

# Advocating for a Sustainable and Viable Resolution of Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

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## Report on the Israeli Settlement Activities in the occupied State of Palestine

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### Bethlehem

- In Bethlehem Governorate, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the al-Nashash area in the village of al-Khader and sealed a car wash after claiming that the imprisoned owners, Abed al-Minam and Dirar Muhammad Salah, were accused of planting an explosive device near an Israeli military site in November last year. The brothers were detained by the IOA last year after a similar raid. (Maannews 1 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) notified to halt the construction of a car repair shop in Um Rukba area in Al Khader village west of Bethlehem city. The shop is owned by Abdullah Muhamamd Salah and was notified of demolition under the pretext of unlicensed Building. (ALQUDS 1 February 2017).
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) and bulldozers razed 12 dunums of land planted with Olive trees in [Surif](#) village in Hebron Governorate under the pretext of being previously cnonfiscatedby the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA). The razed land is owned by Ishaq Al Qadi and Muhammad Ghneimat.
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) and bulldozers raided “Al Batta” area in Al Jab’a village southwest of Bethlehem city, razed and uprooted a number of Olive trees in the area owned by citizen Ahmad Muhammad Masha’la. The razing process comes as part of constructing the Israeli segregation wall. (Wafa 1 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained at least 22 Palestinians -- 12 of whom from a Bethlehem-area refugee camp alone -- in overnight raids in the occupied Palestinian territory. In the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Bethlehem, 13 Palestinians (one detention in the village of Husan and 12 in Aida refugee camp) were detained by the IOA, identifying them as Asaad Rashid Darwish, 19, Ali Muhammad Abu Srour, Islam Jawarish, 30, Ali Hassan Abu Srour, 20, Samed Atiq, Ramzi Qawar, 32, Muhammad Odeh, Muhammad Jumaa Uweis, Abdullah Hamad, Mustafa Ibrahim Qneis, 32, Fathi Abu Srour, Majd Akram Abu Khdeir, 21, and Mahmoud Sabatin. The raid in Aida was a joint operation between the army and the Shin Bet intelligence agency to detain locals for unspecified “illegal activities.” (Maannews 2 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) summoned The Palestinian lawyer, Amer Abu Shaeira, from Al Azza refugee camp north of Bethlehem city for interrogation at the Gush Etzion detention center after raiding his house and searching it. (Wafa 4 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained in predawn military raid three Palestinians from Al Khader village in the southern Bethlehem Governorate and were identified as Muhammad Rashad Issa, his brother Ahmad, and Qusay Issa. (Maannews 5 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Ahmad Ibrahim al-Umour, 19, from the village of Tuqu in the southern Bethlehem Governorate. (Maannews 5 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained the 16-year-old Muhammad Raed Hamamra from Husan village west of Bethlehem City. (Maannews 5 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed two agricultural roads with earth-mounds in Al Thaghra area, near Neve Daniel settlement in Al Khader village west of Bethlehem city. The closure of the road will obstruct the access of Palestinians to their lands near the settlement. (Wafa 5 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided the village of Tuqu southeast of Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank early, took over a Palestinian home, and turned it into a military post. The soldiers took over a five-floor house belonging to Taysir Ahmad al-Shaer in the northwestern part of the village, and stationed snipers on the roof. The soldiers also put barbed wire around the house and sandbags on the rooftop, and covered the windows with cloth. Heavily armed soldiers were deployed at different areas around the house. The house overlooks the main road near the western entrance of the town, near where Israeli forces opened fire at Palestinian protesters last

- month, [shooting and killing 17-year-old Qusay Hassan al-Umour](#). (Maannews 8 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided Lajee Center, a community organization for refugee youth that stands at the entrance of the camp in Aida refugee camp in the southern occupied West Bank city of Bethlehem, when they seized computers and security camera footage./ , according to locals and a Palestinian news outlet. The IOA held head of the center Salah Ajarmeh and head of the center’s media unit Muhammad al-Azza, as soldiers searched the building and confiscated surveillance camera recordings and a computer. Israeli soldiers took the confiscated equipment and Ajarmeh to the military base next to Rachel’s Tomb, when Ajarmeh was given a notice to meet with the Israeli intelligence for interrogation at a later date, and was then released. (Maannews 8 February 2017)
  - An Israeli settler ran over an 81 Years old Palestinian citizen from Al Khader village west of Bethlehem city and killed him. The Palestinian was identified as Hammad Muhamamd Salah. (Wafa 8 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Muhamad Ibrahim Al ‘Imour (23 Years) from Tequ village east of Bethlehem city after raiding his family house and searching it. (RB2000 9 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) summoned Mahmoud Ibrahim Ar Rafati from Bethlehem city for interrogation at the Gush Etzion detention center after raiding his house and searching it. (RB2000 9 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided “Dozan” Print Shop in Bethlehem city and searched it. (RB2000 9 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) violently detained a Palestinian minor off the street in broad in Aida refugee camp in in the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Bethlehem. The IOA raided the camp in the afternoon and violently detained a boy in the street as he was walking home from school. The detainee was identified as Ali Afana (13 Years) and he was beaten by soldiers inside the vehicle. (Maannews 9 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Rani Abu Aker from Ad Duehisha Refugee camp in Bethlehem Governorate. (Wafa 9 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Saed Saleem Amarneh from Aida Refugee camp in Bethlehem Governorate. (Wafa 9 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) opened fire at the house of Ahmad Amer in Aida Refugee camp in Bethlehem Governorate resulting in the bombing of the water tank on top of his house. (Wafa 9 February 2017)

- In the Governorate of Bethlehem, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the village of Husan and detained Hassan Ali Hamamra and Muhammad Samih Hamamra after searching their houses. (Maannews 9 February 2017)
- In Beit Fajjar village south of Bethlehem, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained former prisoner Jihad Ahmad Thawabta as well as Fadi Fayeze Taqatqa. (Maannews 9 February 2017)
- Israeli settlers uprooted around 400 Olive seedlings that were recently planted in Ash Shaghaf area near Sde Boaz outpost in Al Khader village west of Bethlehem city. The trees were planted in the land owned by Ali Ahmad Issa. (RB2000 9 February 2017)
- The Israeli municipality approved the construction of 181 new settlement units in occupied Jerusalem. The local Planning and Building Committee of the municipality ratified a plan to build 181 settlement units in Gilo settlement, south of Jerusalem, and Ramat Shlomo, north of the city. (PNN 9 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) clashed with Palestinian youth in the Aida refugee camp in the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Bethlehem. The IOA fired tear gas and live fire at Palestinians. The IOA also fired at water tanks on the rooftops of two homes to destroy them, and arrested two young men identified as Rani Abu Aker and Saeb Amarneh. (Maannews 10 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Ahmad al-Umour, 24, in the village of Tuqu east of Bethlehem city. (Maannews 10 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) has closed off the village of Nahalin west of Bethlehem city. The IOA surrounded the village and closed off the village's main entrances with sudden checkpoints. (Wafa 10 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Muhamad As'ad Sbeih from Al Khader village south of Bethlehem city and took him to unknown destination (ORIENTBETHLEHEM 11 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Ayda refugee camp north of Bethlehem city and summoned Hamza Abu Sroor for interrogation at the Gush Etzion Detention center after raiding a number of houses in the camp. (ORIENTBETHLEHEM 11 February 2017)
- The Israeli company "Ofra Aharon" started marketing 88 units in Gilo Settlement northwest of Beit Jala city. Prices for each apartment range between NIS 1.63 and 2.03 million depending on the area of the apartment. The project includes the construction of 4 buildings, with 22 apartment in each building. (Al Quds 11 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded al-Baida area, in Beit Sahour, east of Bethlehem, and violently searched the home of Bashir Mas'ad. (IMEMC 12 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Tequ village east of the West Bank city of Bethlehem, searched homes, and abducted two young Palestinian men, in addition to summing another for interrogation. The IOA abducted Ekrema Odah al-Amour, 20, and Mahmoud Yousef al-'Amour, 21, and took them to an unknown destination. The invasion led to clashes between the soldiers, and many local youngsters, who hurled stones and empty bottles on the military vehicles, while the army fired gas bombs, concussion grenades and rubber-coated metal bullets. (IMEMC 12 February 2017)
- In the Bethlehem district, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained three young men identified by locals as Bassam Masad from Beit Sahour, and Ikrima Odeh al-Umour and Mahmoud Yousif al-Umour from Tuqu east of Bethlehem. (Maannews 12 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Tequ village east of the West Bank city of Bethlehem, searched homes, and abducted two young Palestinian men, in addition to summing another for interrogation. The IOA abducted Ekrema Odah al-Amour, 20, and Mahmoud Yousef al-'Amour, 21, and took them to an unknown destination. The invasion led to clashes between the soldiers, and many local youngsters, who hurled stones and empty bottles on the military vehicles, while the army fired gas bombs, concussion grenades and rubber-coated metal bullets. (IMEMC 12 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) Invaded the al-Baida area, in Beit Sahour, east of Bethlehem, and violently searched the home of Bashir Mas'ad. (IMEMC 12 February 2017)
- A number of Palestinians suffered Gas Inhalation in Tequ villages east of Bethlehem city during clashes with the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) in Al Lawziya area near the village's northern entrance. (WAFA 13 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Beit Fajjar town, south of Bethlehem, and abducted two Palestinians identified as Fadi Mahmoud Taqatqa, 18, and Jawad Ibrahim Taqatqa, 16. (IMEMC 13 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded the Saff Street and the Fawaghra area, in the center of Bethlehem city, searched homes and

abducted three Palestinians, identified as Amin Abdullah Abu 'Ahour, 21, Eid Kamel al-Kamel, 29, and Khader Ahmad Masalma, 55. (IMEMC 13 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded homes in 'Ayda refugee camp, north of Bethlehem, and abducted a child, identified as Adam Mahmoud Darweesh, 15. (IMEMC 13 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) abducted Mazen Mohammad Zawahra, from his home in Doha town, west of Bethlehem. (IMEMC 13 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) abducted Shafiq Ali Radayda, 50, from the al-'Obeydiyya town, east of the city. (IMEMC 13 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed the main entrance leading to Bethlehem's Western Rural villages, Aqbet Hasna, in Al Khader village with earth-mounds and road blocks. Palestinians heading to Bethlehem city and vice versa had to take alternatives routes to reach their destinations. (Wafa 13 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded at dawn 'Aida refugee camp, north of Bethlehem, searched homes and abducted two siblings, identified as Mohammad Salah al-Masa'eed, 13, and his brother Anas, 14. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained at least 25 Palestinians, including at least five minors, during predawn detention raids Across the occupied territory. Nine Palestinians, most of them former prisoners, were detained from different areas in the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Bethlehem and were identified as 20 year-old Mazen Muhammad Taqatqa, 21-year-old Amin Abu Ahour, 55-year-old Khader Ahmad Masalma, 18-year-old Fadi Taqatqa, 15-year-old Adam Mahmoud Darwish, 29-year-old Eid Kamil al-Kamil, 16-year-old Jawad Ibrahim Taqatqa, 50-year-old Shafiq Ali Radayda, and Ayman Issa Hamdan. Eight of the detentions in the Bethlehem area were carried out in the village of al-Ubeidiya, one in Beit Fajjar, one in Aida refugee camp, one in Rafida -- also known as al-Asakira -- three in Bethlehem city, and one in al-Shawawra. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded at dawn, the 'Aida refugee camp, north of the West Bank city of Bethlehem, and abducted two child siblings. The IOA invaded the home of Salam al-Masa'eed and violently searched it, before abducting his two children. The children

have been identified as Mohammad, 15, and his brother, Anas, 14, and added that the soldiers cuffed them and took them to an unknown destination. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)

- Two Palestinians were detained in the village of Husan in the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Bethlehem. (Maannews 15 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Husan during predawn hours confiscating five Palestinian-owned vehicles they claimed were “illegal.” (Maannews 16 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) imposed punitive measures on residents from the village of Husan in the occupied West Bank Governorate of Bethlehem amid a crackdown on relatives of alleged Palestinian stone throwers. The IOA prevented workers in the village from entering the illegal Beitar Illit settlement where they are employed, while confiscating several Palestinian-owned vehicles. Dozens of workers from Husan were surprised when they were barred from entering the nearby Israeli settlement for work, despite having permits. The Israeli military had reportedly issued an order preventing any family members of Palestinian “stone throwers” from working in the settlement. Israeli forces had also [closed the main entrance](#) of the village connecting Husan with Bethlehem city several days ago with large cement blocks, while military checkpoints were also erected at other entrances of the village. (Maannews 16 February 2017)
- Four Palestinians sustained wounds in clashes with the Israeli occupation forces (IOF) in Bethlehem’s eastern village of Tequ’, in the southern West Bank. An Israeli military patrol stormed the village and attacked the Palestinian anti-occupation youth with heavy spates of rubber bullets and teargas canisters, leaving four protesters wounded. (PALINFO 17 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the village of Beit Fajjar south of Bethlehem Governorate in the southern West Bank and detained Uday Muhammad Thawabta, Yousif Mahmoud Taqatqa, Iyad Mahmoud Moussa Taqatqa, and Rashad Samih Derayya. The four were detained over suspicions of throwing Molotov cocktails at the illegal Israeli settlement Migdal Oz. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- Clashes erupted Tuesday afternoon in Bethlehem after Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed Duha village west of the city. No injuries were reported. The IOA soldiers, in several patrols, stormed the town and broke into Palestinians’ homes. Summonses were also handed to families of a number of youths including two ex-detainees: Firas Ezzeyyeh and Anas Malash. (PALINFO 21 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed al-Khader village west of Bethlehem and broke into residents' homes. The soldiers arrested a young man, Shaher Issa, 22, along with a 19-year-old girl, Saja Issa whose sister, Suzan, was summoned for questioning. (PALINFO 21 February 2017)
- In the Bethlehem Governorate, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Shadi Muhammad Fawaghra, 20, Talal Muhammad Suleiman, 20, and Ayman Muhammad Ismail, 21, from the village of Jurat al-Shamaa south of Bethlehem city. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Khalid Issa in al-Khader west of Bethlehem city. Citizen Ziyad Ali Mustafa was also detained in the village, but was later released. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) assaulted and detained a Palestinian man identified as Shehab al-Din Al-Titi while at the Container checkpoint east of Bethlehem in the southern occupied West Bank. Israeli soldiers deployed at the checkpoint assaulted Shihab al-Din Ahmad al-Titi, 24, by beating him before handcuffing and detaining him. The IOA took Shihab al-Din to an unknown location "after giving him bruises across his body. (Maannews 22 February 2017)
- Dozens of Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided Aida refugee camp in the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Bethlehem before dawn to detain one person, identified by locals as 20-year-old Muhammad Imad al-Azraq, after some 20 soldiers broke into and searched his family's home, seizing his mobile phone, while some 20 other soldiers were stationed on the roof of the house. Israeli soldiers also raided and searched stores in the camp belonging to Abu Khalil Qunneis. (Maannews 22 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation bulldozers leveled Palestinian cultivated lands and uprooted olive and Almond trees in Bethlehem's southern village of al-Khader. The Israeli occupation army (IOA) has been leveling Palestinian lands in an attempt to establish an access road leading to the Hatamar illegal outpost, built on Palestinian lands in the area. The targeted land tracts belong to the Palestinian citizen Issa Salah and cover an area of 3 dunums. 50 trees dating back to over 30 years were uprooted. The IOA also destroyed a penthouse covering 20 square meters and a stone wall set up decades ago in the area. (PALINFO 22 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities (IOA) notified to halt the construction of an under-construction Palestinian house in Kherbit Skaryia southwest of Bethlehem city. (RB2000 23 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested two 15-year-old boys, identified as Muhammad Nashat Hamamra and Zeid Muhammad Hamamra, from the village of Husan west of Bethlehem in the southern occupied West Bank. (Maannews 26 February 2017)
- Three Palestinian teachers (Adel al-Shaer, Murad Mufarrih, and Alaa Hmeid) suffered from pepper spray inflammation at the hands of Israeli occupation Army (IOA), when the latter stormed a secondary school in the southern occupied West Bank village of Tuqu to remove posters commemorating 17-year-old Qusay Hassan al-Umour, who was shot dead by Israeli forces in the village in mid-January. The IOA raided the school to remove photos of al-Umour which were posted to mark the 40 days since his killing. The teachers who tried to prevent soldiers from taking down the posters were assaulted and pepper sprayed in the face. After Israeli troops stormed the school, clashes broke out in the village between Israeli soldiers and schoolchildren. The IOA chased the youth through the village's alleys and showered the area in tear gas. No injuries were reported. Following the incident, at least seven Palestinian youth have been detained in Tuqu during overnight raids, while the IOA previously installed a military base at the western entrance to the village, periodically preventing residents from entering or leaving. (Maannews 26 February 2017 )
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided a grocery shop in the town of Beit Sahour east of Bethlehem city in the southern occupied West Bank and confiscated the hard drives of surveillance cameras belonging to the store. The IOA soldiers raided the shop near the Ush Ghurab neighborhood and confiscated hard drives of outdoor surveillance cameras without providing any explanations. The raided shop belongs to Mousa Jubran. (Maannews 27 February 2017)
- In Bethlehem, a young man called Mohamed Taqateqa was kidnapped by the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) from his home in Beit Fajjar town. (PALINFO 28 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided Al Khader village west of Bethlehem city and clashed with Palestinian Youth. The IOA fired live bullets, sound and Gas bombs at Palestinians in an attempt to disperse them. (Wafa 28 February 2017)

## Jenin

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the house of Imad Sadeq Nawahda from Al Yamun village in Jenin Governorate, searched it and questioned its owners. (Wafa 1 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Amro Ahmad Masri, 24, and Salah Yasin Ghanam, 23, from the village of Aqqaba allegedly that the two were alleged Hamas operatives. (Maannews 1 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Omar Husni Ghawadra in the Jenin Governorate. (Maannews 2 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided At Tayba village west of Jenin city, stormed a number of Palestinian shops in the village and questioned shop owners. The IOA detained a number of Palestinians in the area for few hours, checked their ID cards and questioned them. (WAFA 5 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Rummana and Anin villages west of Jenin. No clashes or arrests were reported. (WAFA 5 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Muhammad Abd al-Samad Shawahna from his workplace in the Israeli city of Ashkelon for lacking a work permit to enter Israel. Shawahna was a resident of Silat al-Harithiya village in the northernmost West Bank Governorate of Jenin. (Maannews 5 February 2017)
- The Israeli planes dropped suspicious objects in Al Fawara area in Jaba' village south of Jenin Governorate in the southern West Bank area. (Safa 6 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Haitham Ahmad Assaf (30 Years) from Qabatyia town south of Jenin city north of the occupied West Bank and took him to unknown destination. (SAFA 8 February 2017)
- Dozens of Israeli soldiers invaded Ya'bad village southwest of the northern West Bank city of Jenin, violently searched homes, and distributed leaflets threatening severe measures and punishment. The soldiers invaded many neighborhoods in the town, before storming and searching several homes. The soldiers interrogated many Palestinians in their homes, including the families of two detainees identified as Qais 'Amarna and Ahmad Turkman, in addition to the homes of Yacoub Taher, Awad Herzallah and Hazem Jalal Hamdan. Furthermore, the soldiers interrogated many Palestinians while inspecting their ID cars, and distributed leaflets on the residents, threatening harsh measures and punishment against the entire village "should youngsters continue to hurl stones at army vehicles and settlers' cars, driving nearby.(IMEMC 9 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Ahmad Fayez Sa'adi from Jenin refugee camp, in the northern West Bank Governorate of Jenin, after the soldiers invaded and searched several homes. (IMEMC 9 February 2017)

- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained a Palestinian in the Jenin refugee camp and was identified as Ahmad Fayez Saadi. (Maannews 10 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) arrested a Palestinian from Fahma village south of Jenin city after raiding his family home and took him to unknown destination. The arrestee was identified as Muneer Khamees Al Batran (30Years). (Wafa 10 February 2017)
- A group of Israeli settlers stormed the evacuated “Tarsala” outpost to the south of Jenin under the protection of the Israeli occupation forces (IOF). The settlers broke into an ancient mosque in the site and remained there for a few hours where they offered Talmudic rituals in blatant provocation to the local residents. ([PALINFO](#) 11 February 2017)
- The IOA soldiers interrogated Palestinians at the entrance of Kafr Dan town to the west of Jenin. Israeli military vehicles, stationed at Haifa Street at the junction of Kafr Dan town in Jenin, stopped Palestinians’ cars and questioned them after checking their IDs. Israeli soldiers were deployed on the road and questioned shop owners in the area. (PALINFO 14 February 2017)
- In Jenin, in the northern part of the occupied West Bank, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Faqqou’a village, east of the city, and abducted a teacher and a documentary director, identified as Abdullah Ali Enkheili, 28. The IOA also confiscated mobile phones, and Abdullah’s personal computer. (PALINFO 15 February 2017)
- In Jenin city, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Zibda village, southwest of the city, and summoned owners of several stores and a car wash facility owned by citizen Murad Amarneh, for interrogation at the Salem military base. (PALINFO 15 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) interrogated the owner of a car wash in Zibda village to the west of Jenin city, and handed him a summon to appear before the Israeli intelligence in Salem army camp. The IOA raided the car wash and interrogated its owner, Murad Amarneh, before handing him the summons. A number of Palestinian citizens were interrogated by Israeli intelligence officers in the field inside their shops before the Israeli force withdrew from the village without arresting anyone. (PALINFO 16 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested a Palestinian youngster after breaking into Barta’a village, southwest of Jenin to the north of West Bank. The arrestee was identified as Youssef Qubaha, 27. (PALINFO 17 February 2017)

- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) threatened Palestinian natives of Jenin's western village of Zabouba, in the northern West Bank, with collective punishment. The IOA pitched a military checkpoint on the Jenin-Haifa road, near the main entrance to Zabouba, and subjected Palestinian civilians to exhaustive interrogation before they threatened to enforce harsh penalties in case anti-occupation stone-throwing attacks and protests are spotted in the area. The Israeli military Army further threatened to tighten the noose around Zabouba, to slap a tough military cordon, and to rescind work permits if anti-occupation protesters show up near the apartheid fence. (PALINFO 18 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation army (IOA) arrested a Palestinian activist who earlier served time in Israeli jails, after breaking into Rummana village, west of Jenin, and brutally attacked another man who was in the scene at that time. (PALINFO 20 February 2017)
- One Palestinian, Saleh Abu Zeina, was arrested from Jenin refugee camp after raiding his family house and searching it. Several other houses in the camp were also raided and searched by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA). (PALINFO 20 February 2017)
- A The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed Jenin's western village of Kafr Qud in the northern West Bank, and summoned Mahmoud Walid Ateiq to questioning, after they broke into his family home. Israeli army squads have, meanwhile, been spotted across the Nazareth Street and on the Jenin-Haifa thoroughfare. (PALINFO 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) attacked Journalist Khaled Muhammad Bushnaq, 39, from Rummana village in Jenin Governorate and forced him to take off his clothes. (WAFSA 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained four Palestinians in the northernmost West Bank Governorate of Jenin, identifying them as Majdi Abu al-Haija and Saleh Abu Zina from the Jenin refugee camp, Muhammad Hardan from the city of Jenin, and Mahdi Bushnaq, 42, from the village of Rummana after raiding his house and destroying contents. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) searched a number of Palestinian houses in the eastern neighborhoods of Ya'bad village south of Jenin Governorate. Among the searched houses, the house of a former Palestinian prisoner, Imad Rajeh Asfour, was identified. (ARN 22 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the city of Jenin in the northern occupied West Bank and detained former Palestinian

prisoner, 43-year-old Zakariya Ammar, after raiding his house. (Maannews 22 February 2017)

- The Israeli occupation authority (IOA) withdrew commercial permits for travel to Israel from 110 Palestinian businessmen from Jenin province in the West Bank. An Israeli officer from the Israeli army's civil administration took away permits issued especially for commercial purposes from citizens on allegations they were not businessmen or merchants. The measure comes as part of the Israeli restrictions on the lives and livelihoods of the Palestinian families in the occupied West Bank. (PALINFO, SAFA 23 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) stormed Jenin's southern town of Qabatiya and cordoned off residential neighborhoods before they rounded up four Palestinian youths, in their early 20s. The four were identified as: Ihab al-Najma, Wael Zakarna, Mohamed Kmeil, and Ahmed Abu al-Rub. The IOA rummaged into the detainees' family homes before they dragged them to an unidentified destination. At predawn time, Israeli troops sealed off the main access roads to the town with flying checkpoints. (PALINFO 23 February 2017)
- Dozens of Israeli soldiers and policemen stormed Bartaa's market, to the west of the northern West Bank Governorate of Jenin, and ravaged Palestinian commercial shops. The Israeli soldiers kidnapped the Palestinian citizen Mohamed Makhzoumi after they wreaked havoc on his shop and seized all the commodities. (Palinfo 24 February 2017)
- A number of Palestinians suffered gas inhalation during clashes with the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) in Jaba' village south of Jenin city. The IOA raided the village and stormed the Pharmacy shop of Abu Baker family and searched it. The IOA fired live bullets at Palestinians, stopped Palestinian vehicles and detained the ID card of Mahmoud Hmour and his brother Murad after questioning them. (Wafa 27 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Jenin refugee camp and arrested Citizen Ahmad Al Amer. (Wafa 27 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) summoned three Palestinians for interrogation at Salem Militray Camp. The three Palestinians were identified as Muhamamd Farouq Abed, Zaki Saleh Mir'I and Ahmad Alabed Al Jabbar Salah from Kafr Dan village in Jenin Governorate. (Wafa 27 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) broke into civilian homes in the nearby Kafr Dan village and summoned civilians to interrogation. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) notified to demolish more than 14 stables (Bastas) near Al Jalameh checkpoint, alongside Jenin-An Nasera road, in Jenin Governorate, under the pretext of establishing them without licenses. (Wafa 28 February 2017).
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided the house of Sheikh Izzuddin Amarneh in Ya'bad town west of Jenin. No arrests were made. (PALINFO 28 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided the house of Muhammad Fadeel Zaghali in Zabuba village in Jenin Governorate and messed with house contents. (WAFSA 28 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided the house of Izz Ad Din Amarneh from Ya'bad village and questioned him. (WAFSA 28 February 2017)

## Jerusalem

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Al Makassed hospital in occupied East Jerusalem, and detained a youth from the Jenin Governorate of the occupied West Bank. The IOA raided the hospital and conducted searches in all of its sections before raiding the obstetrics and gynecology departments and detaining a Palestinian youth there. The youth had arrived in an ambulance earlier in the day in order to escort his mother to the hospital. The reasons behind the raid remained unknown, and the identity of the Palestinian youth has not yet been released. (Maannews 1 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Ahmad Hisham Ubeidat, 24, from Jerusalem. (Maannews 1 February 2017)
- An Israeli military court extended the detention of Palestinian prisoner Shafiq al-Halabi, father of 19-year-old Martyr Palestinian Muhannad al-Halabi, for five more days, as al-Halabi has continued a hunger strike in protest of his detention. The court extended al-Halabi's detention over participating in a sit-in event with other families of Palestinian Martyrs and their supporters who demanded the return of slain Palestinian bodies being held by Israel. Al-Halabi had declared a hunger strike five days ago after being detained. (Maannews 2 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained two young men from the Old City of Jerusalem. The arrestees were identified as Thaer Abu Sbeih and Rawhi Kulghasi after raiding their homes in the Old City. (SILWANIC 2 February 2017)

- 26 Israeli settlers raided Al Aqsa Mosque from Bab Al Magharabh and escorted by the Israeli Occupation Police. The settlers tried to perform Talmudic rituals. (Wafa 2 February 2017)
- The Israeli Magistrate's Court issued a decision to seize the "saving accounts" of members of Ad Dweik family in Silwan accounts for the use of the land held by their homes in Batn Al Hawa neighborhood in the town, under the pretext that land is ownership of "Ateret Cohanim" association. The Israeli court approved the request of the Ateret Cohanim association which asked Dweik's family to pay for the lease for use of the land held by their homes for eight consecutive years, NIS "652,000,". Ad Dweik families live within the "Ateret Cohanim" plan area to control the 5 dunums and 200 square meters of Bab Hatta neighborhood under the pretext of its ownership of the land. The decision includes the families of Khamis Dweik and Elias Dweik and Mazen Dweik and his wife, and Nabil Dweik. (SILWANIC 2 February 2017).
- The Jerusalem District Court dismisses claim of Arabs living in Jewish-owned home in the east Jerusalem neighborhood of Beit Hanina and orders their eviction by Feb. 12, 2017. (Maannews 2 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Odai Abu Taya and Muhamamd Abu Al Hamam after raiding their houses in Silwan city south of Jerusalem city. (Wafa 3 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Yousef Sameh Abu Ar Radeif (22 Years) from Jenin city while heading to Jerusalem city to accompany his sick mother to Al Maqqased Hospital for treatment. (Wafa 3 February 2017)
- The Israeli court sentenced Muhammad Moussa Abassi, 25, from the occupied East Jerusalem neighborhood of Silwan to three-and-a-half years in jail and imposed a fine on him of 5,000 shekels (approximately \$1,331) after convicting him of throwing rocks and Molotov cocktails at Israeli forces. (Maannews 3 February 2017)
- The Israeli central court sentenced two Palestinians from Jerusalem to prison. One of the youths, Ismail Mahmoud Rushfi al-Karaki, 18, was sentenced to 34 months in jail. The teenager was detained on April 17th, 2016 by a group of undercover Israeli forces and was convicted of throwing Molotov cocktails.
- Israeli police released three Palestinian youths from detention in occupied East Jerusalem on the condition of being banned from entering the Al-Aqsa mosque for 6 months. Thaer Abu Sbeih, Mahmoud Abed al-Latif and Rawhi al-Kalghasi were released by the Israeli police on the condition of being banned from the Muslim holy

- site, while Abu Sbeih was additionally charged a fine of 1,000 Shekels (approximately \$265). (Maannews 3 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) attacked Ar Razem family (a man and his wife) near Bab Hatta neighborhood in the old city of Jerusalem. As a result, clashes erupted between the IOA and the Palestinians who gathered at the site of the incident to prevent the attack and resulted in the injury of 5 Palestinians. (Wafa 3 February 2017)
  - An Israeli court sentenced a teenage Palestinian girl from Silwan in occupied East Jerusalem to six years in prison after she was charged with knife possession and planning a stab attack. The Jerusalem magistrate court formally sentenced Manar Majdi Shweiki to six years in prison after the girl had already spent more than a year in detention, highlighting that the court postponed the sentencing twice since the beginning of 2017. Israeli police detained her on Dec. 6, 2015 in the Wadi Hilweh area of the Silwan, claiming they found a knife in her bag after searching her belongings, though it was unclear what had prompted the search in the first place.. (Maannews 5 February 2017)
  - Israeli settlers resumed their provocative incursions to Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem city through Bab Al Magharba under the cover of the Israeli security Police. (Wafa 5 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) arrested Muhammad Abu Jamal (71 years), father of Martyr Ghassan Abu Jamal after raiding his house in Jabal Al Mukkabir town in occupied East Jerusalem and searching it. (Safa 6 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) arrested Jamal Faraj Al Mansi (50 Years) from Shu'fat refugee camp in occupied East Jerusalem after raiding and searching his house. (Safa 6 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) arrested Imad Ad Din Al 'Abbasi from Silwan city in the southern Jerusalem city after raiding and searching his house. (Safa 6 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) arrested Tareq An Natsheh from Ras Al Amoud Neighborhood in Jerusalem city after raiding and searching his house. (Safa 6 February 2017)
  - Groups of Israeli settlers raided Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem city and performed Talmudic rituals. (Wafa 06 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) and members of the Israeli Tax Authority raided a bakery shop in Shu'fat town in occupied East Jerusalem and attacked owners and workers. (Wafa 7 February 2017).
  - Members of the Israeli Tax Authority escorted by the Isrageli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Palestinians' shops in Bab Al Khaleel area in occupied East Jerusalem. Clashes erupted between shop owners

- and the IOA as the IOA went on checking Palestinians' ID cards. (Wafa 7 February 2017).
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the Industrial Islamic Orphanage school in Al Wad Street in the old city of Jerusalem. No arrests were reported. (Wafa 7 February 2017).
  - The occupation authorities isolated four young Jerusalemite men from Al-Aqsa Mosque. The occupation authorities decided to isolate Mahmoud Abdellatif, Thaer Abu Sbeih and Rawhi Kulghasi from Al-Aqsa for 6 months. The authorities also isolated Khader Ajloni from Al-Aqsa for 6 months. (SILWANIC 7 February 2017).
  - The Israeli Court extended the arrest of Mohammad Salaymeh and Mohammad Assaileh until 8/2/2017, Malek Sroor indefinitely, Mouayad Bader and Naser Obeid until 9/2/2017, Amid Obeid and Issa Dirbas until 12/2/2017, Suhaib Afaneh until 29/3/2017 and Munir Mheisen until 22/3/2017. (SILWANIC 7 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Police arrested Mohammad Zghayyar from the Old City of Jerusalem. (SILWANIC 7 February 2017)
  - The Israeli District Court sentenced 18-year old Ismaeel Mahmoud Karaki for 34 months of actual imprisonment on charges of throwing Molotov Cocktails. (SILWANIC 7 February 2017)
  - The Israeli District Court sentenced Mohammad Mousa Abbasi (25) for 3 and a half years in prison on charges of throwing stones and Molotov Cocktails as well as communicating with "enemies". (SILWANIC 7 February 2017)
  - The Israeli police and intelligence officers obstructed and stopped a wedding parade in the Wadi al-Joz neighborhood of occupied East Jerusalem of a former Palestinian prisoner, Majd Nadir Saida. The Israeli police and intelligence officers stormed Wadi al-Joz and interfered with the wedding parade as it reached the Saida family home, preventing Majd's friends and family members from completing the traditional wedding rituals. The family highlighted Saida had served 17 months in Israeli jails in 2015 and 2016. The Israeli Police forced the family members to remove photos of Saida and flags of Palestinian factions that were hung on the walls of his family home. (Maannews 8 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Malek Abu Teir, Muhammad Abu Teir and Mustafa Abu Teir from Um Tuba village in occupied East Jerusalem. (SAFA 8 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Muhammad Al Qunbar and Abdullah Shqeirat from Jabal Al Mukkaber. (SAFA 8 February 2017)
- The Israeli Court extended the arrest of Ahmad Abu Abed and Muhamamd Judeh till the 21<sup>st</sup> of February 2017. (SAFA 8 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Police bars citizen Talal Abdel Majeed Al Rajabi from Jerusalem's Old city for 15 Days. (SAFA 8 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation bulldozers demolished a Palestinian-owned building that was under construction in Beit Hanina in occupied East Jerusalem, under the pretext that the building lacked the nearly impossible to obtain building licenses required by Israeli authorities. The Israeli bulldozers raided the Tal al-Foul area of Beit Hanina, surrounded the building, and began razing it to the ground. The building is owned by citizen Ayman Abu Rmeila and is composed of three floors, where the first floor is a parking lot and a shelter; while the second floor is composed of three apartments and grounds for a second floor has been set but yet under construction. (Maannews 8 February 2017)
- The Jerusalem municipality bulldozers and Israeli police surrounded another under construction building in Beit Hanina town north of Jerusalem city and demolished it without prior notification. The building is owned by Adel Abu Sneineh and Zakaryia Anati. Four apartments were sold to four families (Ghayth, Anu Nejme, Anabtawi and Ash Shweiki). The building is composed of 4 floors where each floor is composed of 3 apartments. (Maannews 8 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) escorted by Israeli intelligence officials, raided and searched the house of Amin Siyam in the neighborhood of Silwan in occupied East Jerusalem. The IOA also imposed a complete closure on the neighborhood's street, causing traffic jams in the area, according to the center. (Maannews 9 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) assaulted five Palestinians during the raid and detained them. They were identified as Jawad Siyam, the head of Wadi Hilweh Center, Muhammad Siyam, Omar Siyam, Diyaa Baydoun, and Hilal Qaraain. The IOA also summoned Majd Ghaith, an employee at the center, for interrogation with Israeli intelligence, and questioned several employees during the raid. (Maannews 9 February 2017)
- An Israeli magistrate court in Jerusalem sentenced a Palestinian teenager to 15 years in prison for his alleged involvement in a stabbing

- attack . The court also ordered that Anas al-Aqraa, 19, pay 15,000 shekels (\$4,000) in compensation. (Maannews 9 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested two Palestinians from Kafr Aqab town north of Jerusalem city after raiding their homes and searching them. The detainees were identified as Sami Disi and Muhammad Disi. (RB2000 9 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Muhamamd Yacoub Saydawi (14 Years) from Ar Ram Town north of Jerusalem city. (RB2000 9 February 2017)
  - An Israeli magistrate court in Jerusalem sentenced a Palestinian mother of six to a year in prison and a fine of 12,000 shekels (\$3,203) allegedly for depositing funds into a prison commissary belonging to a Palestinian prisoner held in Israeli custody. Dalal Abu al-Hawa from Jerusalem's Old City was sentenced for depositing the funds. Israel Prison Service (IPS) allows families of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli custody to deposit a fixed amount of money each month into a prisoner's commissary, which they can then use to purchase items from the prison's canteen. Abu al-Hawa was detained on Aug. 28 from her home, before Israeli police stormed the house and searched it, while confiscating mobile phones and other properties. One of Abu al-Hawa sons, 17-year-old Omar Khalil Abu al-Hawa, is also serving two years in Israeli prison. (Maannews 10 February 2017)
  - In the Jerusalem Governorate, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Samer al-Dibsi in the village of Kafr Aqab. (Maannews 10 February 2017)
  - In the Jerusalem Governorate, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Yaqoub Sidawi, 14, in al-Ram Town. (Maannews 10 February 2017)
  - An Israeli court in occupied Jerusalem sentenced media activist and the head of the Wadi Hilweh Information Center in Silwan (Silwanic), Jawad Siyam, to five days under house arrest, and a 5000 Shekels bail. Jawad was abducted by Israeli soldiers from Wadi Hilweh neighborhood, in Silwan, along with two other Palestinians. The two Palestinians, Mohammad Siyam and Dia Beidoun along, with Jawad himself, were violently assaulted by the soldiers and police officers who abducted them, and suffered various cuts and bruises. The Israeli police claimed that the three "attacked officers," before they were taken prisoner. (IMEMC 10 February 2017)
  - Israeli Settlers seized a residential room and its facilities in addition to storage area and a courtyard in the neighborhood of Wadi Hilweh in Silwan. A group of settlers along with occupation forces raided "Hosh

Qaraeen” in the neighborhood of Wadi Hilweh in Silwan using flashlights. They completely surrounded it and seized a residential room with its facilities and storage area that were used for raising sheep. The settlers changed the door locks and placed a fence. The settlers seized a 30-square meters room, a 50-square meters courtyard used as a passage to the room and the house where the family of Izzat Salah lives. It is noteworthy that the property is owned by Aref Qaraeen. The settlers also stormed into the storage area (200 square meters) but the locals were able to confront them and evacuate them from parts of it since Aref Qaraeen doesn't own the whole area. Settlers seized nearly 50 square meters of the storage. The family members of Izzat Salah are now “detained” in their home where they have lived since 1968 after settlers seized the passage (the courtyards which leads to their home) to their home and they cannot use anymore. (SILWANIC 10 February 2017)

- Israeli authorities entered the occupied East Jerusalem town of Silwan in the area of al-Bustan and delivered at least 16 demolition notices to several Palestinian families. The Jerusalem municipality had “stormed” the al-Bustan neighborhood under military protection and delivered demolition notices. At least 16 Palestinian homes received the orders, Abu Diab said, which includes at least 118 individuals. The families of al-Ruweidi, al-Qadi, Shaloudi, al-Abbasi, and Hamdan were all reported to have received the orders. (Maannews 11 February 2017)
- Members of the Israeli Municipality of Jerusalem gave Citizen Em Mahmoud Qara'een an order to demolish a 12 square meters storage room in Wadi Hilwah neighborhood in Silwan Town under the pretext of unlicensed building. (ORIENTBETHLEHEM 11 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) set up a sudden checkpoint at the western entrance of Al Isawiya town northeast of Jerusalem city. The IOA stationed in the vicinity of Al Arba'ain Mosque in the town, checked Palestinian vehicles and caused obstruction to the movement. (Safa 11 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed Qalandyia crossing with prior notification resulting in serious traffic jams and mobility impediments on morning commuters attempting to enter the city of Ramallah and vice versa. Vehicles attempting to enter Ramallah and Vice Versa were denied entry through Qalandyia crossing and vehicles were turned around. (ORIENTBETHLEHEM 11 February 2017)
- A group of Israeli settlers stormed the courtyards of Al-Aqsa Mosque, from Mughrabi gate, under heavy guard of Israeli police. Police closed the gate at ten o'clock in the morning, after the settlers stormed the holy site. Around 30 settlers have stormed Al-Aqsa Mosque since

morning, staging provocative tours in its courtyards. (IMEMC 12 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Authority (IOA) extended the administrative detention orders against four Palestinian detainees for the fifth time. The Israeli authorities extended the illegal detention orders against each of Anas Qaqour, 31, from Jenin and Jamal Barham, 56, from Ramin town in Tulkarem, to three months each. As for the two other prisoners, the IOA extended the administrative detention orders against both Shaher al-Raei, 47, from the West Bank city of Qalqilya and Maher al-Qadi, 27, from Ramallah city to four months each. (PALINFO 12 February 2017)
- The District Court decided the prison sentence against Sheikh Omar Abu Sara (51) from 8 months to 14 months on charges of incitement in a religious lecture he gave inside Al-Aqsa Mosque. Abu Sara was arrested at the beginning of 2015 from his home in “Um Al-Sharayet” north of Jerusalem and was interrogated regarding the lecture he gave on 28/11/2015 at Al-Aqsa Mosque entitled “Jews Characters from the Holy Qur’an”. (SILWANIC 12 February 2017)
- An Israeli magistrate court sentenced a Palestinian teenager to 12 years in prison over charges of attempting to carry out a stabbing attack in Jerusalem more than a year earlier. Huthaifa Ishaq Taha, a 17-year-old resident of the occupied East Jerusalem neighborhood of Kafr Aqab, was sentenced for reportedly attempting to stab an Israeli in Jerusalem in January 2016. (Maannews 12 February 2017)
- The head of the Jerusalem chapter of the Palestinian Prisoner’s Society (PPS) Nasser Qaws was assaulted by Israeli police during a raid into occupied East Jerusalem’s Old City, when three other Palestinian youths were also detained. The Israeli police forces raided al-Wad Street in the Old City, targeting the home of the Najib family where officers detained three unidentified youths. Israeli forces used pepper spray and physically assaulted members of the Najib family, including women and children. The Israeli forces retreated from the house, they assaulted and pushed back local Palestinians that had gathered in the area. Qaws sustained an injury to his eye at the hands of Israeli police. (Maannews 13 February 2017)
- Israeli police raided the occupied East Jerusalem neighborhood of Issawiya before dawn ,searched several houses, destroying furniture and other personal belongings, and detained a group of youths who were taken in for interrogation. (Maannews 13 February 2017)
- Israeli police attempted to set up stalls in Al-Aqsa Mosque yards to use it as rain shields. (WAFSA 13 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested several young men from the village of Esawyeh after raiding and searching their homes. The IOA arrested Bara' Mahmoud, Mahmoud Dirbas and Mohammad Obeid. The IOA also arrested Amir Dirbas, Bashar Mahmoud and Ashraf Obeid. (SILWANIC 13 February 2017)
- In the town of Jabal Al-Mukabber, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Majd Ali Abu Sakran after raiding his home. (SILWANIC 13 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided "Hosh Najib" in Al-Wad Street in the Old City of Jerusalem and assaulted the residents and arrested Ala' Munther Najib and Mohammad Murad Najib. The IOA assaulted the locals after leaving Hosh Najib by pushing and beating them. (SILWANIC 13 February 2017)
- An Israeli magistrate court in Jerusalem ruled to increase the sentence of Sheikh Omar Abu Sara from eight to 14 months in prison. Abu Sara was charged with "inciting violence against Jews" during a religious lecture he gave at the Al-Aqsa Mosque in November 2014. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- Israeli police detained two Al-Aqsa Mosque employees after dozens of Israelis toured the site. 13 Israeli settlers and 43 armed Israeli officers raided the compound after entering from the Moroccans' Gate. Israeli police later entered the holy site and detained two Palestinian employees of Islamic Endowment (Waqf) that manages Al-Aqsa, who were identified by locals as Mahmoud al-Anati and Muhammad al-Hadra. Israeli police ordered the two to immediately appear at an Israeli police station in occupied East Jerusalem's Old City, where they were still being detained. The incident came after Israeli police attempted to construct a portable aluminum cabin inside the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, but were prevented by Palestinian guards despite the fact that police threatened to use force. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Palestinian areas in occupied East Jerusalem, detaining Amir Dirbas, a minor identified as Baraa Mahmoud, 16-year-old Majd Abu Sakran, Bashar Mahmoud, and Muhammad Fawzi Ubeid. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- In occupied Jerusalem, The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) searched a few homes, and abducted a former political prisoner, identified as Midhat 'Obeid, and another Palestinian, identified as Ahmad 'Ateyya. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)

- Israel's attorney general Avichai Mandelblit has agreed to give the pro-settler Elad group a foothold at the archaeological park next to the Western Wall of the Aqsa Mosque in the Old City of Occupied Jerusalem. Mandelblit took this decision during a meeting he held last week with government officials. Mandelblit affirmed he would offer Elad a foothold at the site, but that it would not manage the park exclusively. The government-affiliated Jewish Quarter Development Company received control over the park two years ago. This company then signed a deal with Elad, the settler group that runs the so-called City of David park and promotes Jewish settlement in the Palestinian neighborhood of Silwan, to be responsible for the archaeological park. ([PALINFO](#) 14 February 2017)
- Israeli soldiers invaded the town of Al Isawiya, in occupied East Jerusalem, before forcing a family of eleven out of their home, and demolishing it. Dozens of soldiers and police officers, including undercover soldiers, invaded the town, before breaking into the home of Saleh Abu Turk, and forced him and his family out of their property. The soldiers prevented the family from removing their furniture and belongings from the property, before demolishing it. A demolition order was issued against the property several months ago, but he went to court and managed to achieve a ruling delaying the demolition until February 08, 2017, in addition to being ordered to pay a 25.000 NIS fine, which he is still paying. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- Israeli bulldozers, soldiers, police officers and personnel of the Jerusalem City Council invaded, the town of Al Isawiya, north of occupied East Jerusalem, and demolished an under-construction two-storey house. The demolished house is owned by Hasan Yassin Mustafa, and his family. Dozens of soldiers and officers surrounded the entire area, before invading it, and demolished the property. The army claimed the home was being built without a permit. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- Members of Qara'in family in Silwan were forced to demolish their own shed in Silwan, to avoid high fines and fees, after the Jerusalem City Council decided to demolish it. Umm Ammar Qara'in, the owner of the property, said the family had to demolish its own property, especially since the City Council orders families to pay very high fines, if the municipality demolishes their properties. The demolished 16 square/meter property was built nearly two years ago, and was constructed with bricks and fortified iron plates. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)

- Israel security minister Gilad Ardenne renewed his earlier order to close the Orient House in occupied Jerusalem for another six months. Extending the closure order came after intelligence information affirmed the PA's intention to strengthen its sovereignty in the occupied city of Jerusalem. The Orient House is a building located in occupied Jerusalem that served as the headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in the 1980s and 1990s. Built in 1897 by Musa al-Husayni, it has been owned by the Al-Husayni family since. It was closed by Israeli authorities in 2001 after the eruption of the Palestinian Intifada (uprising). The closure order has been extended every six months since 2001. ([PALINFO](#) 14 February 2017)
- The Jerusalem Municipality along with the Israeli ministry of Transportation and CEO of Moriah company inaugurated the Israeli bypass Road No. 21 which was constructed on lands of Beit Hanina town north of occupied East Jerusalem to connect Israeli settlements in the city with each other (the settlement of Ramat Shlomo with Pisgat Zeev settlement and the surroundings) while disrupting the territorial contiguity of the Palestinian communities in the area. ([AL QUDS](#) 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Silwan Secondary School for males in Ras Al Amoud Neighborhood in Silwan city in the hunt for alleged anti-occupation stone throwers. The IOA toured in the school yard and searched classes. (SAFA 15 February 2017)
- Citizen Saad al-Zghayyar was detained by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) in the Jerusalem Governorate village of Kafr Aqab. (Maannews 15 February 2017)
- The Israeli magistrate's court in Jerusalem convicted an imprisoned Palestinian teenage girl on charges of attempted murder and possession of a knife. The 17-year-old Malak Muhammad Salman was convicted for [allegedly attempting to stab Israeli officers on Feb. 9, 2016](#) at the Damascus Gate entrance to occupied East Jerusalem's Old City. Salman has been held in Israel's HaSharon prison since her detention. (Maannews 15 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) demolished two homes and a room of a third house in the town of Hizma in the occupied West Bank Governorate of Jerusalem. The IOA demolished the 140 square meters area house and the 30 square meters room belonging to the Abed al-Aziz family, leaving eight members of the family homeless. Another 80 square meters area under-construction house belonging the Othman family was also demolished, with Israeli authorities claiming that the

- family lacked Israeli-issued building permits. (Maannews, SAFA 15 February 2017)
- A series of checkpoints was also pitched by the Israeli forces across Silwan, where Palestinian civilians have been subjected to intensive questionings and crackdowns. (PALINFO 15 February 2017)
  - The Israeli interior minister has renewed orders banning Sheikh Ra'ed Salah, head of the Islamic Movement in the 1984 occupied lands, from traveling abroad and entering the Aqsa Mosque and Jerusalem for five additional months. Israeli police officers came to the house of Sheikh Ra'ed Salah in Umm al-Fahm city and handed him written orders in this regard signed by Israeli interior minister Aryeh Deri. The ban on his entry to Jerusalem was renewed until July 11, 2017 in accordance with the British mandate emergency law, while his travel ban was extended until July 15, 2017 at the pretext of the authority vested in the interior minister. Salah was imprisoned for the second consecutive time on allegations of incitement during a sermon he delivered in 2007 in Wadi Joz neighborhood in Occupied Jerusalem after the Israeli authorities demolished a ramp leading to the Maghariba Gate of the Aqsa Mosque. (PALINFO 16 February 2017)
  - Israeli military patrol stormed the house of Youssef Dar Moussa and his family house and those of his brothers in Beit Leqia and wreaked havoc on the buildings. Israeli military patrol ravaged blacksmith shops owned by his brothers Sadam and Hakim and sealed them off with red wax. (PALINFO 16 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) abducted two Palestinians from Abu Dis town, in eastern Occupied Jerusalem. (PALINFO 16 February 2017)
  - The Israeli court sentenced six Jerusalemite children and were identified as: (1) Shadi Atyeh: Actual imprisonment for 5 months, a 3500-NIS fine and a suspended probation of 4 months for two years. (2) Mahmoud Obeid: Actual imprisonment for 5 months, a 3500-NIS fine and a suspended probation of 4 months for two years. (3) Mutasem Obeid: Actual imprisonment for 5 months, a 3500-NIS fine and a suspended probation of 4 months for two years. (4) Tarek Obeid: Actual imprisonment for 6 months, a 3500-NIS fine and a suspended probation of 4 months for two years. (5) Khaled Radwan: Actual imprisonment in "Yarka" institute for 2 years, a 3500-NIS fine and a suspended probation of 4 months for two years. (6) Tawfiq Abu Dheim: Suspended probation of 4 months for 3 years, a 7500-NIS fine and a 100-hour course. (SILWANIC 16 February 2017)

- The Israeli court extended the detention of minor Majd Majdi Abu Asab until 29/3/2017; he is a resident of the Old City of Jerusalem. The court also extended the arrest of Mohamad Abu Hummos (minor) until 20/4/2017, Samir Atyeh until completing the legal procedures against him and Mousa Abu Ghannam until 14/6/2017 for sentencing; the house-arrest imposed on Abu Ghannam was cancelled. A hearing session was held for the minors Sami Abu Rmeileh and Adel Mahmoud. The indictments previously filed against them were modified and the judge extended their arrest until 20/4/2017. Also, the court extended the arrest of Amin Hamed until 1.3.2017. (SILWANIC 16 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested four Jerusalemites from the town of Al Isawiya after raiding their homes. The arrestees were identified as Mahmoud Mohammad Mustafa (13) and Younes Wisam Abu Hummos (15) after raiding their homes in the village of Esawyeh. The IOA also arrested Khalil Naser and Muhannad Abu Asab. (SILWANIC 16 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested the child Mohammad Saeed Al-Doo from the Old City of Jerusalem. (SILWANIC 16 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) closed a blacksmith shop in Beit Leqia, southwest of Ramallah, on claims that it was used to manufacture weapons. (PALINFO 16 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the town of Hizma in the central occupied West Bank Governorate of Jerusalem. Israeli vehicles, border guards, and soldiers raided several areas of Hizma town from multiple entrances. The IOA stopped and searched passing vehicles and checked the ID cards of the Palestinian passengers. (Maannews 17 February 2017)
- A large number of Israeli police forces at dawn stormed Hizma town, east of Jerusalem, patrolled its streets and alleys and intercepted cars. The soldiers from the border police stormed aboard vehicles different areas of the town, stopped cars and checked IDs of passengers. The soldiers fired volleys of tear gas grenades, with no known reason, in the eastern district of the town, causing several citizens to suffer from inhaling the resultant fumes. (PALINFO 17 February 2017)
- 330 Israeli settlers stormed over the past week al-Aqsa Mosque in total provocation to Palestinian worshipers, a Palestinian report revealed on Friday. According to Quds Press, 156 settlers and 85 Jewish students were allowed to break into al-Aqsa last week under Israeli police

protection. 43 Israeli soldiers also stormed the holy site in their military uniform during the reported period. Meanwhile, Palestinian worshipers managed to confront Israeli police attempts to enter a mobile room into Al-Aqsa Mosque from Al-Magharibeh gate. As a punitive measure, Israeli police prevented Palestinian students from entering food into the site. Along the same line, Israeli police arrested two guards of Al-Aqsa and took them for investigation. They were later released.

- Al-Aqsa Mosque is subjected to such raids on a near daily basis, upon which settlers perform Talmudic rituals and desecrate the sanctity of the Mosque.
- The Israeli municipality of Jerusalem decided to confiscate a land owned by Ghazlan-Abbasi family in Al-Ein Street in Silwan under the pretext of using it for “public benefit”. Municipality crews raided the town of Silwan and hung a note on a piece of land in both Arabic and Hebrew saying: “Order to use an empty piece of land in order to do gardening work”; they also attached a map showing the location of the land. The 300-square meters land is owned by Ghazlan family and is classified as “green land” by the municipality of Jerusalem where building is prohibited. According to the municipality’s order, the land will be confiscate and used for 5 years based on Article 2 of the law of "local authorities - temporary use of an empty land". Trees will be planted and irrigation systems will be installed as well as equipment and toys. According to the decision, the owner of the land can submit an objection to the order of confiscating the land within 90 days. (SILWANIC 17 February 2017)
- Israeli municipality ordered Palestinian families whose homes were demolished in al-Aqaba neighborhood in Beit Hanina town in northern Occupied Jerusalem to evacuate their belongings from their land lot. The Israeli occupation authorities (IOA) claim that the evacuation order was issued for the establishment of a municipality school over an area of 15 dunums in the land lot. Badwan al-Salayma, owner of one piece of land, stated that the municipality crews had put a fence around the land in preparation for the confiscation of the 15-dunum area. Badwan's piece of land has a small cottage and an old oven in addition to plants and seedlings over which Israeli municipality put numbers and prohibited him to remove them. These land lots are owned by nine Jerusalemite families. (PALINFO 17 February 2017)
- Members of Qaraeen family self-demolished their 60 square meters house in Silwan following an order by the Israeli occupation municipality and to avoid paying expensive demolition costs. The

family started demolishing a residential apartment in Al Farouk neighborhood in Silwan town south of Al Aqsa Mosque using hand-demolition tools following an order made by the occupation municipality which recently raided the property several times. The municipality gave them until the end of February to execute the self-demolition or they will use their bulldozers to demolish it and charge the family for the expenses. The property was established nearly 7 years ago and consists of one room and its facilities. (SILWANIC 18 February 2017)

- The Israeli-controlled Jerusalem Municipality confiscated the lands owned by [Sheikh Abdel Muti al-Ansari's](#) heirs near the foothills of Mount of Olives to be included in the so-called biblical gardens. The Israeli project includes the establishment of commercial buildings, parking lots, and biblical gardens. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
- A Palestinian family of 13 was displaced after they were forced to demolish their own home in the Bir Ayoub area of the Silwan neighborhood in occupied East Jerusalem, in compliance with orders from Israel's Jerusalem municipality. Hajj Salih Shweiki stated that his family chose to carry out the demolition themselves to avoid the huge fees imposed when municipality crews perform demolitions. The municipality would have charged 80,000 shekels (approximately \$21,600) for the demolition. Members of the family started to manually demolish the interior of the house using sledge hammers and other small tools. The house was built of bricks and corrugated metal sheets. The demolition had been postponed several times over the past few years, and that a final demolition order was issued recently. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the Bedouin community of Khan al-Ahmar in the occupied West Bank northeast of Jerusalem to deliver demolition orders to classrooms for the village's primary school. 40 homes in the community were also reportedly delivered demolition orders. The IOA surrounded the school -- which has been threatened with demolition by the Israeli government for years -- as faculty and students were prevented from accessing the building. Israeli soldiers imposed a military closure on Khan al-Ahmar before they stormed the village's school to deliver the demolition warrants. The IOA also issued demolition order against 40 Palestinian-owned houses in Khan al-Ahmar on Sunday morning. Residents were notified that they had until Feb. 23 to leave their homes. The "construction termination warrants" were issued against an unspecified number of buildings in Khan al-Ahmar, adding that enforcement of the orders "will take place in coordination with state directives and required legal

- certifications," without providing further details. ([Haaretz](#), Maannews 19 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested a woman after stopping her at a checkpoint in Ras Al-Amoud, Silwan. (SILWANIC 19 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Court extended the arrest of Midhat Obeid until 21/2/2017, Ihab Abu Dheim until 26/2/2017, Naser Obeid until 22/2/2017, Ahmad Rabay'a until 23/3/2017, Mohammad Dirbas and Mohammad Fawzi Obeid until 23/3/2017. (SILWANIC 19 February 2017)
  - In the occupied West Bank's Jerusalem Governorate, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the town of Hizma, which has seen an increase in military presence in recent days, kidnapped the Palestinian youngster Ali Askar and handed several young men summonses to appear for interrogation with Israeli intelligence. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the Jabal al-Mukabbir town of occupied East Jerusalem and detained Ihab Abu Dheim from his home in a predawn police raid. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
  - Several Palestinian protesters choked on teargas after the Israeli occupation Army (AIO) aggressively dispersed a march in Qalandiya, north of Occupied Jerusalem, in solidarity with Palestinian hunger strikers in Israeli jails. The IOA violently quelled a peaceful Palestinian march that kicked off from the Qalandiya military checkpoint, in northern Occupied Jerusalem, to support the Palestinian hunger strikers Jamal Abu al-Leil and Raed Mteir, who have been on an open-ended hunger strike for the fourth consecutive day to protest administrative detention, with neither charge nor trial. The IOA attacked the Palestinian marchers with heavy spates of teargas canisters, sparking clashes. The Israeli troops closed off the Qalandiya checkpoint and intensified their presence in the area. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) at predawn rolled into al-Issawiya village and turned it into a military barrack. Over 200 Israeli soldiers and intelligence officers stormed al-Issawiya and intensified their presence on all access roads to the village. The IOA broke into Palestinian homes and rummaged into the buildings using sniffer dogs. The Israeli soldiers further attacked the Palestinian anti-occupation youth with randomly-discharged spates of teargas canisters and acoustic bombs. (PALINFO 20 February 2017)

- The Israel Ofer Court sentenced the Palestinian child Ahmed Khadour, 15, to three months imprisonment for an alleged stone-throwing attack, rights group revealed. A fine of 3,000 shekels was also imposed on the child. The court gave his family a year as a deadline for paying the fine. Khadour was detained on January 2, 2017 despite being previously diagnosed with blood cancer, and currently suffers from partial seizures and right hand paralysis. (PALINFO 20 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a Fatah Revolutionary Council member and her son, eventually releasing the politician hours later. Salwa Hdeib and her 23-year-old son Ahed Ahmad Qanam got into an argument with Israeli soldiers over the closure of the Hizma checkpoint in the central occupied West Bank Governorate of Jerusalem. They were detained at the checkpoint from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. before being transferred to an Israeli police station in the illegal Atarot Industrial Area settlement, where they were interrogated. The Fatah official was finally released after three hours of interrogation, while Qanam, her son, saw his detention extended. (Maannews 20 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Sheikh Najih Bkeirat, the director of Islamic education at the Waqf, as well as two Palestinian women from a bus in the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah. 'The Israeli police stopped two tour buses traveling on a trip to Jaffa and detained Bkeirat and two women identified as Ikram Natsha and Raghad Natsha. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli military court at Ofer prison sentenced 15-year-old Ahmad al-Khadour to 91 days in prison and a 3,000-shekel fine (approximately \$810), after the boy was accused of throwing rocks at Israeli soldiers. The sentencing came despite Ahmad's family's and rights groups' extreme concern regarding the boy's health due to his chronic illnesses -- including leukemia and epilepsy -- and frequent need for medication. The court's judge gave al-Khadour a period of one year to pay the fine. The judge also gave complete authority to Ofer prison director to release al-Khadour before the end of his sentence (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli government is cooperating with Jewish settlement associations to escalate its ongoing Judization policy at al-Aqsa Mosque and the rest of the Old City in occupied Jerusalem. Israeli associations started installing fake Jewish tombs around al-Aqsa Mosque. Israeli bulldozers were seen carrying Jewish tombstones and planting them around the Mosque to indicate graves, but underneath, there are no bodies, nor skeletons. Al-Aqsa Foundation for Endowment and Heritage had earlier revealed that different Israeli government-

backed associations and authorities such as the Elad Association and the so-called Nature and National Parks Authority have been working on implanting dozens of fake Jewish graves in the land surrounding al-Aqsa Mosque “at the pretext of carrying out repair and maintenance works and new excavations in a bid to lay hand on Palestinian and Islamic endowment lands. (PALINFO 21 February 2017)

- The Israeli occupation police removed a tent erected in Issawiya district, east of Jerusalem, in order to hold a reception for Mohamed Zaidan, a Palestinian citizen who was released after 15 years in Israeli jails. 39-year-old Mohamed Zaidan had been arrested in 2002 and sentenced then for 15 years in prison on a charge of his affiliation with the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, which Israel classifies as a "terrorist group". (PALINFO 22 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a Palestinian youth at the al-Jib Israeli military checkpoint northwest of Jerusalem due to a post he published on his personal Facebook page. The youth was identified as Laith Barakat. The IOA stopped Barakat at the checkpoint. After providing his ID card to Israeli soldiers, he was detained and transferred to an unidentified location. (Maannews 22 February 2017)
- The District judge sentenced 16-year old Rama Fayez Abdellatif for 14 months of actual imprisonment on charges of “possession of a knife and attempt to wound”. She was arrested last February and was released nearly a month later on condition of house-arrest and deportation from her house to the village of “Ein Naquba”. Several hearing sessions were held for her until the prison sentence was issued on Tuesday. (ARN, SILWANIC 22 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) carried out a series of arrests in the town of Al Isawyeh and Shu’fat Refugee Camp in Jerusalem. In Al Isawyeh and Shu’fat Refugee Camp said dozens of Special Forces along with Intelligence personnel raided the above mentioned areas from several entrances and stormed into residential houses to execute arrests; they also handed several young men from Esawyeh requests for interrogation. The IOA arrested Mohammad Anwar Obeid (36) and his brothers Samer (24) and Sami (41). They also arrested Shahin Alayan (23) and Mohammad Kayed Mahmoud (24) from the town of Al Isawyeh. Mohammad Hassouneh was arrested from Shu’fat Refugee Camp. The IOA also arrested Hamzeh Malhi and Nader Masri FROM Shu’fat Refugee camp. (SILWANIC 22 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested three Jerusalemite children from the town of Silwan. The IOA arrested Mo’men Sami Abu Sharkh (15), Wisam Rawhi Da’na (13) and Adam Mansour Risheq

(13); they are accused of throwing stones. (SILWANIC 22 February 2017)

- The Musta'ribeen unit supported by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested one child from the neighborhood of Al-Thori in Silwan. The Musta'ribeen individuals (undercover police) supported by Special Forces arrested 12-year old Shaker Basem Ashhab and transferred him for interrogation. (SILWANIC 22 February 2017)
- Dozens of Israeli settlers stormed the plazas of the holy al-Aqsa Mosque. 129 Israeli settlers, escorted by policemen, broke into the plazas of the holy al-Aqsa Mosque via the Maghareba Gate, as part of the morning break-in shift, from 7 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. 98 settlers, among the 129 Israelis who stormed the site, defiled the al-Aqsa place of worship. Dozens of other Israelis are expected to force their entry into the site in the afternoon shift, started at 12:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. (PALINFO 22 February 2017)
- Israeli bulldozers demolished a Palestinian facility in Beit Hanina town, north of occupied Jerusalem, under the pretext of being built without permit. Israeli municipal crews stormed the town accompanied with a number of bulldozers under the protection of Israeli police and surrounded the house of Loay Abu Ramouz. The municipal crews forcibly evacuated the house before the demolition process. Seven family members, including children, became homeless after the demolition of their 130-square-meter house. (PALINFO 22 February 2017)
- For the first time since the Six-Day War, 250 new acres were recently attached to the territory of the city of Jerusalem completing a multi-year process enabling the municipality to build a new residential neighborhood in Jerusalem with 2,000 housing units. In 2009 the Interior Ministry's Border Committee held its first meeting to discuss the possibility of transferring a 250 acre area adjacent to the Arnona neighborhood from the Yehuda Regional Council and Kibbutz Ramat Rachel's jurisdiction to that of the Jerusalem municipality. The area was once an agricultural area of [Kibbutz Ramat Rachel](#). The municipality recently received an official letter from the Interior Minister announcing transfer of the demarcated area. Consequently, the Jerusalem municipality, together with the Housing Ministry and the Israel Lands Authority, plan to build the [Mordot Arnona](#) neighborhood including more than 2,000 housing units in the area. The approval of the residential [Mordot Arnona](#) neighborhood and its transfer to the jurisdiction of the Jerusalem municipality

enabled government authorities to develop and market the neighborhood. The program was already approved and enacted by the District Committee and the land is currently being marketed- a process that is expected to take about a year - prior to issuing the building permits. Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat said that "we are bolstering and expanding Jerusalem. In the 50th year of its reunification, it continues to grow and develop. Establishment of the new neighborhood will allow us to attract young families to the city, to better respond to the housing demand in the city, and of course to strengthen Jerusalem as Israel's capital." ([INN](#) 22 February 2017)

- The Israeli authorities closed a Palestinian elementary school for boys, [al-Nukhba school](#), in the town of Sur Bahir in the central occupied West Bank Jerusalem Governorate over alleged "incitement". Head of the school Luay Jamal Bkirat stated that Israeli intelligence officials summoned him and the school's financial manager Nasser Hamed for interrogation at an Israeli police station, where they were then told to their surprise that the Israeli police would be shutting down the school over "incitement in the schools' materials." The school -- serves 250 boys from kindergarten to grade six. (Maannews 23 February 2017)
- 75 Israeli settlers stormed al-Aqsa Mosque and carried out provocative tours throughout the compound. 35 Israeli settlers and 40 guides broke into the Mosque via al-Magharibeh gate under heavy police protection. (PALINFO 23 February 2017)
- The occupation authorities transferred two young Jerusalemite men to administrative detention. The authorities decided to transfer Majd Darwish from the town of Al Isawyeh to administrative detention for 6 months, and Mahmoud Abdel Latif from the Old City of Jerusalem for 3 months. (SILWANIC 23 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Radwan Amro and transferred him for interrogation at Al-Qishleh police station in the Old City of Jerusalem. (SILWANIC 23 February 2017)
- Israeli occupation authorities transferred two Palestinians from occupied East Jerusalem to administrative detention. Israeli authorities transferred Majd Darwish to administrative detention for 6 months and Muhammad Abed al-Latif for 3 months. The IOA had detained the two "youths" during the past few days. One of the detainees is from the occupied East Jerusalem town of Al Isawiya, while al-Latif is from Jerusalem's Old City. (Maannews 24 February 2017)
- Clashes burst out between the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) and the Palestinian anti-occupation youth shortly after a flock of Israeli military

jeeps rolled into Jerusalem's eastern town of Hizma. The Israeli soldiers attacked the Palestinian protesters with heavy spates of teargas canisters, resulting in several suffocation cases. (Palinfo 24 February 2017)

- The Israeli municipal authority in Occupied Jerusalem plans to seize a large tract of Palestinian land on Mount of Olives to carry out a touristic park. A master plan for the park was submitted recently to the district planning and building committee in Occupied Jerusalem to obtain approval. The local residents in Mount of Olives area, however, are deprived of using the land where the park project would take place for building homes or establishing projects for their own benefit. The new project will be 6.3 kilometers long and extend to the Hebrew University on [al-Masharif \(Scopus\) Mount](#). It will overlook the Old City of Jerusalem and include roads, bistros, public toilets, an information center, a souvenir store, a parking lot and other structures. (Palinfo 25 February 2017)
- The Israeli Supreme Court ratified the decision to demolish the house of Martyr Fadi Qunbar in the town of Jabal Al-Mukabber south of Jerusalem. The Supreme Court's decision came as a response to the appeal submitted by the Martyr's family through "Hamoked" Center for the defense of individuals. Demolishing the house of Martyr Qunbar is part of the sanctions imposed on the Martyr's family who passed away nearly a month and a half ago. The Israeli Minister of Interior, Aryeh Dar'ee, decided to suspend the residency of the Martyr's mother and 12 other relatives. The Israeli authorities also prohibited the family from establishing a funeral tent for the Martyrs and took it down not to mention the multiple arrests against family members including the Martyr's father, brothers, sister and cousins. The occupation authorities continue to detain the body of Martyr Qunbar in their freezers for the second consecutive month. (PALINFO 24 February 2017)
- Clashes erupted between Palestinian youths and Israeli occupation Army (IOA) in Al Isawiya town in occupied East Jerusalem as the IOA raided the area following the funeral of a former Palestinian prisoner, 24-year-old Muhammad Kayid Mahmoud. dozens of Israeli police raided the town, sealed its entrance for more than an hour, and raided the town's cemetery and a mosque in the neighboring Obed neighborhood, which caused clashes to erupt in the area. (Maannews 25 February 2017)

- After Israeli authorities shut down a Palestinian elementary school in the occupied East Jerusalem town of Sur Bahir last week over alleged “incitement” in its study materials, students attended class in the street on Sunday and protested against Israel’s decision to close the school. Children who were enrolled at al-Nukhba (“the elite” in Arabic) arrived to the campus with their parents in an action organized by the parent committees of Sur Bahir’s schools, holding posters expressing support for al-Nukhba and denouncing Israel’s closure of educational institutions as “tyrannical.” (Maannews 26 February 2017)
- Violent clashes burst out between Palestinian protesters and the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) in Jerusalem’s Silwan town, to the south of the holy al-Aqsa Mosque. Violent clashes flared up in Ein al-Lawza neighborhood, in Silwan, after the IOA closed Palestinians’ commercial shops and prevented passengers from parking their vehicles the area. The occupation forces further closed off the main access roads to the area, turning it into a military barrack. (PALINFO 26 February 2017)
- 101 Israeli settlers, escorted by policemen and two intelligence officers, broke into al-Aqsa Mosque via al-Maghreba Gate and defiled its plazas. Over the past couple of days, 267 Israeli settlers stormed al-Aqsa Mosque.
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested a Palestinian citizen from Beit Hanina town north of occupied East Jerusalem after raiding his house. The arrestee was identified as Ribhi Ibrahim Ash Shareef and was transferred to Al Maskobiya detention center west of the city. (Wafa 27 February 2017)
- The Jerusalemite woman Sahar Natsheh was indicted at the Israeli Magistrate’s Court for preventing a settler’s access into a “sacred place.” Sahar was earlier arrested for 11 days before being held under house arrest and banned from entry into al-Aqsa Mosque for more than a year. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
- The young Palestinian, Mahmoud Abd Latif, 26, is scheduled to be brought before court to look into the Israeli police’s administrative detention order against him for three months. Mahmoud was arrested nearly two weeks ago, only three days before his wedding. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
- Israeli Occupation authorities issued an administrative detention order against the Jerusalemite prisoner Majd Darwish, 26, for six months. Majd, from Al Issawiya town in occupied East Jerusalem, had earlier spent four years in Israeli jails. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
- A Palestinian girl was shot and injured by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) at Qalandiya military barrier north of Occupied Jerusalem. IOF soldiers shot the girl, closed the barrier in all directions and summoned

reinforcements to the site. The girl was left on the ground wounded. The Palestinian Red Crescent crews arrived at the scene, but Israeli troops prevented them from approaching the wounded girl. (PalInfo 27 February 2017)

- Two Palestinians, including a 9-year-old girl, were injured by rubber-coated steel bullets fired by Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) During clashes in the Shufat refugee camp in occupied East Jerusalem. Dozens of Israeli police officers stormed the camp and started to ransack stores, prompting local young men and teenagers to clash with them. As a result, a teenage schoolboy was hit with a rubber-coated steel bullet in the chest. The Israeli soldiers "detained the injured boy for more than half an hour at a checkpoint in Shufat before an ambulance, followed by a military jeep, was able to take him to a hospital. A 9-year-old girl was also hit in the foot with a rubber-coated steel bullet and received treatment at a medical center in the camp. The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a young man "after beating him violently. (Maannews 27 February 2017)
- A group of 32 Israeli settlers raided Al Aqsa Mosque through Al Magharba Gate (Al Mughrabi Gate) in Jerusalem along with members of the Israeli Intelligence Police and three members of the Israeli Nature Authority and tried to perform Talmudic rituals. (Wafa 28 February 2017)

## Hebron

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained at least eight Palestinians, including a 14-year-old in Hebron Governorate. The IOA raided and searched several houses in the village of Beit Ummar in Hebron Governorate using police dogs and detained four Palestinian who had formerly spent time in Israeli prisons. They were identified as Muhammad Munir Radwan Qawqas Ikhlayyil, 37, who had previously spent 12 years in Israeli custody, Ahmad Khader Abed Abu Maria, 50, and Maher Ibrahim Odeh Sabarneh, 35, who had both spent three years in Israeli prisons, and a 14-year-old identified as Khattab Wahid Hamdi Abu Maria, also a former prisoner. The IOA also detained Alaa Moussa Zaaqiq, 25, Ayman Ali Abu Arqub, 32, and Omar Rujoub.
- In the Hebron Governorate, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Youssif Abd al-Aziz Maghnam, 50, and his son Hussein, 22. The two Palestinians were detained in the Hebron-area village of Yatta, while another was detained in the city of Hebron. (Maannews 2 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) have finished a 10-kilometer section of the Israeli separation wall in the south of the occupied West Bank Governorate of Hebron. The order to complete the wall in the area came as a punitive response to a deadly shooting attack in Tel Aviv [carried out in June last year](#) by Palestinians from the village of Yatta in Hebron. The plan was set by the Israeli Defense Ministry and states that the separation wall would start from the Tarqumiya checkpoint in western Hebron to the Metar checkpoint in the south. The wall is 42-kilometers long and is erected on the side of bypass road 35, constructed for the use of settlers illegally residing in Palestinian territory to connect them with Israel. The wall is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year. (Maannews 4 February 2016)
- A group of Israeli settlers attacked a Palestinian Protest in At Tuwani village south of Hebron city against the Israeli demolition policy and settlement expansion in the area. Five Palestinians were injured and were identified as Fatima Jum'a Ribhi, Muhamamd Al Hureini and Husam Ballal, Sameh and Basel Al Idrah. (Safa 4 February)
- Tens of Palestinians suffered gas inhalation during clashes with the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) who raided Jdour and Safa junction areas and Beit Ummer town north of Hebron city. The IOA fired Tear-Gas and bombs at Palestinians. The IOA also set up a checkpoint at the entrance of the town, stopped Palestinian vehicles and checked ID cards. (Wafa 4 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) assaulted an elderly woman and her son and grandson in the Old City of the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Hebron. The IOA had broken into the home of Fatima Natsheh, 70, in the Old City, and proceeded to assault her and her son Hasan, 35, and grandson Falah, 23. The IOA used the butt of their guns to hit them, causing injuries that necessitated treatment at the hospital. (Maannews 4 February 2017)
- An Israeli military court at Ofer detention center in the central occupied West Bank sentenced a Palestinian woman from Hebron to 20 months in prison and a fine of 6,000 shekels (\$1,600), after she was accused of planning to carry out a stab attack. The 29-year-old Abir Tamimi was detained on Dec. 22, 2015. (Maannews 5 February 2017)
- Two Palestinians were detained by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) in Hebron in the southern West Bank. (Maannews 5 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided the house of Prisoner Bassam Az Zeir in Dura town in Hebron Governorate, searched the house and messed with the contents. (Safa 6 February 2017)
- In the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Hebron, the Israeli Occupation Army detained two Palestinians from the village of

- Tarqumiya and one from the town of Idhna. (Maannews 7 February 2017)
- The 35-year-old Nader Abu Mayala was detained by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) in the city of Hebron. (Maannews 7 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) set up a military checkpoint in Abu Sneneh neighborhood in the southern Hebron city and obstructed movement in both directions. The IOA detained a number of Palestinians, checked their ID cards and searched their vehicles. (Wafa 7 February 2017).
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) sealed a Palestinian home in the old city of Hebron in the southern occupied West Bank. The home, located on Shuhada street, belongs to Izzat Yassin Abu Munshar. The IOA put up a sign on the entrance of the house reading “house under security,” and barred entry to the residents. Residents are afraid that sealing the house could mark the beginning of a process to hand over the house to illegal Israeli settlers in the area. (Maannews 8 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the house of Iyad Jibril Khaleel I’mar from Yatta town south of Hebron city. (Wafa 8 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) summoned former prisoner, Musa Mashni Halayqa, for interrogation in the Gush Etzion settlement bloc. after raiding his house in Ash Shououkh town northeast of Hebron city. (Wafa 8 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) set up a military checkpoint at Halhul bridge north of Hebron city, searched vehicles and checked Palestinians’ ID cards. (Wafa 8 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) set up a military checkpoint at the entrance of Ad Dhahriya town south of Hebron city and obstructed Palestinian vehicular movement. (Wafa 8 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the town of Yatta in the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Hebron before dawn and searched several houses and detaining brothers Said and Hassan Jibril Murr. (Maannews 9 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the Khillet al-Ein area in Beit Ummar north of Hebron, searched Taha Muhammad Ahmad Abu Maria’s house and detained his 16-year-old son Wassim. (Maannews 9 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested invaded and searched homes in the southern West Bank Governorate of Hebron, and abducted two Palestinians, identified as Mohammad Kamel Eqteil and Nafeth Shawamra. (IMEMC 9 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Nafith al-Shawamra and Muhammad Kamil Iqtiel in the Hebron Governorate during a raid in the village of Deir al-Asal. (Maannews 10 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested a Palestinian father, his seven sons, and the wife of one of his sons, in the Sammoa' town, south of the southern West Bank city of Hebron, and confiscated military uniforms and ammunition. The abducted Palestinians have been identified as Mohammad Mousa Bheiss, his sons, Mousa, Emad, Rami, Jihad, Ra'fat, Ali and Ra'ed, in addition to the wife of one of his sons. The nine Palestinians were cuffed and blindfolded before being moved to an interrogation facility. (IMEMC 12 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the town of Beit Ummar north of Hebron and detained 14-year-old Qusay Muhammad Kamil Abu Maria. large numbers of Israeli troops stormed the town and ransacked several homes. At the home of Abd al-Hamid Zaaqiq, Israeli soldiers rounded up all of the family members in one room as they inspected the house, confiscating photos of Omar Zaaqiq, who was killed by Israeli forces in 2015. (Maannews 12 February 2017)
- Israeli border police detained a Palestinian teenage girl at a military checkpoint near the Ibrahimi mosque in the southern occupied West Bank city of Hebron claiming she was in possession of a knife and intended to carry out a stabbing attack. The arrestee was identified as the 17-year-old Israa Samih Jaber, who lives near the southern side of the Ibrahimi mosque. (Maannews 12 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested a Palestinian father, his seven sons, and the wife of one of his sons, in the Sammoa' town, south of the southern West Bank city of Hebron, and confiscated military uniforms and ammunition. The abducted Palestinians have been identified as Mohammad Mousa Bheiss, his sons, Mousa, Emad, Rami, Jihad, Ra'fat, Ali and Ra'ed, in addition to the wife of one of his sons. The nine Palestinians were cuffed and blindfolded before being moved to an interrogation facility. (IMEMC 12 February 2017)
- The Israeli army announced the launch of large-scale military maneuvers in 1948 occupied territories and the West Bank. The military maneuvers are expected to run throughout the week, starting Sunday, in Negev, to the south of the 1948 occupied territories, and in the southern West Bank province of al-Khalil. Sounds of heavy blasts and bullet fire are slated to be spotted across the maneuver scene. (PALINFO 12 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) took photos of new homes and animal barns in Masafer Yatta in the southern Hebron Governorate. (ALQUDS 13 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) searched and ransacked homes, and abducted Emad Hamdi Abu Khalaf, 25, and Yousef Khairi Abu Sneina, 19 from Hebron city in the southern West Bank. (IMEMC 13 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) installed roadblocks at the entrances of Sa'ir and Halhoul towns, and Hebron's northern and southern roads, before stopping dozens of cars, and searched them while inspecting the ID cards of the passengers. (IMEMC 13 February 2017)
- Violent clashes burst out near the Ibrahimi Mosque, in al-Khalil, after the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) stormed the area and aggressively attacked Palestinian protesters. Violent confrontations burst out near an Israeli military checkpoint pitched in Abu Al-Rish Zone, adjacent to the southern entrance to the Ibrahimi Mosque, in al-Khalil, after the occupation soldiers aggressively beat a Palestinian youth. The Israeli forces further showered the area with spates of bullet fire. The IOA sealed off the checkpoint along with the main access road into the Ibrahimi Mosque, before they chased down Palestinian youths across residential neighborhoods. (PALINFO 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the southernmost Governorate of Hebron, and detained 25-year-old Imad Hamdi Abu Khalaf and 19-year-old Yousif Khairi Abu Sneineh. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded and searched homes in the southern West Bank Governorate of Hebron, and abducted two Palestinians, identified as Arafat Ahmad Eghneimat and Zaher Abdul-Rahim Halayqa. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Ash Shoyoukh town, north of Hebron, and abducted Zaher Abdul-Rahim Halayqa, after searching his home, and his brother's home. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded, at dawn, several communities in the southern West Bank district of Hebron, abducted one Palestinian, and installed many roadblocks. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) abducted at dawn, two Palestinians in the southern West Bank city of Hebron. The soldiers searched and ransacked homes, and abducted Emad Hamdi Abu Khalaf, 25, and Yousef Khairi Abu Sneina, 19. (PALINFO 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) installed roadblocks at the entrances of Sa'ir and Halhoul towns, in addition to Hebron's northern road, before stopping and searching dozens of cars, while inspecting the ID cards of the passengers. (IMEMC 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) erected a makeshift checkpoint at the entrance of Ad Dhahriya town in southern al-Khalil. The IOA searched Palestinians along with their cars at the barrier. The IOA forced Palestinians, including university students, to get out of their cars and wait in the extreme cold. They checked their IDs and blocked traffic. (PALINFO 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided several houses in central Beit Ummar as well as in the al-Bayyada area of the town. They raided the house of 40-year-old Raed Muhammad Mahmoud Ikhlayyil and detained him. Ikhlayyil was not able to move properly as he was suffering from a live gunshot wound in his pelvis that he sustained after being shot by Israeli soldiers in December at [a funeral for his relative Khalid Ikhlayyil](#), when at least 20 other mourners were shot. Two others were also detained after Israeli soldiers raided their homes in Beit Ummar, identified by Awad as 19-year-old Muhammad Ghazi Issa Zaaqiq and 16-year-old Muhammad Mahmoud Abdullah Awad, who were taken to the Etzion military camp in northern Beit Ummar. (Maannews 15 February 2017)
- In the town of Dura, The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Dafa Hantash, as well as Youssef Shahin and Nour al-Bustanji from the Wadi al-Shajina area after raiding and searching their homes. (Maannews 15 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained three Palestinians in Sair town in Hebron Governorate. (Maannews 15 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained two Palestinians in Deir Razih village in Hebron Governorate. (Maannews 15 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) attacked Palestinian activists following Friday prayers at the gates of the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron city in the occupied West Bank, as hundreds had gathered to perform prayers as part of a demonstration called for by the international campaign "Dismantle The Ghetto, Take Settlers Out of

Hebron.” Israeli border guards had attacked several demonstrators, including local Sheikh Ziad Abu Heleil, activists Anan Daana and Muhammad al-Jibrini, and human rights activists Badie al-Dweik and Imad Abu Shamsiyeh, after they shouted slogans calling for ending the military closure on Shuhada street in Hebron. (Maannews 17 February 2017)

- A Palestinian man was injured after being hit by an Israeli settler’s vehicle at the entrance of the town of Beit Ummar in the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Hebron. The injured Palestinian was identified as 36-year-old Rafat Muhammad Shihdeh Abu Arrar Masalmeh from the Deir Samet town west of Hebron City. The incident occurred when Masalmeh stepped out of his car in order to talk to his brother, who had parked in front of him on the side of the road. He added that Masalmeh was talking to his brother when an Israeli settler in a private vehicle “deliberately” ran him over. Masalmeh sustained several injuries across his body and face. (Maannews 17 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) summoned at dawn the fathers of the two Palestinian Martyrs Uday and Dania Ershaid for investigation. The IOA stormed and violently searched Johad Ershaid’s house before summoning him for investigation at the Etzion investigation center. (PALINFO 18 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Al Fawwar refugee camp in Hebron Governorate and arrested three Palestinians after raiding and searching their houses. The arrestees were identified as Muhamamd Mua’th Haliqaei, Ahmad Hasan Haliqaei and Amin Jaber Asfour. (WAFA 18 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stationed at Hagai checkpoint in the central Hebron city arrested citizens Ahmad Fawzi Raten At Toubasi and Naser Talal At Toubasi. (WAFA 18 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided a library located next to Palestine Polytechnic University in Hebron Governorate owned Majdi Al Karaki and confiscated files and personal computers. (WAFA 18 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained 20-year-old Tamer Awwad Nawfal at a military checkpoint at the entrance to the Hebron-area town of Idhna. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) are carrying out massive maneuvers in al-Khalil since last Monday. These maneuvers, as claimed by Israeli sources, are in preparation to foil any Palestinian attack such as vehicular-ramming, throwing Molotov Cocktails, and shooting. Platoon 890, responsible for al-Khalil and Kiryat Arba, is participating in the military training. Two other platoons and a

tracking and intelligence unit are also involved in the maneuvers. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)

- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) seized a fuel-fill pump in the town of Beit Ummar, north of Hebron, south of the West Bank under the pretext of unlicensing. The Israeli Occupation Army accompanied by officers from the so-called Israeli Civil Administration broke into the shop owned by citizen Sabri Zamel Abu Maria, closed the shop, and seized the fuel-fill pump. The IOA asked the owner not to open the shop and threatened to impose deterrent penalties against him if he doesn't comply with the orders. (PNN 20 February 2017)
- In the Hebron Governorate, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Ibrahim Muhammad Abu Fara in Surif town in Hebron Governorate. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Murad Ashur Abu Sneineh from Hebron city. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Mahmoud Rizq Issa and Ramzi Abd al-Fattah Masalma from the village of Beit Awwa. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed a governmental building in the Old City south of al-Khalil. The headquarters of the PA Committee against the Wall and Settlements was violently stormed by Israeli Army. The IOA investigated during the raid the committee staff and ordered them to remove anti-Israel posters placed in their offices. (PALINFO 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the town of Dura City in the Hebron Governorate and searched the house of legislative council member Nayif al-Rajoub, detained two Palestinians, and confiscated three vehicles. The IOA raided and thoroughly searched al-Rajoub's house before seizing his vehicle, while Israeli troops also raided and searched his office located elsewhere in Dura. Israeli soldiers also confiscated a vehicle belonging to Rizq al-Rajoub and a vehicle belonging to Imad Jadallah, both identified by locals as former prisoners. During the raid in Dura, The IOA detained two former prisoners after searching their houses. The two were identified as Youssef Abu Ras and Bassel Dudin. (Maannews 22 February 2017)
- Israeli occupation Army (IOA) delivered 30 demolition orders to several structures in the village of Yatta in the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Hebron. The IOA had placed the demolition orders on lands near the structures, which included a school, tents, water wells, barracks, homes, and stockyards. The IOA took pictures of the structures. The IOA gave the owners of the structures three days to challenge the demolition orders. The structures are owned by the Abu

- Arram, Abu Sabha, al-Hamamda, and al-Najajra families. (Maannews 22 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities (IOA) demolished a rainwater well (400 mcm) in Kherbit Khashem Al Daraj east of Yatta town south of Hebron city. The water well is owned by citizen Suleiman Saleem Al Faqeir. (orientbethlehem 23 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) rounded four Palestinian youths in Aseida town and transferred to Etzion investigation center. (PALINFO 23 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) arrested Palestinians from al-Khalil's northern town of Beit Ummar. The IOA stormed the town and rummaged into civilian homes on claims of searching for weapons. (PALINFO 23 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided At Tabaqa area in Dura town south of Hebron city and arrested two Palestinians identified as Ahmad Tayseer Abu Atwan, 16, and Al Muntaser Bellah Muther Abu Atwan, 18, and took them to unknown destination. (Wafa 24 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the house of a Palestinian activist in Hebron city, Badei' Dweik, and threatened to arrested him for his involvement in calling for lifting off the closure and the removal of checkpoints in the old city of Hebron. (Wafa 24 February 2017)
  - A Palestinian journalist, Imad Iseid, working for the Associate Press news agency was injured as the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) attacked him while on duty in the old city of Hebron city. (Wafa 24 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) suppressed a crowded march in the Old City of the southern occupied West Bank Governorate of Hebron, as local Palestinian residents and international activists demanded the reopening of closed streets and the removal of the illegal Israeli settlers from the city. The march was launched in line with the 23rd anniversary of the Ibrahimi mosque massacre, when Jewish-American settler Baruch Goldstein entered the Ibrahimi mosque in Hebron and shot dead 29 Palestinians during worship. Since then, Shuhada street, which was once home to the old city's main marketplace, has remained almost entirely closed to Palestinians. The march set off at noon from the al-Sheikh neighborhood and headed towards al-Shalala Street near al-Shuhada Street. The IOA fired tear-

- gas canisters at protesters, causing some of them to suffer from suffocation. (Maannews 24 February 2017)
- An Israeli military patrol stormed Surif town, to the west of Hebron, and kidnapped the Palestinian young man Nour al-Deen al-Hour after they wreaked havoc on his home and forced his family members out. The IOA smashed the house furniture and aggressively attacked the arrestee's mother and the other family members. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) broke into the home of the female ex-prisoner Ihsan al-Dababsa in Nuba village and ravaged the building. Ihsan was kidnapped by the IOF and dragged to an unidentified destination moments after the assault. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
  - A Palestinian citizen was kidnapped by the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained from Yatta, in southern Hebron. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
  - A Palestinian woman was further summoned to questioning in Samou' village in Hebron Governorate. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained ex-prisoner Mo'n Ehmeidaṭ, from Surif town in Hebron Governorate. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained Mos'ab al-Sweiti, from Beit Awa village in Hebron Governorate. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Ofer court passed different prison sentences against four Palestinian prisoners from Hebron Governorate. The court sentenced prisoner Bassam Khalil for 35 months imprisonment plus a fine of 3,000 shekels, while the prisoner Essam al-Jamal was sentenced to 18 months in prison plus a fine of 4,000 shekels. The two prisoners Muntasar Abu Ayash and Ibrahim Abu Fara were also sentenced for 12 months with a fine of 2,000 shekels for each one of them. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) set up a sudden checkpoint at the northern entrance of Hebron city, stopped and searched Palestinian vehicles which resulted in movement obstruction. The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) set up a sudden checkpoint near Ar Rayyan Mosque in Jabal Ar Rahma neighborhood in Hebron city and detained a number of Palestinians, assaulted them and checked their ID cards. (Wafa 28 February 2017)
  - Israeli settlers from the illegal Havat Yair settlement destroyed a water well used by Palestinian farmers in Deir Istiya town to the west of Salfit, for irrigation purposes. Havat Yair settlement is one of the eight Israeli settlements illegally established on the hills overlooking Wadi

- Qana. Israeli settlers seek to forcibly displace the farmers from their lands and to take control over the Wadi. (PALINFO 28 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided a print shop in As Salam street in Hebron city owned by Abdel Al Khaleq Abdel Salam An Natsheh. (WAFa 28 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided and searched a number of houses in the city of Hebron, of which the house of Abdel Hafeez Abdel Salam An Natsheh was known. The IOA also summoned An Natsha's son, Faisal, for interrogation. (WAFa 28 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided and searched a shoe factory in Hebron city owned by Nidal Abu Mayyala. (WAFa 28 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided and searched the house of Abdel Aleem Da'na, and summoned his son for interrogation. (WAFa 28 February 2017)

## Qalqilyah

- In Qalqiliya Governorate, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Abdullah Khalid Radi, 23, from the village of Azzun in Qalqiliya. (Maannews 1 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) violently suppressed a weekly march in the village of Kafr Qaddum in the occupied West Bank Governorate of Qalqiliya. Tens of Palestinian and international activists suffered from tear gas inhalation after the IOA suppressed their weekly march launched in solidarity with Palestinian prisoners who have been the target of Israeli raids in the prisons of Nafha and Ktziot. Tens of Israeli soldiers, escorted by Israeli military vehicles and a bulldozer, raided the village and opened live ammunition, rubber-coated bullets, sound bombs, and tear gas canisters into the crowd of protesters, causing many to suffer tear gas inhalation. The IOA also raided the front yard of a house belonging to Abed al-Latif, and turned it into a military post where Israeli snipers stationed themselves and opened live fire at protesters. (Maannews 3 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed Azzun village entrance in Qalqilyia Governorate and hindered Palestinian movement to and from the village. Palestinian vehicles had to take alternative routes to reach their destinations. (SAFA 4 February 2017)
- Two Palestinian Journalists, an international activist were injured and tens others suffered gas Inhalation as the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) suppressed the weekly nonviolent protest, held by Palestinian,

- Israeli and international peace activists, in Kafr Qaddum village in Qalqilyia Governorate. The two journalists were identified as Nidal Ishtayeh and Ayman An Nubani. (Wafa 10 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) arrested three young Palestinian men while walking in Palestinian olive orchards, south of Kafr Qaddum, in the northern West Bank Governorate of Qalqilyia. The IOA attacked the three young men, and abducted them before moving them to a nearby military base. The three arrested Palestinians have been identified as Wi'am Waleed, 20, Sanad Raed, 19, and Abdul-Latif Jom'a, 21. (IMEMC 10 February 2017)
  - In Qalqilia, in the northern part of the West Bank, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) searched homes and abducted two Palestinians, identified as Khaled Ali Sweilem, 25, and Essam Salah Sweilem, 32. Owners of some of the invaded and searched homes have been identified as Adnan Sweilem, Rezeq Ali Sweilem and Ayman Adnan Sweilem. (IMEMC 13 February 2017)
  - In the northern Governorate of Qalqiliya, four Palestinians were detained, identified as 39-year-old Issam Salah Swelim, 24-year-old Khalid Swelim, 22-year-old Omar Ahmad Salim, and his 23-year-old brother Usama. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
  - In Qalqilyia, in the northern part of the West Bank, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) searched homes and abducted two Palestinians, identified as Khaled Ali Sweilem, 25, and Essam Salah Sweilem, 32. Owners of some of the invaded and searched homes have been identified as Adnan Sweilem, Rezeq Ali Sweilem and Ayman Adnan Sweilem. (PALINFO 14 February 2017)
  - Two Palestinian students (Aya Zayd, 11, and Sawsan Hilal, 12) and the Janitor of Ash Shareqa school east of Qalqilyia city suffered Gas inhalation when the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) fired Tear Gas bombs inside the school. (SAFA 15 February 2017)
  - In the northern West Bank Governorate of Qalqiliya, four Palestinians were detained during a predawn raid in the village of Azzun, who were identified as Hamed Jamal Abu Haniyeh, Zaid Ali Abed al-Hafez Adwan, Firas Mahmoud Shihadeh Hussein, and Nidal Safwan Mansour Salim. (Maannews 15 February 2017)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) arrested three Palestinians from Qalqilyia's eastern town of Azzun village and were identified as Yahya Hamza Hussein, 21, Anas Badwan, 24, and Wahbi Musa Al Khouli, 27. (PALINFO 16 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) attacked the peaceful anti-settlement march staged weekly by local and foreign activists in Kafr Qaddum village, east of Qalqilya. Hundreds of Kafr Qaddum residents as well as some foreign activists participated in the march, which demands the Israeli occupation authority to open a main road annexed 14 years ago. A large number of Israeli troops with an armored bulldozer attacked and dispersed them, provoking young participants to clash with the soldiers, the activist said. No one was reportedly injured or arrested during the events. (PALINFO 17 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) attacked the peaceful anti-settlement march staged weekly by local and foreign activists in Kafr Qaddum town, east of Qalqilyah. Hundreds of Kafr Qaddum residents as well as some foreign activists participated in the march, which demands the Israeli occupation authority to open a main road closed 14 years ago. The protesters chanted slogans and carried banners denouncing Israel and its policies as they were marching towards the blocked road. However, a large number of Israeli troops with an armored bulldozer attacked and dispersed them, provoking young participants to clash with the soldiers, the activist said. No one was reportedly injured or arrested during the events. (PALINFO 18 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) leveled Palestinian land in Mas-ha village, to the west of Salfit Governorate in favor of illegal settlement expansion. Palestinian lands have been increasingly seized and leveled by the Israeli occupation forces and authorities as part of underway endeavors to expand the Elkana and She'ari Tekva settlements. Palestinian lands in the area have been confiscated to establish an Israeli university at the expense of Palestinian lands, referring to the establishment of an Israeli university in Ariel settlement. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
- In Qalqilia Governorate, the Israeli Occupation army (IOA) stormed at dawn Azzoun town and arrested two locals after breaking into their houses. Five Israeli patrols stormed the town amid heavy fire of teargas bombs and broke into two local houses before arresting their owners. The two detainees were taken to unknown detention centers. (PALINFO 20 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained four Palestinians in the city of Qalqiliya, while two others were detained in the Qalqiliya-area village of Isla. Three of the Qalqiliya-Governorate detainees were identified as Issa Yousif Sweidan, 23, Luay Jamil Qashmar, and Maher Samir Abu Haniyeh. (Maannews 21 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed the northern West Bank Governorate of Qalqilya and rummaged into Palestinian civilian homes. The Israeli troops showered the area with randomly-discharged barrages of teargas canisters and subjected civilians to exhaustive interrogation. (PALINFO 21 February 2017)
- At predawn time, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) kidnapped the Palestinian youth Tahseen al-Haj from Jalqamous village in Jenin Governorate while in his workplace in 1948 occupied territories. (Palinfo 24 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) temporarily detained the Palestinian Authority (PA) minister of Waqf and religious affairs, Youssef Ideiss, and those accompanying him at an Israeli checkpoint as the minister was attempting to enter Qalqiliya from Nablus. The IOA stopped the minister's car, demanded him to step out, and began searching it. The IOA also confiscated devices from the car and deliberately" detained him at the checkpoint for more than an hour until the Palestinian liaison intervened and secured his release. (Maannews 24 February 2017)
- In the village of Kafr Qaddum in Qalqiliya, two Palestinians, including a child, were injured with rubber-coated bullets as the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) suppressed the village's weekly march against Israeli settlements and the opening of the village's main entrance which has been closed by Israeli forces for 14 years. The IOA fired tear gas canisters and rubber-coated bullets, injuring Muhammad Hilme, 11, in the neck with a rubber bullet and Abdullah Salim, 26, in the leg with a rubber bullet. Salim works as a photographer for the Israeli rights group B'Tselem. nine Palestinians had also suffered from tear gas inhalation. Clashes erupted when the IOA raided the village and "heavily fired" rubber bullets and tear gas canisters at protesters. (Maannews 24 February 2017)
- In the northern Governorate of Qalqiliya, the 24-year-old Said Ziyad Abu Haniyeh was detained in the village of Azzun. (Maannews 26 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) kidnapped three Palestinian citizens during violent raids on homes in Azzun village, east of Qalqilya in the West Bank. The IOA broke into and ransacked several homes in the town before kidnapping three citizens. soldiers scattered nails on the road between the towns of Izbat Attaib and Azzun in order to prevent local residents from using it. The IOA intensified its

presence along the segregation wall in Azzun and stormed homes near the wall. (PALINFO 26 February 2017)

- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) stormed Qalqilya's eastern village of Azzun, in the northern West Bank, and rummaged into Palestinian homes. Several youngsters had been subjected to intensive questioning in the process. The IOA broke into the home of Na'im Yassin in Azzun and interrogated his children, before they kidnapped his son Hamza. Palestinian citizen Hamed Salim was kidnapped from his home in the assault. The IOF closed off the main access road between Azzun and Izbet al-Tabib area. Meanwhile, the occupation troops pitched a military checkpoint near the main entrance to the village and raked through the area. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)

## Tubas

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) notified to demolish two residential tents in the northern Jordan Valley. The two tents are owned by Alland and Islam Daraghmah. The two families were given a period of 3 days to evacuate the tents. (Wafa 1 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) notified to demolish a 150 meters area house owned by Tareq Methqal Fuqaha in Kardala village in the northern Jordan Valley. The IOA also notified to halt the construction of a 2,000 meters long waterline in the village. (ALQUDS 1 February 2017)
  - Israel is planning to seize over 36 dunams of the Palestinian village known as "Bardala", northeast of Tubas, in the northern Jordan Valley. The so-called Israeli Civil Administration staff, escorted by a military vehicle, stormed Bardala and served locals with an official notice to seize 36.88 dunams of their land for "security purposes". The land would be seized to complete the construction for parts of Israel's apartheid wall, located near the village. land belongs to Nimer Sawafta, Sami Tamimi, Rashid Swafta, Mustafa Sawafta, Rateb Sawafta and Saleh Sawafta. (MEMC 1 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) carried out military trainings in Al Farisiya area in the northern Jordan Valley. (Wafa 2 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Samer Samih Sawafta and Saher Anis Abu Muhsen in the Tubas Governorate. (Maannews 2 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) notified to remove four residential tents owned by Palestinian farmers in Bardala village in the northern Jordan Valley. (Wafa 2 February 2017)

- Several Israeli settlers, living in outposts illegally established on Palestinian lands in the Jordan valley, attacked Palestinian Shepherds, and forced them out of grazing lands. The settlers attacked many shepherds, and chased them out of Palestinian grazing lands. The attack was part of repeated violations that escalated, several months ago, after the settlers installed tents, creating illegal outposts, in Khirbit Mzoqah and Khallet Ahmad areas. (PNN 5 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities delivered a halt of construction order to a construction project that aims at reclaiming a water spring in Al Himma area in the northern Jordan Valley. (Wafa 06 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) confiscated three machineries owned by a private company and a vehicle owned by citizen Hussein Nimir that were working to open an agricultural road between Bardala and Kherbit Izbziq communities in the northern Jordan Valleys. Note that the project is unded by the European community. (Wafa 6 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) and bulldozers demolished two residential tents, six animal pens in Kherbit Ar Ras Al Ahmar southeast of Tubas city. The Demolished tents and structures are owned by Ali Bani Odeh. (Wafa 7 February 2017).
- The Israeli Occupation Army demolished Palestinian-owned structures in the village of Kardala, located on the northeastern edge of the occupied West Bank. The IOA demolished tents and shacks used as a sheep barn. The bulldozers under heavy Israeli military protection demolished the structures, which constituted an area of approximately 180 square meters. The sheep barns belonged to local Bassam Ali Radwan Fuqaha, who was delivered a demolition warrant that said his barn was illegally built in an Israeli military zone. (Maannews 7 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) obstructed the Palestinian movement between Tubas and the Jordan valley and vice versa. The IOA intensified their restrictions on Al Hamra and Tayaseer Checkpoint and thoroughly checked Palestinian cars. (RB2000 8 February 2017)
- Israeli settlers escorted by two Israeli soldiers attacked three Palestinian farmers near the newly established outpost on lands of Um Zika Nature Reserve in the northern Jordan Valley. The settlers also confiscated the farmers' personal belongings and brutally attacked them. (ORIENTBETHELEM 11 February 2017)
- Israeli authorities issued stop-work orders for 16 Palestinian-owned structures in the northern Jordan Valley village of Khibet Humsa al-

Fuqa in the occupied West Bank. Inspectors from the Israeli Civil Administration's planning and construction department stormed Khirbet Humsa al-Fuqa and delivered stop-work orders to 16 structures that belong to seven Palestinian families. The warrants said the families had until Feb. 26 to heed the order. The orders were delivered to Ali Freij Abu al-Kibash, Hakam Ali Freij Abu al-Kibash, Yasser Mahmoud Abu al-Kibash, Abdullah Muhammad Abu al-Kibash, Taysir Mahmoud Abu al-Kibash, Nasser Mahmoud Abu al-Kibash, and Sanad Yasser Abu al-Kibash. (Maannews 12 February 2017)

- The Israeli occupation authorities seized a Palestinian-owned vehicle and water hoses used for irrigation in al-Baqiaa south of Tubas in the northern Jordan Valley region of the occupied West Bank. The IOA seized a vehicle belonging to a resident of the nearby town of Tammun, in addition to seizing 400-meter-long water hoses used by locals for irrigation. (Maannews 12 February 2017).
- Nearly 150 Israeli settlers stormed Umm Ka'bah area in the Jordan Valley to the north of occupied West Bank. Israeli settlers riding horses broke into the area under the protection of Israeli Occupation Army (IOA). The settlers chanted Talmudic hymns during the raid. (PALINFO 18 February 2017)
- Israeli settlers raided a Bedouin community in the Khallat Hamad area of the northern Jordan Valley in the occupied West Bank and threatened local Palestinians, a day after a herd of sheep belonging to one of the community's residents was attacked. A group of 12 settlers came to the community's tents and demanded that residents leave the area. The settlers had threatened to "harm them" on Saturday evening if they attempted to take their sheep to pasture in the area. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- Israeli Settlers killed one sheep in the Jordan Valley and injured two others after they attacked a herd belonging to Mahmoud Awwad. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- A group of Israeli settlers attacked Palestinian shepherds near Khirbat al-Hamma in the northern Jordan Valley, and prevented them from herding their sheep in their own lands. Israeli settlers threaten the Palestinians in the region and tell them they must leave, claiming that these lands are "Israeli lands". (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
- The Israeli Bulldozers demolished a residential caravan in Khan Al Ahmar Bedouin community east of Jerusalem under the pretext of unlicensed building. The Caravan is owned by Muhamamd Ali At Tabnah and was shelter for 9 people. The caravan was funded by the European Union. (RB2000 20 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Authorities (IOA) demolished a water pipeline in the Jordan Valley region of the occupied West Bank after the same pipeline was destroyed earlier this month. Israeli bulldozers destroyed the eight-and-a-half kilometers pipeline running between the Bedouin communities of al-Hadidiya and al-Ras al-Ahmar in the northern Jordan Valley, east of the Tubas Governorate. 47 Palestinian families depended on the pipeline as their water source. The pipeline was funded by international humanitarian organization UNICEF, at a construction cost of 12,500 euros (approximately \$13,270). It was the second time this month that Israeli forces had destroyed the pipeline. (Maannews 20 February 2017)
- Dozens of Israelis, yeshiva students, and a right-wing former Israeli politician entered the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in occupied East Jerusalem under heavy Israeli police protection. Former deputy speaker of the Knesset Moshe Feiglin toured the compound along with “20 settlers and 53 Jewish students.” They arrived in groups via the Moroccans' Gate, and left via the Chain Gate. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- Israeli settlers assaulted and attacked Palestinian shepherds in Khallet Hamad community in the northern Jordan Valley and kicked them out of the area. (Wafa 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) confiscated a donkey belonging to a Palestinian farmer in “Mazuqeh” area in Al Himma area in the northern Jordan Valley and handed it to the Israeli Nature Authority. (Wafa 24 February 2017)
- Dozens of Israeli settlers stormed Khallet Hamad area east of Tubas to the north of occupied West Bank in total provocation to local residents. The settlers broke into the area amid heavy protection of Israeli forces and started provoking the locals. Israeli mobile houses were recently erected in the area as a prelude to take control over the area, the sources added. (Palinfo 25 February 2017)
- The Israeli Civil Administration confiscated two trucks and two tractors that belong to Palestinians in al-Ras al-Ahmar area in the Jordan Valley and took them to a military camp. The Israeli occupation authorities (IOA) did not give the machines' owners any papers that prove and justify the confiscation of their equipment. (PalInfo 27 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) notified to demolish a number of residencies and structures in Kherbit Ad Deir and Kardala village in Tubas Governorate, in the northern Jordan Valley. The IOA notified to

demolish three houses in Kherbit Ad Dir; While in Kardala village, the IOA notified to demolish 6 residencies. (Wafa 28 February 2017)

## Ramallah

- In the West Bank Governorate of Ramallah, Numaan Hamid was detained from the village of Silwad, while Firas Nafi, 20, was detained from the village of Nilin. (Maannews 1 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) disguised themselves as Palestinians and “kidnapped” two Palestinian students at the entrance of Birzeit University in the occupied West Bank Governorate of Ramallah. The two students were identified as Tawfiq Abu Arqub, and Basel Falaneh, the secretary of specialties committee of the student council. They were studying computer science and business, respectively. The students were forced into a vehicle “at gunpoint,” while also pointing guns at other students in the area. (Maannews 2 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed Route 60 in the Ramallah Governorate of the occupied West Bank while continuing the closure of the Beit El (DCO) checkpoint for the second consecutive day. The IOA Closed the part of Route 60 that connects the Mikhmas junction in the north to Wadi al-Haramiya junction in the south. The Beit El checkpoint was also closed for the second consecutive day. The closures were being implemented as part of a "security campaign" as Israeli authorities have cautioned Israeli passengers about the dangers of roads shared with Palestinians. (Maannews 2 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) attacked many Palestinian and international peace activists, holding the weekly nonviolent protest against the Annexation Wall and settlements in Ni’lin village, west of Ramallah, causing many to suffer the effects of teargas inhalation. The soldiers assaulted the nonviolent protesters, and fired many gas bombs and concussion grenades at them, just as they approached the wall’s construction site, on the villagers’ orchards, south of the Ni’lin. The many nonviolent protesters suffered the effects of teargas inhalation. The procession started from the center of the village, when locals, Israeli and international activists marched carrying Palestinian flags, and chanting against the ongoing occupation. They also marched in solidarity with the detainees in the Negev detention camp, who are currently subject to attacks, and escalating violations. (IMEMC 3 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Shuqba village in Ramallah Governorate, toured in the streets and alleys. No injuries were reported. (Wafa 3 February 2017)
- Many Palestinian, Israeli and international peace activists marched in the weekly nonviolent procession against the Israeli Annexation Wall and settlements in Bil'in village, west of Ramallah, in the occupied West Bank. The protest comes in solidarity with the Palestinian detainees, in the Negev and Nafha detention camps, subject to escalating assaults and violations. The procession started from the center of the village, following noon prayers, before locals, Israeli and international peace activists marched towards the villager's orchards, isolated behind the Wall. They marched carrying posters of many detainees, and Palestinian flags, and chanted for their unconditional release. (IMEMC, Maannews 3 February 2017)
- Another Palestinian was detained by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) in the central occupied West Bank village of Deir Nidham in the Ramallah Governorate.
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided Al Jalzoun refugee camp and raided the house of Uthman Nakhla and searched it. The IOA later arrested citizen Nakhla and took him to Unknown destination. (Safa 6 February 2017)
- At least five Israeli settlers assaulted a Palestinian photojournalist with rocks and batons while he was driving on a road near the illegal Israeli settlement of Ofra in the occupied West Bank Governorate of Ramallah. Abu Hussein's vehicle was also damaged by the assault. (Maannews 8 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Ahmad Odah al-Qadi, 50, and his son, Mustafa, from their home in Mazare' Nobani village in Ramallah Governorate after interrogating them and searching the property. (IMEMC 9 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) attacked, the weekly nonviolent protest, held by Palestinian, Israeli and international peace activists, in Bil'in village, west of the central West Bank city of Ramallah, leading to clashes that resulted in wounding two Palestinians, including a child. The protesters were marking the twelfth anniversary on ongoing popular, nonviolent resistance against the Annexation Wall and Colonies, in the village. The marchers carried Palestinian flags, and chanted for national unity, steadfastness, and ongoing resistance until liberation, independence and the release of all political prisoners. The IOA stationed near the gate of the Annexation Wall, fired rubber-

coated steel bullets and gas bombs on the protestors. Local activist Ashraf Abu Rahma, and a child, identified as Mohammad Eyad Burnat, were mildly injured. (IMEMC 10 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) attacked, the weekly nonviolent protest, held by Palestinian, Israeli and international peace activists, in Ni'lin village, west of the central West Bank city of Ramallah resulting in the injury of tents of protestors. The IOA attacked protestors coming near the segregation wall and fired Sound and Tear Gas bombs at them where tens suffered Gas Inhalation. (WAFSA 10 February 2017)
- In the central West Bank, the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained Odeh Ahmad al-Qadi, 50, and his son Mustafa in the village of Mazariaa al-Nubani in the Ramallah Governorate. (Maannews 10 February 2017)
- Several Israeli settlers, living in a settlement built on illegally confiscated Palestinian land, in the central West Bank Governorate of Ramallah, invaded at dawn an olive orchard in Sinjil village, and uprooted more than 400 saplings. The settlers invaded the Palestinian orchards, and uprooted the recently planted saplings, before fleeing the scene. The uprooted saplings were planted as part of a project funded by the International Red Cross, aiming at replanting and rehabilitating Palestinian lands. (IMEMC 10 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities delivered land confiscation orders which targeted 274.5 dunums of lands of Betubya, Beit UR Al Fouqa, Beit Ur At Tahta, Ein Arik and At Tira communities in Ramallah Governorate under the pretext of "Urgent security needs". The targeted lands are located near Beit Ur Al Fouqa junction, alongside the Israeli Bypass Road No. 443. (WAFSA 10 February 2017)
- In the central occupied West Bank Governorate of Ramallah, The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained 16-year-old Yousif Muhammad al-Ghalith from Jalazun refugee camp. , according to PPS. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) invaded Bilin village west of Ramallah city and searched homes in the village, and abducted Waqqas Mansour, 17. (PALINFO 15 February 2017)
- Citzien Rami al-Barghouthi was detained by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) in the Ramallah Governorate village of Kafr Ein. (Maannews 15 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a Palestinian in Bilin village west of Ramallah city. (Maannews 15 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained four Palestinians in Nilin village west of Ramallah city. (Maannews 15 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Rami Barghouthi in Kafr Nima village in Ramallah Governorate. (Maannews 15 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Bil'in village, west of Ramallah, and invaded the home of Malek Yassin, 18, but he was not there, and the soldiers handed his family a military warrant summoning him for interrogation in Ofer prison and military base. (PALINFO 15 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) confiscated three cars in Bil'in village, west of Ramallah, allegedly for being used to "transport protesters." (PALINFO 15 February 2017)
- Dozens of Palestinians choked on tear gas after Israeli occupation Army (IOA) violently attacked the weekly march staged in Ni'lin village west of Ramallah, against Israel's segregation wall and settlement activities. The IOA showered the participants in the march with tear gas and stun grenades resulting in suffocation cases among dozens of Palestinians as well as three Israeli solidarity activists. (PALINFO 17 February 2017)
- Israeli occupation authorities declared intention to expand Benjamin settlement illegally built near Ramallah. New settlement homes are scheduled to be added to Benjamin illegal outpost at the expense of Palestinian-private lands near Ramallah. The decision to expand Benjamin settlement was not approved yet; however, its regional council has started working to establish a neighboring outpost to host the settlers recently evacuated from Amona settlement. (Haaretz 17 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed at dawn Beit Rima village north of Ramallah and summoned two locals for investigation after breaking into their houses. The two youngsters were identified as Hamam Muqdad and Umar Said for investigation. Clashes broke out in the village following the pre-dawn raid. (PALINFO 18 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed the gate to the main entrance of the village of Nabi Salih in the central occupied West Bank Governorate of Ramallah that leads to several Palestinian villages and towns, forcing commuters to use take lengthy detours. Palestinian vehicles and pedestrian were prohibited from passing through the gate, which leads to the villages of Nabi Salih, Beit Rima, Deir Ghassana, and Kafr Ein. Israeli troops deployed heavily near the gate. Most commuters used a long route near the village of Abud to travel to

the city of Ramallah for work or study. The IOA deployed at the gate did not give an explanation to locals regarding the motive for the closure. (Maannews 19 February 2017)

- Two Palestinian minors were kidnapped by the Israeli occupation army, in a joint operation with the Shin Bet intelligence officers, on suspicion of carrying out anti-occupation shootings near Ramallah. The Israeli army and police, in cooperation with Shin Bet, arrested two suspects who were allegedly responsible for two anti-occupation shooting attacks over the past couple of months, on December 14, 2016 and January 27, 2017. The youngsters are reportedly aged 17 and natives of Deir Abu Mishaal village, northwest of Ramallah Governorate. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
- Israeli court of Ofer is going to decide, next Wednesday, on the appeal filed against Palestinian prisoner Nael al-Barghouthi, 59, by Israeli Attorney General in protest at the court's previous ruling which sentenced him to 30 months of actual imprisonment. The Israeli prosecution asked the court to enforce the old sentence of life imprisonment and 18 years against captive Barghouthi who is from Kober village near Ramallah. The old sentence against Barghouthi ended on December, 17, 2016. Israeli authorities, however, kept him detained since he was arrested in 2014. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
- A young Palestinian man was arrested in al-Amari refugee camp in Ramallah Governorate. (PALINFO 20 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) imposed maximum security procedures at main Israeli military checkpoints in the central occupied West Bank Governorate of Ramallah, causing a major traffic jam. The IOA "caused chaos" and backed up traffic while conducting thorough searches at the Qalandiya checkpoint that leads to northern Jerusalem, as well as at the nearby internal West Bank checkpoint of Jaba. Extensive searches by the IOA were conducted on vehicles leaving Ramallah at the Beit El checkpoint, northeast of the city. (Maannews 20 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Fathi Muhammad Hamad from the al-Amari refugee camp in the Ramallah Governorate. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Muataz Salma from the city of al-Bireh in Ramallah Governorate. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- Two Palestinian youths, one among whom was identified as Kamel Nakhla, were kidnapped by the IOF from al-Jalazoun refugee camp, north of Ramallah and al-Bireh Governorate. The occupation troops

broke into civilian homes in the camp. Nakhla is a student at Birzeit University and a member of the students union in the University. (Palinfo 24 February 2017)

- In the village of Bilin west of Ramallah city, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) suppressed the village's weekly march against Israeli settlements and occupation. The march included the participation of both Palestinians and international peace activists. The protesters held Palestinian flags and weaved through the village's streets calling for national unity, the immediate release of Palestinian prisoners, and ending the Israeli occupation. Protesters headed toward Israel's separation wall in the village, where some Palestinian youths climbed to the top of the wall and raised the Palestinian flag, while Israeli forces shot tear gas canisters at the protesters. (Maannews 24 February 2017)
- A weekly march was held in the village of Nilin west of Ramallah city where protesters marched against Israeli settlements, land confiscations, and in commemoration of the [23rd anniversary of the Ibrahimi Mosque massacre](#). The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stationed behind the separation wall fired tear gas canisters at protesters, causing a number of Palestinian and international peace activists to suffer from tear gas inhalation. Protesters held Palestinian flags and demanded the destruction of the separation wall, ending the Israeli occupation, and halting Israeli settlement expansion. Six international supporters and tend of Palestinians participated in the march, which has been considered a "weekly tradition for years." (Maannews 24 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained the 17-year-old Mahmoud Muhammad Sarsour in Qaddura refugee camp in the central occupied West Bank Governorate of Ramallah. (Maannews 26 February 2017)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed the home of martyr Muhannad al-Halabi in Surda town north of Ramallah. The IOF threatened to continue targeting the family if they launch any anti-occupation activities or events. An Israeli intelligence officer informed the family that he will go on targeting them and storming their home in response to anti-occupation attacks. (PalInfo 27 February 2017)
- A group of Jewish settlers attacked homes in Silwad town, east of Ramallah, with stones before fleeing the area. (PALINFO 28 February 2017)

## Salfit

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the village of Qarawat Bani Hassan northwest of Salfit in the northern occupied West Bank, causing clashes to erupt between Israeli soldiers and local youth. A number of the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided the village, claiming that Palestinian youth from the village had thrown stones and Molotov cocktails at the illegal Israeli settlement of Kiryat Netafim, which is located just a few hundred meters east of Qarawat Bani Hassan. Israeli troops fired tear gas canisters and sound bombs as they stormed the small village. During the incursion, forces raided a local gas station, confiscating all security cameras from the business, and installed a flying military checkpoint at the village's main entrance, preventing residents from entering or leaving the area. No reports of detentions were made during the raid. (Maannews 6 February 2016)
- Israeli settlers began expansion activities in Bruchin settlement established on lands of Bruqin village west of Salfit city. Settlers razed Palestinian lands near the settlement and prepared infrastructure as part of the plan to add 550 new units to the settlement. (Al QUDS 6 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities delivered two military notifications to uproot trees and remove stone-chains in Wadi Qana area to the northwest of Salfit City. Owners were given a period of one week to execute the order. The first order was given to citizen Muqbel Muhammad Awwad and targets 61 Olive trees in the area and a water reservoir and a 70 meters long stone wall. The second order was given to citizen Abdel Aziz Abdel Qader and orders the demolition of a stone wall and the uprooting of trees. (Wafa 6 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation authorities (IOA) delivered a halt of construction order in the village of Deir Ballut, demanding that a local owner to stop the construction at his livestock barrack after claiming that the structure was built in Area C . The barracks had been open for at least four years. (Maannews 8 March 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) sealed off the Hawara and Zaatara military checkpoints in southern Nablus province. The IOA closed off the checkpoints without prior notifications, blocking Palestinians' access out of and into southern Nablus. Palestinian vehicles and passengers reportedly lined up in streets as they could not reach their homes and workplaces. (PALINFO 12 February 2017)
- Israeli bulldozers from Yakir settlement leveled for the third day in a row large areas of Palestinian lands in Wadi Qana area. Leveling works aimed at expanding Yakir settlement through the construction of 200 new housing units. Yakir settlement, which is inhabited by religious

Jews, was expanded last year. Amana settlement movement has been exerting efforts to increase its population, he highlighted. Yakir settlement was established in 1981 as a military training camp. The Israeli occupation authorities, however, turned it later on into a settlement and kept the camp within the outpost. (Wafa, PALINFO 21 February 2017)

- Settlers of Revava settlement demolished “Al Ma’areed water well” in an area close to Deir Istya village in Salfit Governorate. The well is owned by citizen Jaber Aqel. (Wafa 21 February 2017)
- Groups of Israeli settlers stormed a number of Palestinian villages west of Salfit accompanied with a number of bulldozers and carried out razing operations. The bulldozers leveled Palestinian lands in Bruqin town with the aim of expanding a road connecting settlements. Similar razing operations were carried out in Deir Ballout town aiming to expand Leshem settlement, while Israeli bulldozers leveled Palestinian lands in Wadi Qana town to expand Yakir settlement. Razing operations were also reported in Masaha town as a prelude to establish a new settlement. (PALINFO 22 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) set up a military checkpoint at the entrance of the village of Qarawat Bani Hassan in the northern occupied West Bank Governorate of Salfit. The IOA were stopping and searching vehicles, and checking the ID cards of Palestinian passengers. (Maannews 23 February 2017)
- Israeli bulldozers leveled Palestinian lands in western Salfit Governorate in favor of illegal settlement activity. Palestinian farmers in Qarawat Bani Hassan and Deir Istiya, to the west of Salfit, said the Israeli bulldozers have been leveling their land lots in an attempt to expand the adjacent Hafat Yair illegal settlement outpost. The Israeli forces and settlers declared the razed area a nature reserve, preventing Palestinians from growing crops or reclaiming their private lands. (PALINFO 23 February 2017)
- Jewish settlers under military protection have continued to bulldoze vast tracts of land in Wadi Qana area, west of Deir Istiya town in Salfit Governorate, in order to build more housing units and infrastructures for their settlements. The bulldozing activities were still taking place inside and outside the boundaries of Yakir settlement and Havat Yair outpost. (Palinfo 24 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained 24-year-old Abdullah Muhammad Shatat in the village of Bidhya in the central Salfit Governorate. (Maannews 26 February 2017)

- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) ransacked several homes in Kifl Hares town near Salfit city and in Yatta town south of al-Khalil, brutalized citizens and caused panic among children and women during their raids. (PALINFO 28 February 2017)

## **Tulkarem**

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Abd al-Fattah Zeidan, 20, from Tulkarem Governorate. (Maannews 1 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stationed at Salem military checkpoint arrested citizen Abdullah Mustafa Al Badawi (47 Years) from Ash Shweikah village north of Tulkarem city. (Wafa 3 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained 32-year-old Muhannad Sufian Zaki Matar after raiding his house in Thinnaba village in Tulkarem Governorate. (Maannews 9 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested invaded and searched homes in Shweika area, in the northern West Bank Governorate of Tulkarem, and abducted Abdul-Salaam Mustafa Badawi, 40. (IMEMC 9 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) detained a Palestinian in the northern West Bank Governorate of Tulkarem, identifying them as Abd al-Salam Badawi. (Maannews 10 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Authority (IOA) extended the administrative detention orders against four Palestinian detainees for the fifth time. The Israeli authorities extended the illegal detention orders against each of Anas Qaqour, 31, from Jenin and Jamal Barham, 56, from Ramin town in Tulkarem, to three months each. As for the two other prisoners, the IOA extended the administrative detention orders against both Shaher al-Raei, 47, from the West Bank city of Qalqilya and Maher al-Qadi, 27, from Ramallah city to four months each. (PALINFO 12 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) arrested Two Palestinians from Ash Shweika village north of Tulakrem city and were identified as Murad Muneer Mahdawi, 26,
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) arrested Muhannad Salem Abdel Razeq, 36 from Izbat Shofa village, south of Tulkarem city after raiding and searching his family house. (WAFa 16 February 2017)

- The Israeli military forces broke into Tulkarem's northern village of Zeita, in the northern West Bank, and cracked down on Palestinian civilians. The Israeli forces stormed the village in several military jeeps and sealed off the main access road to Zeita. Several Palestinians choked on teargas, which was randomly unleashed by the Israeli Forces across residential alleys. (PALINFO 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Authorities (IOA) notified Palestinian farmers in Shufa village in Tulkarem Governorate to stop the work in their lands due to their proximity to Avnei Hefetz settlement. The Palestinian farmers along with Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committee are working together to do some reclamation work in their lands and open new roads in the village. (ARN 22 February 2017)

## Nablus

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Beit Furik village east of Nablus city and detained 13 people for few hours and subjected them to interrogation before releasing them. The IOS searched several houses in the village and messed with their contents. The houses of Muhamamd Odeh Abu Ghalmi, Hussein Nasasra, Faze' Husni Abu Heit, Wasseim Abdel Jababr, Abdel Jaleel Khatatbah and Faisal Nasasrah were identified. (Wafa 1 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained raided the Governorate of Nablus and detained Nadim Nazeh Ismail from the village of Beit Dajan, and Omar Ruslan Qindil from Balata refugee camp. (Maannews 1 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) issued a military order to confiscate 17 dunums of lands in the southern Nablus Governorate and targeted the following Palestinians villages: Qabalan, Yatma, Usarin, and Aqraba in southern Nablus city. (ALQUDS 1 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) injured three Palestinian teenagers with live ammunition after clashes broke out near Azmout, Deir Al Hatab and Salem junction in eastern Nablus in the northern occupied West Bank. The injured teenagers, ages 15, 16, and 17, sustained injuries in their thigh and leg from the IOA opening live fire on them. (Maannews 2 February 2017)
- In Nablus Governorate, the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Muhammad Muayyad Ghazi and Karam Salah. (Maannews 2 February 2017)
- Hundreds of Israeli settlers escorted by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided two historical sites in Awarta village south of Nablus city

- (Maqam Al Aziz and As Sab'ien) and organized a religious event at the Site. (Wafa 2 February 2017)
- A Palestinian man sustained bruises after dozens of Israeli settlers raided the village of Huwwara south of Nablus in the northern occupied West Bank and hurled stones at his vehicle. The settlers came from the illegal Yitzhar settlement and stormed the western neighborhood of Huwwara and threw stones at Salim Saleme's car. The settlers also started to attack Palestinian homes in the neighborhood, but residents fought them back and forced them to leave the area. (Maannews 5 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Palestine TV crew in Madama village in the southern Nablus city while on duty. The IOA confiscated the camera and detained head of Madama village council under the pretext of entering a "Closed Military Zone. (Wafa 6 February 2016)
  - The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) raided Askar Refugee camp in Nablus Governorate, searched the houses of some Palestinians before arresting Basem Al Afghani and Muhammad Bushkar. (Safa 6 February 2017)
  - A number of Israeli settlers planted tens of dunums of Palestinian lands in Al Qa'dat area in Madama village south of Nablus city with grapes seedlings. The Settlers also took over a water well in the area. (Wafa 06 February 2017)
  - Israeli settlers from a nearby illegal settlement uprooted some 700 olive and almond trees in the village of Burqa in Nablus Governorate. The trees, which belonged to Khalid Salah, Mahmoud Daghlas, and Khalid Nasser, were planted nine years ago in the al-Qubeibat and al-Qusour areas east of Burqa. The trees were planted two years after the eviction of the nearby Homesh settlement which was located in northwest Nablus. After the eviction, the Palestinian land-owners obtained decisions from Israeli courts including the high court that neither settlers, nor Israeli forces would harass the land owners. However, in 2016 settlers started to "camp" in the area under protection of Israeli troops making it very difficult for farmers to tend their fields and water their trees. (Maannews 7 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Sebastya village north of Nablus city and bombed the Palestinian flag Pole in the village. Clashes erupted between the IOA and the Palestinians in the aftermath of bombing the flag pole. (Wafa 8 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested Liwa' Arafat Kayed and Mouyad Raqi Mkhalfa from Sebastya village north of Nablus city. (Wafa 8 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Bulldozers razed 15 dunums of land in Jalud village south of Nablus city. The land is surrounded by Ahiya, Esh Kodesh and Adi Ad outposts. (Raya 8 February 2017)
- **The new settlement of Amona evacuees is expected to rise from Gush Shilo:** A new settlement will be built in Shilo in favor of evacuees from Amona and in favor of others who want to join the new community. Settlers of Amona outpost were given in the last few days several options for the establishment of a new settlement in the so called "Binyamin region". Shilo settlers received three different sites that they can establish the settlement, and it seems that one of them will be chosen. One of the places offered to residents located within the IDF's firing area. Settlers are expected to decide on the location of the new settlement very soon, and immediately after that, the Israeli government will begin work on the settlement. ([0404](#) 8 February 2017)
- Israeli settlers escorted by the Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Awarta village southeast of Nablus city and carried out Talmudic rituals at religious sites in the village. This is the third time in a week that settlers raid the religious sites in Awarta village. (SAFA 9 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) stormed Beita and Osarin villages in the northern occupied West Bank Governorate of Nablus in the predawn hours and detained three Palestinians. Israeli troops raided the village of Beita at 2 a.m and deployed in the western part of the village before ransacking the home of Sadiq Nasser, 19. Israeli soldiers questioned Nasser's family members for hours, adding that forces had detained Nasser's father. The IOA confiscated the Israeli-entry permits of Nasser's family members. The IOA also raided the northern part of Beita and detained Hamza Abd al-Raouf al-Jaghoub, 19, and Adham Lutfi Ghazi, 19, both friends of Nasser's. The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed the Nablus-area village of Osarin and detained 24-year-old Samir Adili. The IOA confiscated Adili's private car. (Maannews 10 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) invaded Madama village, south of the northern West Bank city of Nablus, and clashed with many youngsters, wounding three of them, including two were also detained. (MEMC 10 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation forces (IOF) kidnapped a Palestinian young man and detained his brothers for a while at a makeshift checkpoint near Deir Sharaf town, northwest of Nablus in the West Bank. Ismail al-

Qittawi, a young man from Balata refugee camp, was taken prisoner by Israeli soldiers at a roadblock near the town in the evening. The soldiers also detained his two brothers after intercepting the car they were aboard. ([PALINFO](#) 11 February 2017)

- Israel detained Fatah Youth Movement deputy secretary general, Iyad Dweikat, while he was travelling to Jordan across King Hussein (Allenby) Bridge. The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Dweikat's family building in Nablus four times in the last two months and detained his brother and cousin. (Wafa 11 February 2017)
- A group of Jewish settlers assaulted several citizens in al-Afjam area, east of Aqraba town in Nablus province. A group of Palestinian farmers and young visitors were brutalized and verbally attacked by the settlers. ([PALINFO](#) 11 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation authority (IOA) has approved a plan to establish a new Israeli settlement on annexed Palestinian land in Jalud village, southeast of Nablus in the West Bank. The new settlement would be established near the illegal settlement of Shvut Rachel, which was built on an agricultural area that belongs to local residents. The so-called sub-committee for settlement affairs, which is a division at the planning council of the Israeli army's civil administration, sanctioned the construction of this new settlement. The plan also includes the establishment of a sewage plant on lands belonging to Jalud village and farmers from the nearby village of Turmus'ayya. According to this plan, about 600 dunums of land from Jalud village and 150 dunums of land from Turmus'ayya village will be appropriated. ([PALINFO](#) 11 February 2017)
- The Shin Bet, Israel's internal intelligence apparatus, detained chief of Beit Dajan town Naser Abu Jaish after summoning him for interrogation in Huwara military base, south of Nablus city in the West Bank. Abu Jaish, went yesterday to the army base in response to a summons from the Shin Bet before the latter decided to detain him for a while. Abu Jaish was detained for about two hours because of his involvement in anti-Israel political activities. ([PALINFO](#) 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) notified a number of Palestinian facilities and houses with demolition in Qusra village south of Nablus. under the pretext of being built in Area C. The notified facilities include 2 houses (two storey each), three agricultural rooms and two water wells funded by Canadian institutions with the aim of protecting Palestinian agricultural crops from Israeli settlers' attacks. The targeted

- facilities and homes are owned by Mahmoud Za'al Ahmad Odeh and Hasan Ali Zein Ad Din. (PALINFO 14 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the village of Beit Furik in the Nablus Governorate, stormed a number of houses in An Naqqara and An Nasasra neighborhoods. Owners of the raided houses were identified as Mayzr Abu As Soud, Nidal Lutfi Nasasra, Muhammad Jamal Nasasra, Zahi Naji Malitat and Mujhed Badran Malitat. One Palestinian was detained Mohammad Nasasra. The IOA also transferred the house of Abu As Soud to a field interrogation center, detained his family in one room and questioned several Palestinians in the village. Citizens Wisam Malitat and Muhammad Jamal Nasasra were arrested during the raid. (Maannews 15 February 2017)
  - A Palestinian was kidnapped by the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) near Nablus's southern town of Beita and was identified as Luai Mustafa Daoud, 22. (PALINFO 16 February 2017)
  - A group of Jewish settlers stormed a historic site in Sabastia town near Nablus and provoked the Palestinian inhabitants. Settlers' incursion into the town was made under protection of Israeli soldiers who showered inhabitants with tear gas and stun grenades. (PALINFO 17 February 2017)
  - An Israeli plan to seize Palestinian cultivated lands in the area of Jalud village in favor of illegal settlement expansion. An announcement issued by Israel's Civil Administration to confiscate 141.12 dunums of Palestinian land in the area in order to develop infrastructure for Israeli settlers. According to the announcement, the Israeli occupation authorities endorsed a bid to alter the status of the cultivated lands so as to construct commercial buildings, open areas, and a network of access roads leading to Israeli settlement outposts. 326 other dunums were confiscated to build sewage and desalination plants for settlers. (ALQUDS, PALINFO 18 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided Huwwara village south of Nablus city, raided a residential building owned by Citizen Naser Al Huwari and messed with contents after breaking door entrances. (Wafa 18 February 2017)
  - The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stormed Awarta village, southeast of Nablus in the West Bank, raided homes and harassed citizens in a campaign that lasted for about three hours. The IOA entered the town after midnight and stayed there until dawn, patrolling streets, breaking into homes and checking IDs of citizens. Recently, the town has been exposed to repeated IOF raids, with no known reason. No arrests were reportedly made during those campaigns. (PALINFO 18 February 2017)

- A Palestinian boy was injured after being shot by the Israeli occupation Army (IOA) during the confrontations that broke out in Bizzariya village, northwest of Nablus city. Several Israeli patrols stormed the village in a provocative manner while students were leaving their schools, which led Palestinian boys to throw stones at the Israeli soldiers who responded by firing bullets and tear gas canisters. The IOF shooting resulted in injuring Osama Oudeh, 15, with a bullet in the abdomen. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
- In Nablus Governorate, the Israeli Occupation army (IOA) arrested two youngsters after breaking into their houses in Tel village west of Nablus city, including an ex-detainee. (PALINFO 20 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) handed notices to three Palestinian Families in Khirbat Lafjam in Aqraba village, south of Nablus city, ordering them to evacuate their homes and lands. A number of vehicles belonging to the Israeli Civil Administration, escorted by Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) came to the area and handed the villagers notices to evacuate the hamlet within 48 hours at the latest. (PALINFO 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained a Palestinian youth— Adham al-Sha’er from his family home in Burqa village, to the north of Nablus. (PALINFO 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) detained Mahmoud Saqr Assida, 29, and Musab Tawfiq al-Hindi, 27 in the Nablus Governorate. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- Israeli military patrols rolled into Nablus’s western village of Tel, in the northern West Bank, and blew up a suspicious object. The military patrols further wreaked havoc on civilian homes and attacked the Palestinian protesters with live ammunition and teargas canisters, sparking clashes in the area. Palestinian citizen Kayed al-Hindi was kidnapped by the occupation soldiers in the assault. (PALINFO 21 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) evacuated Palestinian families in the Khirbet Tana hamlet in the occupied West Bank district of Nablus to carry out military drills in the area. 30 Palestinian families were forced by Israeli soldiers to leave their homes since the early morning hours under the pretext of carrying out military exercises. The families were brutally attacked during the evacuation process. ([Maannews](#), PALINFO 22 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) raided the village of Beita in Nablus Governorate and detained the mother of a “shooting attack suspect”, in addition to four other Palestinians. More than 15 Israeli military vehicles raided the western part of the village at around 1

a.m. and detained 38-year-old Judeh Abu Mazen from her house. Abu Mazen is the mother of 19-year-old Sadeq Abu Mazen, who was detained on Feb. 9 for allegedly carrying out a shooting attack. The IOA also detained three others after raiding their homes, identifying them as 17-year-old Nimr Samir Bani Shamseh, 17-year-old Nassim Daoud Abed Bani Shamseh, and Samer Zaki al-Yitmawi, also 17. (Maannews 22 February 2017)

- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) closed with earth-mounds the bypass road leading to Zuwwata and Ijinsiya villages north of Nablus city without pre-notification. (WAFa 22 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) tightened its measures against Palestinians of northeast of Nablus villages. The IOA set up two checkpoints, one near Al Bathan village where the IOA obstructed the movement of Palestinians crossing the checkpoint which caused traffic congestion. Another checkpoint was erected near Tallouza village, where the IOA also obstructed the movement of Palestinians in the area. (WAFa 22 February 2017)
- Israeli occupation army (IOA) broke into Askar al-Jadid Camp and kidnapped two Palestinian youngsters. (PALINFO 23 February 2017)
- Hundreds of Israeli settlers stormed at daybreak Joseph's Tomb, in eastern Nablus province, at the same time as Israeli soldiers rummaged into Palestinian homes in the area. Buses carrying Israeli settlers flocked to Hawara checkpoint, south of Nablus, before they headed to Joseph's Tomb via Beit Furik checkpoint. The Israeli settlers performed sacrilegious rituals and yelled anti-Arab slogans, sparking tension in the area. At the same time, Israeli occupation army (IOA) cordoned off Nablus's eastern corners and have been deployed at the main entrance to Balata Camp. (PALINFO 23 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation army (IOA) wreaked havoc on civilian homes in Balata on claims that a military patrol was targeted with gunfire. Palestinian vehicles driving in the area have also been stopped and inspected by the IOA in search for alleged weapons. Violent clashes burst out between the Israeli troops and the Palestinian anti-occupation protesters. (PALINFO 23 February 2017)
- Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) arrested a Palestinian girl, Mays Mahmoud Malitat, at a makeshift barrier near Beit Furik town, east of Nablus city, and took her to an unknown destination. A severe traffic jam resulted from erecting the Israeli makeshift checkpoint especially at such a rush hour when university students, workers, and civil servants return back to their homes in Beit Furik and Beit Dajan towns. (Palinfo 23 February 2017)

- The Israel Occupation Army (IOA) closed the entrance to Osarin village southeast of Nablus, restricting its residents' movement. The Israeli bulldozers closed the entrance to Osarin village with sand barriers. The Israeli measure came as part of the IOF's collective punishment policy imposed against the village following the popular anti-occupation events organized by its locals on weekly basis. (Palinfo 25 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) stormed the new Askar refugee camp, east of Nablus city, with no reported arrests. The troops aboard military vehicles patrolled neighborhoods in the refugee camp and then withdrew, without raiding homes or making arrests. (Palinfo 25 February 2017)
- Several Israeli jeeps boarded by armed Jewish settlers stormed and provocatively toured a Palestinian area located between the towns of Beit Dajan and Beit Furik east of Nablus. Hours later, they withdrew from the area and drove towards the illegal settlements of Elon Moreh and Itamar. (Palinfo 25 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation authority (IOA) extended the administrative detention of Adnan Asfour, from Nablus, for the third time in a row. Asfour was supposed to be released on March 3. The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) rearrested Asfour last April as a part of a large-scale arrest campaign that included a number of academics and Palestinian leaders. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
- Several Israeli army jeeps rolled into Jenin's western town of al-Yamon and ravaged into the home of the Palestinian citizen Taher Ahmad Nawahda, before they subjected him to exhaustive interrogation and summoned him to further questioning at the Salem military camp. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) stormed the Old City and Askar al-Jadid, to the east, and wreaked havoc on civilian homes. A number of Palestinian youths, including Kamel Salama and Shadi Beshkar, were kidnapped by the Israeli soldiers in the process. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)
- A group of Israeli settlers closed the western entrance to Nablus city to the north of occupied West Bank. settlers from Shavei Shomron illegal settlement gathered at the entrance of the city and started provoking local residents. The settlers closed the entrance and prevented Palestinian vehicles' movement in both directions. Israeli occupation forces were, meanwhile, deployed in large numbers near the area, providing protection for the settlers. Residents were forced to take alternative roads. (PALINFO 28 February 2017)

- Israeli soldiers shot and wounded an elderly Palestinian man at a checkpoint in the northern occupied West Bank. Citizen Hussein Hassan Qawariq, 72, was shot by Israeli forces at the Huwwara checkpoint south of Nablus. Qawariq was hit in the foot and pelvis, and evacuated by the Red Crescent to the Rafidiya hospital in Nablus. (Maannews 28 February 2017)

## Gaza

- Israeli naval forces opened fire on Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of the northern Gaza Strip. The gunshots were heard in northern Gaza as Israeli boats opened fire at fishermen off the coast of al-Sudaniya. No injuries were reported and fishermen were forced to flee back to shore. (Maannews 3 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) opened live ammunition during clashes with Palestinians near al-Bureij refugee on the eastern borders of the besieged Gaza Strip, injuring a 16-year-old Palestinian. The 16-year-old was shot and injured in the stomach when clashes erupted between the IOA forces and Palestinian youth near the security border between the small Palestinian territory and Israel. Israeli snipers were deployed on dirt mounds on the eastern borders of the besieged enclave during the clashes, and opened live fire at a group of more than 50 Palestinian youths. The clashes were continuing as of 7 p.m. on Friday as Israeli forces have continued to shoot tear gas canisters into the Palestinian territory. (Maannews 3 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) opened fire at Palestinian lands and fishermen in the besieged Gaza Strip. The IOA deployed behind the barrier fence between Israel and the besieged enclave opened fire at Palestinian farmers working on their lands near Israel's unilaterally declared "buffer zone." Meanwhile, Israeli naval forces also opened live fire at Palestinian fishermen off the coast of Beit Lahiya in the northern Gaza Strip. No injuries were reported in either incidents. (Maannews 4 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) Opened fire towards Palestinian fishermen and farmers with no injuries reported in either incident. Israeli military vehicles stationed near the Sufa military post east of the southern Gaza Strip city of Rafah fired with heavy machine guns towards Palestinian farmers who were tending their crops in the area, eyewitnesses said. (Maannews 5 February 2017)

- In the northwestern Gaza Strip, Israeli navy ships fired at Palestinian fishermen off the coast of Beit Lahiya, forcing them to sail back to shore. (Maannews 5 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation army (IOA) launched airstrikes in the northern Gaza Strip, hours after an Israeli army tank fired two shells into eastern Beit Lahiya in northern Gaza, after a rocket landed in an open area in the Ashkelon region of southern Israel. The cross-border fire came after locals in Gaza reported two separate incidents of Israeli forces opening fire at them. At around 2 p.m., the Israeli army launched airstrikes at an open area and "a resistance post" west of Beit Lahiya, injuring one person identified as Muhammad Muhammad Mousa Saad Allah, who is a fisherman. The extent of his injuries remained unclear. (Maannews 6 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) fired at Palestinian locals and fishermen in two separate incidents, while Israeli bulldozers also made an incursion into central Gaza to level lands. The Israeli naval forces opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of the northern Gaza Strip and started pursuing them. No injuries or detentions were reported. (Maannews 6 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) stationed at watchtowers opened fire at the southern Gaza towns of al-Qarara and Khuzaa east of Khan Yunis, without causing injuries. (Maannews 6 February 2017)
- The Israeli military vehicles launched a limited incursion into lands east of the city of Deir al-Balah city in the central Gaza Strip. Four Israeli bulldozers escorted by Israeli military vehicles set off from the Kissufim military base and staged an incursion, approximately 150 meters into eastern Deir al-Balah. No shooting occurred during the incursion. (Maannews 6 February 2017).
- Israeli naval forces opened fire towards Palestinian fishing boats sailing off the coast of Beit Lahiya in the northern Gaza Strip. Israeli military ships fired heavily from machine guns towards them, forcing them to head back to shore. No injuries were reported. (Maannews 7 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) opened fire at Palestinian farmers on agricultural lands east of Beit Hanoun in the northeastern Gaza Strip. No injuries had been reported. (Maannews 7 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) fired at least eight Israeli missiles at several locations across the besieged coastal enclave. One airstrike hit agricultural land in the center of Khan Yunis city in the southern Gaza Strip. Two people were injured in Khan Yunis. The airstrikes hit a military post as well as an agricultural area east of Gaza City in the northern Gaza Strip, in addition to the al-Shujaiyya neighborhood in

- Gaza City, causing damages to several residential buildings. The air strikes also hit agricultural lands east of al-Maghazi and al-Bureij refugee camps in the central Gaza Strip. (Maannews 7 February 2017)
- Israeli naval forces opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip, the second such incident to be reported in two days. The fishermen were forced to flee and return to shore after Israeli forces opened fire on them, adding that they feared for their safety. No injuries were reported. (Maannews 8 February 2017)
  - The Israeli air force fired several missiles targeting a siege-busting commercial tunnel close to the Egyptian border, in Rafah, in the southern part of the Gaza Strip, killing two Palestinian workers, and wounding at least five others. The two killed Palestinians have been identified as Husam Hameed Soufi, 24, from Rafah, and Mohammad Anwar al-Aqra', 38, from Gaza city. Five Palestinians were injured in the strike, some of them suffered moderate-severe wounds. (IMEMC 9 February 2017)
  - Israeli navy ships opened fire targeting several Palestinian fishing boats, in Gaza territorial waters, in the northern part of the besieged coastal region. Israeli soldiers also fired live rounds at homes and lands. The soldiers stationed across the border fence, in northern Gaza, fired dozens of live rounds at homes, and agricultural lands, causing property damage. The soldiers also fired many flares over the area, but did not conduct a military invasion. (IMEMC 9 February 2017)
  - Israeli navy gunboats opened heavy machinegun fire at Palestinian fishing boats while sailing off Beit Lahiya's coast in the northern Gaza Strip. No injuries were reported. (PALINFO 12 February 2017)
  - Israeli forces detained an employee of a Turkish development agency at a border crossing between the besieged Gaza Strip. The IOA detained Muhammad Murtaja, a coordinator for the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), and added that the Turkish embassy in Tel Aviv was making calls to release him. The Turkish embassy did not immediately respond to a request for comment. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
  - Israeli naval forces opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of the northern Gaza Strip. The Israeli military ships fired at them off the coast of Beit Lahiya. No injuries were reported. (Maannews 14 February 2017)
  - Israeli occupation authorities detained a Palestinian man for unknown reasons while the man was attempting to pass through the Erez border

crossing between the Gaza Strip and Israel. The arrestee was identified as Majdi Muhammad Abu Taha from the southern Gaza Strip city of Rafah. He was heading to a meeting at the US consulate in Jerusalem when he was detained. (Maannews 17 February 2017)

- Israeli naval ships opened fire at Palestinian fishing boats off the coast of al-Sudaniyyeh. No injuries were reported. (Maannews 18 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) opened fire at agricultural land in the Sanati area of eastern Khan Yunis in the southeastern Gaza Strip. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- Israeli navy gunboats opened fire at Palestinian fishermen sailing off the coast of Beit Lahiya in the northern Gaza Strip. (Maannews 19 February 2017)
- Israeli naval forces detained five Palestinian fishermen from the same family while they were sailing off the coast of the northern Gaza Strip. The Israeli forces had detained Umran Saber Bakr, Mahmoud Saber Bakr, Abdullah Saber Bakr, Thabet Abd al-Raziq Bakr, and Omar Muhammad Bakr, and took them to the port of Ashdod in southern Israel. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- Israeli naval forces opened fire at Palestinian fishermen sailing off the coast of Beit Lahiya. No injuries were reported. (Maannews 21 February 2017)
- A Palestinian fisherman who was detained earlier on Tuesday off the coast of the northern Gaza Strip was reported to be in critical condition after being shot in the back by Israeli occupation Army (IOA) during his detention. Muhammad Imran Sabri Bakr was injured with a bullet wound in his back. The IOA had detained Bakr [earlier in the day](#) off the coast of al-Sudaniya, along with four other Palestinian fishermen, identified as Abdullah Sabri Bakr, Mahmoud Sabri Bakr, Thabet Muhammad Bakr, and Omar Muhammad Bakr. All of the detained are in their twenties. (Maannews 22 February 2017)
- The Israeli occupation Army (IOA) arrested 3 Palestinians who were trying to cross the border fence of the Gaza Strip. An Israeli military force arrested 3 unarmed Palestinians while they were trying to cross the border fence east of Khan Younis city, south of the Gaza Strip. The IOA arrested another Palestinian who sneaked from the Gaza Strip to the 1948 occupied Palestinian territories after claiming that he was carrying a knife. (PALINFO 22 February 2017)
- A European parliament delegation that attempted to enter the besieged Gaza Strip to assess the residual damage of Israel's 2014 military offensive was denied entry by Israeli authorities on Wednesday. According to a statement released by the European Parliament's

Delegation for relations with Palestine, Israeli authorities told the group that their entry was denied owing to the fact that only humanitarian workers and diplomats accredited by the Israeli government or the Palestinian Authority (PA) are allowed access to Gaza, which has been held under an Israeli military blockade for a decade. The statement noted that the delegation has been denied entry since 2011. ([Maannews](#) 23 February 2017)

- Israeli military bulldozers at daybreak launched a limited incursion into the eastern corners of Deir al-Balah Governorate, in central Gaza Strip. Four Israeli army bulldozers deployed at the Kissufim military base moved a few meters into eastern Deir al-Balah Governorate, in the blockaded Gaza Strip. Heavy damage is often wrought by such arbitrary incursions on Palestinian cultivated land tracts near the border fence. (PALINFO 23 February 2017)
- Israeli naval forces opened fire at Palestinian fishermen in the northern Gaza Strip while army bulldozers crossed the borderline of the besieged coastal enclave. Israeli army ships deployed off the coasts of Beit Lahiya and Gaza City fired in the direction of fishermen. (Maannews 23 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Army (IOA) injured a 16-year-old Palestinian with live fire in the central Gaza Strip near the border between the besieged enclave and Israel. The Palestinian was shot by the IOA and injured in his right leg. His wounds were described as medium. The IOA stationed at the border fence east of Maghazi refugee camp opened live ammunition on a group of Palestinian youth in the area, causing the injury to the minor. (Maannews 24 February 2017)
- Israeli fighter jets launched two missiles at a site known as the Shuhada ("martyrs" in Arabic) post just after 1 p.m. in the central Gaza Strip, near the coast and west of Nuseirat refugee camp. (Maannews 27 February 2017)
- An Israeli reconnaissance plane fired a missile at a monitoring post east of Rafah city in the southern Gaza Strip, as Israeli fighter jets fired three missiles at the Hitteen post in Beit Lahiya in the northern region of the small Palestinian territory. (Maannews 27 February 2017)
- The Israeli Occupation Jets hit a strike in the Nahda neighborhood of Rafah left three Palestinians moderately injured. (Maannews 27 February 2017)
- Two Israeli artillery shells fired by the Israeli army hit an agricultural area east of Gaza City. (Maannews 27 February 2017)

## Others

- [Netanyahu](#) offers [Amona evacuees](#) new settlement anywhere on state land: As authorities and the High Court of Justice (HCJ) attempt to hammer out the details of a permanent solution to the relocation of Amona evacuees, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu allegedly already told the Amona residents that the government was willing to establish a new settlement on any plot of land of the residents' choosing, on the proviso that it is on state land. According to officials in the political establishment, Netanyahu recently committed himself before the Amona residents to overseeing the construction of a new settlement in order to calm the prevailing tension and anger. Following said rumors, Netanyahu set up a team Wednesday evening to promote founding a new settlement, as was promised to the settlers a month and a half prior (it is not yet confirmed that Netanyahu had promised to set it up anywhere the settlers choose). The team is to include representatives of the settlers, and the prime minister's chief of staff. It will begin work immediately in an effort to find an appropriate site for the new settlement. In the above video, Amona settlers can be heard screaming at IDF soldiers that are working to evacuate them, pleading for them to refuse their orders and demanding that they remove their hats, which have the Star of David stitched into them. The site on which any new settlement is to be established is expected to be in the Binyamin region. Amona leaders are also expected to respond to Netanyahu's rather elastic offer following the conclusion of the evacuation, which was characterized by heated clashes with the police and resulted in a number of injuries and arrests. The Amona compromise, which had been reached between the government and the settlers, was rejected by the [High Court of Justice on Wednesday](#). The HCJ found the compromise to be illegal, since it stated that the evacuees would be moved on to land belonging to Palestinians from the village of Silwad. The court's decision put the kibosh on the Amona compromise the Finance Ministry had reached with the settlers. This despite the fact that the Finance Ministry had recently approved funding the evacuation with NIS 150 million, which was set to go toward setting up new caravans in the outpost of Ofra, setting up a new Talmudic study center, severance pay and allocating resources for receiving the settlers in Ofra. The HCJ's ruling does not, however, affect the evacuation, as the settlers are to be transferred to temporary lodgings in the nearby outpost of Ofra, and were not expected to be directly moved to housing on the Palestinian land mentioned in the compromise. The evacuation had created tensions and outright conflict between political factions within the government. Most notably, right-

wing Likud and Bayit Yehudi members have found themselves on opposing sides of the issue, with Bayit Yehudi accusing the Likud of selling out the settlers, and Likud members accusing Bayit Yehudi members of catastrophizing the situation by leading the settlers to believe that the evacuation was avoidable. Bayit Yehudi Leader and Education Minister Naftali Bennett called on Netanyahu "to immediately exercises his authority over Defense Minister (Avigdor Lieberman) and prevent the destruction of agricultural land in Amona. It isn't necessary to destroy them, it will be sacrificing land unnecessarily." The Defense Ministry issued its own statement in response, saying that "As opposed to Minister Bennett, Minister Lieberman did not order the destruction of agricultural land and is not interfering with a military order. Since Amona residents have submitted their objection to evacuating agricultural land to legal adviser to Judea and Samaria, and the matter is now being discussed legally, it will obviously be resolved by the High Court." Lieberman also issued a personal statement, referring to the Israeli communal settlement in the West Bank where he lives, "As a resident of Nokdim, my heart is with Amona residents during this trying time, and I expect all elected officials, and particularly governmental ministers, to show the evacuees empathy and consideration, and not to take advantage of the residents' plight to make false accusations and stir up controversy with the people of Israel in an attempt to rake up narrow political gains." Bennett gave a speech Wednesday morning, saying that "Unfortunately, the fight for Amona did not succeed. We lost the battle, but we're winning the war over Israel." He added that "From this hard day, hope will spring, and a new settlement will be built from the ruins of Amona. Out of its demolished yards, we will found kindergartens throughout Judea and Samaria." Earlier Wednesday, Bayit Yehudi faction leader Shuli Mualem informed the Knesset Speaker Yuli Edelstein (Likud) that her faction's MKs will not be voting in the Knesset, as they plan on staying in Amona during the evacuation. ([YNETNEWS](#) 1 February 2017)

- MK Motti Yogev (Jewish Home), spoke to *Arutz Sheva* about the upcoming demolition of Amona and the expulsion of the town's residents. "I came to show solidarity, to feel the pain and to protest. We needed to have implemented the agreement and applied the Regulation Law," Yogev said. "The Attorney General said he will defend the draft plan for Amona's relocation. Legally, there should have been mediation. "The Supreme Court's Chief Justice is the one who decides everything. I think other judges should be allowed to vote express an opinion as well. I want the Supreme Court to represent all

of Israel's citizens - because only then will we be able to reach agreements instead of constantly arguing. "For every home which is destroyed in Amona, we will build hundreds and thousands of homes in Judea and Samaria," Yogevev promised. "Today is a difficult day, but we will come out of it stronger." In addition, Yogevev said the government's **approval of 3,000 new homes in Judea and Samaria** is proof that Israel will return to normal life and continue building in Judea and Samaria. He also said he believes the Israeli government will soon apply sovereignty to all of Judea and Samaria. Amona's residents on Tuesday **received orders to evacuate their homes**, and on Wednesday morning, **security officers arrived** to prepare for Amona's expulsion and destruction. ([INN](#) 1 February 2017)

- With the evacuation of the Amona outpost looming, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman approved the construction of around 3,000 new homes in the West Bank, some of them outside settlement blocs Israel hopes to keep in a future peace deal with the Palestinians. The decision came a week after Israel approved the construction of 566 housing units in East Jerusalem and 2,500 homes in the West Bank. The new homes will include 700 homes in Alfei Menashe, 650 in Beitar Illit, 650 in Beit Arye, 200 in Nofim, 150 in Nokdim (Liberman's home settlement), 100 in Shilo, 100 in Karnei Shomron and 100 in Metsudot Yehuda. The announcement appeared to be an attempt by the government to calm settler anger over the court-ordered removal of Amona. ([TIMES OF ISRAEL](#) 1 February 2017)
- Washington has warned Palestinian leaders that suing Israel in international courts would trigger severe steps by the U.S. administration, including the closure of PLO offices in the American capital and an end to economic aid to the Palestinian Authority, according to Western and Arab diplomatic sources. Haaretz has learned that the message from the Trump administration was transmitted through the American consulate -- and not through the White House or State Department -- and consisted of a telephone conversation with a leading Palestinian official directly linked to PA President Mahmoud Abbas. In his first week as president, Donald Trump signed an order to execute a congressional resolution, drawn up during Barack Obama's term, to move against the PA and Fatah (the largest faction of the PLO) if the Palestinians sue Israel, a high-ranking Palestinian source told Haaretz. "Despite that resolution by Congress, the Palestinian leaders were counting on petitioning the court as a means of halting the settlements. But the messages arriving

from Washington in recent days made clear that any such step by the Palestinians would lead to a severe American reaction, so much so that some talked about returning the PLO to the list of terrorist organizations,” said the Palestinian source. The entrance of the International Criminal Court (ICC) is seen in The Hague, Netherlands, March 3, 2011. The Palestinian leaders have been fuming over the messages from Washington, Haaretz has learned, dubbing them an attempt to sabotage the entire Palestinian strategy of recent years, which involves abandoning armed struggle and violence in favor of international diplomacy, and working with the UN institutions and the international community, to reach a two-state solution. “Every decision made since the acknowledgement of Palestine by the UN General Assembly in 2011, until the last Security Council resolution in December 2016, was designed to rescue the two-state solution,” the Palestinian source told Haaretz. “Netanyahu’s policy, including in the last few days, of accelerating construction by thousands of housing units while Washington stays silent, means destroying any chance of a future diplomatic solution,” said the source, referring to the Israeli prime minister. The Palestinian foreign ministry has meanwhile sharply condemned the resolution to build thousands of housing units in the West Bank, saying it renders the two-state solution an illusion. Top Palestinian officials, including Fatah general secretary Saeb Erekat, have called on the international community to step in without delay. Meanwhile, Palestinian sources in Ramallah, headquarters of the PA, admit that no final decision to sue Israel in the international courts has been reached, because of the American threat. The Palestinian leaders will be discussing the matter over the next few days, Haaretz has learned. “The American threat is significant, but the Americans and Trump administration have been talking about implementing a two-state solution and in parallel have been letting Netanyahu persist with his destructive policy, and have been backing him, which is unthinkable. “We, as Palestinians, will continue to act on every international front to save the two-state solution and expect the international community to do the same,” said a Palestinian bureaucrat who is familiar with the details and messages transmitted from Washington to Ramallah.” For several years the Palestinian Authority has been moving toward bringing Israel to the International Criminal Court at the Hague for alleged war crimes and as a means of challenging the legality of the Jewish settlements in the West Bank. ([Haaretz](#) 1 February 2017)

- The Israeli Knesset is set to pass a bill that will legitimized Israeli settlements and seizure of West Bank lands and private property. The

revised measure could apply to 16 West Bank settlements and outposts. Netanyahu will submit the bill to the Knesset for the final second and third readings on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February , and, while the opposition plans to filibuster it, the bill is expected to pass into law. The bill would allow the state to declare private Palestinian land on which settlements or outposts were built “innocently or at the state’s instruction” as government property, and deny its owners the right to use or hold those lands until there is a diplomatic resolution of the status of the territories. The term “innocently” refers to instances in which settlers ostensibly did not know they were building on privately-owned Palestinian land. The revised measure specifies 16 settlements and outposts where the bill might be applied. Demolition orders against homes built on land claimed by Palestinian owners would be frozen for a year pending proceedings to determine whether the state may seize the land. Even though a survey carried out by Haaretz shows that the bill is expected to pass, the opposition has reportedly filed 227 objections to the bill, demanding to change the wording of some of the bill’s sections. The measure, however, will not apply to the Amona outpost, which the High Court has ordered to be dismantled by February 8; nor to nine homes in Ofra and 16 homes in Netiv Ha’avot that the court has already ruled must be demolished. ([PNN](#) 1 February 2017)

- The White House warned Israel to cease settlement announcements that are “unilateral” and “undermining” of President Donald Trump’s effort to forge Middle East peace. For the first time, the administration confirmed that Trump is committed to a comprehensive two-state solution to the Israeli- Palestinian conflict negotiated between the parties. The White House was not consulted on Israel’s unprecedented announcement of 5,500 new settlement housing units over the course of his first two weeks in office. Trump plans to bring up the peace process in his meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the White House scheduled for February 15. Trump looks forward to those discussions, White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer said in response to this report. Trump has, however, repeatedly called peace between Israel and the Palestinians the “ultimate deal” – one that he has tasked Jared Kushner, a top adviser and his son-in-law, with moderating. ([JPOST](#) 2 February 2017)
- Housing Minister Yoav Galant (Kulanu) confirmed 2,086 housing units for immediate marketing in Judea and Samaria. 698 units will be marketed in the town of Alfei Menashe, 630 units will be marketed in Beit Aryeh, 660 units will be marketed in Beitar Illit, and 98 units will

be marketed in Karnei Shomron. Minister Galant said: "There is no day more symbolic for building in Judea and Samaria than the day of the evacuation of Amona. We are a law-abiding nation, and the State has carried out the ruling ordered by the Supreme Court. Nevertheless I announced previously that we shall build a greater Amona. The beginning comes in the form of hundreds of housing units which will be put on the market immediately." ([INN](#) 2 February 2017)

- Amona residents may not have to move far: Location considered for new town for Amona residents just a few kilometers away from their old homes. It is possible that the new town for the residents evicted from Amona may be located just a few kilometers away from their old homes, the *nrg* Hebrew news site reported. One of the locations being considered for the new town is an area between the towns of Rimonim and Kochav Hashachar. Rimonim is located near Amona. The families were left without alternative housing after the Supreme Court tore up the agreement which the government and the residents of Amona reached last December, ruling that the lands on which the State had planned to build new housing for the residents was private Arab land. A suit had been filed by a leftist NGO claiming Arab ownership and the court ruled in the NGO's favor. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu announced yesterday that he had set up a committee to examine the establishment of a new town in Samaria for the residents of Amona. The Prime Minister elaborated on his proposed new town in a speech in the city of Ariel today. "We are going through difficult days. We made every effort not to reach this point but in the end we fulfilled the requirements of the law because we are a law-abiding state. I and you share in the great pain of the families forced to leave their houses and their life's work and we all understand the extent of their pain." "We have to establish a new community for them on state land. Yesterday I set up a team to locate a place for the community and to begin preparing it. We will act to enable this to occur as soon as possible. "I call on all the residents to leave without violence or altercations, to respect the soldiers and police. It hurts them no less than it hurts us and I want to remind everyone that they protect us. And at the same time we will strengthen the other communities here [in Samaria], including, of course, Ariel." ([INN](#) 2 February 2017)
- The Israeli Magistrate Court issued a decision to seize the "saving accounts" of a number of Dweik families in Silwan city south of Jerusalem as a rent allowance for the use of the land where Dweik's houses are located in Batn Al Hawa neighborhood under the pretext of being owned by "Ateret Cohanim" settlement organization. The Israeli

court approved the request of the Ateret Cohanim organization which asked Dweik's family to pay for the lease of use of land allegedly owned by Ateret Cohanim organization for eight previous years, a sum of "652 thousand shekels," knowing that the land ownership issue is still in court. Dweik families lives in the area which "Ateret Cohanim" organization plans to control (5.2 dunums of land) in the center of Batn Al Hawa neighborhood allegedly for being owned by the Yemenites Jews since 1881. The court's decision includes a number of Dweik families identified as: Khamis Dweik and Elias Dweik and Mazen Dweik and his wife, and Nabil Dweik. ([SILWANIC](#) 2 February 2017)

- The Israeli PM announced his intention to discuss the settlements issue with Trump after the US administration released two recent statements that were critical of Israel's ongoing settlements construction. West Bank settlements will be among the wide ranging set of issues Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and US President Donald Trump will discuss when they hold their first meeting since Trump entered the Oval Office. ([JPOST](#) 3 February 2017)
- **The price tag for Amona: Likud to introduce bill to restrict High Court:** The coalition is forming a bill to amend and weaken the power of the High Court to discuss public issues, such the [Amona evacuation](#). Likud MK Mickey Zohar stands behind the bill, which promises to bring about a harsh political and legal storm. However, the bill has the support of all coalition MKs and Minister of Tourism Yariv Levin, who will promote the bill in a ministerial committee in the coming weeks. However, it is still unclear what the position of Minister of Justice Ayelet Shaked is on the matter. The legislation is actually an amendment to the Basic Laws of Israel as related to the judiciary. Locus standi (standing) is a basic condition demanded of a person or organization when they appeal to court and requires them to have direct interest in the issue or injustice against which they are petitioning. In recent years, standing has been expanded to give almost every person the right to petition the High Court on any subject. For example, left-wing organizations petitioned against West Bank outposts built on private Palestinian land, even in cases where the specific landowners were not identified. The new legislation seeks to prevent the court from holding a hearing on an issue if the petitioner does not have personal connection defined as "direct damage or concern for direct damage to one's private interests." If the legislation is successfully passed, controversial court rulings—such as the evacuation of Amona—may be avoided. "There is no damage to the High Court here, but we want to rectify this absurd situation and strengthen the existing separation of powers," said Likud youth

chairman David Shayan. According to MK Zohar, “Our bill will make it difficult for left-wing organizations to petition the High Court regarding the evacuation of settlements and make it difficult for the court to rule against settlers.” ([YNETNEWS](#) 3 February 2017)

- Former Interior Minister Eli Yishai, who heads the Yachad party, said that Amona would not have been demolished. Yishai opined that the rightist parties in the coalition should have applied greater pressure to pass the Regulation Law with the clause that applied it retroactively, thus saving Amona. “I was in Amona, it's a difficult and sad day. The expulsion was unnecessary and [the images](#) remind us all of the harsh pictures from Gush Katif. It's too bad it happened under a right-wing government. There is a dangerous precedent for other communities and I hope the Regulation Law will pass and that the Supreme Court will not reject it,” said Yishai. Had he been in the coalition, he continued, “I would have threatened to resign from the coalition and then they would have passed the law because they would have understood that unless they do it, there will not be a coalition.” “This is a failure of a right-wing government,” declared Yishai. “Even senior ministers admitted that they lost this war. We'll see if the Knesset enacts the Regulation Law. I hope that the Court will not intervene because just as there is a judicial authority, there is also a legislature.” Yishai proposed enacting a law that would prevent NGOs to petition the Supreme Court on behalf of Palestinian Arabs with regard to land claims. “It's unheard of that an organization comes and sues over ownership of the land on behalf of the landowner. The landowner himself should come and submit a petition and we will offer him a lot of money [in exchange for the property]. Believe me, he will agree.” ([INN](#) 3 February 2017)
- Israeli Housing Minister Yoav Galant approved the immediate marketing of 2,086 residential units in Judea and Samaria. The number of units were approved for the following settlements: Beit Arieh 698 units, Alfei Menashe 630 units, Beitar Elite 660 units and Karnei Shomron 98 units. The motion received the approval of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman. ([IPOST](#) 3 February 2017)
- A court session in the Israeli magistrate court in Beer Sheba prosecuted three Palestinian prisoners accused of assaulting two Israeli prison officials during Israeli raids in Nafha and Ktziot prisons. The Israeli court prosecuted Palestinian prisoners Khalid al-Silawi and brothers Ahmad Nasser and Mahmoud Nasser. Al-Silawi, from the besieged Gaza Strip was sentenced to 18 years in Israeli prison, allegedly stabbed an Israeli prison officer with a sharp tool in Nafha prison in

response to Messada officers, the “takeover” unit of the Israel Prison Service (IPS) “violently raiding” section 1 of the prison and reportedly destroying their personal belongings. Al-Silawi reported that 15 Israeli prison officials of the Messada unit assaulted him, leaving bruises on his body and fractures in his chest. Al-Silawi also noted that IPS officials did not provide medical care, despite his condition. Meanwhile, Palestinian prisoner Ahmad Nasser, from the village of Madama in Nablus and held in Israel’s Ktziot prison for a two year prison sentence, reported that at least 30 Israeli prison officials raided section 30 of the prison, and assaulted him without any clear reason. The soldiers beat him on his head, causing him to faint. The IPS officials initially refused him medical care until he was taken to Soroka hospital in Beer Sheba. Ahmad’s brother, Mahmoud Nasser, sentenced to five years in prison and also currently held in Ktziot prison said that Israeli soldiers forces had raided section 16 and fired sound bombs and used pepper spray on the prisoners. He was also assaulted by some 30 Israeli prison officers. Another Palestinian prisoner Saleh Attah from Ramallah was also assaulted and suffered from fractures in his hand and an injury on his face. Attah was also left without any medical treatment. (Maannews 3 February 2017)

- Yizrael Katz, the Israeli minister of transportation, approved a plan to improve the infrastructure in the Gush Etzion region. The plan involves the construction of new roads that will bypass Palestinian Arab villages and the drilling of a new tunnel that will improve the connection between Gush Etzion and Jerusalem. “We are in a new period in which life in Judea and Samaria is returning to a normal and healthy standard, one that’s an appropriate response to the needs of those living in the area,” Israel’s minister of defense [said](#) last week about the revolutionary changes in the region that started Jan. 20 in Washington. ([Western Journalism](#) 4 February 2017)
- 'Securing Jerusalem - by annexing Maaleh Adumim': With preparations underway for the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of all of Jerusalem, lawmakers and supporters of a united Jerusalem toured the greater Jerusalem metropolitan area to see firsthand the threats to Israeli sovereignty over the capital, the challenges to maintaining unity in the city, and some possible solutions. Haim Silverstein, founder and president of the Keep Jerusalem organization which organized the tour, described the efforts to undermine Israeli control of the holy city. “Jerusalem faces major challenges today - demographic challenges, when 40% of its population is Arab - non-

Jews. There's massive illegal building taking place," said Silverstein. "There's an Arab effort going on to try and take over Jerusalem demographically, and we need to find urgent solutions to these problems." One possible solution for the demographic threat, suggested Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely (Likud), is annexation of the greater Jerusalem area, bringing nearby Jewish towns in Judea and Samaria under Israeli sovereignty – and under Jerusalem municipal control. "It's very important this year to develop people's awareness of the danger of dividing the city into two cities," said Hotovely. "This is important to provide a broader picture of the metropolitan Jerusalem [area] that puts together Gush Etzion, Maaleh Adumim, Givat Zeev, and Beitar Illit as part of the Jerusalem municipality." ([INN](#) 5 February 2017)

- The High Court of Justice has delayed the demolition of nine homes in the Ofra settlement by one month, until March 5. The court had previously ruled that the homes must be taken down by February 8, because they were built without permits on private Palestinian property. The residents of the nine homes had asked for a delay so that they could move into new homes, which would be ready only within three months. News of the delay came as a homeowner named Shira was in the middle of an interview with Israel Radio. The ruling, she said, did little to help them because the whole idea had been to prevent the need to relocate twice. On Sunday afternoon the Ofra residents plan to hold a rally against the demolitions and to call on the government to authorize the Settlements Bill, which would retroactively legalize 4,000 settler homes on private Palestinian property. The legislation is particularly important for Ofra, which has hundreds of such homes. On Monday night the Knesset is scheduled to authorize the bill even though Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit has warned that it is unconstitutional and will not withstand any legal challenge to Israel's High Court of Justice. Retired Supreme Court president Dorit Beinisch told Israel Radio on Sunday that the law was problematic because the Knesset did not have the authority to legislate issues relating to property of Area C of the West Bank, which was outside its purview. "We (the Knesset) do not have the constitutional ability to legislate for this area," she said. Lawmakers are moving forward with the legislation based on the legal opinion of the Knesset's attorney and with the help of a private attorney. Left-wing lawmakers have argued that passage of the law would push the International Criminal Court to rule on the issue of West Bank settlements, a matter that it is already studying. Right-wing legal experts have argue that the law actually places Israel within

compliance of international law, because it compensates the Palestinians for the land loss, as opposed to the current situation in which settlers are using the property without any remuneration to the Palestinians. ([IPOST](#) 6 February 2017)

- Settler leaders and the heads of the Ofra settlement on Sunday threatened to hold a hunger strike outside Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s office if the Knesset fails to pass the settlement regulation bill. Thousands of protesters rallied in Ofra demanding that the government approve the bill, which would retroactively legalize settler homes on private Palestinian property. ([IPOST](#) 6 February 2017)
- Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked (Jewish Home) reaffirmed that the Regulation Law bill to protect thousands of Jewish homes in Judea and Samaria would be voted on and passed later today. Speaking at a cyber security forum at Tel Aviv University, the Justice Minister said the second and third votes for the bill would be held in the Knesset plenum later on Monday, adding that the bill had a guaranteed majority. “The law will be voted upon and it has a majority – there is a coalition,” said Shaked. In its current form, the Regulation Law has the backing of the Ministerial Committee for Legislation, a body of representatives of all coalition partners which determines whether the government and all coalition MKs will be obliged to back particular pieces of legislation. Members of the Kulanu party, which has expressed concerns over the law, say the faction will back the bill in its present form, but added they would oppose efforts to make the law apply retroactively. On Sunday, thousands of demonstrators demanded the Regulation Law be used to normalize nine homes in the town of Ofra, north of Jerusalem. The Supreme Court has issued demolition orders against the nine homes. ([INN](#) 6 February 2017)
- Assuming that the Knesset vote takes place today as scheduled, the state legislature is going to stain itself dreadfully when it approves what’s been dubbed the “regularization law,” meant to retroactively legalize illegally built homes in the West Bank. The name of the bill is misleading, and not by coincidence. The bill doesn’t aim to “regularize” but to steal. If the vote takes place, the majority of our lawmakers will raise their hands to approve a bill that will steal land from Palestinians. The theft will come after the fact; to accommodate settlements and outposts that were built on private land, the land will be expropriated from its owners, while the thieves living on it will be granted “the presumption of innocence.” To grant this theft a veil of equitableness, Palestinians who can prove ownership will receive

increased financial compensation. The proud leader of this thievery is the Habayit Hayehudi party. As far as the members of this nationalist religious party are concerned, there is no area in the Land of Israel that belongs to non-Jews. That's also why there's no point in talking in terms of theft, stealing or expropriation; all we have here is a "misunderstanding" that needs to be "regularized." Heading this band of thieves is Habayit Hayehudi chairman Naftali Bennett. The education minister tried to bow and scrape last week before the Amona evacuees, who complained about his inability to prevent their eviction, by promising that the expropriation law would be voted on today, thus "putting an end to the method of legal displacement." Bennett is not alone in his struggle against the "method of legal displacement." He is backed by party colleague Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked, who won't let trivialities stop the robbery convoy from barreling forward. The fact that Attorney General Avichai Mendelblit refuses to defend such theft if it gets challenged in court doesn't deter her. Shaked has found a solution: a private attorney will represent the government. So that's how it is. To authorize land theft in the occupied territories the justice minister is prepared to smash the country's legal norms with her own hands. And as if to threaten the High Court of Justice, which will probably be asked to rule on this unconstitutional law, the woman meant to defend it delivered the following warning: "If the regularization law is invalidated, there is a series of administrative decisions that the attorney general has already made and stands behind that regularizes most of the settlements." Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu knows that this bill is immoral, unconstitutional and will certainly do Israel great damage internationally. Netanyahu also knows that the law will be struck down by the High Court of Justice, which will then be smeared mercilessly by the settler right and its Knesset representatives. Netanyahu is trapped; he knows that the good of the country requires that the bill be buried for good, but on the other hand, he hears MK Betzalel Smotrich declare that "if the regularization bill doesn't come up [for a vote] on Monday, there will be no government." And if there's one thing that Netanyahu's long years at the helm have proven, it's that when asked to choose between the good of the country and his political survival, the country will always come second. ([Haaretz](#) 6 February 2017)

- One of the biggest and most persistent mysteries of Israel is its high housing prices. The solution is fairly easy, after all: As everyone knows, to lower prices, it's necessary to increase the amount of land in the center of the country available for residential construction and to

greatly decrease the duration of the approval process. So why isn't this happening? Is it deliberate? This week's evacuation of Amona provided the answer. Just as it was beginning, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman announced the approval of 3,000 new housing units in the territories, in addition to the 2,500 that were previously announced. Transportation Minister Yisrael Katz also had big news this week. He described a plan to spend 5 billion shekels (\$1.25 billion) to improve the road infrastructure in the West Bank, even though the roads there are in much better shape than those in Israel proper. It would include widening existing roads; building new roads, interchanges and tunnels as well as rail links between Ariel and Petah Tikva and between Ma'aleh Adumim and Jerusalem. "The five-year plan will give a big push to the development of Jewish settlement in Judea and Samaria," Katz said. And that's when it hit me: Israel's high home prices aren't due to the failure of well-intentioned efforts. The endless traffic jams are not the result of random events. They are part of a political master plan to attract more and more Israelis to move eastward, to increase their number to the point where it will no longer be possible to evacuate them and the two-state solution will die a natural death. This plan was conceived of decades ago by people from the Greater Israel camp, who realized that the biggest problem faced by young couples in Israel was buying their first home. So they concocted a sophisticated numbers game, taking steps to reduce home prices in Jewish settlements in the territories while jacking them up within Israel proper. They accomplished the former goal through the national budget. They offered land in the territories at no cost, regardless of demand and the tremendous expense of building on the rocky, hilly ground. They also saw to it that building permits in the territories would be issued lightning-fast, in stark contrast to the norm within the Green Line. They also gave settlers tax breaks and other economic benefits, turning Judea into a welfare state. Meanwhile, on the other side of the Green Line, it was the complete opposite. The Israel Lands Administration consistently failed to meet the demand for land zoned for residential construction, causing an ongoing increase in home prices. The agency was always headed by right-wing cabinet ministers, who took care to maintain this discriminatory policy. At the same time, they made no serious efforts to reduce the bureaucracy, because the bureaucracy serves their objectives: It causes construction delays and increases expenses, adding to housing costs. The same thing is happening in regard to transportation. The Tel Aviv light rail project is stuck, not by chance but on purpose. The poor

state of public transportation is part of the same master plan, as are the growing traffic jams in the big cities, which also contribute to rising home prices. True, there is no written documentation of this plan, nor are their recordings to prove it, but circumstances show that all of the right-wing governments of the past decades have followed it.

- So no one should be surprised that Netanyahu, Lieberman and Katz are moving to accelerate construction and improve transportation – in the territories. Nor is it a surprise to hear Finance Minister Moshe Kahlon say: “I never said we’d lower housing prices.” Of course he won’t. That would go against the master plan. ([Haaretz](#) 6 February 2017)
- The Israeli government has launched a new five-year plan to upgrade the transportation infrastructure in the West Bank to the tune of NIS 5 billion (\$1.3 billion). The massive project, led by Transportation Minister Yisrael Katz, will include excavating new tunnels, expanding main highways, road resurfacing, paving interchanges, new access roads and bypasses, and creating easier access to the Tel Aviv and Jerusalem metropolitan areas via light rail and special public transit lanes. The new public transit lanes are meant to help reduce the traffic congestion on the roads leading into the metropolitan areas. The roads in the West Bank see constant traffic of both Israeli and Palestinian vehicles 24 hours a day. However, the infrastructure in many places is lacking, with narrow roads often leading to fatal car accidents. The roads leading to the Jerusalem and Tel Aviv metropolitan areas are also plagued by heavy traffic. The five-year plan seeks to both make the roads safer and ease the congestion. In the Jerusalem metropolitan area, an emphasis will be put on reducing the heavy traffic at the eastern, southern and northern entrances to the city, so the capital and its surrounding area become one metropolis with a quick and direct connection to Ma'ale Adumim, Givat Ze'ev, Gush Etzion-Binyamin and Beitar Illit. To that end, the Tunnels Road (the Jerusalem portion of Highway 60) will undergo a NIS 850 million expansion in the area between Begin Boulevard (Highway 50) and Elazar (on Highway 60), adding a lane in each direction as well as a public transit lane. The project will open up the possibility of adding new housing units in Beit Shemesh, Beitar Illit, Tzur Hadassah and the surrounding area. It will give drivers a direct route from Gush Etzion to Tel Aviv through Jerusalem without stopping at a single traffic light. The Transportation Ministry has already allocated NIS 30 million to the project's planning and work is scheduled to will begin at the end of 2018. A grade separation is going to be built at the French Hill Junction at the cost of

NIS 1 billion. It will include two two-laned tunnels going east to west, 1.5 kilometers in length and two one-lane tunnels going north to west, which will be 650 meters in length. The Transportation Ministry has already allocated NIS 80 million to the project's planning and work is scheduled to will begin at the end of 2018. When the project is completed, drivers will be able drive directly from Ma'ale Adumim to Jerusalem or Tel Aviv without stopping at a single traffic light. The Transportation Ministry is also looking into either a light rail or a train connecting Ma'ale Adumim to Jerusalem. Furthermore, the ministry is working on solutions for the traffic congestion in the Qalandiya area that would affect all entrances to Jerusalem from the north. In the first stage, a public transit lane will be paved from Qalandiya to Jerusalem, budgeted at NIS 30 million. Then, a grade separation will be built as well as a new road connecting the Binyamin area to Route 443 through the town of Atarot. The total cost of the project will be NIS 80 million. The Transportation Ministry has already allocated NIS 5 million to planning the project. Some NIS 50 million were invested in the eastern ring road, which will connect the northern part of Jerusalem to the Naomi Shemer Mount Scopus Tunnel and Ammunition Hill. Route 437 will be expanded with a public transit lane from the Adam Junction to the light rail station in Pisgat Ze'ev. The plan also includes a light rail that would connect the settlement of Ariel and the Samaria region to the Greater Tel Aviv metropolitan area. The light rail will go from Ariel towards Rosh HaAyin and Petah Tikvah. In addition, Route 55 will be doubled from Karnei Shomron to where it links up with Route 444. Several roads will be paved to bypass roads that pass through Arab villages. A road to bypass Nabi Ilyas is being paved as part of Route 55 to the tune of NIS 54 million, while a road to bypass Al-Arroub, which will connect the Judea region to Kiryat Arba-Hebron and Jerusalem, is in the planning stages. In addition, a road to bypass Huwara is being planned to better connect the northern Samaria region to Ariel and to central Israel. The existing road from Modi'in Illit to the Lapid Junction will also be doubled and later, an interchange will be paved near Shilat as well as another direct road from Modi'in Illit to the Maccabim Junction on Route 443. The plan also has projects that are in the primary stages and will be carried out as part of the next five-year plan, which will include the completion of the planning stages for the expansion of Route 60 from the Tapuach Junction to Meitar as a four-lane road with two lanes in each direction, as well as expanding and completing routes 465 and 446, among others. As part of the plan, dangerous roads where fatal car accidents have occurred will be added with new safety measures. In the first

stage, junctions along Route 60—including the Givat Asaf junction, the Kokhav Ya'akov junction and the British Police junction—will be added with traffic lights, squares etc., based on need. Significant safety measures might be added to Route 444 connecting Anatot and Ma'ale Adumim. At a later stage, highway lights will be added to junctions across the West Bank. Finally, Givat Ze'ev and Sha'ar Binyamin will be connected via train to the local train network being built in Jerusalem. "The plan's objective is to improve accessibility and safety for both the Israeli and Palestinian populations," Transportation Minister Katz said. The plan, he added, will bolster the Jewish settlement in the West Bank and allow it to develop further, much like the infrastructure upgrade being done in the Galilee and the Negev regions. ([YNETNEWS](#) 7 February 2017)

- Over the course of the month of January alone, at least 64 Palestinian minors were detained and incarcerated in Israel's Ofer detention center, while the minors were imposed with a collective 52,000 shekels (approximately \$14,000) in fines, the Palestinian Committee of Prisoners' Affairs said in a statement. Eight of the minors were detained after Israeli forces shot them. Of the minors detained in January and held in Ofer, 28 were detained from their homes, 27 from the street, six at Israeli military checkpoints, and two after they were summoned for interrogation. One 16-year-old detainee was transferred to administrative detention. 28 of the underage Palestinians were handed actual prison sentences ranging between one month and 12 months, while the remaining were still being held and interrogated. (Maannews 7 February 2017)
- The Israeli Knesset passed [legislation](#) hailed by the Right for [legalizing some 4,000 settler homes](#) and attacked by the Left as the first step toward [de facto annexation](#). Its passage by a vote of 60-52 marks the first time that the Knesset has sought to impose Israeli law in Area C of the West Bank, which is under Israeli military and civilian rule. That territory is considered to be outside the Knesset's purview and such an action could be viewed as an initial application of sovereignty... The vote took place without Netanyahu, who was still on his way back from London after meeting with Prime Minister Theresa May. Likud MK Bennie Begin voted against the legislation, the only coalition MK to do so. The bill's passage ends months of bitter debate over the legislation, both within the right-wing parties and between the coalition and the opposition. (JPOST 7 February 2017)
- Non-governmental groups plan to petition the High Court of Justice against a new Israeli law that retroactively legalizes close to [4,000](#)

- [settler homes on private Palestinian property](#). The groups – Peace Now, Yesh Din and the Association for Civil Rights in Israel – announced their plans to turn to the court almost immediately after the Knesset authorized the legislation in a historic 60-52 vote. ([IPOST](#) 7 February 2017)
- A week after the evacuation of Amona, the Supreme Court issued new demolition orders for a neighborhood in the Jewish community of Kfar Tapuah in Samaria. The court ruled that 17 buildings in Tapuah West, a neighborhood of [Kfar Tapuah](#), must be demolished by April 2018. Tapuah, a town of roughly 1,000 east of Ariel, was targeted by the court in early 2004 when it ordered the demolition of a synagogue in the Tapuah West neighborhood. The demolition orders issued Tuesday were made in response to an appeal by the “Yesh Din” organization, a far-left NGO, who filed with the court on behalf of residents of the nearby village of Yasuf who claim they have a basis for ownership of the land. The orders were issued despite arguments by the government that it intends to normalize the status of the neighborhood. David Ha’Ivri, a former mayor of Kfar Tapuah and former spokesperson for the Samaria Regional Council accused the government of dragging its feet on the issue, despite promises to settle questions of the neighborhood’s status. “The Netanyahu-Bennett government is a disgrace,” said Ha’Ivri. “They have sat on their hands on the issue of Israeli sovereignty in Judea and Samaria for too long. Yesterday Amona, today Tapuah West.” “Jewish families in the heartland of Israel should not have their homes demolished by the State of Israel. It is time for the Israeli public to rethink our blind support for these two parties who have proven to be a huge disappointment. We must make Israel great again.” MK Bezalel Smotrich (Jewish Home) slammed the court’s decision, which came on the heels of the passage of the regulation law Monday night. “The timing of the release of this ruling for the demolition of 17 buildings in Tapuah, just before the Regulation Law goes into effect, is purely coincidental,” Smotrich said sarcastically. “Just like the composition of the [three-judge] panel that heard the case really thinks that we are complete fools. But we aren’t. We’ll put a stop to this judicial tyranny. ([INN](#) 7 February 2017)
  - Former Justice Minister Prof. Daniel Friedman said that the chances that the Supreme Court will not strike down the passed Regulation Law are low. The Court will likely reject the Law on grounds that it presents a blow to private property rights. ([INN](#) 7 February 2017)
  - The Israel Prison Service (IPS) continued to hold 15 Palestinian prisoners in solitary confinement as a punitive measure following two

- stabbings that were allegedly carried out on IPS officials in the Nafha and Ktziot prisons last week. The IPS has taken punitive measures against hundreds of Palestinians in the two Israeli prisons following the alleged attacks. (Maannews 8 February 2017)
- The European Union (EU) on Tuesday blasted the Regulation Law, which **the Knesset approved** on Monday, urging Israel not to implement it. The Regulation Law legalizes and protects thousands of Jewish homes in Judea and Samaria which were built with government backing and lacked absentee land claims, but against which there are now property claims. Under the law, homes built on such properties will be allowed to remain, and owners with proven claims to the land will be given a choice of receiving an alternate plot of land or monetary compensation for 125% of their land's value. "The European Union condemns the recent adoption of the 'Regularization Law' (sic)", the EU's foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini said on Tuesday. The law, she argued, "crosses a new and dangerous threshold by legalizing under Israeli law the seizure of Palestinian property rights". The 28-nation EU "urges the Israeli leadership to refrain from implementing the law and to avoid measures that further raise tensions and endanger the prospects for a peaceful solution to the conflict", Mogherini added. Her condemnation of the law came hours after the EU **delayed a meeting** between EU and Israeli officials long seen as a step towards mending strained relations, in response to Israel's approval of the Regulation Law. The summit, slated for the end of February, has now been postponed indefinitely. French President Francois Hollande **blasted the law** as well, claiming that it would pave the way for annexation of Judea and Samaria, and even went so far as to demand that the Israeli government repeal the legislation. UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres **slammed the passage of the law**, calling the move illegal under international law. "This bill is in contravention of international law and will have far reaching legal consequences for Israel," Guterres said in a statement. ([INN](#) 8 February 2016)
  - Despite a 2006 High Court ruling, military commanders in the West Bank are not facilitating access for two Palestinian farming families north of Ramallah to work their land. The plots, both north of Ramallah, belong to Fawzi Ibrahim from the village of Jalud and the other, to the Mu'ain Musa family from Qaryut. In both cases, the proximity of two outposts known for their history of harassing Palestinian villagers prevents the farmers from accessing their fields. Ibrahim is permitted to enter his 250-dunam (62 acres) plot only twice a year, and only in coordination with and accompanied by the army. If

he isn't able to reach his field this week in order to plough it and sow wheat, he could miss the entire season. The Musa family doesn't officially need to coordinate with the army but their fears of settler violence and the army's preference to avoid confrontations between settlers and Palestinians necessitates that they coordinate their activity with the army in practice. Since the beginning of January, attorney Quamar Mishirqi Asad has appealed to the Coordination and Liaison Administration several times with requests to coordinate Ibrahim's access to his land before sowing season ends. All of her appeals, in writing, verbally and via WhatsApp, went unanswered. The outpost of Esh Kodesh was built close to Ibrahim's land. The outpost of Yishuv Hada'at, also known as the Bayit Adom (Red House), was built the Musas' land. The plots of land belonging to Fawzi Ibrahim from the village of Jalud north of Ramallah. Haqel - Jews and Arabs In Defense of Human Rights. In August 2016, when Mishirqi Asad appealed to the Coordination and Liaison Administration so that the Musas could access their land, she was told that a new commander had arrived in the area and that he needed time in order to study the situation. She has appealed at least 11 more times so that the Musa family could get to its almond grove, but to no avail. The army spokesman told Haaretz that security considerations prevented the Musa family from entering the western part of their field and that they were requested to coordinate entry at a later date. Despite written documentation of all these appeals, the army claims that the Musas haven't yet made their request and that "Ibrahim's attorney was asked to coordinate his entry in writing but has not done so yet. When such a request arrives, the entry of these landowners to their land will be organized." The people that Mishirqi Asad turned to in writing, by phone and through WhatsApp in order to enable these families to access their land were Maj. Yizhar Yitzhak, the head of operations and human rights; David Elmaliach from the coordination office in Nablus; Maj. Rafi Biton from the Ramallah coordination office; and Lt. Yulia Weinshker from the lands division at the Civil Administration. The CLA is the agency that needs to coordinate with the army. The Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories, the body in charge of the CLA, would not comment on the matter. From the end of the 1990s and particularly since the 2000s, agricultural outposts have been built in the area surrounding the settlement of Shilo. With them came increased harassment and violence directed at the residents of Jalud, Qaryut and three other villages in the area. In response to these attacks, the army closed an area covering 9000 dunams to Palestinian farmers, preventing them from working their land or tending their flocks there.

This phenomenon of settler violence leading to the closure of an area for Palestinians is common across the West Bank, and has led to a joint petition filed with the High Court of Justice by human rights groups. In 2006 the High Court instructed Israeli authorities to allow Palestinians to work their land in coordination with and accompanied by the army. This is done only a few times during the year, for only a few days. Most other days, farmers cannot access land which is close to such outposts. ([Haaretz](#) 8 February 2017)

- The Israeli committee, in charge of settlements' affairs at the Higher Planning Council of the military-run "Civil Administration Office" in the occupied West Bank, has approved the construction of 1162 new units for illegal colonists. Among the approved buildings is what was dubbed as "a new neighborhood," near Shvut Rachel illegal colony, built on private Palestinian lands, in the northern part of the West Bank. Some of the constructions are meant to house colonists who lived in the recently evacuated "Amona" outpost, while the settlers are still rejecting the plan and are demanding to rebuild their illegal outpost. Yet, the Israeli government decided to go ahead with its plan to build the "neighborhood," to house them, and many new colonists. ([PALINFO](#) 9 February 2017)
- The Israeli settlement subcommittee – the Supreme Planning Council is promoting the approval of 14 building Plans that will include the construction of 1,380 new settlement units in Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank. Most plans, in their various stages, have been approved, including the establishment of the new neighborhood that is intended shelter evacuees of Amona outpost. Out of 1,380 units, the subcommittee has approved 1,162 housing units. In view of the fact that the planned neighborhood doesn't come under the jurisdiction of the Shilo settlement, an amendment is to be made to include the area on which the new neighborhood is planned to be constructed the final approval of the plan, which includes 98 units. Other building plans were also approved such as Mezadot Yehuda (101 housing units), 48 units were approved in Nofim settlement, 212 units in Oranit settlement, 10 units in Beit Arye settlement, 42 units in Alfei Menashe settlement, 323 units in Kfar Adumim settlement, 84 Units in Nekodim settlement and 82 Units in Givat Ze'ev settlement. By contrast, plans were approved in Efrat with 32 housing units to be built, and 70 units in Beitar Illit settlement, and 60 new units in Shavei Shomron and the new neighborhood in Shvut Rachel - 98 units for validation. ([WALLA](#) 9 February 2017)

- New data procured by the Yesha Council demonstrates 421,400 Israeli residents living in Judea, Samaria, and the Jordan Valley at the end of 2016. Analysis of recent year's data shows that in the local population's annual growth in 2016 was 3.9% per year, while in the last decade the average annual growth was recorded at 4.7% per year, more than twice the average increase in Israel, which stands at 1.9% per annum. The increase in 2016 (3.9%) linked to the increase in 2015 (4.0%), but a check of the data in percentages from the last decade reveals that despite the moderate increase in growth of the number of persons per year (15,700 a year), there is a downward trend in the percentage of annual growth (from 4.7% in 2012). According to the above data, despite the growth in numbers, the population of Judea, Samaria, and the Jordan Valley cannot maintain a matching annual growth trend, such that although each year sees an increase in the number of persons per given area (due to natural growth and migration), there is a decrease in overall annual growth, which is probably in consequence of the construction and planning moratorium of recent years. (INN 9 February 2017)
- A recently approved apartment building in a West Bank settlement was reportedly funded by an organization headed by David Friedman, US President Donald Trump's nominee for ambassador to Israel. The planned five-story apartment building, which will hold 20 apartments, is financed by American Friends of Beit El Institutions, which Friedman chairs, according to a television report Wednesday by Israel's Channel 2 News. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government OK'd the building in Beit El as part of the first wave of approvals of settler homes since Trump took office. In the past two weeks, Israel has approved about 6,000 homes in the West Bank and eastern Jerusalem. Most of the homes are slated to go up in the major settlement blocs, which Israel expects to keep as part of any peace deal with the Palestinians. The apartment in Beit El was an exception, which Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman said was approved as part of a High Court of Justice decision. American Friends of Beit El Institutions, which is an American nonprofit organization, raised almost \$667,000 for its Israeli counterpart, the Organization for the Sukkat Ovadia Yeshiva of Beit El, Channel 2 reported. Friedman's name appears on several buildings in Beit El funded by the American organization. The Israeli organization funded several illegal construction projects on private Palestinian land, including the expansion of Beit El's Ulpana neighborhood, part of which was evacuated by order of the High Court of Justice in 2012. The planned apartment building is also to be built partly on private

Palestinian land, but could be legalized after the fact by the controversial new “settlements law” (regulation law). A founder of Beit El has said Trump donated \$10,000 to Beit El in 2003 in honor of his friend Friedman. The family of Jared Kushner, Trump’s son-in-law and senior advisor, has also donated tens of thousands of dollars over the years to West Bank settlements. Trump named Friedman to be the Israel ambassador in December, but a date has yet to be set for his approval hearing by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Dovish Jewish groups oppose his appointment over his far-right politics and his comment in an op-ed last year that supporters of the left-wing Jewish lobby J Street are worse than Jews who collaborated with the Nazis. ([IPOST](#) 10 February 2017)

- MK Yehuda Glick (Likud) announced that he will propose a bill to apply Israeli sovereignty over all towns and villages in Greater Jerusalem, including the Gush Etzion communities. Judea and Samaria's Jewish communities, all in what is delineated as Area C, are ruled by an IDF Civil Administration, not Israeli law. MK Glick met with the Shlomo Neeman, one of the mayoral candidates in elections for the Gush Etzion Regional Council, and concluded with him that the law should include all the Gush Etzion communities, east and west. According to Glick, "The fiftieth year of Judea and Samaria's liberation should become the year of sovereignty; it is not enough just to have sovereignty over Maale Adumim. Jerusalem, Israel's capital needs to be strengthened demographically to manifest a Zionist majority both in terms of sovereignty and the economic aspects. The Greater Jerusalem Sovereignty Law mandates that the State of Israel apply Israeli law and justice to Gush Etzion, Ma'aleh Adumim, Givat Zeev, Betar Illit, Adam, Ma'ale Michmash, and Psagot. "A belt of towns under Israeli sovereignty would strengthen Jerusalem and remove from the agenda the idea of a Palestinian state and the shrinking of Jewish settlement into blocs," said MK Glick. ([INN](#) 10 February 2017)
- Amona residents who were evicted from their homes last week set up a protest tent near the Knesset Thursday demanding that the government [fulfill its obligations](#) and establish a new town for them. Over the past few days Amona residents have staked out various locations in the Binyamin region in order to find an appropriate place to establish an alternative community. The options available are places which would be suitable for establishing a community on state land. Two months ago Prime Minister Netanyahu committed in writing that if Amona would be evacuated, the government would act immediately to establish an alternative town for the evacuees by the

end of March. He also [committed originally that they would stay on the mountain](#) where Amona is, but the court struck down the draft arrangement coordinated by the state near Amona. After a number of discussions the residents of Amona chose a hill called "Redemption of Zion" situated northwest of the Shilo valley and some 10 km north of the original community, since it is an appropriate site for immediate construction. The residents who are at present residing in the Ofra boarding house in very difficult conditions came to Jerusalem and established the protest tent in which they will stay until the government fulfills its commitments and approves a new town. "We have had our share of promises and disappointments. We have no interest in words but rather demand actions. After the difficult blow that we suffered and after the injustice of the destruction of our community, the proper corrective measure would be to establish a new town and reconstruct our community. We're not looking for better conditions or for easy solutions. We have come to live here in tents near the Knesset until the government fulfills its commitments. We have the strength to build and plant, and that will enable us to rise up from our sorrow and this is what the Jewish nation deserves after the tremendous damage which was done," said the residents. On Sunday the government is set to approve the establishment of a new town, an act which has not taken place for decades. ([INN](#) 10 February 2017)

- Culture Minister Miri Regev called for implementing Israeli law "across Judea and Samaria in its entirety," saying it was time to start "discussing minority rights" between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea. Speaking with Israel Radio, Regev stressed that any change in Israeli policies would have to be decided on after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu meets with U.S. President Donald Trump next Wednesday. "The White House has changed its tune, and it no longer sees the settlements as an obstacle to peace," she said. Regev said the Judea and Samaria Settlement Regulation Law passed this week "would not have passed without the Likud party. Had he [Netanyahu] not pushed the law, the law wouldn't have passed. So what if he said he's against it? The attorney general also said so. The High Court of Justice challenged us when it said we must regularize the Bedouin [communities] in the Negev, because we need to regulate the communities in Judea and Samaria as well. We must implement the law across Judea and Samaria in its entirety." Commenting on police [investigations](#) involving Netanyahu, Regev said the probes were a ploy by political rivals seeking to topple his government. "For 25 years, they [the Left] have been trying to unseat Netanyahu, but

they won't succeed, and he will be the next prime minister as well," she said. "[Justice Minister] Ayelet Shaked and [Habayit Hayehudi leader] Naftali Bennett can keep on dreaming. I won't be party to spins of incomplete facts and leaks. I don't believe he will be indicted, despite the media's pressure. We have to wait and see. And even if an indictment is filed, it doesn't mean he is guilty. Everyone is innocent until proven otherwise." ([ISRAEL HAYOM](#) 10 February 2017)

- If his latest statements are any indication, U.S. President Donald Trump may be having second thoughts about how unharmful Israel's West Bank settlement project is to the peace process. In an interview published on Friday with the Israeli daily Israel Hayom, Trump described himself as "not someone who believes that advancing settlements is good for peace," and urged the government to "act reasonably." "There is limited remaining territory," Trump said. "Every time you take land for a settlement, less territory remains." In a statement issued through the White House a week earlier, he said that although settlements per se were not an impediment to peace, "the construction of new settlements or the expansion of existing settlements beyond their current borders may not be helpful in achieving that goal." America's unpredictable new president may be a bit more forthcoming about where he draws the line when he meets with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Wednesday. Meanwhile, his statements have been interpreted as a green light for Israel to continue building within the settlement blocs, though not beyond them. Settlement blocs refer to the larger Jewish population centers located in the West Bank, many of which are close to the Green Line, or the borders of the 1949 armistice agreement. Many of them fall on the Israeli side of the incomplete separation barrier Israel began building nearly 15 years ago during the second Palestinian uprising. An estimated 450,000-500,000 Israelis live across the Green Line including the Jewish neighborhoods of East Jerusalem. A widespread consensus has emerged that any future agreement on a two-state solution should include some of the settlement blocs (anywhere from 2 to 5 percent of the area beyond the Green Line) within Israel's permanent border. Some past and present Israeli officials cite security rationale, while others say that uprooting so many people from their homes is not a viable option. Israel, in exchange, would agree to swap a more-or-less equivalent amount of its own land with a future Palestinian state. In 2004, President George W. Bush sent a letter to Israel saying it would be "unrealistic to expect that the outcome of final status negotiations will be a full and complete return to the armistice lines of 1949." Many interpreted that as a green light for

Israel to build in the settlement blocs, as they do Trump's recent statement. The Obama administration, by contrast, did not distinguish between the big blocs and the isolated settlements, and as far as it was concerned, all settlement construction was equally bad. 80% of settlers live in the settlement blocs. So what are we talking about when we talk about the settlement blocs? Here's where it gets tricky. When people talk about the settlement blocs, they usually mean those areas that are expected to become part of Israel under a two-state agreement. Unfortunately, though, there is little consensus about what those areas are or should be. As Netanyahu once famously said: "My blocs aren't the blocs of the left." About 80 percent of the settlers live in the following eight major settlement blocs seen as candidates for Israeli annexation: Gush Etzion, Givat Ze'ev, Modi'in Ilit, Western Samaria, Ma'aleh Adumim, Ariel, Shaked and Kedumim. Altogether, they comprise about four percent of the West Bank. Some hold that only settlement blocs situated right near the Green Line, whose incorporation into Israel would not affect the viability and contiguity of a Palestinian state, should be annexed. Others believe the main consideration should be minimizing the number of settlers who would have to vacate their homes. That is why they support annexing settlement blocs that stretch deep into the West Bank, even if parts of the new Palestinian state would be cut off from one another as result. Which settlement blocs is there consensus about? The Geneva Initiative of 2003, a civil society effort of prominent Israelis and Palestinians, provides a good indication. According to the basic principles of that agreement, which included land swaps of 2.2 percent, the settlement blocs of Gush Etzion (excluding Efrat), Ma'aleh Adumim (excluding the controversial adjacent area known as "E1"), Modi'in Ilit and Givat Ze'ev would become part of Israel. Another indication of where consensus lies is in the proposals exchanged by former Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas five years later, as part of the Annapolis plan. Olmert proposed annexing all the major settlement blocs (about 5.9 percent of the West Bank territory), in exchange for 5.2 percent of Israeli territory. In his counteroffer, Abbas proposed giving Israel 1.6 percent of the West Bank in exchange for 2 percent of Israeli territory. Abbas was not willing to include Ma'aleh Adumim or Givat Ze'ev in that 1.6 percent, but he did agree to Modi'in Ilit and Gush Etzion (though not Efrat). It is noteworthy that Abbas was willing to give Israel the two largest settlements in the West Bank, both of which are ultra-Orthodox: Betar Illit (part of Gush Etzion) and Modi'in Ilit. Roughly one-third of all the settlers live in these two settlements

today. So does that mean the city of Ariel isn't part of the consensus? Correct. Even though Israel recently built a big university there, there is not widespread agreement that Ariel should be included in Israel in a future two-state agreement. Olmert proposed including Ariel for the same reason many Israelis believe it belongs inside: It's one of the biggest settlements, with close to 20,000 residents. But Ariel stretches 13 miles deep into the West Bank, and its annexation would cut right into the heart of the Palestinian state. The fact that there is not widespread consensus about Ariel has not prevented the government, however, from approving many new housing units there in recent years. But certainly Ma'aleh Adumim and Efrat are part of the consensus. It's true that both Ma'aleh Adumim and Efrat are big settlements and located pretty close the Green Line. But there is not widespread consensus about them – at least on the Palestinian side – because it is feared their annexation could threaten the contiguity of a future Palestinian state. Ma'aleh Adumim includes the area known as E1, which connects the settlement to Jerusalem. Palestinians fear its annexation would partly cut off the northern West Bank from the southern part. Unlike most of the other settlements in Gush Etzion, Efrat is situated on the eastern side of Route 60 – the only major north-south highway in the West Bank. There are concerns it would encroach on the development of the Palestinian city of Bethlehem. For that reason, it was not included in the Geneva Initiative. Would it be fair to assume that most of the settlement construction activity of recent years has taken place in the big settlement blocs? Not at all. According to Haaretz contributor Shaul Arieli, one of Israel's leading experts on the demarcation of the future border, 50 percent of the new homes built in the West Bank in recent years were outside the settlement blocs, even though 75 percent of the population growth was inside the settlement blocs. This is no coincidence, he says. Rather, it is part of a deliberate government policy to spread out the Jewish population in the West Bank so that the two-state solution becomes less viable. The government recently approved 2,500 new housing starts in the West Bank. Were they in the settlement blocs? Most of them were, so Trump would probably be pleased. But the approvals also included a group of 100 housing units in the settlement of Beit El, which is not part of any of the big blocs. The American president is not likely to complain about that anytime soon: After all, his ambassador-designate, David Friedman, heads the organization that raises money for Beit El in the United States, and Trump himself has written a \$10,000 check for the benefit of this particular settlement. ([Haaretz](#) 12 February 2017)

- New plan calls for construction of 2.6 million homes by 2040: Finance Minister Kahlon to present "unprecedented strategic blueprint" for government's efforts to meet market demands, fight soaring housing prices to the Housing Cabinet later this week • Number of households in Israel expected to increase 247% by 2040. Finance Minister Moshe Kahlon plans to unveil a new plan for tackling rising housing costs at a meeting of the Housing Cabinet scheduled to be held later this week. The plan, a joint project of the National Economic Council, the National Zoning and Planning Committee, and the Housing Forum, the executive arm of the Housing Cabinet, has been described as an "unprecedented strategic blueprint" in the Government's efforts to meet market demands and fight soaring housing prices. It calls for the planning and marketing of 2.6 million apartments in the next 24 years, to offset demand. According to projections, the number of households in Israel is expected to increase by 247%, from 2.3 million to 3.8 million, by 2040. According to the plan, 19,500 apartments will be built for the ultra-Orthodox sector, 10,000 of which Interior Minister Aryeh Deri has agreed to construct in a new haredi neighborhood to be established near the southern town of Kiryat Gat. The plan also includes the construction of tens of thousands of apartments for the Arab sector. To meet the plan's objectives, 104,000 apartments will need to be built in the next two years, and 208,000 apartments will need to be built by 2020. The goal is to build 52,000 apartments every year for the next four years, and to later increase construction, so that 67,000 apartments are built each year between 2036 and 2040, which would result in a nationwide construction boom. ([IsraelHayom](#) 12 February 2017)
- The Israeli e Ministerial Committee for Legislation approved on Sunday a revised version of a bill prohibiting the use of loudspeakers in houses of prayer in the overnight hours, clearing the proposed legislation for an initial vote before the Knesset plenum. The new version of the so-called muezzin bill prohibits the use of loudspeakers for religious purposes from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. Violators of the proposed legislation will be fined NIS 10,000 (\$2,600), according to a copy of the legislation. If the bill passes its initial reading in the Knesset, expected to take place on Wednesday, it will be sent back to committee, after which it will again come before the plenum for its second and third readings prior to becoming law. The backing by the ministerial committee gives the bill coalition support. Critics of the bill argue that the measure unfairly targets mosques, whose muezzins use loudspeakers to announce the call to prayer five times a day, including

during the very early morning hours before dawn. Other critics of the bill argue that it is superfluous, as the problem can be tackled using existing noise pollution laws. Jewish residents of East Jerusalem and other areas of Israel have long complained about what they say is the excessive noise coming from mosque loudspeakers, as they say it wakes them up in the middle of the night. Sponsors of the bill were forced to withdraw it for further revisions after it was first proposed in November, as ultra-Orthodox lawmakers feared the original bill's complete prohibition on the use of loudspeakers for religious purposes would outlaw the Shabbat siren, which is heard in cities with large Jewish populations Friday evenings to mark the start of Judaism's day of rest. Despite the revision prohibiting the use of loudspeakers only between the hours of 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., the bill was shelved in December, even though Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had voiced support for the proposed measure. ([TimesofIsrael](#) 12 February 2017)

- A settlement-building organization obtained millions of shekels in government loans to carry out construction in illegal outposts by allegedly falsely declaring that it had rights to privately owned Palestinian lands, Haaretz has learned. Amana, which was founded in 1979 by the Gush Emunim settlement movement, used the funds to build in Amona and Migron, illegal outposts that have since been evacuated on the order of the High Court of Justice. Amana officials refused to comment for this report. Amana has an ideological objective – to settle the West Bank with Jews. In November and December 2002, the organization, which is headed by Ze'ev Hever, signed two loans totaling 5 million shekels (\$1.05 million at 2002 exchange rates), with Bank Tefahot. In fact, Haaretz has learned, the government was the source of the loans; the bank was merely the conduit. To obtain the loan, Amana allegedly mortgaged private Palestinian lands in the Mateh Binyamin Regional Council to which it never had ownership rights and on which the illegal outposts of Migron and Amona were built. Both loan contracts bear Amana's corporate stamp and two signatures. Comparing these signatures to other documents signed by figures in Amana reveal them to be those of Hever and the company's CEO, Dov Markovich. In both agreements there appears the following statement: "The borrower declares that he is the exclusive owner of the rights to the property in question." In both cases the declaration is false. The High Court of Justice, in two different rulings years later, established that the land on which the homes in both Migron and Amona were built was in fact private Palestinian land, making it clear

that Amana never had any rights there. It's not the first time the state has been shown to have aided in illegal outpost development, but it's apparently the first evidence that the state loaned funds to facilitate the building of homes there. For more information, check full report. ([Haaretz](#) 13 February 2017)

- Attorney General Avichai Mendelblit has agreed to offer the pro-settler Elad organization a foothold at the archaeological park (the Davidson Center) next to the Western Wall in the Old City of Jerusalem, according to sources familiar with a meeting he held last week with government officials. The site, south of the Western Wall, contains the area where non-Orthodox Jewish streams are supposed to receive a prayer space under an agreement made a year ago that has yet to be implemented. The sources said Mendelblit signaled he would offer Elad a foothold, but that it would not manage the park exclusively and would not make decisions related to the new prayer space. The Jewish Quarter Development Company received control over the park two years ago. The government company then signed a deal with Elad, which manages the City of David Park and promotes Jewish settlement in the Silwan neighborhood, to manage the archaeological park. The previous attorney general, Yehuda Weinstein, tried to strike down the deal, arguing that a private organization should not manage a place located in an area that has political and security-based sensitivities. However, Elad appealed in court and won. The state appealed to the Supreme Court, which heard the case in a closed-door session. Consequently, Justice Elyakim Rubenstein put the ball in Mendelblit's court to avoid making the Supreme Court issue a verdict. Mendelblit made the decision after meeting with officials from the Jewish Quarter Development Company and the Israel Antiquities Authority. If Elad agrees, the state will continue its appeal. ([Haaretz](#) 13 February 2017)
- MK Yehudah Glick (Likud) plans to submit to the Knesset this week a private member's bill to annex the settlements around Jerusalem. It follows on the heels of a similar bill to annex the West Bank settlement of Ma'aleh Adumim, which already has been submitted but not approved for government support by the Ministerial Committee for Legislation. Glick's bill would include Ma'aleh Adumim, as well as the settlement of Givat Ze'ev, Geva Binyamin (Adam), Psagot, Ma'aleh Michmash and the Gush Etzion bloc. It would cover at least onethird of the 386,000 settlers in Judea and Samaria, based on 2015 data from the Central Bureau of Statistics. Glick's spokesman said the bill has the support of Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely and Transportation Minister Israel Katz, both of the Likud. The legislation

is part of a flurry of annexation initiatives settlers and right-wing politicians have promoted since US President Donald Trump was sworn into office on January 20. Glick said placing these communities within sovereign Israel would strengthen Jerusalem and remove the idea of a Palestinian state from the agenda. He noted that Israel would soon mark the 50th anniversary of the Six Day War, in which Judea and Samaria were liberated, saying it also should be “the year of sovereignty.” It is not enough to settle for applying sovereignty to Ma’aleh Adumim, he added. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has discouraged annexation attempts, preferring a more moderate path forward in which the US would support construction within the settlement blocs. ([IPOST](#) 13 February 2017)

- A dozen Likud ministers and MKs and dozens of activists called upon Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu Monday to use his meeting with US President Donald Trump to achieve support for construction and annexation in Judea and Samaria. Held under the banner “Netanyahu, the Likud is backing you on the Right,” the ministers and MKs signed a petition calling upon him to maintain the values of Likud. Knesset Speaker Yuli Edelstein attended, as did ministers Gilad Erdan, Yariv Levin, Ze’ev Elkin, Ophir Akunis, Ayoub Kara, and Gila Gamliel, Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely, and MKs Yoav Kisch, Yehudah Glick, Nurit Koren, and Amir Ohana. While each speaker stressed that the event was intended to strengthen Netanyahu, they each issued demands and expectations as to the outcome of the meeting. “This is a historic time, and if our Likud government does not handle it correctly, we will be crying for generations,” Shomron Regional Council head Yossi Dagan said. “We expect new settlements to be built for the first time in 26 years. We proved we are loyal to the prime minister but we demand that he be loyal to what he has been saying for years. We don’t need American permission to build anywhere, especially in Jerusalem. We expect you to return with good results for Israel and all the settlements.” Dagan accused Netanyahu of displaying weakness by being silent as Trump backtracked on his support for moving the US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. His fellow settler leader Avi Roeh displayed statistics indicating that construction in Judea and Samaria has fallen significantly over the past eight years. Culture and Sports Minister Miri Regev told the crowd that in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Six Day War, this was the year to apply sovereignty to the settlements that make up what she called Greater Jerusalem and to enable a massive amount of people to move to Judea and Samaria. “Trump understands his

mission is to make America great again, and we understand that our mission is to restore our security and that comes from strengthening Judea and Samaria,” she said. “There should be news in the next year of reaching 1 million Jews in Judea and Samaria.” Edelstein warned that what he called “the Gaza disengagement disaster” happened when the US had a pro-Israel president in George W. Bush. Minister-without-Portfolio Ayoub Kara advised Netanyahu not to bring up the Palestinian issue when he meets with Trump, “because it is irrelevant.” “The two-state solution has failed due to Palestinian rejection,” Hotovely said. “We can’t be the Palestinians’ hostage. We have to do what is right for us.” Sources close to Netanyahu expressed frustration with the event and its timing. “It undermines the prime minister and strengthens Bayit Yehudi,” complained coalition chairman David Bitan, who boycotted the event. Pressuring the prime minister doesn’t help anything.” ([IPOST](#) 14 February 2017)

- 2016 saw a marked increase in the number of homes Israeli authorities demolished throughout the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, citing lack of building permits as a pretext. The scale of demolitions documented by B’Tselem this year is the most extensive since we began systematically documenting demolitions in 2004. In East Jerusalem, authorities demolished 88 residential buildings and 48 other structures. Elsewhere in the West Bank, authorities demolished 274 residential buildings and 372 non-residential ones. These demolitions are indicative of Israel’s efforts to limit Palestinian presence in the areas it seeks to take over, taking advantage of planning and administrative tools to that end. As part of this policy, in 2016, Israel demolished 274 homes in the West Bank (excluding East Jerusalem), thereby rendering homeless 1,134 individuals, including 591 minors. The extent of devastation Israel wreaked in 2016 outstripped the number of homes it demolished in 2014 and 2015 combined. Demolition operations by the Israeli authorities focused primarily on three major regions: The South Hebron Hills, the Maale Adumim area and the Jordan Valley. Efforts to drive dozens of small shepherding and farming communities out of Area C are particularly palpable in these areas. In the Maale Aumim area, which includes land that Israel refers to as Area E1, authorities demolished 49 dwellings; 224 people, including 115 minors, were rendered homeless. In the South Hebron Hills, in communities facing the threat of expulsion, authorities demolished 34 residences; 166 people, including 87 minors, were rendered homeless. Demolitions were particularly extensive in Jordan Valley communities: 551 people, including 291 minors were left homeless after authorities demolished 123 residences there. Israeli

authorities continued their discriminatory policies against East Jerusalem's Palestinian residents as part of an overall policy designed to cause Palestinians to leave the city. Their actions are also part of efforts to achieve a demographic and geographic reality that would frustrate any future attempt to question Israeli sovereignty in East Jerusalem. In 2016, Israeli authorities demolished 73 homes in East Jerusalem. Fifteen others were demolished by their owners after receiving demolition orders from the municipality. They demolished their own homes in order to avoid being charged by the municipality for the cost of the demolition and hefty municipal fines. All told, authorities rendered homeless 295 people, including 160 minors. This is the largest number of home demolitions recorded in a single year since B'Tselem began documenting home demolitions in East Jerusalem in 2004. Authorities also demolished 48 non-residential structures. These figures reflect a sharp increase in the number of demolitions in East Jerusalem. In contrast, authorities demolished 47 homes in East Jerusalem in 2015. ([BTSELEM](#) 15 February 2017)

- Three Palestinian detainees continue their hunger strikes in protest at being held administratively, with neither charge nor trial, in Israeli jails. Palestinian journalist Mohamed al-Qeiq has been on an open-ended hunger strike for 12 consecutive days in Gilboa prison in protest at his administrative detention. Prisoners Jamal Abu al-Leil and Raed Fayeze Mteir have gone on an open-ended hunger strike starting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of February 2017 in the Israeli Negev lock-up to protest their administrative prison-term. Mteir was arrested on February 14, 2016 while prisoner Abu al-Leil was arrested the following day. Both have been sentenced administratively three times, with neither charge nor trial, to six months each. (PALINFO 17 February 2017)
- The Israeli Supreme Court rejected an appeal presented by Regavim, a pro-settler NGO, demanding the demolition of a mosque in southern Hebron after claiming it was illegally built, Hebrew-language sites reported. (Maannews 17 February 2017)
- Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that Palestinian refusal to accept Israel, not settlements, is the main roadblock to peace. Speaking with MSNBC's Greta Van Susteren, he was asked why both US President Donald Trump and former US President Barack Obama have pegged Israeli settlements as a roadblock to Israeli-Palestinian peace. Netanyahu responded that he thinks settlements are "an issue, but I don't think it's *the* issue." The interview comes the day after his first meeting with Trump at the White House, where Trump asking Netanyahu to "hold back on settlements for a bit." "The real core of the conflict is not this or that settlement or this or

that community," Netanyahu told Van Susteren, "but rather the persistent and enduring Palestinian refusal to recognize a Jewish state in any boundary." He also said it was vital for Israel to "retain security control of the area west of the Jordan River," referring to the West Bank. Turning to the topic of peace in the region, Netanyahu said there was great potential for a broader peace between Israel and Arab countries in the Middle East, saying that Arab countries are beginning to view Israel as an ally for confronting Iran and Islamic State. "That has been bringing us closer together and may also pave avenues for peace." When asked to specifically name a country that has been softening its stance toward Israel he said "who's not?" to which Van Susteren responded that "Iran's not." Netanyahu responded back that Iran is not an Arab country. (JPOST 17 February 2017)

- Chairman of the Bayit Yehudi party and Minister of Education, Naftali Bennett, and Minister of Justice, Ayelet Shaked, referred to the issue of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promising to establish a new community for families evacuated from Amona, saying, "Commitments need to be fulfilled. The prime minister signed an agreement to create a new community for Amona residents. I am sure he will abide by it." Last week, members of the former outpost chose the area of Geulat Zion, which is located in the Shilo Valley in the Mateh Binyamin Regional Council. However, after a meeting between Netanyahu and US President Donald Trump, evacuees fear the promise will be put to the test. Ynet reported Thursday that Amona evacuees fear Netanyahu will delay the construction of the new community and sent an urgent letter to the prime minister and Bennett saying that they will not move anywhere else other than the new community, as promised. In addition to Bennett, Minister of Justice Ayelet Shaked posted on her Twitter account, saying, "The government is committed to the agreement that was signed with Amona residents and we have no intention of violating it. There will be a new community for Amona residents as promised." Following Bennett and Shaked's statements, Amona residents responded, saying, "We welcome the unequivocal statements of the Bayit Yehudi ministers that the Israeli government will fulfill its obligation to establish a new community for Amona residents in Mateh Binyamin." ([YNETNEWS](#) 18 February 2017)
- Tunnel excavations for the light rail in the Greater Tel Aviv area began with a special ceremony during which the tunnel boring machine (TBM) was officially named "Golda" after Israel's fourth prime minister. Minister of Transportation Yisrael Katz, attended the ceremony alongside Tel Aviv Mayor Ron Huldai. Excavations begin

four months ahead of schedule. Tight TBMs will excavate 12 kilometers at a depth of 30 meters under Bnei Brak, Ramat Gan and Tel Aviv. The boring will begin under Ayalon Highway and in its first phase, will provide the infrastructure for underground rail stations in Tel Aviv at Arlozorov, King Saul, Yehudit and Carlebach. Every one of the eight TBMs is roughly 115 meters long and 7.5 meters wide, weighing 900 tons. 20 workers and engineers from China Railway Tunnel Group (CRTG) are with the machine at any given time. The TBM is expected to bore at least 10 meters per day. ([Ynetnews](#) 19 February 2017)

- A house in the West Bank illegal settlement of Beit El donated by the US ambassador-designate to Israel, David Friedman, was constructed illegally on privately owned Palestinian land. The Friedman faculty house at the Raaya girl high school is situated in the Ulpana neighborhood of Beit El. Part of this neighborhood was demolished following an order by the Israeli high court of justice five years ago because the land had been taken illegally. The Friedman Faculty House is one of nine buildings left in the neighborhood that were spared demolition at the time. The construction of the Friedman Faculty House started in 1999. In 2002, a demolition order was issued against it by the Israeli army's civil administration, which supervises construction in the settlements. Although the demolition of this house has been ignored, demolition order no. 224/02, according to the civil administration's records, is still on the books. (PALINFO 19 February 2017)
- Responding to reports that Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu had reneged on his promise to build a new town to replace Amona, Amona residents held a protest on Sunday morning outside the Israeli government's offices in Jerusalem. Agriculture Minister Uri Ariel (Jewish Home) spoke with the residents before the government meeting and promised to speak on their behalf to Netanyahu. "We are obligated to keep our promise provide Amona's residents with a new town in Judea and Samaria," Ariel said. "I don't see how this coalition can properly continue if we do not keep our promises to Amona's residents and to the rest of Israel." Education Minister Naftali Bennett (Jewish Home) told the residents, "The Prime Minister signed a contract with you, and we will keep our word." Culture Minister Miri Regev (Likud) said, "I am going to tell the Prime Minister that he is obligated to keep his promises." A report by [Channel 2](#) Thursday night claimed the Prime Minister was reassessing the viability of his obligations under the agreement - despite the fact that the evacuation of Amona residents has already taken place. (INN 19 February 2017)

- Last week at a conference in moshav Masu'ot Yitzhak near Ashkelon, Kibbutz Movement Secretary General Nir Meir promised Gush Etzion will "grow and prosper." "Gush Etzion will remain in our hands, grow, and prosper no matter what agreement the government makes," Meir said, promising to work with relevant parties in the Milk Council to advance the opening of a dairy in Kfar Etzion. The Masu'ot Yitzhak meeting was held at the initiative of Gush Etzion founders Benny Bashan, Yehuda Neuman, and Amitai Porat. Porat, who is Secretary General of the Religious Kibbutz Movement, said, "We, the members of the Religious Kibbutz Movement, Gush Etzion, and Kfar Etzion, appreciate the Harel Brigade and the Palmach fighters. We thank the members of Kibbutz Revadim, who have made with us a treaty of brotherhood. Since the War of Independence, we have promised to support each other's' fights. ([INN](#) 19 February 2017)
- Education Minister Naftali Bennett (Jewish Home) spoke on Monday morning at the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations in Jerusalem. Speaking about the two-state solution, Bennett said, "It's no secret that I believe we already have two Palestinian states, one in Jordan and one in Gaza. I want to see Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and US President Donald Trump think of new solutions. We need to try something new. I don't intend to annex two million Palestinians. "If we create a Palestinian state, everything we have built in Judea and Samaria will be destroyed. Can you imagine millions of refugees arriving in Judea and Samaria, sharing the space with their brothers? They'll tell them to go to Haifa. Soon Yitzhak Herzog (Zionist Union) will speak, ask him about his solution. My solution is to apply sovereignty in Area C and give the Arabs a choice of permanent residency or Israeli citizenship." Regarding Amona, Bennett said, "I am sure Netanyahu will keep his word." ([INN](#) 20 February 2017)
- Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman (Yisrael Beytenu) spoke out Monday morning, reiterating his party's Arab-Jewish land swap plan regarding the potential separation of large portions of Judea and Samaria from Israel, arguing that if Israel is to separate itself from the Arab populations over the Green Line, it must also disengage from Arab communities within the Green Line that identify as Palestinian Arabs. In an interview with *Israel Radio*, the Defense Minister cited the Arab city of Umm Al-Fahm as an example of Israeli-Arab communities that he believes should be included in a future Palestinian state.
- "There is no reason whatsoever that the residents of Umm Al-Fahm, who identify as Palestinians, should continue to be citizens of Israel," said Liberman. Liberman emphasized that he was not endorsing the

traditional formula of land-for-peace promoted by advocates of a two-state solution. Rather, the Defense Minister says he favors an exchange of territory and population – bringing the Jewish communities in Judea and Samaria under Israel sovereignty while transferring large Arab population centers inside pre-1967 Israel to the Palestinian Authority. The Defense Minister also argued that an arrangement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority would only be a small part of a larger regional agreement with moderate Arab states. Regarding the government’s assurances to former residents of Amona that a new community would be built in Samaria to house them, Liberman suggested that Israel did not need the approval of the United States, but nevertheless it was important for the two allies to reach a comprehensive understanding regarding Israeli policy in Judea and Samaria. ([INN](#) 20 February 2017)

- Palestinian Bedouin plan to petition the High Court of Justice to halt the pending demolition of the herding village of al-Khan al-Ahmar. In a surprise move, the IDF issued stop work orders against any further construction or expansion of the 44 sheds and shacks that make up the village . According the village’s attorney, Shlomo Lecker, the notices will become demolition orders in five days. The community, which is made up of 35 families, is located right off Route 1 in between Ma’aleh Adumim and Kfar Adumim in Area C of the West Bank. According to Lecker, such demolition orders can only be issued if there is a relocation plan for the families. To the best of his knowledge, no such option exists at this time. Bedouins in the area have long complained that very few building permits are issued to them, and none in al-Khan al-Ahmar. Settlers living nearby argue that the placement of the village, adjacent to Route 1, poses a security hazard. ([IPOST](#) 20 February 2017)
- The Shiloh industrial zone, adjacent to the settlement of that name in the middle of the West Bank, is spread over 500 dunams (125 acres). But a visit to the site shows that it isn’t exactly a humming industrial enclave with masses of workers coming and going from its factories and businesses. The few small factories at the zone take up only 28 dunams (seven acres, or 5.6 percent of the area) and a total of 36 workers. Most of the land is empty. Several dozen prefab homes were placed there recently for the evacuees of the illegal Amona outpost, but they refused to move there and the structures stand vacant. This industrial zone is one of 14 that Israel has set up beyond the Green Line. While some are successful and flourishing, with high occupancy rates, others are mostly empty, producing nothing, certainly not jobs. But these industrial zones, of which more are planned, and their area,

which could reach several thousand dunams, will enable Israel to boost its presence in the territories, including in areas where no home construction has been approved. When it was proposed to house the Amona evacuees on such lands, Civil Administration sources said that only a short procedure was necessary to permit the building of homes on open land originally zoned for industry. “We’re talking about areas in which Israel, with its ravenous hunger for land, is prepared to invest millions to develop,” says Dror Etkes of the left-wing organization Kerem Navot, who researches Israeli land policy in the West Bank. “We can see this clearly in the Gush Etzion industrial zone, where there are lands where nothing has been built, but the state is rushing to build extensions there that are standing empty and will stay empty for years.” Indeed, of the 200 dunams that have been allocated to the Etzion industrial zone, only 60 are in use. This didn’t stop the planning bodies from expanding it by another 17 dunams last year. “The amount of industry that you’ll find in these areas is in inverse proportion to the piggishness of them,” adds Etkes. While the left criticizes, the settlements welcome and justify these land allocations. The Gush Etzion Regional Council stressed that there is a demand for space in the area and they are negotiating with a number of interested parties. But there’s more to the story than any specific industrial zone. While the establishment of industrial zones in the West Bank are reported separately and are not part of any official plan to move commerce and industry eastward, the facts and plans seem to indicate a trend. According to the Economy Ministry, there are 91 industrial zones that it helps fund, so the 14 in the West Bank constitute more than 15 percent of the total. Slowly the West Bank is becoming a more significant region in terms of its production capacity. The Mishor Adumim industrial zone, which covers more than 1,600 dunams and is only a 10-minute drive from Jerusalem, employs more than 1,300 people, and there will be more, since there are still 500 vacant dunams there. The Barkan industrial zone, near Ariel, is pretty full, with only 14 of its 728 dunams vacant, while the 203 dunams of the Shahak-Shaked industrial zone in northern Samaria are all occupied. A few dozen meters from Route 443, east of the separation barrier and near Modi’in, the 15th West Bank industrial zone is due to be built. The Civil Administration refers to it as the Kharbata industrial zone due to its proximity to the Palestinian village of that name and it will occupy 310 dunams. Kharbata is to be joined by three other West Bank industrial zones that have been advanced in recent months. One will be located in western Samaria after a bitter dispute between the Samaria Regional Council and the towns of Elkana and Oranit was

finally resolved. Only the intervention of Deputy Defense Minister Eli Ben-Dahan brought about a compromise that allowed the project to go forward. Meanwhile, the Mount Hebron Regional Council has been promised by the Civil Administration that two industrial zones will be built there, one in Tenne-Omarim and the other at Tarqumiya. Regional council officials say that the Tarqumiya plan is not related to a government promise to advance an industrial area for Palestinians in that area. Two industrial zones already exist in the Mount Hebron area, neither particularly successful. One is in Kiryat Arba, slightly east of Tarqumiya, which is spread over 200 dunams, 75 percent of which are empty. And not far from the planned zone at Tenne-Omarim is the Shima-Meitarim industrial zone, where 60 percent of the 220 dunams are unused. Regional council officials say, however, that several companies have committed themselves to building in the Shima-Meitarim industrial zone and that the area is actually “full to the brim.” Ben-Dahan cites the importance of industrial zones as employment centers. “The goal is to create jobs, to attract more residents,” he said. “That’s the real goal. The real goal is for Judea and Samaria to develop, so that people won’t have to travel to the center of the country [to work]. It’s also important to the Palestinian residents, since in the end they, too, will benefit from industrial areas near their homes.” Indeed, the settlers like to present these industrial zones as a tool for promoting “economic peace” by providing jobs to both Jews and Palestinians. “I see in this something very important and significant, because my worldview is that peace will spring up from below, between people and neighbors,” says Yochai Damari, chairman of the Mount Hebron Regional Council. “The moment that the economic system can create partnerships there will be a real ability to create a way of life based on [common] interests and trust.” He admits that industrial zones have significant economic benefits for those local councils that benefit from the real estate taxes paid by the tenants, which in some cases help keep the beneficiary towns afloat. But to Damari, the biggest benefit is the diplomatic one. “I see these things from a diplomatic perspective, more with the eyes of someone who has lived here almost 40 years and has four generations in the Mount Hebron area,” he said. “In the end, neither we nor they [the Palestinians] are moving from here.” ([Haaretz](#) 20 February 2017)

- The Mateh Binyamin Regional Council transferred over 11 million shekels (\$3 million) to illegal outposts within its jurisdiction between 2008 and 2014. Using budgetary instruments available to regional councils for investment in infrastructure, public funds were used for developing such infrastructure and construction in several illegal

outposts. Thus, for example, in 2014 the council transferred almost 200,000 shekels for erecting structures in several outposts, including Mitzpeh Danny, Haresha, Givat Harel, Kida and Kerem Re'im. In 2010 over 1,700,000 shekels went to Givat Harel. The budget shows money going for the construction of other illegal structures including a yeshiva in Kochav Hashahar. Over 5 million shekels went to a sewage treatment plant in Ofra, which was built illegally on private Palestinian land. The regional council gave financial support for expanding the settlement of Shvut Rachel while it was still an illegal outpost, years before the expansion was retroactively approved. In 2008 it received 310,701 shekels while in 2009, while still an outpost, it was awarded two budgets – one worth 1,630,010 shekels and the other 600,000 shekels. In 2010 it again received two budgets, worth 188,000 shekels each. Overall, the details of the council's budgetary expenses show that between 2008 and 2014 it invested over 11 million shekels in illegal outposts and structures. These funds were part of the official budgets the outposts received, with their names specified. Law enforcement agencies confirmed that the outposts and structures receiving this money were illegal, or illegal when receiving the money. The Peace Now movement is about to publish a report showing the involvement of regional councils in financing such illegal outposts. According to Hagit Ofran, who is part of a Peace Now team monitoring settlements in the West Bank, Mateh Binyamin was but one case. "This is part of an entire system by which these councils use public funds to create facts on the ground. This is only the part that was uncovered. There is clearly a whole system whereby illegal outposts are funded by these councils, while the government turns a blind eye, letting it proceed," she says. ([Haaretz](#) 20 February 2017)

- Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office told the Amona evacuees on Monday that the government would approve a new settlement for them, the community of 40 families said. Chief of staff Yoav Horowitz "contacted us today and told us that the prime minister had not retracted his commitment to build a new settlement for the Amona evacuees, as he was obligated to do under the agreement we signed," the Amona families said. "We welcomed the clarification." The families said that the Amona community had experienced a series of disappointments, and therefore, wouldn't feel certain that the government had kept its promise until tractors had cleared the land, homes were built and mezuzot hung on the door posts. They urged the prime minister and MKs to speed up the process. According to an agreement between the government and the Amona community, the new settlement is due to be legalized by the end of March, the families

said. Earlier this month, the IDF, the Border Police and the Israel Police forcibly evacuated the small outpost that was located on a hilltop just outside the Ofra settlement. The High Court of Justice ruled that it must be taken down because it was built without permits on private Palestinian property. Netanyahu promised the families that a new settlement would be built for them, but during his meeting last week with US President Donald Trump, he indicated that approval and construction of that settlement would have to wait, saying that Israel and the US planned to create a mechanism to reach an agreement on settlement activity. Senior diplomatic official said Monday that no such agreement had yet been reached. The official said the Trump administration had yet to set up a team that would engage with Israel on this issue, and that no decision had been made on whether a new settlement would be built for the Amona evacuees. Later in the day, however, officials in the PMO, made clear that there was no intention to renege on commitments made to the Amona residents. The officials said that Horowitz spoke by phone from Singapore on Monday with Amona leaders and said that all efforts were being made to reach an agreed-upon solution. ([IPOST](#) 20 February 2017)

- Sharp Rise in Number of East Jerusalem Home Demolitions Since Trump's Election: Home demolitions in East Jerusalem have risen dramatically since the election of U.S. President Donald Trump. A source at city hall confirmed that since the changing of U.S. administrations, government restrictions have been lifted and the Jerusalem municipality has been allowed to demolish many more structures than during the term of former President Barack Obama. Since the beginning of the year, the municipality has reportedly demolished over 40 housing units in East Jerusalem. In all of 2016, 203 structures were demolished in the predominantly Arab part of the city. According to data collated by the Ir Amim nonprofit, which studies the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in Jerusalem, in January and February alone the city demolished 42 housing units in East Jerusalem. Last year's demolitions included 123 housing units, plus storerooms, shops and stables. Twenty-two other structures were demolished by their owners in order to avoid the fine incurred by the municipality for the demolition. Sa'ad Abasi from Silwan single-handedly demolished the house in which he and his brother had lived, yet the city maintained that the house was not sufficiently demolished and came to destroy the remnants – and he was charged for the expense. Most of the residents whose homes were destroyed had tried to acquire a building permit or receive retroactive approval. The planning

situation in East Jerusalem barely allows this, due to the lack of master plans and approved construction plans. Even though Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat has announced on several occasions that he intends to advance the preparation of an overall master plan for East Jerusalem neighborhoods in order to allow legal construction, such plans have hardly been advanced in recent years. In a report published this week by Ir Amim and another nonprofit, Bimkom – Planners for Planning Rights, three examples were presented of plans that were ultimately rejected or postponed until an unknown date, due to difficulties raised by the municipality. Two of the plans were prepared by the residents themselves. In 2008, residents of the A-Tur neighborhood presented a plan that they themselves prepared for expanding the neighborhood into an area called Halat al-Ayin. The plan suited the overall master plan for Jerusalem and even received the mayor's blessing. After that, though, the municipality – together with the Israel Nature and Parks Authority – began to promote the declaration of the "Mount Scopus Hillside" national park, which effectively annulled the residents' plan. In the Tzur Baher neighborhood, meanwhile, residents tried to advance a plan that would allow them to build legally. For years, the planner hired by the residents – architect Ayala Ronel – was required to match it to the municipal plans. But ultimately, in 2013, the chairperson of the regional planning committee decided to shelve the plan since so much time had elapsed since it was presented. The municipality is also working on a plan for the Beit Safafa neighborhood, but it is advancing at a sluggish pace. "The Israeli government does not permit significant legal building plans in Palestinian neighborhoods and presents the Palestinian residents with a cruel choice: To be expelled from their city or to build without a permit and take the risk of demolition and a monetary fine," said Aviv Tatarsky, a researcher for Ir Amim. The Jerusalem municipality said it carries out court orders "as it is obligated by law, and without bias. The demolitions are carried out on buildings that are illegal and were built without a permit. Everyone who chooses to build illegally should know that the Jerusalem municipality will demolish his home. It saddens us that extreme left-wing organizations encourage the callous violation of the law just in order to promote their positions. "The municipality continues to advance plans for residents of all parts of the city," it continued. "In the neighborhoods in the eastern part of the city, plans are being advanced to add housing units with the aim of preventing illegal, uncoordinated construction that harms residents. Also, there is an increase in requests presented by residents for new building permits in the neighborhoods." Last week, the municipality

demolished the home of the Turk family on the outskirts of Isawiyah. The father, Salah Turk, knew that his home was destined to be demolished, but said he was surprised by the timing of the demolition. “I made coffee and something for the children to eat, then suddenly I see that the house is full of soldiers who told me we have 10 minutes to leave the house and take only what I can in my hands,” he said. “I said I wanted to look for my child’s shoes – the child was grabbing onto me, crying and shouting,” Turk added. “They didn’t even let me find the shoes and I took the children out of the house. When I returned, I couldn’t believe that they’d destroyed everything.” Turk said most of the family’s possessions remain under the rubble. He retrieved a bag of hummus from what was once the family kitchen, and in another area he showed the broken remains of his bed. He now lives together with his wife and nine children in a tin shack not far away. “I intend to build a tent on my land and live there,” he said. The municipality refuted his claims, saying, “This is a building that was being constructed, at the foundation stage, and nobody lived in the structure and there were no personal belongings there.” ([Haaretz](#) 21 February 2017)

- The police are demanding that Palestinians caught entering Israel illegally pay thousands of shekels for private security firms to escort them to subsequent court hearings in Israel. In 2015, Israel Police arrested some 4,300 people who entered Israel illegally via the occupied territories in order to seek work. In recent times, police representatives have been arriving at courtrooms immediately after an arrest with a prepared indictment – especially when this is not the first time the person has been apprehended. At present, the detainees are immediately released back into the territories, on condition that they leave a monetary guarantee of several thousand shekels in order to obligate them to turn up for court hearings. Many detainees have raised the problem that as soon as they are transferred to the Palestinian Authority, they automatically lose their right to return to Israel. This is due to a Shin Bet security service decision, according to the accepted procedure in such cases, whereby the accused present themselves at an Israel Defense Forces coordination command center, from where they are taken to court by the police. Recently, though, the police decided to cancel such escorts and are demanding that the accused turn to private security companies to provide a security escort, at their own expense. The courts have begun canceling indictments in cases where the accused does not reach the courtroom due to the lack of a security escort. Last month, Petah Tikva Magistrate’s Court Judge Hagai Tarsi canceled an indictment against a

Palestinian man who, immediately upon being released at a checkpoint, requested an exit permit to attend his court hearing. The man understood that he is refused entry because of the Shin Bet decision, and could not attend court due to the prohibitive cost. The judge refused to wait and canceled the indictment, even though the man had been caught more than once. Ramle Magistrate's Court Judge Dr. Ami Kobo was more critical of the police when dealing with a Palestinian who failed to appear for a court appearance. When asked why the accused had not appeared, the police representative said: "I sent an email to the IDF coordination command and the reply I received yesterday was that the accused filed a request to enter and his request is still being processed by the Shin Bet. The accused's entry was permitted subordinate to a security escort by a private security company or the police. The police do not usually send escorts. Our position is that he should use a security company in order to turn up." Following the police representative's reply, the judge heard that the costs involved in using a private security escort were about 5,000 shekels (\$1,350) per hearing. The judge decided to immediately cancel the indictment. "I am of the opinion that demanding of an accused person who enters Israel illegally, seemingly in order to find work, to pay a security company – which will accompany him while in Israel to attend a court hearing – is an unreasonable demand under these circumstances," Kobo wrote in his decision. "If such people had a reasonable amount of money that would allow for hiring a security company, it can be assumed the violation would not have taken place and they would not have entered Israel for work purposes." Security sources were surprised to learn that the police are suggesting this solution for such cases. "If we're talking about people the Shin Bet decided are prohibited from entering, how can it be that a private security company hired by the accused will secure him during the time he is in Tel Aviv or Petah Tikva?" asked one security source. "What is the security guard's training? Where exactly will he drop [the accused] off – at the entrance to the courthouse and he'll wait outside? How can we allow a security guard, who we don't even know is trained, to escort an accused man that the Shin Bet says is problematic?" A spokesperson for Israel Police defended their move, saying that "limiting the entry and demand for a security company is not of the police's making, but rather of the other security bodies regularly involved in the procedure. Alongside this, we are in constant contact with all the bodies involved in the procedure, in order to examine appropriate alternatives in situations such as these." ([Haaretz](#) 21 February 2017)

- The Israeli prison service (IPS) has kept the Palestinian prisoner Ayman al-Sharbaty in an isolated cell for the second week running in Gilboa lock-up. Prisoner al-Sharbaty, aged 48, has been held in solitary confinement for the second consecutive week for burning the Israeli flag in Gilboa jail in protest at the mistreatment perpetrated by IPS against the Palestinian prisoners over recent weeks. Prisoner Sharbaty had been subjected to exhaustive questioning for burning the Israeli flag. The IPS further slapped a two-month visit-ban against the detainee and ruled for his isolation for 21 days. (PALINFO 22 February 2017)
- **Opinion Isaac Herzog Details His 10-point Plan for Israeli-Palestinian Peace:** (1) Renewed ratification by both sides and the international community's commitment to the final goal of two states, living side by side in peace and security. (2) The sides must set a time frame of up to 10 years, during which the whole area west of Jordan will be declared a place of nonviolence of any kind. They will agree on joint enforcement and uncompromising penalty for any kind of terror or incitement. The UN Security Council will adopt a resolution about it and directly supervise its implementation. (3) The two sides will move during this period toward realizing the two-state vision. Israel will continue to separate from the Palestinians by completing the wall that will protect Jerusalem and the settlement blocs, build a buffer between Jerusalem and the Palestinian villages around the city, and give the Palestinians broader authorities. These authorities will include civil powers in part of Area C, to enable urban development among the Palestinian communities adjacent to the separation fence and the large Palestinian cities. Exactly the opposite of what Bennett is demanding. (4) Israel will suspend construction outside the settlement blocs and avoid all steps to change the reality on the ground in those areas, with the exception of acts required for security, to enable implementing the two-state vision. (5) During this period, Palestinian economic development will be dramatically accelerated, with regional and international help. This will consist of urban development, rehabilitating refugee camps and developing a viable economy and industry. (6) The Palestinians will act to prevent any terror and incitement. They will also formulate a broad national agreement among the Palestinian factions, which would include the West Bank and Gaza Strip under one sovereignty. If they do so, they will be permitted to declare a Palestinian state within temporary borders and it will be clear that this state's permanent borders will be determined only by agreement. Israel will consider recognizing the Palestinian state favorably and announce that it sees this state as a partner to a

permanent status arrangement. (7) The IDF will continue acting throughout the West Bank up to the Jordan River, and around the Gaza Strip. Security coordination with the Palestinian Authority will continue and become even closer. (8) The parties will act to rehabilitate the Gaza Strip and build a port, subject to strict security arrangements, complete demilitarization and destruction of the tunnels. (9) After this period, assuming it passed without violence, the two sides will open direct negotiations, with the backing of the region's states and the international community. The talks will be held without prior conditions, between two equal partners, seriously and resolutely and lead to a comprehensive, final peace agreement, settling all the controversial issues, setting the permanent borders and resulting in a declared end of the conflict. (10) The region's states will publicly and forcefully support the moves, as part of a dramatic, broad regional initiative. Israel will advance the setting up of joint Middle Eastern institutions, which will act to develop the region and initiate cooperation in security, economics, water and the passage of goods and workers. Israel will propose to make Jerusalem the center of this regional community. ([Haaretz](#) 23 February 2017)

- Four extremist Israeli lawmakers secured seats at [Israel's Supreme Court](#) sparking rage in what is seen as a right-wing dominated bench. The Judicial Appointments Committee for the court announced that it had appointed David Mintz, Yael Willner, Yosef Elron and George Kara to the 15-member Supreme Court, out of a shortlist of 27 candidates. Three of the four were on Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked's list of preferred candidates, while the three judges on the nine-member judicial appointments panel, who voted as a bloc, failed to advance any of their nominees. Mintz, who currently serves as a Jerusalem district judge, is said to be Shaked's top pick, hailing from the West Bank Gush Etzion illegal settlement bloc and considered a strong advocate for extremist positions. Yosef Elron, the president of the Haifa District Court since 2013 and a known non-activist judge, was backed by Finance Minister Moshe Kahlon, who also sat on the appointments committee. Shaked was also reportedly in favor of the fanatic Zionist Haifa District Court Judge Yael Willner. The new appointees will replace outgoing Supreme Court justices Miriam Naor, Elyakim Rubinstein, Salim Joubran and Zvi Zilbertal. PALINFO 23 February 2017)
- [Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's](#) office director general, Eli Groner, decided to grant 700 million shekels to the Jerusalem Municipality for 2017. (Wafa 24 February 2017) The agreement was made possible by the mobilization of government ministries to increase

financial support for the city. Groner instructed that a professional team be established, to be headed by the director general of the Interior Ministry and with the participation of representatives of the Prime Minister's Office, the Ministers of Finance and Jerusalem Affairs, which will complete the staff work on the outline of a permanent multi-year grant to the capital. The team will present its recommendations to ministers by Jerusalem Day, which falls at the end of this May. Minister for Jerusalem Affairs and Heritage, Ze'ev Elkin added, "I sincerely hope that this is only the first step in the list of steps...to strengthen (Jerusalem's) economic power and thus the national power of Jerusalem. ([YNETNEWS](#) 24 February 2017)

- Israeli occupation authorities denied a work permit application for the Israel and Palestine director of international NGO Human Rights Watch on the basis that it was "not a real human rights group," the organization said in a statement on Friday. In its February 20, 2017 letter denying a work permit for Omar Shakir, Israel's Interior Ministry cited an opinion received from the Foreign Ministry that Human Rights Watch's "public activities and reports have engaged in politics in the service of Palestinian propaganda, while falsely raising the banner of 'human rights.'" (Maannews 24 February 2017)
- The Upper Galilee Regional Council has announced a plan to build a promenade from where the Snir (Hasbani River) and Hermon (Baniyas) streams meet until the Pekak Bridge. The promenade will include parking garages, picnic tables, bike paths, small bridges, and entertainment infrastructure, and will cost 30 million NIS. Work will begin in 2017 and will be done in cooperation with the Jewish National Fund (JNF), Israel's Tourism Ministry, Israel Land Authority's Open Area Fund, and Israel's Drainage Authority. "The Hula Valley attracts over two million tourists and vacationers every year," Upper Galilee Regional Council Head Giora Zaltz told Tourism Minister Yariv Levin (Likud). "Tourism is a central business and financial anchor in the Upper Galilee. "The new plan is environmentally friendly and integrates agriculture as well. It will benefit both residents and vacationers." Levin approved the plan and appointed a special staff made up of representatives of involved parties to supervise its execution. ([INN](#) 25 February 2017)
- The Popular Committee against the Siege of Gaza stated that the Israeli occupation authority (IOA) increased the number of goods denied access to the Gaza Strip to 500 to tighten the blockade imposed on the Strip since 2006. The IOA clearly targets any product contributing to employing manpower and achieving development in an attempt to paralyze the industry sector. The new items are banned on an almost

daily basis, noting that the number of items banned since the beginning of 2017 reached 100 raising the total number to 500. More than 5,000 economic facilities have trimmed their businesses in Gaza due to the blockade and the Israeli policy pursued at crossings and against merchants. (PALINFO 27 February 2017)

- The Israeli Prime Minister, Benyamin Netanyahu met with the Australian Foreign Minister, Julie Bishop, where they reportedly discussed the political situation, Iran and fear of the International Criminal Court in The Hague. When the two parties discussed the Palestinian state, Netanyahu suggested that the Israeli Army must take control of the West Bank, and, to examine security alternatives in Gaza, having international forces monitor the territory “and deal with the terrorism issues.” Netanyahu also has stated the need to prevent the ICC from pressuring Israel, saying that Australia can influence other countries to work together in order to pressure the court to minimize the number of probes against Israel. (PNN 26 February 2017)
- [The Israeli High Court of Justice ruled that residents of nine houses in Ofra should evacuate](#) their houses by March 8, and the police have been preparing for it: members of the West Bank District Police Nationalist Crime Department started preventively detaining youths in preparation for the approaching evacuation. Police say more detentions are expected. In February 2015, the High Court ruled that the buildings were built without construction permits, on privately-owned Palestinian land. The court originally ordered the homes to be demolished by February 8, 2017, but granted a [one-month delay](#) on January 25 to give security forces extra time to plan the eviction. TPS sources in Ofra say IDF troops have seized control of the southern-most of the nine homes in preparation for evicting residents. The building is the only one that was not occupied and was expected to serve as a focal point for teenage protesters during the eviction process. Security forces have started confiscating equipment at the site and preventively detaining youths who might cause problems. Most families have already packed their belongings and all of them have an [alternative place of residence](#). Concomitantly, Ofra residents distributed a code of conduct ahead of the evacuation, spreading messages of calm. "We will not use metal bars and we will not barricade ourselves. Our protest will find expression in each home in accordance with the respective family's instructions and their legitimate choice to welcome into their home anyone they wish," stated the code of conduct. At the same time, the [Amona](#) residents continue to reside in hostel-like structures in Ofra, after being evacuated from their settlement, but the establishment of an

alternative place of residence has been delayed. Amona evacuees have sent a letter to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Education Minister Naftali Bennett in which they raise the concern that the land set aside for them in Ofra, which is meant to be temporary, will become permanent and a new community will not be founded as was promised. ([Ynetnews](#) 26 February 2017)

- In yet another attempt to make life harder for left-wing nongovernmental organizations, a proposed new law would require them to pay to obtain information from government agencies under the Freedom of Information Act. Currently, all NGOs are exempt from paying a fee for information obtained under this act. However, the new bill seeks not only to revoke this exemption for organizations that get more than 50 percent of their funding from foreign governments, but would require them to pay double the normal fee. Almost all the NGOs that meet this criterion are left-wing, since they are the ones that foreign governments generally choose to finance. For more information, click to read full report. ([Haaretz](#) 27 February 2017)
- The Israeli Supreme Court has agreed to a demand by the Israeli government to postpone a ruling regarding the return of the bodies of six Palestinians who died while committing or allegedly committing attacks on Israelis. The Israeli state has demanded that the court back down from a decision made in June agreeing to release the body Abd al-Hamid Abu Srouf. Israel's security cabinet said last month that the body of Abu Srouf, along with those of two other slain Palestinians -- Muhammad Tarayra and Muhammad al-Faqih -- would not be returned to their families due to their alleged affiliation with the Hamas movement, and that they would instead be buried inside Israel in a "graveyard for enemy dead." For more information, click to read the full report. (Maannews 27 February 2017 )
- Supreme Court President Miriam Naor scathingly criticized the state Monday for its conduct with regard to illegal outposts, in particular the Adei Ad outpost, part of which is built on state land and the other part on Palestinian land. In a High Court of Justice hearing on a petition filed by Palestinians demanding the evacuation of the outpost, Naor asked the state for its timetable for regularizing the structures at Adei Ad that are on state land. For more information, click to read full article ([Haaretz](#) 28 December 2017)

## Monthly Violations Statistics – February 2017

Governorate	Land Confiscated (Dunums)	Lands Threatened of Confiscation (Dunums)	Uprooted Trees/ Burnt trees	Demolished Houses	Demolished structures	Houses threatened of Demolition	Israeli settlers violence
Bethlehem	15	0	450	0	2	1	2
Jerusalem	265.3	0	0	23	4	57	9
Jenin	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Tulkarm	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ramallah	274.5	0	400	0	0	0	2
Nablus	499.12	0	700	0	0	4	10
Salfit	0	0	0	0	1	0	4
Jericho	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gaza	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Qalqilyah	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hebron	0	0	0	0	0	30	3
Tubas	36.88	0	0	2	7	17	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1090.8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1550</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>40</b>