

Applied Research Institute – Jerusalem

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

Volume 147, October 2010 Issue

<http://www.arij.org>

Bethlehem

- A group of Israeli settlers torched Al Anbiya'a (The Prophets) Mosque in the town of Beit Fajjar south of Bethlehem Governorate. The group spread flammable materials throughout it and placed 12 copies of the Holy Qura'an in its midst and then set it on fire. The carpets of the mosque were destroyed while internal tiles went out of its place due to the intense heat caused by the fire. The settlers also wrote on the walls inside the mosque in Hebrew, but they were unable to understand what was written. Maannews (October 4, 2010).
- Dozens of Israeli settlers obstructed Palestinian farmers and workers as they attempted to reclaim agricultural land near the Israeli settlement of Neve Daniyyel, illegally built on lands belonging to farmers from Al-Khader south of Bethlehem. Armed settlers hurried to stop farmers who brought a bulldozer to reclaim their land. Settlers also threatened to use force if work did not stop. Israeli Occupation forces and civil administration officials arrived on the scene and ordered the farmers to stop work and go to the civil administration offices in Etzion. The area of the land is estimated at 156 dunums and is owned by Ghneim family. Maannews (October 10, 2010).
- Tens of Israeli settlers hindered resident Islam 'Ali Jaber from reclaiming his 158 dunums land area in Al Thaghra village east of Neve Daniel settlement south of Bethlehem city. Al Ayyam (October 11, 2010).

- Israeli bulldozers razed the lands of Raed Taqatqa and a mobile home owned by him too in Beit Fajjar village south of Bethlehem city. Al Quds (October 12, 2010).
- The Israeli occupation bulldozers razed four barracks and a number of tents owned by four Palestinian families (20 members) in Khallet Abu Hamad area to the east of Arab Al Rashayda area in the southeastern part of Bethlehem city. Al Quds (October 15, 2010).
- The Israeli occupation forces stormed the house of Mahmoud Theib Shamroukh from Ad Duheisha refugee camp north of Bethlehem city and carried out a thorough inspection. Al Quds (October 18, 2010).
- Israeli settlers of Betar Illit settlement set fire to Palestinian crops on farmland in the Husan village in the southern West Bank district of Bethlehem, burning vast areas of olive, almonds and grape groves before firefighters were able to control the blaze. Around 600 trees (180 Olive trees, 200 Grape trees and 220 almond trees) were damaged as a result of the Israeli settlers attack. Israeli settlers also obstructed Palestinian firefighters from accessing the site of the blaze, causing the fire to spread extensively. Grape and olive groves were damaged in the arson, largely in the Ein At-Taqa area, adding that bare-footed farmers were unable to extinguish the fire and that several sustained light burns as a result. The farmlands in question belong to Ibrahim Lafi Hamara, Hilmi Abdul-Fattah Darweesh and Lafi Nimir Shawasha. Maannews (October 20, 2010).
- Israeli settlers reoccupied Beit H'ayen site southwest of Bethlehem city which was demolished last week by the Israeli Occupation forces. Al Quds (October 23, 2010).
- Israel's Civil Administration issued seven stop work orders to home and barn owners in Al-Maniya village south of Bethlehem city. One of the homeowners, Na'eem Muhammad Rashayda, said that the structures in question are unfinished and are being built on land categorized as Area C, under full Israeli planning control. The Civil Administration officers had given them between one to two hours to stop building before the structures are razed by Israeli bulldozers. Maannews (October 25, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation forces confiscated equipments to extract stones in Khallet Hajja area east of Beit Fajjar Village south of Bethlehem city. The confiscated equipments are owned by Idris Al Mutawwar. It is worth

mentioning that Khallet Hajja is home to 30 quarries owned by residents of Beit Fajjar village. Al Ayyam (October 28, 2010).

Hebron

- The Israeli occupation army declared the Ash-Shuhada Street in the Old City of Hebron a closed military zone as Palestinians and international peace activists gathered to protest its closure in the face of Palestinians. IOF attacked the rally, as well as journalists covering the protest at the Abu Ar-Rish checkpoint at the southern entrance to Ash-Shuhada Street. Maannews (October 2, 2010).
- The Israeli Minister of Transportation Israel Katz (Likud) ordered the construction of a new road for Israeli settlers in Hebron Old city. According to the order, this road will link the settlement of Kiryat Arba with the center of Hebron city. The road is set to run 1300 meters and will cut through the crowded area of Jabber Square (Haret Jabber). Dozens of historical homes will be destroyed, land in the area will be confiscated, and a new separation border system will be constructed. The road will be for the use of Israeli settlers only. Al Quds (October 4, 2010).
- Tens of Israeli settlers from Efrat settlement north of Hebron city razed the lands of Abu 'Ayyash family in Beit Ummer town north of Hebron city. Al Quds (October 4, 2010).
- Israeli occupation forces reoccupied Al Majnonah military base which was evacuated some time ago south of Hebron city and installed 5 new caravans at the site. Al Quds (October 4, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation forces delivered confiscation warrants to Banat Khalet Hatem area on plot number 24 in the village, stating the confiscation of 66 dunums of land in Taffuh village. Maannews (October 6, 2010).
- An Israeli settler shot against two Palestinian farmers from Beit Ummer town who were working in their fields located close to Karme Zur settlement north of Hebron city. The settler forced the two farmers to leave their lands under the threat of weapons. Al Quds (October 7, 2010).
- Israeli bulldozers razed 7 dunums of lands owned by Khamayseh family in Ras Khallet Saleh in Taffuh Town west of Hebron city for Ben Ari Quarry Company. It is worth mentioning that the 7 dunums land are part

of 300 dunums land which were confiscated by the Israeli Occupation Authorities back in 1982 from Taffuh and Dura towns. Al Quds (October 11, 2010).

- The Israeli Occupation bulldozers demolished a water well owned by Al Rajabi family on Bani Na'im road east of Hebron Governorate. Al Quds (October 12, 2010).
- Israeli bulldozers started razing lands in the vicinity of Karmeit Tzur settlement south of Beit Ummer north of Hebron city. The razed lands, estimated at 20 dunums, are owned by Sabarneh family and are planted with Olive and Almond trees. Al Ayyam (October 13, 2010).
- Israeli settlers mowed around 100 grape trees in Al Buweira area east of Hebron city and owned by Sultan family. Al Quds (September 15, 2010).
- Israeli Settlers of Kiryat Arba' settlement in the heart of Hebron city hindered Palestinian farmers from harvesting their grape trees located in close vicinity of Kiryat Arba' settlement. Lands estimated at 50 dunums. Al Ayyam (October 15, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities handed the people of Susiya, located to the south of Yatta town in Hebron Governorate, orders to remove two water circulates (toilets) built out of steel. The WCs were a grant from the Hydrologen Organization and they belonged to: Mohammad al Nawaj'a (it serves a ten-member-family. It was provided at the beginning of the current year), Fawziyya al Nawaj'a (it serves a fourteen-member-family. It was also provided at the beginning of the current year). The Israeli Occupation Authorities ordered the immediate stoppage of the drilling of three water wells. The wells are being drilled as part of a project funded by the Union of Agricultural Work Committees in Susiya. The project aims to reduce the scarcity of water in the area to enable the locals to use the water for agricultural purposes. Maannews & Al Quds (October 17, 2010).
- Israeli settlers began construction on a new road on Palestinian farmland in the Al-Buweira village in the southern West Bank Governorate of Hebron. Israeli Bulldozers were seen digging up land near the Kiryat Arba and Kharisna settlements in the Governorate to make way for a road between the latter settlement and a nearby hill. The hill was recently taken over by settlers and planted with trees following Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's decision to establish gardens near each settlement. Maannews (October 17, 2010).

- Israeli settlers of Kfar Etzion settlement pumped their sewage and wastewater towards Palestinian lands planted with grapes and almonds which caused irreparable damage to 30 dunums of lands owned by Beit Ummar residents. In addition, Israeli settlers stole a bulldozer owned by Mr. Yousf Muslih Awad that was present in the location as well as a DAF 430 truck. Maannews (October 17, 2010)
- The Israeli civil Administration issued halt of construction orders to 12 structures in Ar Ramadin Al Janubi area south of Hebron city. The orders include 9 water wells, two green houses and an under construction home under the pretext of lacking building permits. Structures are owned by Nawwaf Sarhan Al Zagharna (water well), Younis Jaser Al Zagharna (a green house and a water well), Salem Jaddou' Al Zagharna (water well), Ahmad Suleiman Al Zagharana (water well), Khader Suleiman Al Zagharna (water well), Fayez Jaddou' Al Zagharna (water well), Mihbash Al Zagharna (water well), Mansour Faheed Al Zagharna (water well), Raed Abdullallah Al Zagharna (2 green houses), Majed Khalil Abu Qa'ud (an under construction house) and Abdullah 'Awwad Al Zagharna (Water well). LRC (October 18, 2010).
- Three Israeli settlers from Etzion settlement took over a Palestinian owned bulldozer in Beit Ummar Town in Hebron Governorate. The bulldozer is owned by resident Yousif Musleh Awad. Settlers threatened resident Awad to hand them the bulldozer or they will dump it in wastewater. Al Ayyam (October 19, 2001).
- Israeli troops initiated a large confiscation process targeting irrigation networks in Palestinian farms located in Al Baq'a area in Hebron city. Rabi' Jaber, one of the victims, stated that a large group of border police accompanied by heavy machineries and the Israeli Water Works employees raided Al Baq'a and started pulling out the irrigation pipes placed between the plants; causing a great deal of damage. Jaber added that the Israelis deliberately pulled out the pipes from between the plants including turnip and cauliflower to inflict as much damage as possible. In addition, they pulled the pipes out of the growing grapes. 39 dunums of land were catastrophically damaged; most of the lands were planted with vegetables and grapes and are owned by Ata Jaber, Rabee Jaber, Muhammad Jaber, Yaser Jaber and Adel Jaber. Al Ayyam (October 22, 2010).

- Dozens of Israeli settlers attacked a Palestinian family who was picking olives in Yatta town, in the West Bank Governorate of Hebron. Settlers attacked Othman Abu Sabha and his family, damaged his car and stole their olives. Maannews (October 23, 2010).
- Eight Israeli settlers of susiya settlement attacked Abu Sabha family while they were harvesting their Olive trees south of Yatta village. The settlers also confiscated 300 kg of Olives. Al Ayyam (October 23, 2010).
- Dozens of Israeli settlers chopped down almond trees in the Wad Al-Wahadin area in Beit Ummer village north of Hebron city. The uprooted trees belong to the Baher family near the Karmi Zur settlement and brought in bulldozers in an attempt to enlarge the settlement. Five dunums of land were overturned in the process. In addition, several new settlement housing units were approved in the area. Maannews (October 23, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities decided to close the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron city for two days to allow settlers to celebrate 'Sarah Jewish Feast'. Wafa (October 27, 2010).
- Israeli Occupation soldiers occupied a Palestinian home in the Baqa'a Valley near Hebron for the third time in two months. A family of 15 live in the home, including 5 children. Two other homes were also reportedly occupied in the area. Maannews (October 30, 2010)

Jerusalem

- The Jerusalem Planning and Building Committee will meet to discuss a master plan for expanding the Western Wall Plaza. The plan - prepared by the Western Wall Foundation in conjunction with the Jerusalem municipality and Jerusalem Development Authority - includes the construction of a new underground passageway that would become the main entryway to the plaza. Al Quds (October 31, 2010).
- Israel's Jerusalem municipality is discussing a plan to break part of East Jerusalem's Old City walls to create a new gate to accommodate Jewish worshipers near the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound. Israel's municipal Planning and Building Committee received a plan in which part of the Old City's walls would be broken for the new gate. The gate would lead to a tunnel beginning from Bab Nabi Daoud (Zion Gate) in the Armenian

Quarter to the gate leading to the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, Bab Al-Magharbeh (Dung Gate), and includes the construction of a four-story parking lot. The plan aims to renovate the Jewish Quarter settlement in the Old City and to accommodate the tens of thousands of visitors to the Al-Buraq Wall, which Israel renamed the Western or Wailing Wall shortly after occupying the eastern part of the city in 1967. Maannews (October 6, 2010).

- The Israeli Municipality court rejected a plea presented by Al 'Abbasiya residents in Silwan city to stop the demolition of two residential buildings in the area under the pretext of being built without proper licensing documents. Al Quds (October 7, 2010).
- The Israeli committee for building and planning in Jerusalem city recommended the construction of a 5200 square meters building at Al Buraq Square in Jerusalem city. Al Quds (October 9, 2010).
- Israeli settlers ransacked the home of a Palestinian family in occupied East Jerusalem's Old City tossing furniture into the street. Owner of the house, Mazin Qirrish added that Israeli police provided protection to the settlers as his family and neighbors tried to prevent the evacuation of their home. The family's troubles began 14 September as settlers announced their plan to move in, claiming ownership. An Israeli court recently ruled in favor of the settlers. Maannews (October 10, 2010).
- Israeli settlers continue the illegal building at Ramat Migron outpost northwest of Jerusalem city despite the court order to demolish it. The settlers built a 7 meters watch tower at the site to monitor the area. Al Quds (October 12, 2010).
- Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has approved tenders for the construction of nearly 238 new housing units in areas of Jerusalem across the Green Line. The Housing and Construction Ministry, along with the Israel Lands Administration, released its list of 3,500 newly approved tenders set for construction across the country. The list includes 150 residential buildings in the Jerusalem neighborhood of Ramot and another 80 in Pisgat Ze'ev. Another 1,100 apartments will be built in the city of Netanya, 480 in Ashdod and some 450 in Tel Aviv. Haaretz (October 15, 2010).
- Head of Armon Hanetzev Colonial project which will be established on lands of Jabal Al Mukabbir informed Dalal lafi head of Emleson Women

society that a part of the kindergarten will be demolished under the pretext that the kinder-garden was built on lands claimed by him. It is worth mentioning that the kindergarten is a home for 140 kids. Al Quds (October 16, 2010).

- Resident Jamal Muhammad Bukeirat from Sur Baher town in east Jerusalem was forced to demolish his own 14 square meters car park. Al Quds (October 18, 2010).
- The Israeli Ministerial Committee on Legislative Affairs has approved a bill, defining Jerusalem as a national priority area of the first order in the housing, employment and education sectors. The bill, initiated by Knesset Member Uri Ariel (National Union), is expected to be brought before the Knesset for a preliminary vote. The bill means that construction priority will be given to Jerusalem's many settlements - including in east Jerusalem. [Ynetnews \(October 25, 2010\)](#).
- The Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem issued orders for five residential buildings in different towns in Jerusalem city. The orders targeted three residential buildings, the first is composed of 3 floors, the second is composed of six apartments and the third is composed of four apartments in Beit Hanina. In addition, the orders targeted a house composed of two floors in Wadi Al Jouz area in Jerusalem city. The Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem stated that it has issued 231 demolition orders in 9 towns in Jerusalem city in the last couple of months such as Silwan city and Al Bustan neighborhood, Shu'fat city, Al Ashqariya neighborhood in Beit Hanina Town, Al 'Isawiya, Wadi Ad Dam and Ar Ras area in Wadi Al Jouz. Among owners, the following were known: Sameer Abu Sbeih, Yousif Abu Sneneh, Nafeth As Sabah and Sa'di 'Asela. Al Quds (October 25, 2010).
- The Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem approves the construction of 452 housing units in Pisgat Ze'ev settlement north of Jerusalem city. Al Quds (October 27, 2010).
- Israeli soldiers and Civil Administration personnel razed a Bedouin encampment, belonging to the Jahhalin clan in Isawiya, northeast of Jerusalem. The Israeli personnel bulldozed more than 50 dunums of land in what Israel calls the E1 zone in between Jerusalem and the Israeli settlement of Ma'ale Adumim. He added that six Bedouin families lived in the bulldozed area. Bulldozers destroyed tents and other structures owned by the families. [Maannews \(October 27, 2010\)](#).

- The Israeli bulldozers demolished stables and walls owned by Riyadh Al Isawi, Raed Abu Ryala, Issa Saleh Khalil Naser, Ziad Issa Naser, Mazin Issa Naser, Isma'il Issa Naser, Issa Muhammad Naser, Sameer Naser and Issa Naser. The demolition process was carried out under the pretext of lacking proper licensing. Al Ayyam (October 28, 2010).
- A group of Israeli settlers set fire into an old church in Al Anbiya' Street (street of the Prophets) in Jerusalem city and caused severe losses to the properties. Wafa (October 29, 2010).
- Israeli businessmen are planning to build a new neighborhood on lands north of Shu'fat in Jerusalem city. The Neighborhood is expected to include 600 fancy housing units close to Ramat Shlomo settlement. It is worth mentioning that businessmen claim ownership of the land designated for the new neighborhood. Al Quds (October 30, 2010).
- Jerusalem's district planning and construction committee ratified the implementation of the western wall plaza plan. The plan – prepared by the Western Wall Foundation in conjunction with the Israeli Jerusalem municipality and Jerusalem Development Authority – includes the construction of a new underground passageway that would become the main entryway to the plaza. Al Quds (October 31, 2010).

Ramallah

- The Israeli Occupation forces took over agricultural lands in Al Mazra'a Al Qiblya and Al Janiya villages and transferred them to closed areas where Palestinian access to the lands is no longer allowed. The area of the land in Al Mazra'a Al Qiblya is estimated at 5000 dunums and 2000 dunums in Al Janiya village. Al Quds (October 7, 2010).
- Israeli settlers of 'Adi 'Ad outposts set fire to dozens of Olive trees in Al Mughayyar village northeast of Ramallah city after tossing them with Chemical substances. Lands are owned by Muhammad Abu M'allah. Al Ayyam (October 9, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities gave farmers of Turmis'ayya and Al Mughayyar villages northeast of Ramallah city only two days to harvest their Olive trees. Al Ayyam (October 12, 2010).

- Israeli settlers of Dolab outpost attacked Palestinian farmers while they were picking olives in Deir Ibizig village in Ramallah Governorate. The settlers made the farmers leave as they threw stones before stealing their olives. The farmers were not able to take any of their belongings or olives with them. Maannews (October 22, 2010).
- The Israeli Government asked the Israeli High court to reject the petition filed by Yesh Din organization regarding the evacuation of Amona outpost in Ramallah area. Al Quds (October 25, 2010).
- Israeli settlers of Hallmish settlement set fire into a number of Green Houses established on 2 dunums of lands in 'ein Al Zarqa Area in Beit Illu village which caused huge losses. The lands are owned by Nidal Mustafa Radwan and Mahmoud Radwan. Al Quds (October 28, 2010).

Jericho

- 30 new mobile homes were transferred to Petz'ael settlement north of Jericho city. Al Quds (October 18, 2010).
- Around 30 Israeli settlers living in Massu' settlement in the Jordan valley area hedged around 50 dunums of lands belong to Abu Al Ajaj area in al Jiftlek village north of Jericho city with barbed wires in an attempt to confiscate them. Arabs48 (October 29, 2010).

Tubas

- Israeli Settlers in the northern Jordan Valley settlement of Mechola began large-scale construction projects. The settlers were adding new housing units in the western side of the settlement. A report in the daily Israeli newspaper Haaretz said the foundations for some 350 homes had been set in the 10 days following the construction freeze expiration. Maannews (October 7, 2010).

Jenin

- Israeli Occupation Forces staged into Silat Al Harthiyah village in Jenin Governorate and searched the houses of Husein and Khaled Jaradat. Al Ayyam (October 13, 2010).

- Israeli occupation forces set up a flying checkpoint at 'Ajja village entrance south of Jenin city which connects Ar Rama, Fahma and Kafr Ra'I villages with the south of the Governorate. Al Ayyam (October 16, 2010).
- Israel began large-scale digging works in Shaked settlement east of Jenin city to make way for several new housing units to expand the settlement. Maannews (October 17, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation forces issued an order to prohibit residents from working in Coking coal factories in East Barta'a, Daher Al Maleh, and Um Ar Riham villages. The IOF confiscated more than 40 Tons from 50 coking coal factories in East Barta'a owned by residents Jamal 'Amarneh and Yaser Othman. Al Quds (October 21, 2010).
- Israeli Occupation forces staged into Ya'bad village in Jenin Governorate and set up a checkpoint at its eastern entrance. Al Ayyam (October 27, 2010).

Qalqilyah

- Israeli settlers of Kedumim settlement set 43 olive trees alight and drastically damaging them. The trees were located nearby the settlement fence in Kafr Kaddum (parcel 2). The trees belong to the heirs of Mahmoud Saleh and were more than 40 years old. LRC (October 11, 2010).
- The Israeli Occupation forces issued a military order to confiscate 11 dunums of lands of Kafr Qaddum village to construct a security road that will lead to Kedumim settlement. Al Ayyam (October 15, 2010).
- Israeli occupation forces continue to deny Palestinian citizens of Mas-ha village access through "Hani Gate" to their lands segregated behind the wall to harvest their Olive trees. Instead, the IOF forced residents to enter their lands through the village's northern entrance which is something farmers refuse because they have to take longer distances to reach their lands. Al Ayyam (October 15, 2010).
- Israeli settlers of the illegal Giv'at Gil'ad outpost torched Palestinian olive groves in Far'ata village and prevented fire engines from reaching the site. Tens of thousands of shekels of damage was caused in part due to the delay. Maannews (October 16, 2010).

Nablus

- Israeli Settlers began bulldozing Palestinian farmland to build a new settlement in the northern West Bank. A number of bulldozers were working in the area of Jabal Salman west of Urif village south of Nablus, which borders the illegal Yitzhar settlement. Days earlier, settlers expanded the settlement from the north, carrying out digging work north of Yitzhar on Madama village land. Near 'Awarta village, also in the northern West Bank, Israeli settlers from the Itamar settlement set fire to fields belonging to Palestinians in Al Bayyada area located close to Itamar settlement. Maannews (October 1, 2010).
- Hundreds of Israeli settlers demonstrated demanding the demolition of Burin village Mosque south of Nablus city. Settlers had posted large banners in the area calling for the demolition of the village mosque, which is near the illegal Yitzhar settlement. Maannews (October 4, 2010).
- Israeli settlers torched Palestinian agricultural Olive fields with fire. The fire consumed more than 10 dunums of land. The torched field is the property of Mr. Noman 'Awwad and is located in the north east of 'Awarta in an area called Khallit al Bayyada. According to eyewitnesses, a group of settlers riding a green SUV were seen heading to the 'Awwad's field which is only 800 meters away from Itamar settlement. The settlers remained in the field for several minutes before leaving a fire erupting behind them. The flames set 87 olive trees alight, destroying 'Awwad's olive picking season. LRC (October 6, 2010).
- Israeli settlers from the Gideonim outpost in the Itamar settlement damaged 16 olives trees belonging to residents in the Nablus region after harvesting the olives and depriving several families of their income source. Settlers also began bulldozing land to make way for a road leading to the homes there. The road would eat up several dunums of farm land, and make accessing the lands left difficult, since the land would basically be appropriated by the settlers and the outpost would be entrenched. Maannews (October 6, 2010).
- Israeli settlers closed dirt roads near Kafr Thuluth village and put cement blocks as to prevent the Israeli soldiers from reaching a synagogue located in the area. Al Quds (October 7, 2010).

- Israeli settlers from the Yitzhar settlement uprooted nearly 50 trees in the area of Al Naqqar Parcel located northwest of the town of Huwwara, owned by Najeh Issa Muhammad Odeh. Maannews (October 6, 2010).
- Israeli settlers of Itamar settlement completely destroyed 16 Olive trees in Yanun village southeast of Nablus city. Al Quds (October 7, 2010).
- Israeli settlers set dozens of dunums of farm lands on fire in Huwwara village south of Nablus. The fields were in the At-Tira area of Huwwara village, and had destroyed some crops. The fire was the latest in a long string of recent arson and vandalism carried out by the illegal settler population in the West Bank, mainly in the northern area. Maannews (October 7, 2010).
- 15 Israeli settlers from an illegal settlement outpost near Bracha settlement attacked Palestinian farmers while they were harvesting olives in the northern West Bank village of Burin south of Nablus and threw stones at farmers while they were harvesting olives and at the home of local resident Bashir Hamza. Settlers also damaged several olive trees before Palestinian residents intervened forcing them to leave. Maannews (October 9, 2010).
- Israeli occupation forces shut down the Huwwara military checkpoint south of Nablus in the northern West Bank temporarily in both directions and opened it again yet very slowly. Israeli soldiers manning the checkpoint scrutinized ID cards very carefully after the checkpoint was closed for a while. As a result, movement at the checkpoint went very slowly. The soldiers opened the checkpoint to Palestinian cars leaving Nablus, while vehicles entering Nablus had to go through careful screening at a special checkpoint which was erected nearby. Maannews (October 10, 2010).
- More than 20 Israeli settlers attacked one Palestinian farmer in Burin village south of Nablus city while he was harvesting his Olive trees and stole the Olive product and the equipments. Al Quds (October 13, 2010).
- Israeli occupation forces delivered a military order number T/21/10 to Awarta Village Council. The Order called for the confiscation of agricultural lands northeast of Awarta in Parcel 2 as well as Yanoun's western lands in Parcel 3. According to the Order, the area of the confiscated lands is about 0.5 dunums. The Order (signed by the Commander of the occupation army on the West Bank, Avi Mizrahi)

stipulated that the reason behind the confiscation is to establish a military base in addition to a military observation tower at a distance of 3 kilometers away from the settlement of Itamar. Al Ayyam (October 13, 2010).

- The Israeli occupation authorities handed out Jalud village council a military order number (23/10/T) to seize 0.028 dunums of agricultural lands in the village for the construction of a military base. Al Ayyam (October 14, 2010).
- Residents of villages west of Nablus said settlers burned hundreds of dunums of olive groves. Farmers from Surra and Jit villages said their olive and almond crops were destroyed. Also around 20 armed settlers of the illegal Elon Moreh settlement opened fire on farmers from Azmut village as they picked their olives. Maannes (October 16, 2010).
- About 15 Israeli settlers from Giv'at 'Arousi outpost near bracha settlement south of Nablus city attacked Palestinian farmers in Burin village while they were harvesting their Olive trees. The settlers also threw stones at Bashir Hamza's house and destroyed a number of trees before leaving the area. Al Quds (October 17, 2010).
- Israeli settlers of Eli settlement cut down and damaged 40 olive trees in the northern West Bank village of Al-Lubban Ash-Sharqiya, southwest of Nablus city. Akram Jamil Uweis, whose family owns the trees, said his family headed to the field early in the morning to harvest olives, and found 47 trees had been chopped down, but their olives had not been harvested. Maannews (October 20, 2010).
- Israeli Settlers deliberately violated the sanctity of a number of graves in a cemetery in the village of Kafr Qaddum near Nablus and wrote graffiti on the walls threatening revenge. Maannews (October 23, 2010).
- Residents of Deir Al-Hatab reported that said that some 660 olive trees were destroyed by runoff from factories connected to the Elon Moreh settlement. Villagers found wide-scale destruction at the olive grove when they were granted permission to visit the lands. Some 220 olive trees were burned and about 400 were soaked in sewage. Maannews (October 26, 2010).

- Israeli settlers installed 11 caravans near the illegal settlement of Shevut Rahel. Israeli forces bulldozed land next to the settlement to prepare for the installation of the caravans, locals reported. Prior works included enlarging the width of a road coming off Highway 60. Maannews (October 27, 2010).
- The Israeli Police guards stormed the Olive Press in Jit village west of Nablus city and attacked Palestinian farmers who were present at the site. The guards also confiscated the bulldozer that was parking in front of the Olive press and belongs to Anwar Al Sidda. Al Ayyam (October 31, 2010).

Salfit

- Palestinian residents of Mas-ha village reported that Israeli settlers from Etz Efrayem settlement stole their Olive harvest. Al Quds (October 6, 2010).
- Israeli Occupation forces set up a gate west of Mas-ha village and hindered 20 Palestinian farmers from accessing their lands behind the wall and close to Elkana settlement. Al Quds (October 12, 2010).
- Construction works are being carried out at Pedu'el settlement established on lands of Deir Ballut and Kafr Ad Deik west of Salfit city. It is worth mentioning that Israeli Occupation Authorities confiscated vast areas of lands planted with Olive and Almond trees and announced Deir Sim'an historical site as a closed military area for that purpose. Al Quds (October 17, 2010).
- A number of Israeli settlers torched a school warehouse in Sawyeh village in Salfit Governorate. A message "regards from the hills" was sprayed on one of the walls. According to school principle, the settlers infiltrated the girls' school at night, broke two locks and torched the warehouse, where school sports gear and furniture is kept. Ynetnews (October 20, 2010).
- Israeli Settlers of the illegal Ariel settlement attacked villagers of Kifl Haris village in Salfit as they harvested their olives and stole the products. Maannews (October 21, 2010).
- Hussein Zeidan, a Palestinian farmer from Deir Istya village in the northern West Bank Governorate of Salfit reported that Israel's Civil Administration ordered him to stop his digging work in his land. The

Civil Administration forces seized a vehicle used for digging and stopped workers from approaching the area until he provided them with proof of land ownership. The land in question lies close to Revava settlement. Maannews (October 21, 2010).

- Israeli settlers of Taphuh settlement tried to steal the Olive product from Iskaka and Yasuf villages' residents by attacking them while working in their fields. Al Quds (October 26, 2010).
- A group of Israeli settlers stole a number of Commercial stores in Haris village west of Salfit city. The stores belong to Abu Husni Nawwaf. Al Ayyam (October 28, 2010).

Tulkarem

- Israeli Occupation soldiers manning Jubara checkpoint south of Tulkarem city obstructed the access of Palestinians into and out of the village and village lands by imposing impossible conditions on them. Al Ayyam (October 5, 2010).
- Israeli Occupation bulldozers demolished a local playground in the northern West Bank district of Tulkarem. Bulldozers entered Far'un village supported by soldiers and began the demolition. Residents reported that Israeli soldiers had ordered residents to demolish the area themselves within seven days. Further, they were told that the village would bear the cost of the demolition if Israeli forces carried it out. The play area had cost \$150,000 to build. Maannews (October 10, 2010).
- A large force of Israeli occupation forces accompanied by representatives of the so-called Israeli "Civil" Administration raided Far'oun village and distributed 9 Stop Work Orders against residential, agricultural and commercial structures in addition to the village's stadium. The pretext used to issue the said orders was building without a permit in the southwestern side of the village which is classified as Area C which falls under the full Israeli control. Occupation forces gave the owners of the structures until the 21st of October, 2010, to file for an objection against the Orders. Structures are owned by Mohannad Rislán Zaki Omar (cow farm), Azzam Fayeze Saleem Salman (1ST floor under construction), Saleem Fakhry Saleem Al Taneib (1st floor under construction), Riyad Ahmad Sa'ad Qtaimish (Inhabited house consisting of a basement and a 1st floor), Bashaer Saleh Abdel Hafez Abu Baker (Basement and 1st floor under construction), Marwan Mohammad Ramez (Second floor under

construction), Abdel Hameed Mustafa Shalabi (Carpentry shop with an area of 400 m²), The village's stadium, Mohammad Barham Abu Daqqa (Two stories under construction). Al Quds (October 5, 2010).

Gaza

- The Israeli occupation warplanes bombed at the house of Shabat family in Northern Gaza Area. The house was partially damaged by the bombing. Al Ayyam (October 28, 2010).

Others

- Israeli forces demolished four houses belonging to Bedouin families in southern Israel. The demolished homes are owned by Atef Al-Athamen, who plans to marry soon, and Nayed Abu Ghuneima, a father of six, as well as two others in Khashim Zena village in the Negev region. Maannews (October 6, 2010).
- 350 new housing units are being built in a number of Israeli settlements in the West Bank Territory. In the settlement of Kedumim, 56 new housing units are being constructed. In the settlement of Ariel, 54 new housing units are being constructed. In Karnei Zur settlement, another 56 new housing units are being added to the site in addition to 24 new housing units in Giv'at Binyamin (Adam) settlement. In Kiryat Arba' settlement, 34 New housing units are being added to the settlement. In Mattityahu settlement, 20 new housing units are being built and 5-10 new units in Nili settlement. Moreover, more new housing units are being added to the settlements of Oranit and Sha'are Tekvah, Yakir, Eli'zer, Kochav Hashahar, Barqan, Kfar Adumim, Tequa, Dolev. Al Quds (October 7, 2010).
- 4900 housing units are planned to be constructed in Israeli settlements in the OPT, of which, 1300 in settlements east of Jerusalem and 3600 units in Israeli settlements in the West Bank. Another 2500 units in Pisgat Ze'ev and Ramat Shlomo are awaiting approval. In addition, plans to build 3727 new housing units in a number of settlements in the West Bank and doesn't need the approval of the Minister of Defense. The units will include 150 units in Betar Illit, 500 units in Giv'at Ze'ev, 500 Units in Karnei Shomron, 417 units in Efrat Settlements and 400 units in Ari'el settlement. Another 11540 units are in different stages of approval and are concentrated in settlements' blocs. Al Quds (October 19, 2010).

- The Israeli Supreme Court President Dorit Beinisch and the honorable Uzi Vogelmann and Neal Hendel criticized the Israeli State's policy on illegal construction in six illegal West Bank outposts, which the court has already ruled against. The outposts in question were included in a 2007 High Court petition filed by Peace Now. The court ruled that the area must be evacuated and issued a restraining order regarding any construction or other physical presence by settlers. Ynetnews ([October 22, 2010](#)).
- Israeli settlers have begun building new homes at an extraordinary pace since the government lifted its moratorium on West Bank housing starts – almost 550 in three weeks, more than four times faster than the last two years. The building spurt of the past three weeks compares to average annual housing starts of about 2,000 in recent years, including just fewer than 1,900 in 2009 and just over 2,100 in 2008, according to government figures. That is a rate of about 115 in three weeks, making the current pace more than four times faster. Ynetnews ([October 21, 2010](#)).
- After years in which Palestinian residents had to present entry permits and IDs on the way to work in Israel, the Israeli Occupation authorities has prepared a "soldier-free" entry procedure. Soldiers will soon be replaced by electronic terminals checking the Palestinians by hand prints. The IOF-made devices will shorten the time Palestinians spend in checkpoints and create a "more pleasant atmosphere." As claimed by the authorities. The new system, which greatly resembles the biometric passport control at the Ben-Gurion Airport, "speaks" Arabic with the users. After identifying the hand print and checking personal details on an electronic card the system quickly authorizes entry into Israel. [Ynetnews \(October 21, 2010\)](#).
- A Vatican synod on the Middle East declared that Israel cannot use the Biblical concept of a promised land or a chosen people to justify new "settlements" in Jerusalem or territorial claims. [Ynetnews \(October 25, 2010\)](#).
- The Israeli Defense Ministry has agreed to move toward granting a license to a synagogue built illegally in the West Bank outpost of El-Matan, as long as the residents there keep the structure sealed off over the course of the legal process. Haaretz ([October 26, 2010](#)).
- The Israeli bulldozers demolished two houses owned by Abu Zeid Family in Al Lud area inside Israel under the pretext of lacking valid building permits. Al Quds ([October 27, 2010](#)).

- The Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ordered the defense establishment to begin immediate construction of a barrier on the Egyptian border. The works were due to start in July, but following disagreements on budgeting have been delayed by over three months. The barrier is meant to prevent infiltrations to Israel from Egypt. Al Ayyam (October 28, 2010).
- The Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rejects UNESCO's call to remove Rachel's Tomb, Cave of Patriarchs from list of Israel's heritage sites, dubs organization's decision political, 'absurd attempt to cut Israel off from its heritage'. [Ynetnews \(October 29, 2010\)](#)
- West Bank settlement construction will not affect the final status peace deal between Israel and a future Palestinian state, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said, adding that he felt the settlement issue wasn't an obstacle to continued peace talks with the Palestinian Authority. Haaretz (October 28, 2010).
- Israeli Settlers' leaders warned that building would soon come to a grinding halt in nine of the largest settlements unless the relevant government ministries immediately authorize 4,321 planned units. The plans include 978 units in Betar Illit; 800 in Alfei Menashe; 507 in Givat Ze'ev; 503 in Ariel; 435 in Efrat; 265 in Elkana; 213 in Ma'aleh Adumim; 134 in Geva Binyamin and 48 in Kiryat Arba'. Jpost (October 28, 2010).

Monthly Violations Statistics – October 2010

Governorate	Land Confiscated (Dunums)	Lands Threatened of Confiscation (Dunums)	Uprooted Trees/ Burnt trees	Demolished Houses	Houses threatened of Demolition
Bethlehem	0	0	600	4	7
Jerusalem	50	0	0	0	15
Jenin	0	0	0	0	0
Tulkarm	0	0	0	0	9
Ramallah	7000	0	0	0	0
Nablus	0.528	0	869	0	0
Salfit	0	0	0	0	0
Jericho	50	0	0	0	0
Gaza	0	0	0	0	0
Qalqilyah	11	0	43	0	0
Hebron	93	50	100	0	14
Tubas	0	0	0	0	0
Total	7204.528	50	1612	4	45

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, Haaretz Daily Newspaper, Israel National News, The Jerusalem Post - English-language daily newspaper, Paltoday news-website, Palpress news website, Palestine News Agency-Wafa, Palestine News Network, Ma'an News Agency, Al Jazeera News Channel, Israel National News, and Yediot Ahronot – English website.

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.