - Ar Ram Crossing Border.
- Moreover, the military order has allowed the so-termed “Israeli” to access the newly declared “seam zone.” The order defined the “Israeli” as fitting any one of the following categories:
 - A citizen of the State of Israel.
 - A resident of the State of Israel who is registered in the Israeli Population Registry in accordance with the Population Registry Law of the year 1965.
 - Any one who has the right to immigrate to Israel in accordance with the “Law of Return” of the year 1950.
 - The seam zone is defined in the military order as the lands previously confiscated from Palestinians through the following Israeli Military Orders:
 - Military Order No. 05/08/T
 - Military Order No. 06/27/T
 - Military Order No. 05/09/T (Amendment)
 - Military Order No. 05/57/T (Amendment)
 - Military Order No. 04/22/T
 - Military Order No. 03/48/T
 - Military Order No. 03/49/T
 - Military Order No. 04/05/T
 - Military Order No. 03/74/T
 - Military Order No. 02/27/T
 - Military Order No. 03/14/T
 - Military Order No. 02/13/T
- Defense Minister Ehud Barak has agreed to approve the establishment of a new settlement in the Binyamin region in return for settlers' agreement to evacuate the illegal outpost of Migron. The Migron settlers will move into the new 250-house settlement after leaving the illegal one they built on private Palestinian land. The first stage of construction of the new West Bank community will incorporate 50 houses until permission is received for further construction. In order to build the settlement, a detailed construction plan incorporating 1,400 housing units will have to be approved. The new site is a kilometer

away from the built-up section of the Adam settlement, located east of the separation fence. Haaretz (February 3, 2009).

- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers demolished the under construction house (100 meters square) of Musa Muhammad Abdullah Hamdan, and the 120 meters square house of Hatem Hussein Khalil and another house owned by Muhammad Ahmad Musa Mustafa (200 meters square area) under the pretext of lacking valid building permits in Al 'Esawiyah town east of Jerusalem city. Al Quds (February 5, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers demolished the under construction houses (450 meters square area) of Nabil and Muhammad Ahmad Mustafa in Al 'Esawiya town; in addition, the IO bulldozers demolished the wall that surrounds the house of Ahmad Ali Musa in the town. Al Quds (February 5, 2009).
- The Israeli Antiques authorities revealed a plan to construct a new tunnel north of 'Ein Silwan Mosque, in Silwan city south of Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem city. The tunnel will be linked to a network of tunnels that are being built in Silwan neighborhood and reaching Al Aqsa Mosque from its southwestern side. Al Quds (February 6, 2009).
- Some Jewish Groups intend to install cameras inside Al Aqsa Mosque from one of the outposts in the old city of Jerusalem to control every single move and follow-up with the presence of Jewish groups and their activities inside the Mosque. Al Quds (February 7, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation bulldozers demolished 4 Bedouin barracks to families living east of Al 'Ezariyah and caused the displacement of 35 persons. The IOF gave the Bedouins no time to salvage their properties. Al Quds (February 7, 2009).
- A group of Jewish Extremists took over a residential building in Muragha neighborhood in Silwan city and settled in the building. Al Quds (February 8, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities and groups of Jewish extremists aggressed on Al Bayyara land located close to the Jewish Synagogue, which was erected some months ago in an attempt to take over the land. Al Quds (February 8, 2009).

- The Israeli Occupation Bulldozers demolished the 130 meters square house of Khaled As Sayyad in Al Sahel Area in At Tur neighborhood and displace 7 people. The house was demolished under the pretext of lacking Valid Building permits. Al Quds (February 9, 2009).
- Sixty thousand residents of Jerusalem's Al Ram are under threat as the Israeli administration has declared the area around the Wall in the suburb as a "military zone," beginning with the month of February. The IA is to convert Jerusalem into an Israeli city that include the Wall, settlements and land confiscation is the withdrawal of the blue Israeli-issued identification from Al Ram residents and the closing of the Beit Hanina gate. This is the only passage left in and out of the suburb for Palestinians. The Israeli administration assigns ID to all Palestinians, including "blue" for Jerusalem and "green" for the West Bank. PNN (February 10, 2009).
- The Israeli authorities have declared the confiscation of two plots of land for "public use" in the At Tur neighborhood of Mount of Olives. One plot is 7.5 dunums and the other is 9 dunums. According to signs posted at the sites, anyone able to prove ownership of the land can contact the Jerusalem Municipality within two months of the announcement of confiscation in order to receive compensation. Located on the two plots are an estimated 45 housing units (in structures ranging between one and three stories), most of which are inhabited. OCHAOPT (February 12, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation Soldiers operating Shu'fat Camp checkpoint aggressed on Mkhemer family members, arrested them, and took them to Neve Yacoov Detention Center. Al Quds (February 14, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation bulldozers resumed razing Ma'man Allah cemetery in Jerusalem city to build what they call ' the tolerance museum' where the graves of Muslims are. Wafa (February 16, 2009).
- Citizen Jameel Al Shaludi demolishes his own 120 meters square house in Al 'Aqaba neighborhood in Beit Hanina city north of Jerusalem city for not being able to pay a penalty estimated at 130 thousand NIS imposed on him by the Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem for building without proper licensing documents. Not forgetting to mention that the house was inhabited by 7 family members. Al Quds (February 15, 2009).

- Israeli police and border guards stormed garages in Al-Eizariya, east of Jerusalem, and searched a number of cars and confiscated several others. Maannews (February 16, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation bulldozers demolished 4 Bedouin tents on Al Ezariyeh – Ramallah road close to Ma'ale Adumim settlement and confiscated water tanks and caused damages to the properties. Al Quds (February 17, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation soldiers closed Ar-Ram Gate, installed surveillance cameras on the closed gate, and hedged it with barbed wires thus ensuring the separation of Jerusalem city from the rest of the West Bank Governorates. Israeli Occupation Forces also issued permits to families who hold West Bank IDs and live in the part of Ar Ram, which will be annexed to Jerusalem. Al Quds (February 17, 2009).
- The Israeli reconciliation court will look into the case of evacuating 27 Palestinian houses in Ash Shiekh Jarrah neighborhood in Jerusalem city. Al Quds (February 19, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities in Jerusalem city warned citizen Hasan Muhammad Al 'Ateeq to demolish his house in the Old City of Jerusalem based on a court order issued on the 9th of February 2009 or else, the Authorities will have to demolish the house. The house is one of five apartments slated for demolition in Al Laqlaq neighborhood. Al Quds (February 19, 2009).
- The Israeli regional Committee for building and planning cancelled the master plan of Al Bustan neighborhood in Silwan city, which has been undergoing a process of ratification by the committee. The cancelation of the plan will threaten the existence of the 88 homes (housing at least 1500 people) in the neighborhood. Al Quds (February 19, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation authorities have begun bulldozing portions of the Ma'aman Allah Muslim cemetery in Jerusalem, where the West Jerusalem municipality intends to build a museum. Construction workers are already laying crushed grass and wood on parts of the cemetery. The Municipality has also built a wall around the 30 dunums cemetery and has installed surveillance cameras. A "Museum of Tolerance" is planned for the site. In October the Israeli High Court of Justice overturned objections from two Muslim groups to the

construction of the 200 million-dollar project. Maannews (February 19, 2009).

- Jerusalem Municipality offers to voluntarily relocate 1,500 Palestinian residents from Silwan city. Two alternative locations were proposed, one on a different hill in Silwan, and the other in the neighborhood of Beit Hanina, in the northeast of the city. The talk is about 88 buildings in Al Bustan neighborhood in Silwan city east of Jerusalem's old city wall in an area called "the garden of the King," described by the Israeli Antiquities Authority as a "great archaeological importance. Paltoday (February 20, 2009).
- An Israeli plan to build a tunnel of 56 meters long, which will link the walling wall with the Jewish Quarter inside Old city of Jerusalem. Al Quds (February 21, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities served 88 families of Al Bustan neighborhood in Silwan city south of Jerusalem military orders to evacuate their houses under the pretext of building without proper licensing documents. The Israeli Jerusalem Municipality has ratified a project to build public parks in the place. The process will cause the displacement of 1500 Palestinian citizen living in 88 houses in the neighborhood. Al Jazeera (February 23, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation bulldozers demolished for the sixth time the tent of Em Kamel Al Kurd in Ash Shiekh Jarrah neighborhood. Al Quds (February 23, 2009).
- The Israeli-controlled Jerusalem Magistrate's Court issued an eviction order to the house of Ibrahim Farhan in Ash Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in Jerusalem city. The house is a total area of 26 square meters with a living room, kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, and hallway. Ibrahim Farhan, his wife, and mother live there. PNN (February 23, 2009).
- The Israeli Jerusalem Municipality handed out citizen Mahmoud 'Illian from Sur Baher town southeast of Jerusalem city an order to demolish his house to make room for an Israeli colonial neighborhood of 180 new housing units to be implemented. The colonial plan comes under number 7977. Al-Maqdese (February 23, 2009).

- Israeli Occupation bulldozers destroyed the water pipes in Al Jib village northwest of Jerusalem city as they were bulldozing the land preparing for the construction of the Israeli Segregation Wall. The destruction of water pipes has led to water cut off 300 Palestinian citizens living in the village. Al Quds (February 24, 2009).
- Israeli police imposed tight restrictions on entry to Jerusalem and on worship at the Al-Aqsa Mosque, fearing protests over the planned demolition of some 90 Palestinian houses in the city. Men under the age of 45, even those holding Israeli-issued IDs, are barred from prayer at the Al-Aqsa Mosque. Maanews (February 27, 2009)
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities closed down the Airport's old road with iron blocks, which reaches the Hampshire Junction with Qalandyia city. This in turn separates Atarot Industrial Zone from its surroundings. Al Quds (February 27, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation authorities served 51 Palestinian families in Jabal Al Mukkabir south of Jerusalem city demolition orders to Al Ja'abis family citing that their homes were built without permits. Al-Maqdese (February 28, 2009).
- Seventy-Five Palestinian Houses are threatened of Demolition in Al Foul neighborhood in Beit Hanina city north of Jerusalem city by the Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem after stalling the ratification of the neighborhood's master plan, which was prepared by its residents some years ago. Al-Maqdese (February 28, 2009).

Jenin

- The Israeli Occupation Forces staged into Qabatyia city and broke into the house of Muhammad 'Iweidat after surrounding the house from all directions. The IO soldiers forced citizens to evacuate the house under the threat of weapons and carried out an intensive house search campaign. The IOF also set up a flying checkpoint at the entrance of Zabuba village north of Jenin city and obstructed the movement of Palestinians. Wafa (February 8, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers razed 20 dunums of lands of Imreha village south of Ya'bad town in Jenin Governorate planted with Olives and Almonds Trees to construct a military watchtower and to

erect a new road that will lead to Imreha Mountain. Maannews (February 9, 2009).

- The Israeli Occupation Authorities surveyed the lands of 'Arqa village southwest of Jenin city. Wafa(February 10, 2009)
- The Israeli Occupation Forces stormed the village of Kafr Ra'I southwest of Jenin city and set up a flying checkpoint at the entrance of the village, which obstructed the movement of Villagers into and out of the village. Wafa (February 11, 2009).
- Israeli occupation forces stormed the village of Fahma south-west of Jenin city and searched the contents of dozens of homes and stole money and gold from the house of Mufeed Mohammad Mansara (1000 Jordanian Dinars) and broke his own cellular phone; the IOF also stole an amount of (1000 Jordanian dinars) from the house of Mohammad Yousuf Manasra. In addition, the IOF soldiers also broke into a number of commercial shops, of which, the following were known: Mohammed Wadi' Sa'abneh, Mohamed Said Sa'abneh and Nimir Yousif Nawasra. Wafa (February 12, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Forces set up two temporary checkpoints at the entrances of Beit Qad and Jalboun villages east of Jenin city, stopped vehicles, and checked the identities of people entering and leaving the villages. Wafa (February 8, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation Bulldozers started razing some lands in Zabuba and Rummana village west of Jenin city, which are located in close proximity of Salem Military Camp. The razing process aims at expanding the camp. Owners of the lands are Sadeq Muhammad Abu Baker & Al Ahmad Family. Wafa (February 15, 2009).
- Israeli military jeeps invaded the city of Jenin from every directions, broke into several homes—ransacking them—while intensely firing live ammunition and percussion grenades.” Maannews (February 16, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation forces erected three flying checkpoints southwest and east of Jenin city north of the West Bank. The first checkpoint was erected at 'Arraba village entrance southwest of Jenin city; the second checkpoint was erected at the entrance of the neighboring village,

Fahma; while the third checkpoint was erected at the entrance of 'Arrbouna village east of Jenin city. Wafa (February 17, 2009).

- The Israeli Occupation Authorities gave Citizen Muhammad Nawwaf Hamdouni from Imreha hamlet southwest of Jenin city a military order to halt the construction at his house under the pretext of lacking valid building permits. Wafa (February 17, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation troops deployed by helicopter landed near the American Arab University near the West Bank city of Jenin. Israeli troops spread across the hills and other areas between the village of Zababida and the university as Israeli aircraft flew overhead. Maannews (February 19, 2009).
- More than 30 Israeli military vehicles entered the village of Ya'bud west of Jenin city from the east. The soldiers raided the homes of three brothers, Atef, Adnan and Nafe'Zaid Al-Kilani. The brothers and their families were forced to evacuate their houses. The soldiers also raided a store belonging to Zein Abu Baker and an agricultural supply store owned by Mustafa Al-Khatib. Maannews (February 19, 2009)
- The Israeli Occupation troops staged into Masliya village south of Jenin city, stormed the house of Abdel Rahim Abul Rob, and messed with its contents. Wafa (February 22, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation troops Al Yamun village west of Jenin city and stormed the house of Bajes Hamdiya under the pretext of being wanted by the Israeli Forces. The IO troops forced house members to evacuate and wait in the cold weather for hours. The soldiers also messed up with the house contents and caused some damages to properties. Wafa (February 25, 2009).
- The IO forces set up a temporary checkpoint between Burqin and Muthalath Al Shuhada villages in Jenin Governorate and obstructed the Palestinian vehicular movement. Wafa (February 25, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation forces harassed the family of Sha'ban Shafeeq Khaled Ziod from Silat Al Harthiya in Jenin Governorate and stole money (1000 NIS) from the house after carrying out a thorough search. The soldiers forced house members to evacuate the house under the

threat of weapons, messed up with the house contents, and caused severe damages to properties. Wafa (February 25, 2009).

- The Israeli Occupation Soldiers stormed the house of Yousif Zeidan and Muhammad Zeidan in the eastern neighborhood of Jenin city and carried out an intensive house search. Al Quds (February 27, 2009).

Hebron

- The Israeli settlers from Kiryat Arba' settlement backed up by Israeli Bulldozers and Border Police aggressed on Palestinian lands and started razing and destroying vast areas of Agricultural lands located in Al 'Ideseh area, about 300 meters to the east of the Israeli Bypass Road number 60 under the pretext of being classified by the Israeli as "State Lands". The settlers uprooted more than 100 Olive trees and destroyed about 400 meters long retaining walls. The settlers targeted 10 dunums of lands out of 50 dunums slated for confiscation by the Israeli settlers which are owned by brothers Isma'il, Amin and Kamel Yousif Jaradat. Wafa (January 3, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities stormed the house of Isma'il Al Sweiti from Beit 'Awwa village south of Hebron city. The IO forces also stormed the houses of Tayseer Shehdeh 'Ali Manasra, Saif Muhammad Abdel Karim Abu 'Asab and Iyad 'Ali Muhammad 'Odeh Al Faqeer. Wafa (February 3, 2009).
- The Israeli occupation forces in the West Bank issued a new military order number S/03/09 in accordance with the 1970 military order number 378. The new order called for the declaration of a "seam zone" in the Governorate of Hebron. The new zone includes all lands located behind the Wall in the villages of Surif, Jaba', Khirbet al Deir, Kharas, Nuba, Beit 'Ula, Tarqumiya and Idhna all of which are located west of the Governorate. The lands also include those located in the towns of Deir Samit, Beit Awwa, the so-called "Front Line" villages west of the town of Dura in addition to Arab Al Ramadien and the area of Lassefer in the most southern parts of the Governorate. According to the new order, Palestinian farmers, residents and owners of lands located beyond the Wall must apply to the occupation forces to get a special permit to access their land. Also, accessing the land will only be permitted through specific crossing points including the following:

- Jaba' point located west of the town of Surif
- Khirbet Al Deir
- Tarqumiya checkpoint
- Idhna gate
- Deir Samit gate
- Beit Awwa gate
- Deir Al Asal gate
- Shani point.
- Sinsana gate, located west of the village of Arab Al Ramadien
- Meitar gate, located west of the town of Adh Dhahiriya.

Moreover, the military order has allowed the so-termed "Israeli" to access the newly-declared "seam zone." The order defined the "Israeli" as fitting any one of the following categories:

- A citizen of the State of Israel.
- A resident of the State of Israel who is registered in the Israeli Population Registry in accordance with the Population Registry Law of the year 1965.
- Any one who has the right to immigrate to Israel in accordance with the "Law of Return" of the year 1950. Yatta Village Council (February 3, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation forces knocked down 150 olive trees, almonds and timber trees in a field owned by Ahmad Abdullah Ghannam on the road to Israeli military base in Al-Majnuna area east of Tarrama village, south of Hebron city. IOF claimed there was an obstacle on the main road in the village, and as a result they bulldozed dozens. Maannews (February 10, 2009).
- The Israeli occupation forces carried out raids and searches of a number of green houses in Sa'ir town north of Hebron city under the pretext of searching for 'prohibited material'. Plastic houses are owned by Mohammad Yassin Shalaldah. Wafa (February 12, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Army aggressed on Al Shamasty Family while they were on their way to make a picnic east Yatta town south of Hebron city and detained them for hours at 'Asfar Checkpoint. Wafa (February 31, 2009).
- The Israel Occupation Forces is considering opening a key route in the West Bank city of Hebron to Palestinian traffic, after it has been restricted

for Jews only for the past 10 years. The road, Zion Route, leads from the Jewish settlement of Kiryat Arba to the Cave of the Patriarchs and is parallel to Shuhasa Street, which is still closed to Palestinians. The road was closed to Palestinian traffic more than 10 years ago for security reasons, due to a large number of terror attacks which took place along the route. Because only Jews have been allowed to travel on it for years, it has often been nicknamed "the apartheid route".

- Israeli Occupation soldiers aggressed on Citizen Sameer Abdel Hakeem Abu Sneneh and his son at Tarqumia crossing and stole his handbag. Al Quds (February 17, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers started razing lands in Yatta town south of Hebron city in preparation to construct a new bypass road of 500 meters long and 7 meters wide in the vicinity of Karmi'el settlement. Lands are owned by Qar'iesh, Abu Hmeid, Daoud, Abu Fanar. Palestinian villagers have been forbidden to go near the area. Wafa (February 18, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation soldiers stormed the store of Mufeed Khaled 'Alqam in Beit Ummer town north of Hebron city and caused damages to the properties and broke the windows. Israeli soldiers also stormed a number of Palestinian houses, of which, the following were known: Waheeb Bader Hussein Awad, Sameer Abderl Rahman Abu 'Ayyash and Bahjat Al 'Allamah. Wafa (February 21, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Forces staged into Beit Ummer, Nuba and Yatta towns northwest and south of Hebron city and stormed a number of Palestinian houses. Among houses, the following were known: The houses of Khalil and mUsa Shihada Al Makhamra. IOF also took over some Palestinian houses in Beit Ummer town and transferred them into military posts. Among owners, the following were known: Badran Awad and Sameer Hame dSabarneh. Al Quds (February 24, 2009).
- The Israeli military troops have issued an order to confiscate farmland in order to build a 295-meter barbed-wire fence separating the West Bank town of Beit Ummar from an adjacent highway. Residents are constantly attacked by the Israeli soldier staffing a checkpoint on the road at the entrance of the town. These attacks include nighttime raids on homes, shootings, and arrests. Maannews (February 27, 2009).

Ramallah

- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers staged into Ni'lin village west of Ramallah city and bulldozed 20 Olive Trees owned by 'Atta Mustafa Hussein to establish a crossing and a tunnel. Al Quds (February 17, 2009).

Qalqilyah

- Israeli Occupation forces have brought a bulldozer into the northern West Bank village of Jayyus east of Qalqilyah city in order to raze the land at the south gate of Jayyous. At least 10 olive trees have been uprooted thus far but the destruction continues. Farmland is destroyed while some 600 people from the village have mobilized to try to stop the bulldozer. Israeli soldiers are blocking the roads, preventing residents from reaching the land. PNN (February 5, 2009).
- Israeli forces ransacked the home of Bahjat Al-Jayyousi, the official Interior Ministry Director for Qalqilyah Governorate. Mr Jayyousi also sustained minor injuries when soldiers assaulted him and his family. Maannews (February 13, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation Authorities hindered Palestinian farmers of Azzun Al Atmeh village located east of Qalqilyah city from transferring their agricultural products (Fruits, Vegetables and Citrus products) through checkpoints to the market. The IOF also hindered Palestinians from entering supplies and agricultural supplies and animal feed. Al Quds (February 17, 2009).
- Several Israeli military vehicles surrounded the village of Jayyus east of Qalqilyia city, blocked the main road using earth piles and rocks, and used loudspeakers to announce a curfew and declared the village a “Closed Military Area” and prevented local and international journalist from entering and order all the youth of the town to gather for inspection in the local school. Once the youth were gathered Israeli soldiers separated 20 and took them to an unknown location and by noon more than 65 had been detained. The Israeli military activity was concentrated at the Shamasnah neighborhood and the town’s center. The soldiers occupied ten homes and raised an Israeli flag on the roofs of several buildings with strategic vantage points across the town. Two of the raided and vandalized homes were that of Jabir Shamasnah and then that of town’s mayor Abu At-Tahir. Maannews (February 18, 2009).

- Israeli forces withdrew from the West Bank village of Qalqilyah on Wednesday evening after a 15 hour military operation in which some 65 Palestinians were rounded up and held in a school and dozens of houses raided. Israeli troops occupied Palestinians' houses and conducted house to house raids in what they said was a search for weapons. Seventeen people were taken from the village by the Israeli military. Israeli forces had destroyed the interior of residents' houses. The town's school, where locals were taken for interrogation, was also damaged in addition, the science laboratory and computer room were vandalized. Israeli troops also stole 450 shekels (over 100 US dollars) from his house. Yousef Mahmoud Waked said 3,200 shekels were stolen from him. Fadi Methqal Shamasneh said that troops seized documents from his house. Maannews (February 18, 2009).
- The route of the Israeli Segregation wall south of Qalqilyah city was adjusted to separate five Palestinian villages of Ras Tira, Wadi Ar-Rasha, Ad-Dab'a, Ar-Ramadin and Abu Farda Bedouin hamlets. The adjustment came after a previous Israeli High Court of Justice decision in May 2006. The adjusted route leaves Palestinian residents with two bitter choices; either to be isolated between four walls and be subject to humiliation on a daily basis as they have to go through the wall's gate every day, or to be freed of this isolation, but the price will be losing all their agricultural lands and pastures. The route of the wall in that area will be three kilometers long, and 2,500 dunums of land will be dug up, of which 70 percent is olive groves and the rest is used as pastures. The village that will suffer the most is Wadi Ar-Rasha, which will lose 80 percent of its land, while Ras Tira will lose 60 percent of its land. Both villages will have no sources of income for their residents, neither will there be any possibility for natural demographic expansion in future. Israeli authorities plan to build a new bypass road to replace the present Road 55. This road will also swallow more of the two villages' lands and isolate the rest. The route of the wall will be 100-200 meters away from villagers' house, which means the residents will always be in a "state of emergency" as is the case in all other West Bank villages close to the wall. As for Ar-Ramadin's and Abu Farda's Bedouins, Israeli forces will take advantage of the fact that they don't own the lands they are camping on as a pretext to expel them. Maannews (February 23, 2009).

Tubas

- The Israeli Occupation forces staged into Yezra Hamlet east of Tubas city and stormed a number of houses and tents in the hamlet. IOF also forced citizens out of their houses while they carried out an intensive house search. Wafa (February 9, 2009).
- An Israeli police dog attacked an elderly, paralyzed man during an arrest raid in the northern west bank village of Tammun. Israeli forces raided the house of 105-year-old Salem Fadel Bani Odeh, suspecting that “wanted” Palestinian men were inside the house. The dog jumped on Odeh, biting his chest and ear. Israeli soldiers also smashed the windows of his car. Maannews (February 20, 2009).

Salfit

- The Israeli Occupation Forces staged into Marda village south of Salfit city and stormed the houses of Ayoub Abdel 'Aziz Suleiman and Ahmad Najeh Al Khofash. The IOF searched the contents of the houses and caused some damages to the properties. Wafa (February 3, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers razed 90 dunums of lands in Mas-ha village west of Salfit city. The razing process is taking place in Shams Hamlet in Wadi Al Shami area and is owned by Inherits of Ibrahim Abdullah 'Amer. Wafa (February 3, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation Bulldozers along with Israeli settlers razed and ploughed some areas of land in Al Naqqar Mountain in Yasuf village south of Salfit city. The settlers set up a number of mobile caravans on top of the mountain which is close to Tapuh settlement. Maannews (February 5, 2009).
- Israeli settlers of Tapuh settlement which is illegally established on lands of Yasuf village south of Nablus city, aggressed on Palestinian lands in the village, razed and closed 150 dunums of land in an attempt to expand the settlement's borders. Settlers have set up a plastic house in the place and brought a number of sheep and cattle, and they started planting seedlings in the area that is being leveled near the settlement. OCHAOPT & Al Ayyam (February 6, 2009).
- Israeli forces stormed the village of Mas-ha and detained an An-Najah university student. Forces destroyed several rooms in the home then detained Na'el Abdel-Halim Subhi Amer. Maannews (February 16, 2009).

Nablus

- The Israeli Occupation Bulldozers closed down Huwwara checkpoint south of Nablus city and hindered hundreds of Palestinians from accessing the checkpoint. Wafa (February 3, 2009).
- The Israeli High court ruled a final court decision to demolish 25 houses in Khirbet Tana near Beit Furik (Nablus). About 180 persons will be displaced. These families are herders living in caves, tin shacks and tents. The Israeli army demolished 22 houses including the school on 5 July 05 and rebuild by Rabbis for Human Rights. PNN (February 4, 2009).
- Israeli forces invaded the village of Beit Furik east of Nablus, invaded and ransacked homes. Maannews (February 7, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation forces erected a flying military checkpoint near the Odlá crossroads south of Nablus. Dozens of Palestinian-plated cars were stopped in line for inspection, causing huge delays. Israeli border guards were inspecting dozens of cars as they passed the make-shift military-point and were checking all identity cards. This is the second temporary checkpoint installed around Nablus in the past week. Three days ago a military post was set up near the village of Beita south of Nablus. The checkpoint remains in place and continues to cause delays in traffic and humiliation for civilians. Maannews (February 15, 2009).
- Israeli prison guards at the Huwwara detention center have installed surveillance equipment in cells and common areas and are using information obtained by the devices Maannews (February 15, 2009).
- Israeli settlers from the settlement Homesh near the West Bank city of Nablus pulled the 57-year-old Ibrahim Shalash Hamour from his car, beating him on the head. The settlers then set fire to the taxi. Maannews (February 18, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation Forces stormed Tana village east of Beit Furik village in Nablus Governorate and handed warrants to five Palestinian families in question, ordering them to evacuate their homes within 72 hours or else the authorities will force them to leave the village, fine them and arrest all violators and confiscate all of their properties, including sheep. The families served with notices as Muhammad Nasasra, Dawood Khatatba, Abdul-Hamid Khatatba, Arafat Khatatba, and Radwan Khatatba. 25 other

families were served notices on January 26, 2009, and that 12,000 dunums of agricultural land had been confiscated from the town, leaving just 6,000 dunums for the land's indigenous owners. PNN (February 22, 2009).

- Dozens of Israeli settlers backed by the army stormed the tomb of Prophet Joseph near Balata refugee camp, east of Nablus. The settlers who came to the area were backed by Israeli soldiers; they entered the tomb under the pretext of performing religious rituals. A number of Israeli military vehicles accompanied the buses by which settlers arrived to the area and waited two hours until they finished their rituals. Maannews (February 23, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation troops raided the West Bank village of Deir Sharaf, west of the city of Nablus and handed out documents summoning eight people for interrogation by the Israeli intelligence services at the Huwwara military base. Citizens are: Omar Issa, Iyad Tabary, Rami Tabary, Imad Faqha, Nassar Faqha and Diya' Faqha and others were summoned. Maannews (February 24, 2009).
- More than 30 Israeli military vehicles entered the Old City of Nablus and the surrounding neighborhoods and destroyed the front doors of stores on An-Naser Street and other areas. The soldiers also raided the Thafer Al-Masri School near Ras Al-Ein in Nablus. Israeli troops stormed the Asia TV station and imprisoned the director of the station, Ayman Al-Qadiri, and two employees in one room. No equipment was confiscated, but that the soldiers switched off all the broadcasting equipment, and used the studio as a lookout position to monitor the nearby school as they were searching it. Meanwhile, Israeli Occupation forces stormed house of Imad Qandil in the old city and set off an explosive device in the kitchen, claiming that there was a tunnel under the house. Israeli soldiers stormed dozens of houses in the area. Maannews (February 24, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation troops set up a temporary checkpoint at Beta's village junction south of Nablus city and obstructed Palestinian movement. Wafa (February 24, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation troops stormed the house of Imad Qandeel in Al Qisariya neighborhood in Nablus old city, messed with its contents and caused damages to the properties. IO soldiers also destroyed the doors of some commercial stores in An Naser Street in Nablus old city and stormed Thafer Al Masri Secondary school for Males and carried out an intensive

search process inside the school and transferred it into military post. Wafa (February 24, 2009).

Tulkarem

- The Israeli Occupation Forces detained tens of Palestinian Vehicles at Enav Checkpoint east of Tulkarem city and prevented them from entering the city of Tulkarem. The IOF also set up a temporary checkpoint at Al Jarushiyah village junction and hindered Palestinian access. Wafa (February 15, 2009).
- The Israeli Occupation forces closed down Bayareq Al 'Ata' Charity society in Tulkarem city for further notice. The IO soldiers confiscated the society's contents, the computer devices and other files belonging to the society. Al Quds (February 18, 2009).
- Israeli Occupation forces staged into Zeita village north of Tulkarem city and stormed a number of Palestinian houses, of which, the following were known: Khaled Abdel Latif Jad'a and 'Ali Abdel Rahman Badawi. Wafa (February 22, 2009).
- Israeli vehicles accompanied a bulldozer removed an iron gate that was stationed between Tulkarem and Nablus in the northern West Bank. It prevented the movement of pedestrian traffic between the two major Palestinian cities for about 30 minutes to remove the gate. Only the tower and a few Israeli cement blocks remain at the side of the road. Maanews (February 23, 2009).
- Israeli military bulldozers began uprooting olive and almond trees on both sides of the Enav checkpoint, east of Tulkarem city. The Israeli army appeared to be clearing the way to expand the military checkpoint. Maanews (February 25, 2009).
- For the third day on row, the Israeli bulldozers continue expanding Enav checkpoint located on the main road leading to Tulkarem, Ramallah and Nablus Governorates. The bulldozers uprooted 10 Olive trees owned by Abdullah Zeidan from Ramin Village for that purpose. Wafa (February 28, 2009).

Jericho

- Israeli soldiers entered Aqbat Jaber Refugee Camp in the West Bank city of Jericho before dawn, raiding two houses owned by Bassam Hassan Oweidat and Kayed Ali Al-Thalam. Both residents were detained and taken to an unknown location. Maannews February 19, 2009).

Gaza

- Israeli aircraft bombed a de facto government police headquarters in the Gaza Strip, as well as two sites in Rafah. Maannews (February 1, 2009).
- Israeli F16 fighter jets and helicopters raided the border area between Egypt and the southern Gaza Strip hitting Salah Ad-Din Gate, as well as targets in Qishta and Ash-Sha'ir neighborhoods, as well as other areas in southern Gaza. Maannews (February 7, 2009).
- An Israeli helicopter fired two missiles at a Palestinian security compound in the city of Khan Younis, in the southern Gaza Strip and severely damaged it. Maannews (February 13, 2009).
- Israeli forces launched an overnight airstrike on a carpentry workshop in the Jabalia refugee camp. The carpentry and several neighboring houses sustained severe damage and six people sustained mild to moderate wounds. Maannews (February 12, 2009).
- Israel has tightened the fishing limit off the coast of Gaza from six miles to just three miles. The Israeli Navy has enforced the restrictions since the end of the three-week assault on Gaza in January, firing on fishing boats that approach the three-mile boundary. Israel enforced a six-mile limit since October 2006. The Oslo peace agreement guarantees Palestinians the right to fish out to 20 nautical miles from Gaza. Maannews (February 15, 2009).
- Israeli Warplanes launched missiles at underground smuggling tunnels, in addition to a security compound of the de facto government in Khan Younis, a city in the south of Gaza. A mosque was also destroyed in Khan Younis. Missile strikes destroyed seven smuggling tunnels along the Philadelphi Route, the zone along the Egypt-Gaza border. Maannews (February 18, 2009).

- A report issued by Khan Younis Municipality stated that 450 housing units were completely demolished and more than 2500 housing units were partially destroyed in addition to 25 institutions (including educational centers, Mosques and emergency quarters) were severely hit in Khan Younis Governorate. The report also stated that 'Absan Al Kabera town was among the most which received Israeli shelling as 750 housing units were severely hit, and 600 others in Khuza'a Town and more than 500 housing units in Khan Younis city and 400 in Al Qarara town and 420 housing units in Bani Suhaila and Al Fukhari towns. Al Quds (February 22, 2009).
- At least two Israeli missiles hit tunnels in the Salam and Brazil neighborhoods of the city of Rafah and targeted seven separate tunnels. Maannews (February 25, 2009).

Others

- In a report issued by PEACENOW movement showed that in the vast majority of Israeli settlements - about 75 percent - construction, sometimes on a large scale, has been carried out without the appropriate permits or contrary to the permits that were issued. The analysis also shows that, in more than 30 settlements, extensive construction of buildings and infrastructure (roads, schools, synagogues, yeshivas and even police stations) has been carried out on private lands belonging to Palestinian West Bank residents. Haaretz (February 1, 2009).
- The commander of the Israeli occupation forces in the West Bank issued a new military order number S/02/03 (Seam Zone) in accordance with the 1970 military order number 378. The new order called for the declaration of a "seam zone" in the Governorate of Hebron. **Wafa (February 3, 2009).**
- Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak proposed the construction of a 48-kilometer long tunnel that would connect the northern Gaza Strip with the southern West Bank (extending from Beit Hanoun city in the north of Gaza to Dura Town in Hebron Governorate), thus enabling freedom of movement between the two disjointed Palestinian territories. The project would cost between \$2-3 billion. Haaretz (February 3, 2009).
- The Israeli Government agreed to specialize NIS 650 Million (USD 162 million) to build an 11,111 meters square building that will include the headquarter of the Israeli Government in Jerusalem city along with a

house and a security system to protect the building. Al Quds (February 9, 2009).

- Israel's x-Prime Minister, Ehud Olmert, has ordered the allocation of 2.4 billion Israeli shekels, or more than half a billion US dollars, to the Israeli military establishment following the Israeli war in Gaza. Maannews (February 10, 2009).
- A report issued by the Negotiations Affairs Department (NAD) showed that the Israeli war on the Gaza strip has caused the destruction of 14 thousand Palestinian homes, 68 Governmental building, 31 headquarters for Non-Governmental organizations, 53 UN affiliated organizations and 60 medical centers, including 15 hospitals. The report also showed that 50% of Both, Water & electricity networks have also been destroyed. In addition, more than 3900 Industrial establishments have stopped working and more than 40 thousand Palestinians lost their jobs in the agriculture sector and 90 Palestinians lost their jobs in other different sectors. NAD (February 15, 2009).
- The Israeli government demolished four houses in a Bedouin community in the Negev desert. The houses, in the town of Bir Hadaj (about 40 km south of the city of Beersheba), were bulldozed on account of a lack of construction permits. Like Palestinians, Bedouin in the Negev say it is almost impossible to obtain the permits. Bir Hadaj is a recognized Bedouin community. Its status is different from that of 45 unrecognized villages which receive virtually no services from the government. Maannews (February 19, 2009).
- The Israeli Civil Administration and the government agency have been promoting plans over the past two years to construct thousands of housing units east of the Green Line. The plans, which have not yet been approved by the government, are: Initial construction of 550 apartments in Geva'ot settlement, located near Allon Shvut in the Gush Etzion settlement bloc, followed by construction of another 4,450 units at a later stage. The neighboring settlement of Bat Ayin, which has about 120 families, is slated to receive another 2,000 apartments. Rimonim will get another 254 apartments if the plans are approved, and expansion plans are also in the works for Einav and Mevo Dotan. Nearby Kfar Adumim's sewage treatment plan predicts that the settlement will double its population "in the coming years," to 5,600 inhabitants. And in Eshkolot, the Civil Administration instructed the settlement to draw up a sewage plan

adequate for a population five times its current one. Haaretz (February 27, 2009).

District	Land Confiscated (Dunums)	Land Threatened (Dunums)	Uprooted Trees	Houses Demolished	Houses threatened to be demolished
Bethlehem	2710	0	170	0	0
Jerusalem	20.5	0	0	11	217
Jenin	20	0	0	0	1
Tulkarm	0	0	10	0	0
Ramallah	0	0	20	0	0
Nablus	0	0	0	0	30
Salfit	240	0	0	0	0
Jericho	0	0	0	0	0
Gaza	0	0	0	0	0
Qalqilyah	0	0	10	0	0
Hebron	10	0	250	0	0
Tubas	0	0	0	0	0
Total	3000.5	0	460	11	248

The Monthly overview report gives a list of the Israeli Violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory which are based on reports provided by field workers and/or by one or more of the following news sources: Al-Ayyam daily newspaper, Al-Quds daily newspaper, Palestinian National Information Center, Haaretz Daily Newspaper, The Jerusalem Post - English-language daily newspaper, International Press Center, Palestine News Agency-Wafa, Ma'an News Agency, and Yediot Achronot.

The text is not quoted directly from the sources but is edited for size and clarity. The monthly report does not necessarily reflect ARIJ's opinion.