



PLO DELEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES

Monthly Report on Israeli Incitement *December 2016 Issue*

In order to facilitate an environment that is conducive for peace and security, it is important to mitigate factors that contribute to keeping both Palestinians and Israelis from achieving progress. Incitement is one of those factors.

In this respect, the Palestinian Authority has undertaken initiatives that curb and diminish incitement against Israel; By 2006, the Palestinian Ministry of Education revised textbooks to ensure the removal of incitement. Additionally, President Abbas has repeatedly called for the activation of the trilateral incitement monitoring committee that was stipulated in the Wye River Memorandum of 1998.

In an effort to urge the Israeli government to condemn and redress incitement against Palestinians¹, this report highlights major incidents of Israeli incitement in public, media, and governmental spheres that occurred in **December 2016**.

In addition, this report traces Israeli actions and policies, even if not verbal, that amount to incitement. In fact, Israeli incitement, whether from official bodies or the public, happens mostly through wrong-doing rather than bad-mouthing. Finally, incitement is a symptom and a consequence of Israel's prolonged military occupation and therefore, to eradicate incitement, it is vital to address its root cause: the occupation.

Incitements of such incidents include, but are not limited to: Razing homes and farmlands, attacks on fishermen, settler violations against neighboring towns and resources, water, land, and air, and anything that violates or undermines international law, etc.

¹ Note: This report relies on Western, Israeli, and Arabic news sources reporting directly from Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories. Preference is given to news stories in English, but in the event that a story is only available in Arabic, the headline of the original story is translated and posted in this report. In the event that a link becomes inactive or dysfunctional, please contact the PLO Delegation in Washington, DC, and an alternative link will be provided.

Monthly Report:

December 1st, 2016

WHO: Substantial Israeli restrictions on access to health

Marking the United Nations declaration of November 29 as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, the World Health Organization (WHO) published a 2-year report on health access for Gaza patients to highlight how the Israeli permit system and physical barriers obstruct health access for Palestinian patients, ambulances and health workers.

[Read Article](#), Wafa

December 3rd, 2016

Palestinian brothers from East Jerusalem forced to demolish their own homes

Two Palestinian brothers in the neighborhood of Silwan in occupied East Jerusalem were forced to demolish their own homes on Saturday in compliance with an Israeli court order.

One of the owners, Said al-Abbasi, told Ma'an that he and his brother Nasser had built their homes in the Karm al-Sheikh area of Silwan two-and-a-half years ago. However, before construction could be completed, the Jerusalem municipality delivered demolition orders for their homes.

[Read Article](#), Ma'an

December 4th, 2016

Over 1,300 Israelis storm Al-Aqsa in November

More than 1,300 Jewish settlers and Israeli security forces stormed East Jerusalem's flashpoint Al-Aqsa Mosque compound last month, according to a Palestinian official.

For Muslims, Al-Aqsa represents the world's third holiest site. Jews, for their part, refer to the area as the "Temple Mount," claiming it was the site of two Jewish temples in ancient times.

[Read Article](#), MEMO

December 4th, 2016

Israel's Lehava stirs 'anarchy' in Jerusalem

Four youths in black T-shirts, bearing a distinctive yellow-flame insignia, approached "A" in July as he got out of a taxi in central Jerusalem to meet friends. They asked him the time. Suspicious of his accent, they confronted him directly: "Are you an Arab?"

"The moment I said, 'yes,' one of them punched me in the eye. The others jumped on me and started hitting me all over my body. There were many people in the area, but no one took any notice or tried to help."

[Read Article](#), Al Jazeera

December 5th, 2016

Israel gives eviction orders to 8 facilities in the Negev

Israeli Occupation Authorities on Sunday gave eviction notices to eight Palestinian-owned facilities in Umm al-Hairan village in Negev.

Head of the popular committee in the village Raed Abu Qei'an affirmed that Israel Land Administration crews stormed the village on Sunday escorted by Israeli police forces and delivered the evacuation orders, PIC reported.

[Read Article](#), PNN

December 5th, 2016

Israeli forces besiege Palestinian cemetery outside Jerusalem's Old City, prevent burial

Israeli forces Monday at noon besieged the Palestinian Bab al-Rahma cemetery outside occupied East Jerusalem's Old City, denying the entry of Palestinians attempting to bury the body of a recently deceased woman.

Eyewitnesses told Ma'an that Israeli forces suddenly surrounded the cemetery following early afternoon prayers and prevented the burial under the pretext that the cemetery was established on Israeli state land that was confiscated in order to be used for building a "national park."

[Read Article](#), Ma'an

December 6th, 2016

Settlers level Palestinian land as proposed law threatens mass land confiscation

Israeli bulldozers leveled private Palestinian lands in the northern occupied West Bank village of Jalud in the Nablus district on Tuesday morning, a day after the Israeli Knesset moved forward with a bill seeking to retroactively legalize illegal settlement outposts in the West Bank, which would see thousands of dunams of Palestinian lands confiscated.

[Read Article](#), Ma'an

December 6th, 2016

Israeli authorities demolish 3 Palestinian structures in East Jerusalem

Israeli authorities demolished three Palestinian-owned structures in the neighborhood of Silwan in occupied East Jerusalem Tuesday morning, according to the owners.

Alaa Shweiki told Ma'an that bulldozers arrived on his property early Tuesday morning under armed military protection.

The bulldozers then demolished a structure roofed with steel tubes and tin sheets that Shweiki used as a horse stable. He highlighted that the same structures had already been demolished in November.

[Read Article](#), Ma'an

December 6th, 2016

Bill to annex West Bank settlements moves forward in Knesset

The so-called 'formalization bill' passed a preliminary reading in Israel's Knesset yesterday evening, a law that both its supporters and opponents say would pave the way to annexing the occupied West Bank.

Leading up to the vote, a clause demanding that the symbolic Amona outpost be retroactively legalised was removed from the bill.

[Read Article](#), MEMO

December 6th, 2016

Israel confiscates truck carrying iron into Gaza, claims material would be used against Israel

Israeli authorities Tuesday confiscated a truck carrying pieces of iron en route to the besieged Gaza Strip, claiming the material would be used for anti-Israel activities.

Israeli sources told Ma'an that officials from COGAT, the Israeli agency responsible for implementing Israeli policies in the occupied Palestinian territory, in cooperation with Israeli intelligence and crossing authority prevented the truck from entering the Gaza Strip via the Kerem Shalom crossing for carrying iron pieces.

[Read Article](#), **Ma'an**

December 6th, 2016

Israel prevents burial of Palestinian woman in Jerusalem cemetery

Israeli occupation forces prevented the burial of a Muslim Palestinian woman in the Islamic cemetery of Bab Al-Rahmah on Monday, Arabs48.com has reported. The cemetery is adjacent to the eastern wall of the Noble Sanctuary of Al-Aqsa.

The occupation soldiers told the Palestinians who took part in the funeral procession that the cemetery land has been confiscated by the Israeli nature authority. The soldiers closed the gate and prevented the burial from going ahead.

[Read Article](#), **MEMO**

December 6th, 2016

Israel razes Palestinian land in Nablus

Israeli bulldozers levelled private Palestinian lands in the northern occupied West Bank village of Jalud in the Nablus district this morning, a day after the Israeli Knesset moved forward with a bill seeking to retroactively legalise illegal settlement outposts in the West Bank, which would see thousands of dunams of Palestinian lands confiscated.

[Read Article](#), **MEMO**

December 7th, 2016

West Bank village turned into a 'prison' in the wake of arson accusations

Dozens of Palestinians have been detained -- including a number of children -- and clashes have erupted daily in the occupied West Bank village of Deir Nidham since it was blockaded by the Israeli army three weeks ago, "turning the lives of 1,600 into a prison," locals told Ma'an on Wednesday.

[Read Article](#), **Ma'an**

December 7th, 2016

Israel razes farms, uproots trees in Hebron

Israeli occupation bulldozers yesterday razed Palestinian farmlands and uprooted trees in Khillet Al-Eidah near Mount Johar in the southern West Bank city of Hebron, Jordanian news agency Petra reported.

Hebron's municipal council said in a statement that the Israeli bulldozers, escorted by a number of military vehicles, stormed private Palestinian farms in the city.

[Read Article](#), MEMO

December 7th, 2016

Israel demolishes Palestinian-owned structures in Jericho

Israeli forces yesterday levelled a number of structures belonging to several Palestinian families in the Jordan Valley, north of Jericho city in the occupied West Bank.

According to the Palestinian government news agency Wafa, Israeli bulldozers and soldiers raided the village of Fasayil and destroyed several steel structures belonging to Abed Al-Hadi Ali Hussein Obayyat, Adnan Ibrahim Abu Kharabish, and Zaid Mahmoud Ibrahim Abu Kharabish.

[Read Article](#), MEMO

December 8th, 2016

Outpost legalization bill passes first Knesset reading

Israel's parliament, the Knesset, passed a first reading of the so-called "Legalization bill," which would see thousands of dunams of privately-owned Palestinian land seized and dozens of illegal Israeli outposts in the occupied West Bank retroactively legalized, Israeli media reported on Wednesday evening.

[Read Article](#), Ma'an

December 8th, 2016

Police raid media center in East Jerusalem, detain staff

Israeli police raided on Thursday Elia for Media offices on Salah Eddin Street in East Jerusalem and detained two employees, according to staff.

They said police detained reporter Luma Ghousheh and photojournalist Yasmini Adeleh.

No reason was given for the raid or the detention.

[Read Article](#), Wafa

December 8th, 2016

Israeli bulldozers level land in Umm al-Kheir to install sewer pipe for settlement

Israeli forces leveled privately-owned Palestinian lands in the village of Umm al-Kheir in the southern occupied West Bank on Thursday morning, in order to install a sewer pipe to service the illegal Israeli settlement of Karmel that lies some 500 meters away from Umm al-Kheir, local sources said.

An official Israeli source told Ma'an on Friday that it was "renovation work" of an existing sewer line in the settlement.

[Read Article](#), Ma'an

December 8th, 2016

Netanyahu wants broader ban on Muslim call to prayer

For the third time, the Israeli Knesset postponed the vote on a bill which would ban the use of loudspeakers for the Muslim call to prayer, Israeli media reported yesterday, noting that the Israeli prime minister wanted the ban not to have time restraints.

[Read Article](#), MEMO

December 9th, 2016

Israel approves construction of 770 housing units in the illegal Gilo settlement

The Israeli Planning and Construction Committee Wednesday approved the construction of 770 housing units in the illegal Gilo settlement in the south of Jerusalem in the occupied West Bank, according to Israeli sources.

Rachel Greenspan, a spokesperson for the Jerusalem municipality, told Ma'an that the building plans were approved in 2013, and were "currently undergoing routine processes of allocation regarding roads and public spaces."

[Read Article](#), Ma'an

December 10th, 2016

Committee: Israel 'deliberately' tries to kill Palestinian hunger strikers

Head of the Palestinian Committee of Prisoners' Affairs, Issa Qaraq accused Israeli authorities of "deliberately" attempting to kill Palestinian hunger strikers, while Israeli authorities have employed several tactics to convince a Palestinian hunger striker to break his strike, according to statements released on Thursday.

[Read Article](#), MEMO

December 12th, 2016

28% of Gazan requests for cancer treatment denied or ignored by Israel

Israeli authorities are denying or ignoring a quarter of applications by Gaza cancer patients for Israeli entry-permits via Erez for the purpose of medical treatment in the West Bank, Israel or Jordan.

According to World Health Organisation (WHO) figures, cited by Israeli NGO B'Tselem, for January through October 2016, 2,042 of 7,267 applications filed by cancer patients have either been denied or are yet to be answered (28 per cent).

[Read Article](#), MEMO

December 13th, 2016

Israeli forces level lands, open fire on agricultural lands in Gaza Strip

Israeli forces Tuesday morning leveled lands in the northern Gaza Strip and opened fire on agricultural lands in the southern region of the coastal enclave, according to witnesses.

Witnesses told Ma'an that four Israeli bulldozers entered the northeastern Gaza Strip from the Zekim military base and leveled lands.

The bulldozers were escorted by several armored military vehicles, while Israeli warplanes hovered overhead during the incursion.

[Read Article](#), Ma'an

December 13th, 2016

Soldiers seize humanitarian aid clinic in Masafer Yatta

As part of their efforts to Palestinian presence in the South Hebron hills, Israeli forces on Tuesday seized a caravan used as a medical clinic in the village of al-Markaz in Masafer Yatta, a Bedouin congregation south of Hebron, according to local sources.

[Read Article](#), **Wafa**

December 13th, 2016

Israeli soldiers raid Hebron printing shop, seize computers

Israeli soldiers raided early Tuesday a commercial printing shop in Hebron and seized six computers, according to the owners.

They said soldiers raided the shop, Zuwar for Advertising, owned by Hamed Jubeh, broke down the locks and ransacked it before leaving after seizing six computers.

[Read Article](#), **Wafa**

December 13th, 2016

After its owner had reclaimed his land, Israelis raze it again

For the second time in few months, Israeli forces on Tuesday razed a Palestinian-owned land in the village of al-Khader, south of Bethlehem, after its owner had reclaimed it, according to a local source.

Ahmad Salah, coordinator of the anti-settlement committee in the village, told Wafa that Israeli military razed the five dunum plot of land located near the settlement of Daniel after its owner, Mohammad Ghuneim, had replanted it.

[Read Article](#), **Wafa**

December 14th, 2016

Israeli forces 'wreak havoc' in Birzeit University raid

More than 20 Israeli military vehicles raided the campus of Birzeit University in the central occupied West Bank district of Ramallah before dawn on Wednesday, with Israeli forces "leaving a great deal of havoc" in their wake, an official university statement said.

After storming the campus through its western gate, Israeli soldiers forced campus security guards to stand against the walls, and proceeded to raid several buildings, including the university's administration building, the student council's headquarters, Kamal Nasir Hall, and the Faculty of Science.

[Read Article](#), **Ma'an**

December 14th, 2016

Israeli officials: soldiers are disturbing evidence after shooting alleged assailants

Israeli officials have warned that soldiers are contaminating the crime scene after shooting alleged Palestinian assailants, often making it impossible to conduct an investigation.

According to a report in Haaretz, in light of efforts by Palestinians and others to hold Israel to account in legal proceedings abroad – including the International Criminal Court – the state began "examining various West Bank incidents that ended with a Palestinian being shot."

[Read Article](#), **MEMO**

December 15th, 2016

Israeli soldiers raid Nabi Saleh, beat Palestinian youth

Israeli forces reportedly raided the village of Nabi Saleh in the central occupied West Bank district of Ramallah on Wednesday night, locals told Ma'an.

Five Israeli military vehicles entered the village around midnight after receiving reports of shots fired at an Israeli settler vehicle in the area and closed the village entrance, before assaulting Palestinian youths at a nearby gas station.

Israeli forces then searched the gas station and seized security camera footage.

An Israeli army spokesperson told Ma'an they were looking into the reports.

[Read Article](#), **Ma'an**

December 15th, 2016

Israeli police reportedly assault Palestinians during traffic stop

Israeli forces reportedly assaulted and detained four Jerusalemite Palestinians on Wednesday morning as they were headed to work, the Palestinians told Ma'an.

The four Palestinians -- Mahmoud and Muhammad al-Masri from the occupied East Jerusalem neighborhood of Ras al-Amoud, and Bahaa and Alaa Amro from the neighborhood of Silwan -- were heading to work in Tel Aviv on Wednesday

Mahmoud al Masri told Ma'an that an Israeli border police patrol forced the four to stop their vehicle before letting them go.

[Read Article](#), **Ma'an**

December 15th, 2016

Israel blocks main entrance to Jerusalem area village

Israeli forces on Thursday closed with cement blocks the main entrance leading to the village of Hizma, northeast of Jerusalem, according to local sources.

This came after a night of fierce clashes between youths from the village and Israeli forces during which the forces used tear gas canisters and rubber-coated steel rounds to disperse the youths.

[Read Article](#), **Wafa**

December 15th, 2016

Israel continues to seize EU humanitarian aid in spite of criticism

Israel continued on Thursday to seize European Union humanitarian assistance structures and equipment provided to Palestinian residents of Area C of the occupied West Bank, which is under full Israeli military control.

Two days after Israeli forces had seized an Italian Cooperation caravan used as a clinic in al-Markaz in Masafer Yatta, they notified on Thursday Palestinians in Kherbet Esfi al-Foqa, east of Yatta in Hebron district, about their intention to confiscate a medical clinic caravan also provided by the Italian Cooperation as a humanitarian assistance to serve local Palestinians

[Read Article](#), **Wafa**

December 15th, 2016

Palestinian prisoners suffer harsh conditions in Israeli Atzion jail

As the region has been affected by a low pressure cold front, Palestinian detainees incarcerated in the Israeli prison of Etzion have complained about their catastrophic conditions after rainwater flooded their cells, the Palestinian Detainees and Ex-Detainees Affairs Commission said on Thursday.

[Read Article](#), **Wafa**

December 15th, 2016

Israel issues 20 demolition orders in East Jerusalem

Jerusalem municipality crews today distributed 20 demolition orders for residential buildings in the Issawiya neighbourhood of occupied East Jerusalem.

Activist and political analyst Hani Al-Issawi said the Israeli municipality filed a request about two weeks ago, at the Israeli court to issue the demolition orders against a large number of buildings which were 20-30 years old giving their owners 30 days to object.

[Read Article](#), **MEMO**

December 16th, 2016

Netanyahu to push for demolition of Palestinian homes to appease settlers

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will push for the demolition of homes belonging to Palestinian citizens of Israel, as well as Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem, in "an attempt to appease the right for the expected evacuation of the illegal West Bank outpost of Amona."

According to Haaretz, citing an unnamed senior source, "during talks led by Netanyahu in the last two weeks with Public Security Minister Gilad Erdan and Police Commissioner Roni Alsheich", the premier instructed that demolition orders be enforced over the next few days in Arab towns in southern and northern Israel as well as East Jerusalem."

[Read Article](#), **MEMO**

December 18th, 2016

Israeli navy resumes its attacks against Gaza fishermen

Israeli naval forces Sunday resumed its attacks against Palestinian fishermen sailing within the unilaterally designated allowed fishing zone offshore the northern Gaza Strip, said sources.

No injuries were reported among fishermen who apparently fled the scene for fear of being detained, injured, or killed.

[Read Article](#), **Wafa**

December 18th, 2016

Israeli police shut down commercial shops in Jerusalem neighbourhood

Large Israeli police forces Sunday forced Palestinians to shut down their commercial shops in Bab al-Hita neighbourhood, near al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem.

Wafa correspondent said Israeli police closed all commercial shops in the said neighbourhood and proceeded to remove all national and Islamic slogans sprayed on the walls and doors throughout the neighbourhood.

They further removed all banners with pictures of Palestinians who were killed by Israel.

[Read Article](#), **Wafa**

December 18th, 2016

Israel closes main road to Jerusalem-area village for 6th consecutive day

The mayor of Hizma in the Jerusalem district of the occupied West Bank told Ma'an on Sunday that the economic situation of the village had seriously deteriorated, as Israel has continued to enforce a closure on Hizma's main entrance for the sixth day in a row.

Israeli forces installed concrete blocks and dirt barriers at the main entrance to the village last week as a punitive response to alleged stone throwing incidents from the village youth, according to Mayor Muwaffaq al-Khatiq.

[Read Article](#), **Ma'an**

December 19th, 2016

Israeli navy attacks Palestinian fishermen off Gaza coast

Israeli naval forces opened fire late Sunday at Palestinian fishermen and their boats while fishing outside the Khan Younis shores in the south of the Gaza Strip, according to local sources. No injuries were reported.

[Read Article](#), **Wafa**

December 19th, 2016

Israel bans burials in parts of East Jerusalem Muslim cemetery

Employees of Israel's Nature and Parks Authority escorted by Israeli forces raided the Palestinian Bal al-Rahma cemetery in occupied East Jerusalem on Sunday and installed a sign forbidding burial in parts of the cemetery which have been claimed to become a national park.

[Read Article](#), **Ma'an**

December 20th, 2016

Israel orders evacuation of 15 families in Jordan Valley for military exercises

More than a dozen Palestinian Bedouin families were delivered evacuation warrants by Israeli authorities on Monday, ordering them to temporarily leave their homes for Israeli military drills.

Muataz Bisharat, Palestinian official who monitors settler activities in the Jordan Valley, told Ma'an that 85 people from 15 different families in Khirbet Ibziq north of Tubas in the northern Jordan Valley would have to evacuate.

[Read Article](#), **Ma'an**

December 20th, 2016

'Land set aside for Amona evacuees also Palestinian owned'

Israeli authorities have notified the municipal council of the occupied West Bank town of Silwad of plans to confiscate privately-owned land in the town's outskirts, to be used to house residents of the illegal Israeli outpost of Amona, which is slated for imminent demolition.

After the Israeli Supreme Court ruled for the outpost to be demolished on the grounds that it was built on privately-owned Palestinian land, an eleventh hour agreement was reached on Sunday between the Israeli government and Amona's settlers to relocate the majority of them to a nearby hilltop.

[Read Article](#), **MEMO**

December 20th, 2016

Israel confiscates health clinic from Palestinian village

Israeli occupation authorities recently confiscated a trailer being used as a health clinic by a small Palestinian village in the southern West Bank.

According to the report in Haaretz, Israeli soldiers came to Al-Markaz last week and took the trailer, which had been brought to the community only ten days earlier.

[Read Article](#), MEMO

December 20th, 2016

Israeli forces shoot live ammunition during clashes in Shufat refugee camp

Israeli forces and undercover Israeli police officers Tuesday afternoon raided the Shufat refugee camp in occupied East Jerusalem, causing clashes to break out as Israeli forces shot live ammunition, tear gas, and rubber-coated steel bullets at Palestinian youths.

A spokesman of the Fatah movement in the camp, Thaer al-Fasfous told Ma'an that Israeli forces raided the camp and then left shortly after, adding that the soldiers "misled" the Palestinian youths by "giving the impression that Israeli forces had completed its raid on the camp and wouldn't come back."

[Read Article](#), Ma'an

December 20th, 2016

Israel to move Bethlehem-area checkpoint deeper into Palestinian territory

Israeli authorities plan to relocate a permanent Israeli military checkpoint between the occupied West Bank district of Bethlehem and Jerusalem a few kilometers further into Palestinian territory, a move which would deprive Palestinian residents access to hundreds of acres of private Palestinian land, Israeli media reported on Tuesday.

[Read Article](#), Ma'an

December 21st, 2016

Israeli forces open fire at Palestinian shepherds, bird hunters in southern Gaza

Israeli forces opened fire at Palestinian shepherds and bird hunters in the southern Gaza Strip on Wednesday morning.

Witnesses told Ma'an that Israeli forces in military towers across the border from Khan Yunis opened fire discontinuously at shepherds and bird hunters in several areas along the borderline. An Israeli army spokesperson told Ma'an that they were looking into the reports.

Israeli forces also reportedly opened fire at Palestinian lands in the al-Fukhari area east of Khan Yunis late on Tuesday.

[Read Article](#), Ma'an

December 22nd, 2016

Israel demolishes room in East Jerusalem Palestinian home

Israeli forces demolished a room in the Al-Thawri area of the occupied East Jerusalem neighbourhood of Silwan yesterday morning for allegedly lacking an Israeli-issued building permit.

The owner of the room, Iyah Al-Zaghal, told Ma'an that Israeli forces, escorted by Israeli Jerusalem municipality officials, raided his home in the early morning, and began demolishing a 55-square-metre room which had been built six months ago.

Al-Zaghal said that his son Hussein had lived in the room and that the family was "shocked" by the demolition, noting that it was carried out without any prior notice and that the family had hired a lawyer to postpone the demolition.

[Read Article](#), MEMO

December 22nd, 2016

Israeli settler attempts to run over 2 Palestinian children in Hebron

An Israeli settler attempted to run over two Palestinian children in his vehicle on Thursday while they were on their way to school in the Beita Zaata area of Beit Ummar in the southern occupied West Bank district of Hebron, according to local reports.

Local activist Muhammad Awad told Ma'an that the Israeli settler, identified as Eliahu, was on his way home from his work as a security guard in the illegal Karmeit Tzur settlement in the southern part of Beit Ummar, when he saw Ahmad Saber Zamel Abu Maria, 11, and his sister Ritaj, 17.

[Read Article](#), Ma'an

December 22nd, 2016

Israel orders separation of Palestinian family to avoid eviction by settler group

Following a contentious court battle between a Palestinian family in the Old City of occupied East Jerusalem and Israeli settler organisation Ateret Cohanim, the Israeli Supreme Court yesterday evening ruled that the couple would be permitted to reside in their home for ten years without their children until it is transferred to the ownership of the settler organisation.

According to a statement released by Mustafa Sub Laban and his wife Nora Gheith, the decision came after they appealed to the Israeli Supreme Court against a previous decision to evict the family immediately, adding that the most recent decision "partly accepted the appeal" and will allow the couple to stay in the home for ten more years.

[Read Article](#), MEMO

December 22nd, 2016

Israel demolishes Bedouin village for 107th time

Israeli forces today demolished the unrecognised Bedouin village for Al-Araqeeb in the Negev for the 107th time.

According to locals, Israeli bulldozers demolished the village. A yard and a tree belonging to the Bin Hmeid family in the Wadi Al-Niam village and an outdoor toilet were also demolished, locals told Ma'an.

Israeli forces last demolished the village less than a month ago.

[Read Article](#), MEMO

December 25th, 2016

Israeli forces ransack homes in Beit Ummar, detain minors in Beit Fajjar

Israeli forces stormed the southern occupied West Bank town of Beit Ummar and ransacked two homes early Sunday morning, according to local sources, a day after a funeral in the town for 23-year-old Khalid Ikhlayyil was violently suppressed by Israeli soldiers. Meanwhile, at least seven Palestinians, including minors, were detained in raids elsewhere in the West Bank.

[Read Article](#), **Ma'an**

December 25th, 2016

Israeli forces open fire at Palestinian farmers in Gaza

Israeli forces opened fire at Palestinian farmlands east of Khan Yunis in the southern besieged Gaza Strip Sunday morning as farmers attempted to tend to their land, witnesses told Ma'an news agency. According to the witnesses, Israeli soldiers stationed in watchtowers near the border fence east of the town of Khuzaa fired gunshots while Palestinian farmers were trying to reach their lands. No injuries were reported.

[Read Article](#), **MEMO**

December 25th, 2016

In defiance of UN, Israel reportedly set to approve thousands of settler units

Days after the UN Security Council approved a resolution affirming the illegality of Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory and called for their construction to cease, reports emerged that Israel is set to approve thousands of new settler units in occupied East Jerusalem. The Local Planning and Building Committee of the Jerusalem municipality is expected to approve some 5,600 housing units in East Jerusalem for illegal settlements, the Hebrew version of daily newspaper Israel Hayom reported Sunday morning.

[Read Article](#), **MEMO**

December 25th, 2016

Israeli forces suppress Bethlehem's 'Santa Claus march' with tear gas, rubber bullets

Israeli forces Friday suppressed Bethlehem's "Santa Claus March," shooting tear gas and rubber-coated steel bullets at participants, with many suffering from tear gas inhalation. A number of demonstrators, including five journalists and foreigners, participated in a march near the Israeli checkpoint 300 in the north of Bethlehem, which separates residents from Jerusalem.

[Read Article](#), **MEMO**

December 26th, 2016

Israel's other army expanding illegal settlements

Abuses of power committed by Israel's Civilian Security Coordinators (CSCs), civilian guards of the illegal settlements, continue to contribute to settlement expansion into Palestinian-owned land across the occupied West Bank, according to an Israeli rights group.

In following the behaviour of the CSC guards over a decade, rights group Yesh Din has come across reports of guards doling out death threats and chasing Palestinian farmers from their fields at gunpoint to prevent them from harvesting, among other violations.

[Read Article](#), **Al Jazeera**

December 26th, 2016

Life sentences reinstated for Palestinian freed in 2011

An Israeli court on Monday reinstated two life sentences handed down earlier against a Palestinian prisoner who had been freed as part of a 2011 prisoner swap, according to a Palestinian NGO.

In a statement, the Palestinian Prisoners Society said that Israel's Ofer military court had reinstated two life-in-prison terms – plus another 30 years behind bars – against Nayef Radwan, a Palestinian who hails from the West Bank city of Ramallah.

[Read Article](#), MEMO

December 26th, 2016

Israel hands out demolition threats to 20 Palestinian-owned facilities

Israeli Occupation Authorities (IOA) on Monday have handed out demolition threats to 20 Palestinian-owned facilities in the town of Yatta, southern Hebron Hills, for having “no building permit”.

The town falls in area C of the occupied West Bank, which is under Israeli civil and military control.

[Read Article](#), PNN

December 27th, 2016

Israeli forces demolish agricultural structures near Hebron

Israeli forces on Tuesday demolished a number of agricultural structures and a water tanker in the town of Idna, west of Hebron, according to local sources.

Abderrahman Tamizi, from Idna municipality, told WAFA that Israeli forces accompanied by bulldozers demolished a Palestinian-owned 500-cubic-meter water tanker and agricultural sheds west of the town.

[Read Article](#), WAFA

December 27th, 2016

IOF arrest two children in Jerusalem, 11 in West Bank

Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) on Tuesday morning have arrested two Palestinian children from inside the Al-Aqsa mosque.

Reasons for the arrest are still unknown.

In addition, IOF arrested 11 Palestinians overnight from areas all over the West Bank, during wide raid and arrest campaigns.

[Read Article](#), PNN

December 27th, 2016

IOF tear down Palestinian-owned facilities in Jerusalem

Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) on Tuesday night have demolished a number of Palestinian-owned facilities in Jerusalem.

The Jerusalem Information Center said that IOF demolished three containers and a warehouse in Silwan town, south of Al-Aqsa mosque.

The demolition comes under the pretext of having no building permit.

[Read Article](#), PNN

December 27th, 2016

Israel continues demolition campaign on Palestinian homes in Negev

Israeli forces Tuesday demolished a Palestinian-owned home in the Bedouin village of Qasr al-Ser in the Negev of southern Israel in the continuation of what locals have said is retaliation for the impending demolition of the illegal Israeli Amona outpost in the occupied West Bank.

Locals told Ma'an that the home belonged to Youssef Hussein al-Hawashleh.

[Read Article](#), **Ma'an**

December 28th, 2016

Israeli forces close main entrance of Ramallah-area village

Israeli forces closed the main entrance of the village of Shuqba northwest of Ramallah city in the central occupied West Bank Wednesday morning, after having closed the other entrance to the village more than week ago.

The closure came as Israeli forces continued to impose a strict siege on villages west of Ramallah including Shuqba, Qibya, Shabtin, Umm Safa, Abud, Deir Abu Mashal, and Rantis, after an Israeli settler was lightly wounded when his vehicle was fired at in the area on Dec. 18.

[Read Article](#), **Ma'an**

December 28th, 2016

Israel approves settler building in occupied East Jerusalem

Israel approved construction of a multi-storey building for settlers in occupied East Jerusalem today, an NGO said, after postponing authorisation of hundreds of other homes ahead of a speech on the Middle East by the US secretary of state.

The Obama administration provoked the Israeli government's fury on Friday by failing to block the passage of an anti-settlement resolution in the UN Security Council.

[Read Article](#), **MEMO**

December 28th, 2016

Israeli authorities demolish Palestinian structures in East Jerusalem

Israel's Jerusalem municipality demolished Palestinian-owned structures in the occupied East Jerusalem neighbourhood of Silwan today, under the pretext that they lacked Israeli-issued building permits, according to local organisation the Wadi Hilweh Information Centre.

The centre said that municipality crew, accompanied by Israeli police forces, destroyed three containers and a steel structure belonging to the Siyam family in the Ein Al-Luza neighbourhood of Silwan. The structures were being used for agricultural purposes.

[Read Article](#), **MEMO**

December 29th, 2016

Israeli settlers raid village to visit shrine amid restrictions for Palestinian locals

Israeli settlers escorted by Israeli forces raided the town of Kifl Haris in the central occupied West Bank district of Salfit to pray at shrines late Wednesday night, locals said.

Eyewitnesses told Ma'an that hundreds of Israeli settlers raided the town shouting slogans and singing songs after midnight and performed prayers at the shrines.

Israeli forces obstructed the movement of Palestinian residents in the town and installed flying checkpoints at roads to secure the settlers' visit.

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December 30th, 2016

Israeli settlers under armed police escort raided the Wadi Hilweh area of Silwan in occupied East Jerusalem *after midnight Friday morning and took over a Palestinian residential building there, allegedly for the purposes of the Elad settlement group.*

According to eyewitness accounts documented by local organization the Wadi Hilweh Information Center, approximately 20 Israeli settlers escorted by masked Israeli police special forces raided the building while its residents were not inside.

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