



## Resisting Apartheid, Building a Shared Democracy

Demolitions & Displacement in the occupied West Bank (including occupied East Jerusalem) and within the state of Israel

July 2020 Report

82 Demolished Structures - OPT	4 Demolished Structures - Israel	60 Displaced People	357 Other Affected People
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Location	Date	Structures Demolished/ Confiscated	Displaced people	Affected people	Reason for Demolition stated by Israel <sup>1</sup>
Al 'Isawiya, East Jerusalem	1 July 2020	2 uninhabited under-construction residential structures (an adjacent inhabited structure sustained severe damage as well)	2 adults, 1 child	6 adults, 3 children (2 households)	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ East Jerusalem
Jabal al Mukabbir, East Jerusalem	1 July 2020	1 inhabited residential structure, and 1 animal-related structure (hen house)	4 adults, 1 child	0	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ East Jerusalem
At Tur, East Jerusalem	2 July 2020	1 uninhabited under-construction residential structure	0	4 adults, 4 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ East Jerusalem/ Self-Demolition
Wadi a Ras al Ahmar, Fasayil, Jericho	2 July 2020	7 uninhabited (at the time of the demolition) residential structures, 12 animal-related structures, 4 structures used	0	20 adults, 14 children (5 households)	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Area C / Israeli-Declared Firing-Zone

		as kitchens, 2 latrine units			
Khirbet al-Watan, Naqab Desert, South Israel	2 July 2020	Crops and agricultural structures .	Unknown	Unknown	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Unrecognised Bedouin Village
Lod, Israel	3 July 2020	1 inhabited residential structure	Unknown	Unknown	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit
At Taybe, Hebron	3 July 2020	1 agricultural structure, 1 toilet and 2-meter long terraces surrounding part of the land	0	4 adults, 9 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Area C
Al Walaja, Bethlehem	6 July 2020	22-meter long wall surrounding a residential building	0	12 adults, 9 children (5 households)	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ East Jerusalem
Abu Nuwar, Jerusalem	8 July 2020	1 under-construction uninhabited residential structure	0	2 adults, 6 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Area C
Abu George Road Bedouins-Nkheila, Jerusalem	8 July 2020	1 inhabited residential structure	3 adults, 2 children	6 adults	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Area C
Wadi al Joz, East Jerusalem	8 July 2020	1 livelihood structure	0	2 adults, 2 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ East Jerusalem
Silwan, East Jerusalem	8 July 2020	1 agricultural structure	0	5 adults	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ East Jerusalem
Al 'Isawiya, East Jerusalem	8 July 2020	1 agricultural structure	0	4 adults	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Area C
Khan al Ahmar-Abu al Helu Jerusalem	8 July 2020	1 agricultural structure	0	2 adults, 2 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit / Area C

An Najada, Hebron	8 July 2020	1 animal-related structure	0	4 adults, 1 child (2 households)	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/Area C / Firing-Zone
Tira, Israel	12 July 2020	1 livelihood structure (a wedding hall)	0	Unknown	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit
Izbat Shufa, Tulkarm	13 July 2020	1 livelihood structure, and 45-meter long retaining walls	0	9 adults, 12 children (3 households)	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/Area C
Beit Hanina, East Jerusalem	13 July 2020	1 livelihood structure	3 adults, 3 children	5 adults, 3 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ East Jerusalem / Self-Demolition
Nazlat 'Isa, Tulkarm	13 July 2020	1 livelihood structure	0	5 adults, 7 children (2 households)	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/Area C (Seam-Zone community)
Ar Ram & Dahiyat al Bareed, Jerusalem	14 July 2020	4 livelihood structures	0	11 adults, 12 children (5 households)	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/Area C
Jabal al Mukabbir, East Jerusalem	15 July 2020	1 uninhabited under-construction residential structure	0	3 adults, 2 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ East Jerusalem
Al Khalayleh, Jerusalem	15 July 2020	2 livelihood structures	0	16 adults, 4 children (5 households)	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/Area C
Beit Mirsim, Hebron	15 July 2020	1 agricultural structure	0	6 adults, 5 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/Area C
Khirbet Lasefar, Hebron	16 July 2020	1 inhabited residential structure	19 adults, 6 children (2 households)	0	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/Area C
Jabal al Mukabbir, East Jerusalem	18 July 2020	1 inhabited residential structure	6 adults, 3 children (2 households)	0	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ East Jerusalem / Self-Demolition

Al Khadr, Bethlehem	20 July 2020	1 inhabited residential structure, 2 animal-related structures, 1 storage room	2 adults, 5 children	0	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Area C
Halhul, Hebron	20 July 2020	1 agricultural structure, 1 latrine unit	0	2 adults, 7 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Area C
Beit Ummar, Hebron	21 July 2020	1 livelihood structure	0	6 adults, 1 child	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Area C
Birin, Hebron	21 July 2020	2 uninhabited residential structures	0	4 adults, 6 children (2 households)	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Area C
Qarawat Bani Hassan, Salfit	21 July 2020	1 uninhabited under- construction residential structure, 1 water-cistern	0	5 adults, 6 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Area C
Hebron, Hebron	21 July 2020	1 sample & collection centre (COVID-19 related)	0	15 adults	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Area C
al Arāgīb, Naqab Desert, South Israel	22 July 2020	2 mobile latrines	Unknown	Unknown	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ Unrecognised Bedouin Village
Jabal al Mukabbir, East Jerusalem	22 July 2020	2 under- construction uninhabited residential structures	0	4 adults, 7 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ East Jerusalem
Anata, Jerusalem	22 July 2020	2 livelihood structures	0	6 adults, 4 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit / Area C
Silwan, East Jerusalem	23 July 2020	1 livelihood structure	0	2 adults, 5 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ East Jerusalem
Nahalin, Bethlehem	26 July 2020	1 inhabited residential structure and 2 animal-related structures	Unknown	15 adults, 18 children (4 households)	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit / Area C

Al 'Isawiya, East Jerusalem	28 July 2020	2 animal-related structures, 1 agricultural structure	0	5 adults (3 households)	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit/ East Jerusalem
Al 'Isawiya, Jerusalem	28 July 2020	1 livelihood structure	0	3 adults, 6 children	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit / Area C
Al Kahdr, Bethlehem	28 July 2020	1 livelihood structure	0	3 adults, 1 child	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit / Area C
Khan al Ahmar- Abu al Helu, Jerusalem	28 July 2020	1 inhabited residential structure	2 adults, 2 children	0	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit / Area C
Beit 'Awwa, Hebron	29 July 2020	1 under-construction uninhabited residential structure	0	1 adult	Lack of an Israeli-issued building permit / Area C
<b>TOTAL</b>		86 structures (8 inhabited residential structures, 18 uninhabited residential structures, 7 WASH structures, 17 livelihood structures, 7 agricultural structures, 20 animal related structures, and 9 other structures)	60 people displaced (39 adults and 21 children)	357 people affected (199 adults, 158 children)	41 incidents on grounds of lacking an Israeli-issued building permit, (of which 3 structures were self-demolished)
		86	60	357	41

Notes:

1. There are four categories of demolitions:
  1. Punitive demolitions: Houses demolished as punishment for the actions of people associated with the houses.
  2. Administrative demolitions: Houses demolished for lack of a building permit. This happens in Area C and in East Jerusalem, under exclusive Israeli authority, though prior to the existence of Areas A, B & C it occurred in other

areas as well. It is important to point out that in almost all cases, Palestinians have no choice but to build "illegally" as permits are rarely granted

3. Land-clearing operations/Military demolitions: Houses demolished by the IDF in the course of military operations for the purposes of clearing off a piece of land (for whatever reason), achieve a military goal or to kill wanted persons as part of Israel's policy of extrajudicial executions..
4. Undefined demolitions: These include mainly demolitions resulting from land-clearing operations and removal of Palestinian populations.

\* WASH stands for structures relating to water, sanitation and hygiene.

† In many cases, notably in East Jerusalem, Israeli authorities condition Palestinians to either demolish their properties themselves or have the authorities do so. In an attempt to avoid having to pay the high fee of the Israeli authorities' demolition operation and additional high fines, many Palestinians are forced to self-demolish. .

*Above data is from the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), B'tselem, Palestinian Information Centre, Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality*

#### Legal updates

"Israel to demolish entire Palestinian village in North of West Bank, displacing 200 people- The Israeli occupation authorities are going to demolish an entire Palestinian village in the north of the West Bank displacing over 200 people, today said the head of the village council.

Mahmoud Amarneh, head of Farasin village council west of Jenin, told Wafa that Israeli occupation forces raided the village this morning and handed out 36 demolition orders for the entire structures and water wells in the village where 200 people live. He said the military told the residents that the demolition will take place in few days. Amarneh said the Israeli occupation government wants to take over the village in order to expand illegal settlements built in that area.

(Report published by Wafa News Agency, on Wednesday, July 29, 2020)

## **Annex and Dispossess: Use of the Absentees' Property Law to Dispossess Palestinians of their Property in East Jerusalem**

### **A new report by Peace Now's Settlement Watch team**

In 1967, Israel annexed East Jerusalem and applied the Israeli law over the area. Absentees' Property Law that allows the State to take control of properties that had belonged to Palestinians up until 1948 was also applied to the annexed area.

Following the annexation the Israeli governments refrained from using the law, however one decade after 1967, the Likud government started to take advantage of it to deprive Palestinians of their assets in East Jerusalem and transfer them to settlers.

**About one-third of the area designated for Israeli annexation in the West Bank according to the Trump plan (about 530,000 dunams) is Palestinian private land. The experience of the annexation in Jerusalem shows that there is real concern that the law will be applied to these vast areas and will deprive hundreds of thousands of Palestinians of their assets.**

Peace Now looked into the East Jerusalem precedent of annexation and brings a thorough report about the way Israel used the law in East Jerusalem.

This report reveals how a secret government mechanism established under the Likud government in the 1980s, transferred dozens of Palestinian assets in Silwan and the Muslim quarter to settlers, through use of the Absentees' Property Law, among other means.

The method worked as follows: Settler-related bodies recruited people to declare that the owners of certain properties were absentee landlords. These affidavits were passed onto the Custodian for Absentees' Property, who deemed that they were indeed absentees' assets without any further inspection. Thereafter, the absentees' assets were passed onto the JNF, which passed them onto settlers. The Palestinian families living in these properties discovered that their homes were sold by the state to settlers, upon receiving lawsuits from the settlers or the JNF by the mail, demanding that they vacate the house. Thus a long, costly, exhausting legal battle ensued, for underprivileged Palestinian families versus powerful well-funded bodies like the JNF and settler organizations. Some of the families have been compelled to leave their homes, few have managed to save them, while others are still struggling.

The report cites numerous documents that indicate how the Absentees' Property Law was abused, and how in spite of court rulings that deemed the process corrupt and unacceptable – the assets were not returned to their owners. An analysis of various governments' policies, which is detailed in an appendix to the report, indicates that even when governments sought to reduce use of the law, the following governments always found means of changing the policy and reexpanding takeover of Palestinian assets through the Absentees' Property Law.

(Report published by Peace Now on July 7, 2020)

To read the full report: <https://peacenow.org.il/en/annex-and-dispossess>