

# **ARIJ Monthly Report on the Israeli Colonization Activities in the West Bank**

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## **Colonization Activities in the West Bank**

### **April 1, 2001**

In Salfit District, Israeli occupation bulldozers accompanied by Israeli army uprooted about 100 fully-grown olive trees from Deir Istiya village. Fortunately, tens of villagers who were protesting in front of the bulldozers succeeded in preventing them from uprooting more trees. According to the Mayor, Dr. Nafeth Mansour, the Israeli authorities delivered a military order to capture a 1500m by 50m piece of land nine months ago. The land to be seized is located west of Deir Istiya village, parallel to the Trans Samaria road. *Quds*

In Nablus District, Israeli occupation forces demolished five Palestinian houses and a shop in Froush Beit Dajan village without previous warnings under the pretext that the structures were built without permits. However, the house owners stated that they have documents proving their ownership of the houses. Furthermore, the Israeli army evicted more than 40 Palestinian residents from the same area after the demolition action took place. *Quds Ayyam & Jadeeda*

In Hebron District, Jewish colonists continued their assaults and attacks against Palestinian villagers, exploiting the curfew imposed on certain towns and villages. They completely destroyed three commercial shops using explosive materials. The shops are located in the Old City of Hebron and belonged to a number of villagers; see photo. *Jadeeda*

### **April 2, 2001**

Four Israeli occupation bulldozers from Beit El colony demolished a Palestinian building (under construction) that belonged to Mohammad Sa'ed Al Rifa'i east of At Tur village, in East Jerusalem, under the pretext of being built without getting a permit from the Israeli Civil Administration. The area of the demolished building that was supposed to include a kindergarten, a mosque and a playground, was 750 m<sup>2</sup>. *Quds*

In the Valleys of Jericho, Jewish colonists destroyed about 22 dunums of agricultural greenhouses and stole a number of electrical generators used to pump water irrigation. The villagers were shocked with the colonists' action that took place in the night. Moreover, In Ramallah District, the colonists began to demarcate a piece of land belonging to Samih and Tawfik Abdel Rahman. The land to be seized is estimated at 124 dunums and located south of Beit Surik village, west of Ramallah. *Jadeeda*

### **April 3, 2001**

Israeli occupation authorities demolished four Palestinian houses in Az Za'ayem and Al 'Eizariya villages in East Jerusalem under the pretext of being built without permits. In Ras Al Boustan hamlet, in Al Eizariya village, Jewish bulldozers accompanied by Israeli border police demolished three buildings (under construction) belonging to Ibrahim Qursh, Salah Al Ghawi and Khaled Al 'Ebeidi. They also demolished a livestock shed owned by Issa Radaiydeh from the same area. The bulldozers then moved directly to Az Za'ayem village, very close to 'Eizariya village, to demolish the fourth house that belongs to Ghaleb Al Razem. *Jadeeda*

#### **April 4, 2001**

In Bethlehem District, Israeli occupation forces demolished two Palestinian houses in Al-Khader village, adjoining road # 60. The first house belongs to Mohammad Suleiman Salah and shelters six persons, while Mahmoud Hussein Moussa owns the other one. Moreover, the Israeli army delivered demolition orders to four Palestinian families in the same area. While in At Ta'amreh village, Jewish colonists protected by the Israeli army brought four mobile homes, or "caravans," and erected them on a piece of land in the Dotan area, east of Tqoa' village. The Israeli bulldozers also destroyed more than 2000 dunums of land planted with fully-grown olive trees that belonged to Salameh, Jadallah and Jebril family from the village. Moreover, Israeli bulldozers commenced to open a new by-pass road beginning from the old Tekoa colony and stretching to the east. *Quds & Jadeeda*

In Hebron District, Israeli heavy machinery demolished five Palestinian houses belong to villagers from Wadi Al Ghrous hamlet east of Hebron, close to Qiryat Arba and Kharsina colonies, under the pretext of being built without permits. The houses belonged to Faraj Jabber, Mohammad Al Ja'abari, Majed Al Faghouri, Abdel Moun'im Al Faghouri and Nasser Massoudi. *Fieldworker, Quds & Jadeeda*

Israeli occupation bulldozers demolished a 150 m<sup>2</sup> house belonging to Nathmi Abu Hananeh, located south of 'Arrana village, in Jenin district. Eyewitnesses from the village stated that the Israeli army also demolished a 200m wall in Dahiyat Sabah al Kheir. Similarly, Israeli bulldozers demolished two rooms and a Palestinian stone-making factory close to Al Jalama village, in Jenin District. According to the owner, Riad Zakarneh, this is the third time that the Israeli army demolished his factory in less than two years. In addition, two Palestinian houses and two livestock sheds owned by 'Adel 'Abed and Abdel 'Aziz Abu Ghali, located east of Jenin City, were demolished by the Israeli occupation authorities under the pretext of being very close to the road that leads to Gannim and Kaddim colonies; see photo. In addition, Israeli occupation authorities set up six new housing units in Mevo Dotan colony, built on Ya'bad village land, in Jenin District. The report showed that one month ago Israeli authorities confiscated more than ten dunums of land belonging to villagers from Ya'bad and erected a new outpost there that is several hundred meters west of Mevo Dotan colony. According to the villagers, Israeli army set up the new colony immediately after PM Ariel Sharon assumed power. They also began to open a road network on Ya'bad village land to connect the outpost with Mevo Dotan and Hermesh colonies. *Quds & Jadeeda*

In Jerusalem District, Israeli occupation authorities demolished, for the third consecutive time, the Palestinian house of Salim Al Shawamreh from 'Anata village,

in East Jerusalem, under the pretext of being built without a permit. The first and second demolition actions took place in 1998 and 1999. They also demolished three barracks used for accommodation by the three families of Karshan. Furthermore, Israeli bulldozers demolished another three barracks in Al'Isawiya village belonging to Khader Moustafa, Mahmoud Hamdan and Hani Al 'Eisawi, under the pretext of being built without permits. *Fieldworker & Jadeeda*

#### **April 5, 2001**

According to *Al-Quds* newspaper, The Israeli Housing Ministry published new tenders for building 708 new colony-housing units in the West Bank. The article reported that 496 housing units will be established in Maale Adumim colony, in Jerusalem District, while the remaining 212 units will be constructed in the new neighborhood of Givat Tal, in Alfei Menashe colony, Tulkarm District.

According to *ARIJ fieldworker* in Ramallah District, in the first week of this month a new Israeli military post had been established on the by-pass road separating 'Abud and Deir Abu Mash'al villages on a hilltop overlooking the two villages from the east side of the road.

#### **April 6, 2001**

The Israeli Local Committee for Planning and Construction in Jerusalem endorsed a plan (last week) for establishing commercial buildings in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, in East Jerusalem. The plan includes the construction of two buildings on 2.5 dunums of land. *Quds*

The Israeli authorities in Jerusalem District intend to demolish three Palestinian houses belong to the Jerusalemite Rafeek Al Nabelsi, 88 years old, located in Kopat Holim Klalit, in the neighborhood of Skeikh Jarrah, under the pretext that the 25m wide Tunnel road will pass through his land. Al Nabelsi said that he tried to attain a construction permit from Jerusalem Municipality in order to establish an alternative house from the one that is going to be demolished inside his land. However, the Municipality refused the order, claiming that the Israeli authorities own the land. It is worth mentioning that the Israeli occupation forces demolished a house owned by Al Nabelsi, in Jourat Al 'Anab, close to Jaffa Gate, 15 years ago. *Quds*

The Israeli Regional Committee for Construction and Organization endorsed a plan to set up 120 new housing units in the southern hills of Gilo colony. There are two other construction plans that are slated in the same area. The first one comprises the erection of a new neighborhood of about 300 new housing units. The second plan includes the building of 1,500 units. *Quds*

Israeli occupation authorities started to open a new military by-pass road that connects Beit El colony with road 60 on the lands of Beitin and 'Ein Yabrud villages; click for related topic. *ARIJ Fieldworker*

#### **April 7, 2001**

In Ramallah District, the villagers of Saffa reported that the Israeli company of Kiren Kemet bulldozed and seized about 500 dunums of land in Al Fa'oush hamlet, west of Saffa which belonging to a number of villagers. *ARIJ Fieldworker*

According to the *Palestinian Information Center*, a group of Jewish colonists murdered the 58 year-old Palestinian villager Mahmoud Hureibat from Beit Al Rush Al Tahta village, west of Hebron, while he was working on his land.

### **April 8, 2001**

A report issued by the *ARIJ fieldworker* in Ramallah that summarizes the most important Israeli colonization activities in the villages of the district:

- Expansion in Shilo colony on Turmus'ayya village land.
- A Jewish colony is expanding on Sinjil village land.
- The colony of Shvut Rahel is expanding on Al Mughayyir village land.
- Cutting down a number of olive trees from Silwad village.
- Bulldozing Palestinian land close to a military post in Silwad village.
- Uprooting a number of olive trees from 'Ein yabrud village.
- A new caravan has been installed, in addition to the confiscation of a piece of land, in 'Ein Yabrud village; see photo.
- Attempts to expand Ateret colony on the land of Um Safa, 'Ajjul, 'Arura and 'Atara villages.
- Bulldozing land and expanding 'Ateret colony, established on Um Safa and Jibya villages.
- Uprooting a number of olive trees from 'Abud village.

The Head of the Al-Aqsa Mosque maintenance committee, Sheikh Ra'ed Salah, has accused the Israeli authorities of demolishing many Islamic relics and of planning to construct two Jewish synagogues in Al-Aqsa courtyards. He also added that digging work and explosions under the Mosque at night hours are concentrated on the western part and southern entrance of the mosque, in addition to seeing trucks that carrying sands from under the Al-Aqsa. *PIC*

### **April 10, 2001**

According to a report issued by the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture in Salfit District, the Israeli occupation army uprooted more than 4,000 olive trees in Salfit District since the outbreak of Al-Aqsa Intifada. *Quds*

A report published by *Ha'aretz* daily stated that the Israeli Housing and Construction Ministry intends to market lands for building new colony housing units in the Palestinian Territories. According to data released by the Israeli Land Administration, the Ministry of Housing marketed lands for building 2,800 new housing units during 2000. The plan showed that there would be an increase of about 78% in marketed lands that are going to be constructed during 2001 in comparison with year 2000. *Quds & Ayyam*

Below is a table showing the marketed lands in year 2001:

<b>Jewish colony</b>	<b># of Housing Units</b>
Alfei Menashe	225
Betar Illit	594
Efrat	340
Karne Shomeron	200
Maale Adumim	1,328
Arial	650
Betar	414
Giv'at Benyamin	388
Giv'at Zeev	921
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,060</b>

Source: *Al-Quds* newspaper, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001

In Ramallah District, colonization activities is continuing in the by-pass road linking Talmon C colony which is established on Al Janiya village with the other road west of Ras Karkar. Moreover, Israeli army uprooted 50 olive trees belonging to Samhan and Nofel families from Ras Karkar village. *Fieldworker*

#### **April 11, 2001**

Israeli occupation authorities decided to close the only used dumping site for the Al Bireh Municipality that is located in the eastern part of the city. It is worth mentioning that this dumping site includes a number of Palestinian lands belonging to the Islamic Waqf (Muslim Religious Trust) and a number of villagers from Al Bireh city. The Israeli order issued after the colonists of Psagot commenced to open a new by-pass road that connects their colony with the northern by-pass road of the city. According to Al Bireh City, the closure order seems to be as a first step to confiscate the nearby lands in order to expand Psagot colony. *Quds*

#### **April 12, 2001**

An article appeared in *Al-Quds* newspaper stating that The Jerusalem Municipality accompanied by the Israeli Border Police intend to demolish 17 Palestinian houses in East Jerusalem on 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2001. The houses are divided between the following villages and neighborhoods:

- Ras Al 'Amoud: - 3 houses
- Beit Hanina: - 2 houses
- Sur Bahir: - 2 houses
- Abu Tur: - 2 houses
- Wadi al Joz: - 2 houses
- Umm Tuba: - 5 houses
- Shu'fat: - 1 house

*ARIJ fieldworker* in Ramallah District reported that Israeli occupation authorities confiscated a 5 dunum plot of land cultivated with olive trees and located close to the Israeli military camp that is established on lands of Ramallah, west of At Tira Institute and belonging to Nijma Issa Rizek and her sister.

### **April 13, 2001**

According to villagers from Al 'Arouj hamlet, east of Bethlehem, The Israeli occupation army captured the Palestinian house of Ahmad Mohammad Al 'Arouj, located in Area B. The house has three floors and is still under construction. They have transformed it into a military barrack after erecting the Israeli flag on its roof.

*Quds*

Israeli occupation authorities began to bulldoze tens of dunums of Palestinian lands from Sa'er village, east of Asfar colony, in order to expand the colony. The land belongs to the Al Shalaldeh family. The villagers are worried that the Israeli activities will follow through on their threat to confiscate a further 500dunums. *ARIJ Fieldworker & Quds*

In Jenin District, Israeli occupation authorities demolished the Palestinian house of 'Adel 'Abed that shelters seven people near Jenin city and located in an Israeli area. They then moved to demolish a structure that is used for livestock breeding without previous notification, owned by Abdel 'Aziz Abu Ghali. Meanwhile, in Al Jalam village, Israeli army confiscated 22 dunums of agricultural land and bulldozed 8 dunums planted with agricultural crops in addition to the demolition of a number of plastic houses. At the same time, they also demolished another two barracks in same area of Al Jalama village. *Quds*

### **April 14, 2001**

According to Palestinian official sources in charge of agriculture, Israeli occupation authorities uprooted and burned more than 200,000 trees throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip since the beginning of Al-Aqsa Intifada. The report also showed that more than 100,000 dunums of Palestinian agricultural land had been damaged and bulldozed by the Israeli occupation bulldozers. *PIC*

### **April 15, 2001**

In Qalqiliya District, Israeli occupation authorities confiscated 150 dunums of land from Habla village in order to establish a wastewater pipeline that will connect the colonies of Neve Manahim, Karne Shomeron, Ginnot Shomeron, Alfei Menashe and Maale Shomeron together. Moreover, Israeli bulldozers began to bulldoze 12 dunums of agricultural land cultivated with fully-grown citrus, Guava and olive trees southeast of Qalqiliya. In addition they damaged an agricultural nursery with water pipes and networks south of Qalqiliya. *Jadeeda & Quds*

### **April 17, 2001**

In Qalqiliya District, Israeli occupation forces bulldozed 40 dunums of land cultivated with vegetables and destroyed an agricultural nursery with an irrigation water pipeline, adjoining the road leading to Alfei Menashe colony, southeast of Qalqiliya. Likewise, Israeli occupation army chopped down 20 olive trees planted on a area of land estimated at 150 dunums belonging to Rashad Suleiman from 'Isla village, Qalqiliya. In addition, Israeli bulldozers commenced to dig a water tank in Ahmad

Abdel Kareem Ikreem's land in 'Isla village, Qalqiliya District, in an attempt to establish a new Jewish colony on a Palestinian confiscated land. *Jadeeda & Quds*

The Israeli "Peace Now" Movement announced that there are 2,400 empty housing units in the Jewish colonies of Maale Adumim and Givat Zeev, in Jerusalem District. Despite this, the Israeli Housing Ministry endorsed this month the establishment of 700 new colony-housing units in Maale Adumim and Givat Zeev colonies. *Quds*

In Bethlehem District, the colonists of Efrat have escalated their uncivil aggression against Palestinian villagers in Al Khader village. Today, they uprooted 300 grapevines and 40 olive trees planted on 3 dunums of land that belong to the villager Sha'ib Mohammad Ghneim from Al Khader village. *Quds & Jadeeda*

Israeli occupation bulldozers continued their expansion activity for the seventh consecutive month on the top of Jerzeem Mountain, which is cultivated with forestry trees. *Quds*

According to *ARIJ fieldworker* in Hebron District, the colonists of Maon, east of Yatta village burned agricultural crops planted on 3 dunums of land belonging to Palestinian villagers.

The Palestinian villager Saqer Abu 'Ayyash from Beit Ummar village, in Hebron District, received an eviction order from the Israeli authorities to evacuate his house under the pretext of opening a flagstones shop on the public road. *ARIJ Fieldworker*

In Hebron District, Israeli occupation authorities commenced to open a 1 km road close to the Gush Etzion block on a piece of land owned by a Palestinian villager in an attempt to expand the nearby Jewish colony. *ARIJ Fieldworker*

The *ARIJ Fieldworker* in Hebron reported that the villagers Jaber Al Najjar from Yatta village and Jamal Al Sa'ed from Beit 'Einun hamlet received demolition orders under the pretext that their houses had been built without having permits.

#### **April 18, 2001**

In Nablus District, the colonists of Shvut Rahel attacked the Palestinian villagers Abdel Ghany Abdel Hay, Bahjat Shhadeh and 'Omar Hasan from Qaryut village while they were cultivating their lands. *Quds*

In Nablus District, the Israeli occupation army began to pour large amounts of wastewater on Palestinian lands in Nablus and 'Awarta villages. The villagers are afraid that the wastewater may contain toxic materials, originating primarily from Israeli industrial areas. *Quds*

#### **April 19, 2001**

The colonists from Shvut Rahel unleashed their livestock in Palestinian lands planted with grape vine trees in the villages of Al Mughayyir and Turmus'ayya, in Ramallah District. They also sprayed the fields planted with wheat and barley with toxic

chemicals. The same action took place in 1995 when they poisoned 2,500 olive nurslings from the same area and with the same pesticide.

#### **April 20, 2001**

An article appeared in *Al-Ayyam, Jadeeda & Jerusalem Post* newspapers stating that the Jewish Quarter Development Corporation is planning to construct hundreds of new housing units in the Jewish colony neighborhood in the old city of East Jerusalem. The aim of this plan is to create a Jewish colonization continuity spanning from Yemin Moshe neighborhood in West Jerusalem to Al-Aqsa Mosque.

According to the *ARIJ fieldworker* in Hebron District, Israeli occupation authorities commenced to open a new 1,200m by-pass road on Palestinian land belonged to Al Shalaldeh family from Sa'er village. The villagers are afraid that this action is an attempt to confiscate more land.

#### **April 20, 2001**

According to Kol Ha'ir newspaper, the Jewish colonists of Kedar intended to connect their colony to Maale Adumim colony. *Quds*

#### **April 21, 2001**

In Jenin District, Israeli occupation authorities finished the infrastructure for the new colony built on Ya'bad and Kafr Ra'i village land. The villagers reported that eight new caravans are now being used in addition to the finishing of the new road leading to the colony. It is worth mentioning that Israeli authorities confiscated 100 dunums of land for the colony from the villages of Ya'bad and Kafr Ra'i two months ago without prior confiscation orders. *Jadeeda*

According to official sources, the Israeli institute of Kiren Kemet and Maale Adumim Municipality are planning to establish a new large park on 150 dunums of land in the Maale Adumim colony which will be called Kiren Kemet- "France Park." It will also include a recreational lake, playgrounds and commercial areas. *Quds*

Israeli occupation authorities continued for the third consecutive day to occupy the Palestinian house of Ibrahim Al Qasas, located in Samiramis area north of Jerusalem. *Quds*

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture in Ramallah, the Israeli occupation army detained a Palestinian bulldozer that was working to open an agricultural road in Kafr Ni'ma village, an area classified as area B; click for related topic. *Quds*

#### **April 22, 2001**

In Nablus District, a group of colonists from Yizhar attacked Palestinian villagers and shepherds from Madama village and confiscated their 400 head of sheep. Moreover, the colonists of Itamar assaulted Palestinian farmers from Beit Furik and prevented them from cultivating their lands. *Quds*



A report published by the Palestinian Ministry of Public Works saying that the Israeli occupation forces destroyed and bulldozed about 25% of the main and agricultural roads in the Palestinian territories since the outbreak of Al-Aqsa Intifada. *Quds*

Israeli occupation bulldozers continued to damage wide areas of land from Madama village in Nablus District, in an attempt to establish a new military post on the hilltop of Al Mouraba'a, owned by Madama villagers. Furthermore, the Israeli army started to open a new road through Madama land leading to the by-pass road surrounding Madama and which reaches Yizhar colony, which is constructed on the village land. *Jadeeda*

### **April 23, 2001**

According to the *ARIJ fieldworker* in Ramallah District, Israeli occupation authorities declared that the road of Dura El Qare'- El Jalazon had been reopened; click for related topic.

### **April 24, 2001**

In Hebron District, Israeli occupation authorities dispatched orders to demolish 14 Palestinian houses in a number of Hebron villages, under the pretext of being built without permits. *Jadeeda*

In Jerusalem District, a group of colonists from Pisgat Zeev, which is erected on Palestinian land east of Jerusalem, assaulted the Palestinian worker Mohammad Ghaneim from Jaba' village while he was going to his work in the colony. Ghaneim was injured in one of his eyes. Though an operation was performed, the doctors could not prevent the permanent loss of his eye. *Quds*

### **April 25, 2001**

In Ramallah District, close to the Palestinian industrial area in Al Bireh City, Israeli occupation bulldozers damaged the Palestinian land surrounding the local slaughterhouse and its nearby roads. According to Al Bireh Municipality, the Israeli authorities issued a military order (on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2001) to close the slaughterhouse until the middle of the next month. *Quds*

Israeli occupation bulldozers commenced destroying wide areas of Palestinian agricultural land and set up a number of caravans on Qaryut village, southeast of Nablus. Al Haj Rateb Al 'Asmar, 75 years old, told an *Al-Quds* correspondent that Israeli bulldozers of Eli colony, established on the village's land, began two days ago to damage an agricultural area cultivated with olive and almond trees in Al Marah hamlet causing the uprooting of 300 olive, figs and almond trees, in addition to the erection of about 20 caravans in the targeted site. These mobile homes are not more than 300 meters away from Qaryut houses. *Quds*

Israeli occupation authorities bulldozed a piece of land number 64 from parcel # 3 from a Palestinian land in Al Bireh city, in Ramallah District, near 'Ein Yabrud and Beitin villages in order to open a new military by-pass road between the colony and

the military camp of Beit El which will be go towards the east till road # 60; see photo. *ARIJ Fieldworker*

### **April 26, 2001**

According to the *ARIJ fieldworker* in Hebron District, Jewish colonists from Kharsina and Qiryat Arba colonies attacked Palestinian villagers from Al Bwereh hamlet south of Hebron and erected a caravan and a tent two weeks ago on a piece of land owned by Sultan family. They also started expansion work on a 200-dunum plot of land. At that moment, engagement took place between the colonists and the villagers leading to the injury of a number of villagers in addition to three Palestinian interviewers.

In Nablus District, Israeli occupation authorities tightened its siege against Palestinian villagers from Beit Furik who are living under a complete blockade since the outbreak of Al-Aqsa Intifada. According to sources from Beit Furik Municipality, the Israeli occupation authorities prevented the water trucks from entering the village. They also closed the new water outlet that was taken from the water pipeline of the Israeli Mekrot Company. *Quds*

According to *Al-Quds* newspaper, Israeli machinery bulldozers began to bulldoze tens of dunums from Deir Istiya village, in Salfit District, in preparation for annexation to Fakir colony, which is built on the lands of the village. Villagers reported that the colonists brought a number of caravans in order to establish a new colony outpost on the land.

A group of Jewish colonists seized a Palestinian mountain estimated at 2,500 dunums adjoining Qiryat Arba and Kharsina colony, Hebron District, and erected a tent there. The confiscated mountain belonged to the At Tamimi and Jaber families. *Quds*

### **April 27, 2001**

A number of colonists from nearby Jewish colonies established on lands of Yatta village, Hebron District, prevented Palestinian villagers from reaching their land and cultivate them. They cut off the roads leading to the targeted locations in order to compel them to return to their homes. *Jadeeda*

In Hebron District, a group of colonists from Tel Rumeida attempted to cut the wire fence surrounding the house of Wael Al Sharabati. After they succeeded in their attempt, they entered the land close to the house, which is estimated at 2,000 dunums, and began to destroy its agricultural crops in addition to attacking two of Wael's sons. *Quds*

The colonists from Susiya attacked the Palestinian villagers who were going to harvest their agricultural crops and prevented them from harvesting. They also destroyed the agricultural machines that belonged to the 'Awad and Houshiyeh families. *ARIJ Fieldworker*

### **April 28, 2001**

According to the *ARIJ fieldworker* in Ramallah District, the colonists of Mevo Horon, built on Beit Nuba village land, started to expand their colony northwards.

The roadblock established on the Ramallah-Al Lid road, which had been moved from its old place on the 1949 Armistice line (Green Line) opposite Makkabim to an eastward location close to Beit U'r El Tihta village, was moved back about 60 meters towards the west; click for related topic. *ARIJ Fieldworker*

Jewish colonists from Bracha attacked a Palestinian shepherd from Aqraba village, in Nablus District, while he was grazing his cattle, causing the death of one, and the injury of a number of others. *Quds*

According to Palestinian sources, Jewish colonists from Itamar began to bulldoze wide areas of Palestinian agricultural land around their colony toward the north and east, on land of 'Awarta village, in Nablus District. The expansion campaign aims at annexing the land to the colony. 'Awarta villagers reported that new minor roads are accompanying the expansion, in addition to the extending of electrical lines and new lamps around the colony. It is worth mentioning that the area of Itamar colony has been doubled this past year, expanding mainly towards the east; click for related topic. *Quds*

#### **April 29, 2001**

In Tulkarm District, construction work is continuing in Beit Hever colony, north of Tulkarm City. In Hebron District, Israeli occupation authorities started to establish a new Jewish colony on Palestinian land in Al Bwerh hamlet, northeast of Hebron City. The area of the new colony is expected to double the area of both Kharsina and Qiryat Arba colonies. However, last week the villagers succeeded in preventing the Israeli army from seizing a 100-dunum piece of land in order to erect the new colony. *Quds*

*The monthly report is an overview of events that have been reported by field workers and/or by one or more of the following sources: Al-Ayyam, Al-Quds, Alhayat Al Jadeeda, Ha'aretz, Jerusalem Post, Ministry of Information (MoI) and Palestinian Information Center (PIC). The text is not quoted directly from the sources but is edited for size and clarity.*

*The monthly report does not reflect ARIJ's opinion*

<b>District</b>	<b>Land confiscated</b>	<b>Land threatened</b>	<b>Uprooted / confiscated trees</b>	<b>Houses demolished</b>	<b>Threatened houses</b>
<b>Salfit</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Nablus</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Jerusalem</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Jericho</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Ramallah</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Bethlehem</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

<b>Hebron</b>	<b>2500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Jenin</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Qalqiliya</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5259</b>	<b>126.5</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>41</b>