



February  
2021

# Israeli violations in Jerusalem

Europeans for alQuds

## Table of Contents

Summary.....	2
First: General Indicators of the Israeli Army Violations in Jerusalem.....	4
Second: Shootings and Physical Safety Violations.....	5
Third: Raids and House Arrests.....	7
Fourth: Homes and Properties Demolitions.....	22
Fifth: Confiscation of Properties.....	31
Sixth: Settlements and Judaization.....	34
Seventh: Assault and Storming of Al-Aqsa Mosque.....	35
Eighth: Removals from Al-Aqsa and Jerusalem.....	37
Ninth Settlers' attacks:.....	39
tenth Siege, Checkpoints, and Freedom of Movement:.....	40
Conclusion and Recommendations.....	41

## Summary

Europeans for al-Quds gathering data showed that during February 2021 the Israeli occupation authorities committed more than 467 violations in occupied Jerusalem.

The gathering pointed out that the escalation of occupation attacks came at a time when the US Senate on February 5 approved the decision to keep the United States embassy in the occupied Jerusalem with the support of 97 members and the opposition of 3 members of the Democratic Party.

The decision added that the American trends in support of the occupation do not change with the arrival of President Joe Biden to the White House, which was confirmed on February 9 by the US Secretary of State, Anthony Blinken, announcing that the administration of the new US president Joe Biden will continue to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of the Israeli occupation state.

The monthly report on violations prepared by the gathering monitored 13 patterns of human rights violations committed by the occupation forces, the majority of which are complex. Incursions and raids constitute the highest percentage of these violations with 31.9%, followed by arrests of 28.7%.

The Israeli army carried out 36 shootings and a direct assault in the occupied Jerusalem neighborhoods, which resulted in the injury of a young man in the excessive use of force without any justification. Dozens of people suffocated as a result of the tear gas as well as 8 cases were subjected to beating and severe violence from the occupation forces.

The report also documented 149 incursions into the towns and neighborhoods of Jerusalem, during which 134 citizens were arrested, including 18 children, 9 women, and girls. Besides, summoning 8 citizens and imposing house arrest on at least other 8 citizens were documented.

During this month, 20 demolitions were recorded, which resulted in the demolition of 8 homes and 8 commercial establishments, most of which were self-demolished by orders from the Israeli occupation forces, which led to the displacement of dozens of citizens. The occupation forces also destroyed 7 fences, a well, and 5 facilities, while about 1,987 settlers stormed Al-Aqsa Mosque throughout the days, except Fridays and Saturdays.

The Israeli army authorities issued 29 decisions of removal from Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The Israeli army erected 13 permanent checkpoints and 36 remote checkpoints in Jerusalem that aim to stop and search Palestinians as they pass through, abusing them.

The chief of Europeans for al-Quds, Mohammed Hannoun, confirmed that the Israeli occupation authorities are escalating their attacks in the occupied city, to impose a fait accompli, consecrate Judaization, and change the demographic reality in the city.

Hannoun added that the demolitions carried out by the occupation forces are part of a systematic policy to forcibly displace Palestinians to change the demographic character of the occupied city, stressing that such acts amount to a war crime.

He called the international community for action to protect the Palestinians in Jerusalem from the grave violations they face from the occupation and the extremist settlers.

## The full text of the report:

### First: General indicators of the Israeli army violations in occupied Jerusalem

Violation	Number	Percentage
Injuries	1	0.2
Beatings	8	1.7
Shootings	36	7.7
Raids	149	31.9
Arrests	134	28.7
Summons	8	1.7
House Arrests	5	1.1
Forced Removals	29	6.2
Demolitions	20	4.3
Confiscating Properties	2	0.4
Settlement Construction Decisions	3	0.6
Stormings of Al-Aqsa Mosque	24	5.1
Checkpoints and Freedom of Movement	48	10.3
Total	467	100.0

Data from the above table shows that the Israeli authorities have committed 13 types of human rights violations in Jerusalem, with a total of 467 violations. The majority of these violations were complex. Incursions and raids constitute the highest percentage of these violations, with a %31.9, followed by arrests, %28.7. These violations' rates are the highest because they occur on daily basis. However, other violations are still dangerous in their effects and the extent they violate international law and international humanitarian law. For instance, homes demolition orders targeting several residential buildings and a number of establishments were the most significant as well as removal and displacement decisions.

## **Second: Shootings and violations of the right to physical safety**

**Israeli army carried out 36 shootings and direct assaults in Jerusalem neighborhoods, which resulted in the injury of a young Palestinian man, used excessive force without any justification. Dozens of Palestinian were suffocated by tear gas. Nine Palestinian civilians were beaten and subjected to severe violence by the Israeli occupation forces.**

On the evening of Monday, February 1, the Israeli occupation forces fired heavy rubber-coated metal bullets and gas bombs during their storming of At-Tur neighborhood, east of the Old City of Occupied Jerusalem. The occupation forces erected checkpoints, searched citizens, and liberated their identities. As a result, dozens of civilians suffocated due to inhaling the smell of gas. Before the withdrawal of the occupation forces from the town, they arrested 3 citizens, after they severely beat them and gave them electric shocks. The detainees: Ali Samir Abu Ghanem, 22, Mustafa Mohammad Abu Al-Hawa, 28, and Mu'taz Khalid Abu Al-Hawa, 19.

On the evening of Saturday, February 6, clashes erupted between youths and the occupation forces in At-Tur town in occupied Jerusalem, during which these forces fired metal bullets, coated with a thin layer of rubber, and heavy gas bombs at the citizens. This led to dozens of civilians suffocating due to inhaling the smell of gas.

On Tuesday, February 9, the Israeli occupation forces stormed At-Tur neighborhood, east of the Old City of Occupied Jerusalem. The occupation soldiers assaulted the child, Mustafa Daoud Abu Al-Hawa, 15, severely beating him while he was in the Al-Qaa neighborhood, which necessitated his transfer to the hospital, after he suffered severe bruises on the face, neck, and other parts of his body.

On the evening of Saturday, February 13, clashes erupted between youths and the occupation forces in the town of At-Tur in occupied Jerusalem, during which these forces fired metal bullets, coated with a

thin layer of rubber, and heavy gas bombs at the citizens. This resulted in the suffocating of dozens of civilians due to inhaling the smell of gas. Before their withdrawal, the occupation forces arrested Mohammad Hatim Abu Al-Hawa, 19.

On the evening of Thursday, February 18, dozens of boys and citizens gathered near the southern entrance to the village of Al-Issawiya, north of occupied East Jerusalem, celebrating the snowfall in the occupied city, and began exchanging snowballs. Meanwhile, the Israeli occupation forces stormed the place and fired metal bullets, coated with a thin layer of rubber, and tear gas canisters at them, trying to disperse them by force, under the pretext of their proximity to the Hebrew University adjacent to the entrance to the village and pursued them to the French Hill area. Besides, they arrested the child Ahmed Sami Abu Sbitan, 16, and the citizen Mahmoud Saeed Obeid, 20. For its part, the Palestine Red Crescent Society in Jerusalem stated that the occupation forces targeted an ambulance while it was operating at the southern entrance to the Al-Issawiya village.

At dawn on Monday, February 22, 2021, the Israeli occupation forces stormed Qalandia refugee camp, north of occupied Jerusalem. A number of young men and boys demonstrated and threw stones and empty bottles at the occupation forces and their vehicles. While the forces attacked the demonstrators, chasing them inside the alleys of the camp, and intensively fired rubber-coated metal bullets and tear gas canisters at them, which led to the suffocation of many citizens due to inhaling the smell of gas. Before their withdrawal, three citizens were arrested, who are: Mohammad Yusef al-Shu'ani, 20, Mohammad Murad al-Shu'ani, 21, and Saif Ahmad Muzhar, 24.

On the evening of Sunday, February 28, the Israeli occupation forces stormed Batn Al-Hawa neighborhood, in Silwan town, south of the Old City of occupied East Jerusalem and they were stationed at the entrances to residential buildings in the neighborhood and began to photograph

them and ask about their residents. Meanwhile, the occupation soldiers deliberately provoked the neighborhood's youth and attacked some of them with shoving and beating, which led to the outbreak of confrontations between them, who fired tear gas canisters heavily. As a result, dozens of civilians suffocated. Before their withdrawal from the neighborhood, the occupation forces arrested Zuhair Al-Rajabi, 52, and Mohammed Saleh, 29, after they severely beat them.

The Israeli occupation forces also fired shots and tear gas and tear gas 29 times near the Qalandia checkpoint during the storming of Palestinian neighborhoods in Jerusalem without causing injuries or arrests.

The repeated attacks by the Israeli occupation forces, the use of excessive force against the demonstrators, and directing gas and sound bombs against citizens and their homes, as well as the violence and severe beatings, constitute a systematic violation of the rules of international law that set controls in the use of force against civilians. It is clear that the occupation forces use these tools as part of their systematic policies as field punitive measures. The silence of the international community on these violations and the absence of accountability encourage the occupation to continue its violations.

### **Third: Raids, detention, and house arrests**

Israeli forces continued their incursions into Palestinian neighborhoods and houses. These raids include tempering with properties and hazing citizens, arbitrary arrests (without arrest warrants), beatings, interrogations for long hours, and imposing fines. Israeli forces use arrests as a tool of punishment and intimidation without any legal pretext. Europeans for al-Quds team documented 149 raids into Jerusalem's

towns and neighborhoods during this month, during which 134 Palestinians were arrested, including 18 children, 9 women. Israeli authorities summoned 8 Palestinians and placed under house arrest at least eight others, including children.

### **Details:**

On Monday, February 1, the Israeli occupation forces arrested five civilians, including two children, after they stormed the At-Tur neighborhood in occupied Jerusalem. The detainees are: Mahmoud Mustafa from Al-Issawiya, Ali Abu Ghanem, Mustafa Abu Al-Hawa, Raed Hazem Al-Sayyad, 16, and Dawood Abu Al-Hawa, 15.

On the same day, employees of the occupation municipality in Jerusalem launched a campaign targeting shops on Salah al-Din Street, under the protection of the occupation forces. This campaign comes within the framework of imposing further restrictions on merchants in the occupied city. Moreover, the occupation crews have fined some shopkeepers and street vendors, as some of which amounted to 5,000 Israeli shekels (about 1500\$), under the pretext of violating the closing decisions and opening shops.

At dawn on Tuesday, February 2, the Israeli occupation forces arrested two children from the towns of Silwan and Al-Issawiya in occupied Jerusalem. The two detainees are: Samer Khalil Shweiki, 15, and Muhammad Yasir Jiyar, 13.

IAshraf Ibrahim Shamasneh, 37, was also after a raid on his house in the town of Qatana, northwest of Jerusalem.

In the evening, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Saif Ramadan Obeid, 25, from inside a fish shop in the Obeid neighborhood of Al-Issawiya village, northeast of Jerusalem.

On the same day, the occupation re-arrested the Jerusalemite prisoner, Ahmed Sorour, upon his release from the Negev desert prison. The Committee of the Families of Jerusalemite Prisoners reported that the occupation intelligence arrested the prisoner, Sorour, the moment he was released from the gate of the Negev prison and before he met his family after spending seven years in the occupation prisons. It was indicated that this Israeli policy followed on the Jerusalemite ex-prisoners and their families to pressure them and not celebrate their liberation in the occupied city of Jerusalem. It is noteworthy that the prisoner Sorour was arrested with a group of people from his hometown of Jabal Al Mukaber, southeast of occupied Jerusalem, accusing them of their participation in resistance activities.

On Wednesday, February 3, the Israeli occupation forces arrested 3 civilians, including a child, after raiding their homes in the town of Al-Eizariya, east of occupied East Jerusalem. Those arrested were: Ibrahim Hafez al-Warni, 16, Abdullah Muhammad Maatuq, 19, and Salam Salah, 22.

On the same day, 5 civilians were detained, including a child, after raiding their homes in Hizma town, northeast of occupied East Jerusalem. Those arrested were: Hamad Ali Al-Khatib, 34, Odeh Ahmed Askar, 25, Bashar Askar Al-Khatib, 25, and the two brothers Qusay, 19, and Fadi Hamed Amer Al-Khatib, 16.

In the evening, the Israeli occupation forces arrested two citizens: Ihab Zakaria Nasreddin, 42, and Rabih Nidal Ghaith, 32, from inside a store after storming A-Thuri neighborhood, south of occupied East Jerusalem.

On Thursday morning, February 4, the occupation intelligence arrested the prisoner, Mohammad Kamal Obaid, 25, from the Negev desert prison, the moment he was released. The Committee of the Families of Jerusalemite Prisoners stated that the occupation intelligence had re-arrested Obaid from the gate of the Negev prison, where he was

transferred to the Al-Maskobiyya investigation center, west of occupied Jerusalem.

Obaid is from Al-Issawiya village, north-east of Jerusalem, and he spent seven years in the occupation prisons, and his family and companions were waiting for him at that morning at the prison gate, where the occupation filled them with joy, but immediately stole their joy by re-arresting him. Obaid was arrested in 2014 by a unit of Arabists and the occupation accused him of throwing Molotov cocktails at Israeli soldiers, and at a synagogue in the French Hill settlement. The occupation court sentenced him at the time to seven years imprisonment and a fine of 27,000 Israeli shekels.

On the evening of Saturday, February 6, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Mahmoud Khalil Al-Hadrah, 17, from At-Tur town in central occupied Jerusalem, while he was passing through Al-Zaiem military checkpoint east of occupied Jerusalem, which separates the town of At-Tur and what is adjacent to it.

At dawn on Sunday, February 7, the Israeli occupation forces arrested two brothers, including a child, after raiding their home in Al-Issawiya village, northeast of occupied East Jerusalem. The two detainees are: Mohammad Sami Obaid, 16, and his brother Anwar, 23.

Besides, two citizens were arrested too, including a child, after their homes were raided in the Obeidat neighborhood, in the town of Jabal Al-Mukaber, southeast of occupied Jerusalem. The two detainees are: the child Yazan Arafat Obeidat, 16, and Khaled Ibrahim Obeidat, 23.

And the evening of the same day, the Israeli occupation police arrested Nizam Abu Rmouz, 39, while he was near the Bab al-Rahma chapel in Al-Aqsa Mosque, in the Old City of Occupied East Jerusalem, and took him to the Al-Qishla Center in the Old City, and handed him a decision of deportation from Al-Aqsa Mosque for a week. It is noteworthy that Abu

Rmouz was deported from Al-Aqsa several times, the outcome of which was about 3 years.

On Monday, February 8, the Israeli occupation forces arrested three young men and a girl and stormed the Bab al-Rahma chapel in the eastern part of the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque. Eyewitnesses reported that Majd Kabha was among the detainees.

In the same day, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Mohammad Nadi Al-Hashlamoun, 23, after raiding his home in the Ras al-Amoud neighborhood, east of occupied East Jerusalem.

The Israeli occupation police stationed at Bab Al-Ghawanima, one of the gates of Al-Aqsa Mosque, in the Old City of occupied East Jerusalem. In addition, the head of the Committee for the Care of Islamic Cemeteries in Jerusalem, Engineer Mustafa Abu Zahra, 69, was arrested while he was leaving the mosque and took him to Al-Maskobiyya investigation center. Later, Abu Zahra was released after handing him a decision of deportation from Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Old City for 15 days.

In the evening, the Israeli occupation forces arrested four citizens, who are residents of the Arab villages inside Israel, while they were inside the Bab Al-Rahma chapel, east of Al-Aqsa Mosque, in the Old City of occupied East Jerusalem, and took them to the Al-Qishla police station. Later on they were released after handing them decisions of deportation from Al-Aqsa Mosque. The detainees: Majd Kabha, 18, and Amir Abu Ata, 26.

The Israeli occupation forces stationed at Qalandia military checkpoint, north of occupied East Jerusalem, arrested Mahmoud Zughair, 27, while he was passing the checkpoint and confiscated his vehicle, before driving him to an unknown destination.

The Israeli occupation police arrested Hazem Wael Al-Sharbati, 27, while he was near Bab Hatta, one of the gates of Al-Aqsa Mosque, in the Old

City of occupied East Jerusalem, and took him to a police station in the occupied city.

On Tuesday, February 9, the Israeli occupation forces arrested three citizens, after raiding their homes in At-Tur neighborhood, east of the Old City of occupied Jerusalem. Those arrested were: Hamza Zaki Khwais, 18, Mohammad Hatim Abu al-Hawa, 19, and Zaid Abu Sebtian, 18.

At dawn, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Yitzhak Abu Hadwan, 24, after raiding his house in Al-Ram town, north of occupied Jerusalem.

In the evening, the Israeli occupation forces arrested the guard of Al-Aqsa Mosque, Ammar Othman Bakir, 43, while he was in the Bab al-Silsila area, one of the gates of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, in the old city of occupied Jerusalem.

On Wednesday, February 10, the Israeli occupation police imposed house arrest on the two young men, Anwar Sami Obaid and Mohammad Ali Derbas, who are from Al-Issawiya town in occupied Jerusalem, for five days. The occupation police on Wednesday released the two young men, Obaid and Derbas, on the condition that they impose house arrest on them. An elderly Jerusalemite, Nafisa Khwais, was also summoned to the Al-Qishla investigation center in the Old City of occupied Jerusalem. Local sources said that the occupation forces summoned Khwais, who was imposed on her to be deported from the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, and prevented her from being present on the roads leading to it, and that her summoning came to put pressure on her and prevent her from being in Al-Aqsa Mosque.

At dawn on Wednesday, February 10, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Mahmoud Abu Roomi, 35, after raiding his home in the village of Al-Issawiya, northeast of occupied Jerusalem.

In addition, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Abdul Aziz Khaled Damodum, 20, from El 'Eizariya town, east of occupied East Jerusalem.

At dawn on Thursday, February 11, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Yassin Taha, 27, after storming his home in the Shuafat refugee camp, north-east of occupied Jerusalem.

In the evening, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Waheed Eid Shabana, 52, from the At-Tur neighborhood, east of the Old City of occupied East Jerusalem, while he was on Salah El-Din Street, in the center of the occupied city, claiming his presence in the city is illegal. Shabana was transferred to the Postal Police center and he was detained in the police station until the next morning, and then he was deported to the West Bank, claiming that he holds a West Bank ID. Shabana's wife stated that her husband was raised in Jerusalem and studied in its schools, but his father moved in the eighties of the last century to reside in Ramallah after the arrest of Wahid at the age of 14 because of the occupation's pursuit of the family at the time. Shabana explained that her husband returned to the city of Jerusalem after spending 4 years in detention, despite losing his right to the Jerusalem identity card, and after he married her while she had a blue Jerusalem identity card, he submitted a request for family unification 4 times to the competent authorities, and each time it was rejected under the pretext of rejection. Security. Shabana indicated that she and her husband were arrested in June 2020 and were transferred to the Oz police station in Jabal al-Mukaber, and they were ill-treated and remained outside for hours awaiting entry to the investigation despite the cold weather at the time, explaining that the occupation forces released her at that time without investigation, while they released Her husband was later alone, and she took him to the Zaytuna checkpoint. Shabana indicated that her husband was deprived of residency among his children, the eldest of whom is 23 years old, and the youngest of whom is 13 years old, and he was deprived of his presence in the city in which he lived and raised, and he was

deprived of his work and source of livelihood, all under the pretext of illegal residence.

On Friday, February 12, the Israeli occupation forces arrested two citizens: Mohammad Munther Attiyah, 20, and Mohammad Ahmad Attiyah, 19, from Al-Issawiya village, northeast of occupied Jerusalem, while they were in the Damascus Gate area, in the center of the occupied city, after they performed Friday prayers at Al-Aqsa Mosque.

In the evening, the Israeli occupation forces, stationed at the military jeep checkpoint, northwest of occupied East Jerusalem, arrested the two brothers: Laith, 29, and Ahmed Eid Barakat, 27, from the village of Nabi Samwil, while they were crossing the checkpoint. The village of Nabi Samwil, which is located on the highest hill northwest of Jerusalem, is completely isolated from Jerusalem and the West Bank, by the annexation and expansion wall, which encircles the village, the settlement of Ramat Alon, and the neighboring national park, which the residents of the village are forbidden to enter. In addition, the residents of the village can only move through the military jeep checkpoint, which no one can pass through, unless he is a resident of the area and his ID number is registered in the checkpoint users' lists.

In the evening, the Israeli occupation forces arrested the child, Ahmed Abdel-Hafez Attia, 17, while he was on his way to the medical center in Al-Issawiya village, northeast of occupied East Jerusalem, to receive treatment, and took him to the Post Police Station on Salah El-Din Street, in the city center.

At night, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Sufyan Ahmed Abu Nab, 20, after they severely beat him, which led to his injuries and bruises, which necessitated his transfer to hospital, while he is under arrest.

At dawn on Sunday, February 14, the Israeli occupation forces arrested the two children, Mohammad Ashraf Sbitan, 16, and Mohammad Samer

Abu Al-Hawa, 16, after storming their homes in At-Tur neighborhood, east of the Old City of Occupied Jerusalem.

In the evening, the Israeli occupation forces arrested four children, including two brothers after raiding their homes in Shuafat neighborhood, north of the Old City of Occupied East Jerusalem. Those arrested were, Saif Walid Abu Khudair, 16, his brother Mohammad, 17, and their two cousins, Abd al-Rahman Abu Khudair, 16, and Mohammad Imad Abu Khudair, 17.

The Israeli occupation forces also handed over 20-year-old citizen Majd Khaled Sharifa a report to review the occupation at Al-Maskobiyya Police Station, after raiding his house in Bab Huta neighborhood, one of the old town hallways of occupied East Jerusalem. It is noteworthy that the ex-detainee Sharifa was arrested by the occupation forces on June 18, 2017, when he was 16 years old, and spent 11 months in the occupation prisons on charges of throwing stones at the settlers cars.

On Monday, February 15, the Israeli occupation forces arrested three citizens, after raiding their homes in Al-Ram, north of occupied East Jerusalem. Those arrested were, Photojournalist Saif Al-Din Al-Qawasmi, 19, Zuhair Ahmed Al-Hattawi, 22, and Wissam Raed Al-Hatawi, 19. The detainees were released after several hours of arrest. It is noteworthy that the ex-detainee, Wissam Al-Hattawi, was injured several years ago with a rubber-coated metal bullet in his left eye during clashes with the occupation forces.

On Wednesday, February 17, the Israeli occupation forces arrested the citizens, Mohammad Mustafa Abu Ramz, 21, and Mohammad Maher Mutair, 23, after raiding their homes in Qalandia Refugee Camp, north of occupied Jerusalem.

While citizens were celebrating the falling of snow on Thursday, February 18, the Israeli occupation forces stationed at Bab al-Amoud area in the center of the occupied East Jerusalem arrested Sajid Ammar al-Salaymeh, 22, and severely beat him, and took him to an unknown destination. A video clip spread through the media showed the violent assault of the Israeli border guards on the young Salaymeh, and the attempt to strangle him forcefully in the observation room that the occupation forces set up in the Bab al-Amud area.

The Israeli occupation police also arrested two citizens, Sami Abu Khudair, 21, and Laith Abu Khudair, 20, while they were near the main street in the Shuafat neighborhood, north of the Old City of occupied East Jerusalem, for allegedly of throwing an Israeli police vehicle with snow, and took them to the Nabi Ya`qub settlement police station, in the Beit Hanina neighborhood, north of the occupied city.

In the evening, four citizens were arrested while they were having fun in the snow in the squares of Al-Aqsa Mosque in the Old City of occupied East Jerusalem, and severely beat them, in conjunction with the gathering of large crowds of citizens, in the mosque's squares, who exchanged snow projectiles, before the special forces of the occupation police rushed towards them, trying to disperse them, claiming that they were exposed to snow projectiles. Those arrested were, Tariq Mahdi Al-Bashiti, 21, Ibrahim Ahmed Al-Zaghal, 20, Anas Jaber, 18, and Mousa Mohammad Hamdan, 19.

The Israeli occupation police arrested Alaa Muhammad Jaabis, 21, while he was in Jabal Al Mukaber town, southeast of occupied East Jerusalem, under the pretext that he threw an Israeli police vehicle on the site with snow, then took him to the Oz police station.

The Israeli occupation forces also arrested the two citizens, Sufyan Firas Abu Al-Hawa, 18, Ahmed Walid Kabaja, 20, while they were in the Mutla area, in At-Tur neighborhood, east of the Old City of occupied East

Jerusalem, after checking their identities, then took them to Postal Police Station on Salah El-Din Street.

On Saturday, February 20, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Raed Salah El-Din, 21, after raiding his home in Hizma, northeast of occupied Jerusalem.

In the evening, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Suhaib Arafat Al-Awar, 23, and raided his home in Wadi Yasoul neighborhood in Silwan town, south of the Old City of Occupied Jerusalem. Besides, his vehicle was confiscated too. It is noteworthy that the ex-detainee Al-Awar spent nearly two years in the occupation prisons.

The Israeli occupation forces also arrested Alaa Esmat Obaid, 33, after raiding his home in Al-Issawiya village, north-east of occupied East Jerusalem.

On the evening of Sunday, February 21, the Israeli occupation forces arrested the head of the Volunteer Association for Hope, Salvia Abu Laban, after raiding her home in Shuafat neighborhood, north of the Old City of occupied Jerusalem. It is noteworthy that Abu Laban was pursued, interrogated, and arrested several times, the last of which was in April 2020.

The Israeli occupation forces also arrested Khadija Mohammad Khweis, 42, while she was near Bab Al-Asbat, one of the gates of Al-Aqsa Mosque, in the Old City of occupied East Jerusalem, and took her to Al-Qishla police station, where she handed over a decision to deport her from Al-Aqsa Mosque for a week. It is noteworthy that the teacher Khweis, who was arrested several times, has been away from Al-Aqsa Mosque for years because of her activities inside it and her response to the repeated incursions by settlers.

In the evening, the Israeli occupation forces stormed Al-Thawri neighborhood, south of occupied East Jerusalem. These forces raided the home of the family of the researcher and the doctor, a specialist in Jerusalem affairs, Jamal Radwan Amr, 65. Dr. Amr's son, Radwan Amr, stated that a force of the occupation intelligence and special forces stormed his father's house in an attempt to arrest him, but he was not at the house and left him an immediate summons to the Intelligence Agency. Amr explained that upon his father's arrival at the Al-Maskobiya Center, he was interrogated for several hours about his role in the media, Jerusalem, and settlement issues, and his talk about the Golden Gate in Al-Aqsa Mosque. He pointed out that the occupation intelligence handed his father a decision to be deported from Al-Aqsa Mosque for 10 days.

At dawn on Monday, February 22, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Wissam Kanaan Al-Khatib, 23, after raiding his home in Hizma, northeast of occupied Jerusalem.

The Israeli occupation forces also arrested the citizens Islam Ismail Ibrahim, 22, and Amir Mohammad Ibrahim, 24, after they raided their homes in Anata town, northeast of occupied Jerusalem.

In the evening, the Israeli occupation police arrested the head of the Lady of the Earth Foundation, Dr. Kamal Al-Husseini, while he was in the Mount of Olives, east of the Old City of occupied East Jerusalem, for filming purposes, handing him a decision to prevent him from holding any national event in the city of Jerusalem, and raising the Palestinian flag there.

On Tuesday, February 23, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Mohammad Sa`ada Arman Saeed, 27, from Hizma, northeast of occupied East Jerusalem.

At dawn, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Mamoun Farhan, 29, after raiding his house in Shuafat Refugee Camp, north-east of occupied East Jerusalem, two days before his wedding.

In the morning, the Israeli occupation forces intercepted the crew vehicle of the Al-Alam news channel, while it was in At-Tur neighborhood, east of occupied East Jerusalem, for filming purposes, and proceeded to search and confiscate all its contents, and checked the crew members' cards, and arrested the photojournalist Ahmed Othman Jalajel, 42, and took him to the Al-Maskobiyya Police Station, in West Jerusalem, before being released.

The reporter for the channel Khader Shaheen, who was present with the channel's crew members, during the occupation forces' objection to his work in the At-Tur neighborhood, stated that "he and the Al-Alam News Channel crew members went to the At-Tur neighborhood to complete the preparation of a news report, during which the Israeli police intercepted them, searched their vehicle, and confiscated their identities, cameras, and equipment, then the cameraman, Ahmed Jalajil, was arrested, Shaheen explained, that the Israeli police addressed questions to the crew members and accused the photographer Jalajil of participating in activities classified as incitement according to their allegations. Jalajil was released after hours of interrogation with him, in the presence of his lawyer, provided that the investigation and trial procedures will be completed in the coming days.

At noon Wednesday, February 24, the Israeli occupation forces arrested six Palestinian women from the Damascus Gate area in Jerusalem.

The lawyer for the Wadi Hilweh Information Center - Jerusalem, Firas al-Jabrini, stated that the police arrested 6 girls while they were on their way to the Al-Aqsa Mosque through the Damascus Gate, under the pretext of entering Jerusalem without permission. The lawyer added that the forces drove the detainees to the Al-Qishla investigation center in the Old City of Jerusalem, and they were released and deported from the

military checkpoint at the entrance to the city of Bethlehem several hours later.

At dawn on Thursday, February 25, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Mohammad Shukri Al-Hanash, 41, after raiding his home in as-Sawahira ash-Sharqiya town, east of occupied Jerusalem.

The Israeli occupation forces also arrested the two citizens, Anwar Sami Obaid, 23, and Mahmoud Saadi Al-Rajabi, 24, after they raided their homes in Al-Issawiya village, northeast of occupied Jerusalem. It is noteworthy that the detainee, Obaid, was arrested 23 times over the past two years by the occupation forces.

In the evening, the Israeli occupation forces arrested the child Ali Orabi, 16, while he was in front of Al-Maskobiya Police Station, in West Jerusalem.

On Friday, February 26, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Mohammad Faris Abu Sbitan, 21, after they stopped the vehicle in which he was traveling, at the entrance to the At-Tur neighborhood, east of the Old City of occupied Jerusalem, and took him to Al-Maskobiyya Police Station, in West Jerusalem .

In the evening, the Israeli occupation forces arrested the citizens, Mohammad Jamal Ghaith, 22, and Youssef Ali Salah, 20, after raiding their homes in Batn Al-Hawa neighborhood in Silwan, south of the Old City of Occupied Jerusalem. It is noteworthy that the occupation forces returned and released citizen Salah, a day after his arrest, on the condition that he be deported from Batn Al-Hawa neighborhood for 15 days, and a financial guarantee of 5,000 Israeli shekels. As for the citizen Ghaith, his detention was extended to next Monday.

On the evening of Saturday, February 27, the Israeli occupation forces stationed at Qalandia military checkpoint, north of occupied Jerusalem,

arrested Maher Hamdallah Ahmed Othman, 28, from Abwein village, northwest of Ramallah, and took him to an unknown destination.

And at dawn on Sunday, February 28, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Mohammad Khaled Khweis, 21, after raiding his house in the At-Tur neighborhood, east of the Old City of occupied Jerusalem.

The Israeli occupation forces also arrested Firas Khader Obaid, 24, and the child, Hadi Ibrahim Derbas, 17, after raiding their homes in the village of Al-Issawiya, northeast of occupied Jerusalem.

The Israeli occupation forces also carried out 38 other incursions, during which they raided and arrested 18 civilians, before releasing them at a later time in the neighborhoods of occupied Jerusalem.

The follow-up of Europeans for al-Quds indicates that the majority of raids are part of a policy of collective punishment and attempt to harass Palestinians and push them to think about leaving the city. Israeli army intends to carry out most of the raids late at night, or at dawn, while Palestinians are asleep, causing fear, especially among children and women, in violation of the rules for dealing with civilians. This constitutes an explicit violation of Article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that “No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence”.

This campaigns include hazing, tampering, and deliberate sabotage of citizens’ property and furniture, which indicates that the goal of the Israeli army is to punish Palestinians. Incursions include a series of violations, most notably: attacks on citizens and their property, detentions, summons, house arrests, confiscating property, and imposing fines for arbitrary and punitive purposes.

Minors are not spared these arrest campaigns. They are taken from their homes at night and handcuffed without any justification. They are subjected to lengthy interrogations without prior access to a lawyer or parents. They are subject to harsh conditions, abuse, beatings, torture, threats and degrading treatment when arrested, interrogated and detained, in addition to imposing heavy fines on them.

#### **Fourth: Demolishing houses, properties, and objects**

In February, Europeans for al-Quds team monitored 20 attacks that varied between the demolition of the occupied Jerusalem, Which resulted in the demolition of 8 houses and 8 commercial facilities, knowing that the majority of them were self-demolished, which led to the displacement of dozens of citizens. Besides, Israeli forces destroyed 7 fences and 5 wells.

#### **Major demolitions and notifications:**

In the evening, February 2, Mo'ataz Ahmed Khalil self-demolished his house in al-Shayyah area in Ras al-'Amoud neighborhood, east of occupied East Jerusalem's Old City, pursuant to the Israeli Municipality's decision allegedly for unlicensed construction.

The houseowner, Moa'taz Khalil, said that he built his house 10 years ago where he lived with his wife and 2 kids, Norsin and Wadi'a. Khalil added that the Israeli Municipality has been haunting him since he moved to his house. Over the last years, the Israeli court held 9 hearings for the house and fined him with 24,000 Israeli shekels. Khalil said that the Israeli court asked his lawyer in the last hearing to pay 35,000 shekels as a guarantee until the next hearing on 17 February or he demolishes the house within a month. The lawyer informed the court that he cannot afford it as he has been unemployed since last March due to coronavirus pandemic. Khalil added that an Israeli officer arrived at the house and threatened him if he did not demolish his house, he will be forced to pay 50,000 shekels as well as the demolition costs for the Israeli Municipality officers. As a

result, he had to self-demolish his house with his brothers' help so that he spares himself the high demolition costs, which he cannot afford. Khalil also said that his 50Sqms house is comprised of 2 rooms and a bathroom in addition to an old room built on an area of 20 Sqms. Khalil pointed out that building his house cost him 200,000 shekels and he had to pay tens of thousands of shekels as lawyer's fees over the last years.

On the same evening, Ihsan Abu al-So'oud self-demolished his commercial facility in Ras al-'Amoud, east of occupied East Jerusalem's Old City, pursuant to the Israeli Municipality's decision allegedly for unlicensed construction. The facility's owner said that he had owned an automobile repair shop in Ras al-'Amoud neighborhood for 17 years on an area of 120 Sqms. Abu al-So'oud added that when renewed the shop 7 years ago, the Israeli municipality chased him and imposed construction fines of more than 70,000 shekels and he still pays for it. Abu al-So'oud also said that the court held several hearings for the shop, and in the last one, it issued a final decision to demolish it and gave him 21 days to carry out the demolition. As a result, he had to implement the demolition decision by himself although the shop was the only source of living for him and his sons who work with him.

On Wednesday, February 3, the occupation municipality crews in Jerusalem, accompanied by a military force, removed a tea and coffee wagon in the Old City of occupied Jerusalem, under the pretext of not being licensed. The wagon belongs to the Al-Shawish Al-Quds family, who confirmed that the wagon has existed in the same place for 53 years.

On Wednesday, February 4, Israeli occupation forces bulldozers demolished an under-construction house and 70-meter fences in Marj al-'Anati area in 'Anata village, northeast of occupied East Jerusalem, under the pretext of unlicensed construction. Taha No'man, 'Anata Mayor, said that IOF demolished an under-construction house which included a concrete-roofed room and fences belonging to 'Abdel Majeed 'Eid Ziyad, under the pretext of unlicensed-construction. No'man said that the Israeli

authorities demolished 12 facilities in 'Anata village last January and still carry out a fierce demolition campaign against houses and facilities in the village.

Anata area of 32 thousand dunams, surrounded by the Israeli West Bank barrier, 1500 of which are inhabited by the people of Anata, and what was left is outside the barrier, and all demolitions are inside the wall (out of 1500 dunams).



**The tea wagon removed by Israeli forces**

On Tuesday, 09 February 2021, the Israeli municipality bulldozers demolished an inhabited house in an old cave in al-Sheikh Jarrah in occupied East Jerusalem, belonging to Amnah Mohammed 'Ata Yousif without a decision to demolish it.

The house's owner, Amnah Yousif, said that the house belonged to her father Mohammed 'Atah Yousif who built it on land belonging to the endowments before 1948 in an old cave. Yousif said that none has lived in the house since her mother's death in 1995, but she comes from time to time to check it. Yousif said that she was surprised with the demolition of the house despite there was no decision by the Municipality to demolish it. She said that she only received only one day before an Israeli municipality decision preventing her from accessing the house within 15 days until she brings papers to the municipality and hires a lawyer to have an appointment at the court. Yousif said that the decision also would force her to pay 25,000 shekels if she approached the house within the mentioned period. Yousif emphasized that the Israeli municipality exploited the decision issued to demolish the house, which was 55sqms and included 2 rooms, a kitchen, and a bathroom in addition to a yard. She added that although the house was old, it had an amazing view as it overlooks the intersection and main entrance to the al-Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood.

On Friday morning, 12 February 2021, Abu Hedwan Family self-demolished an outside room built of steel and shed cloth and overlooking al-Aqsa Mosque, under the Israeli Municipality's decision issued under the pretext of unlicensed construction. Mohammed Abu Hedwan, one of the family members, said that the room was built a few years ago in the Dung Gate (Magharba) neighborhood in Silwan village, south of occupied East Jerusalem's Old City. He said that it was not covered in the beginning but later roofed with shed cloth to protect it from rain. Abu Hedwan explained that the family built the room so that all its members gather inside as their houses are very narrow and small. He added that the Israeli Municipality sent them a notice to demolish the

room and threatened them last week either to demolish it themselves or the Israeli Municipality crews will do and fine them with the demolition fees. Abu Wahdan also said that the room is 90 sqm near al-Aqsa Mosque, 70 members of Abu Hedwan family benefited from it by using it as a family council to receive guests.

On Saturday afternoon, 13 February 2021, Nemer Khalil Nemer self-demolished his residential apartment in Sur Baher neighborhood, south of occupied East Jerusalem, under the Israeli Municipality's decision under the pretext of unlicensed construction. The house's owner, Nemer Khalil Nemer, said that the apartment was built in 2015 on an area of 85 sqm, and he recently started repairing it so that his son, Jihad, and wife live in it. However, the Israeli Municipality issued a decision to demolish it and gave him until Monday morning to implement the decision. Nemer said that he was forced to implement the demolition decision and collect the rubble to spare himself the demolition fees imposed by the Israeli Municipality.

In the evening hours of the same day, citizen Omar Siyam demolished iron bricks that he uses to raise livestock in Silwan, south of the Old City of Occupied East Jerusalem, in implementation of the occupation municipality's decision, under the pretext of building without a permit. Siyam stated that he was forced to self-demolish the iron bricks, after the occupation forces notified him of a decision of demolition, and threatened him with heavy fines if the occupation municipality's mechanisms implemented the demolition decision. Siyam added that the total area of the bricks is about 60 square meters.

On Sunday morning, 14 February 2021, 'Awadallah family continued the demolition of their 2-storey residential building in Sho'afat neighborhood, north of occupied East Jerusalem's Old City, pursuant to the Israeli Municipality's decision allegedly for unlicensed construction.

Jihad 'Awadallah stated that his family's residential building was built 20 years ago, and its construction cost nearly half a million shekels. He added that the building comprised two apartments, each with an area of 120 sqms; one of them was uninhabited while the other was for his brother Mohammad and his family after he prepared it and paid more than 100,000 shekels to live in it. However, he had to leave it a while ago, after the Israeli municipality had haunted the family via courts and imposing fines of more than 120,000 shekels. 'Awadallah added that at the end of last year, the Israeli court issued its final decision to demolish the building and gave them until 05 January 2021, to implement the decision. As a result, the family had to demolish part of the building at the time, and today it resumes the demolition with the help of workers and vehicles, which cost them around 70,000 Israeli Shekels.

On Tuesday, 16 February 2021, Israeli Municipality bulldozers demolished a house built of bricks and fortified tinsplate in Ras Kabsah area in Ras al-Amud neighborhood, east of occupied East Jerusalem's Old City, under the pretext of building without a license.

The houseowner, Jihad Hasan Abu Romouz, 40, said that he was surprised with IOF surrounding his house on Tuesday morning, ordering him and his children to leave and vacate the house contents. He added that IOF did not allow him to take all his house contents and demolished it on the furniture, rendering him and his family homeless, without any prior warning in light of this cold rainy weather. Abu Romouz said that he built the house last November with 2 rooms of bricks and a barrack of steel and fortified tinsplate that included a living room, kitchen and toilet on an area of 90 sqms. Jihad Abu Romouz lived in the house with his wife and 2 sons, Mohammed (12) and Qosay (10). Abu Romouz added that the Israeli Municipality bulldozers demolished last August a 90-sqm house and re-demolished it on Tuesday morning under the pretext of building without a license although the Israeli Municipality refused to give him a license to build the area.

On the morning of the same day, Israeli Municipality bulldozers removed an iron fence surrounding a 55-sqm land in Deir As-Sanah in Jabal Mukaber village, southeast of occupied East Jerusalem, and damaged construction materials belonging to Amjad Talab.

Amjad Talab said that he set cement foundations on an area of 25 sqms to build a house, but the Israeli Municipality handed him a demolition decision and forced him to destroy it a month and a half ago. Talab also said that the Municipality bulldozers raided his land in the morning and removed the fence and steel angles surrounding it in addition destroying bricks, cement and sand that were in the place.

On Monday, 22 February 2021, Israeli municipality bulldozers demolished 'Alian Family 2-storey building in Al-Issawiya village, northeast of occupied East Jerusalem, under the pretext of no construction license.

Fadi 'Ali 'Alian, one of the residential apartments' owners in the building and in charge of al-Aqss Mosque's Guard Unit, said that large forces of Israeli soldiers, accompanied with 500 Israeli police officers gathered at the entrances to al-'Issawiya village in Monday's early morning and moved into the village. They deployed in the streets way to his family building, surrounded the building and closed all the roads leading to it. They raided the building and forcibly expelled all those inside, including women, children and young men, as well as the citizens gathered on the building roof attempting to stop the demolition. 'Alian said that the building was built 10 years ago; during which the Israeli Municipality issued a decision to demolish it and imposed on the family a fine for unlicensed construction of 16,000 shekels. The family thereby applied for the license with the help of lawyers and engineers as the building meets requirements necessary to accomplish all the license procedures and is within the new structural map of al-'Issawiya village. He added that the lawyer of his family had filed a petition before the Supreme Court of

Justice against the “Chemnitz” Law, which aims to accelerate house demolitions in Arab towns, but the Court rejected and referred the demolition decision of the ‘Alian family building to the Central Committee that had approved the decision. ‘Alian indicated that he was surprised yesterday evening with the Israeli Municipality’s call to inform him of its intention to implement the demolition order and they need to vacate the building the next morning. ‘Alian emphasized that the decision to demolish his family building was a political decision par excellence, especially since he previously received several calls from the Israeli Intelligence threatening him to demolish his family building if he continued to work as the Head of the Guard Unit in the mosque. He added that the IOF did not suffice with arresting him for a year and teasing him by denying him access to Al-Aqsa Mosque for long periods, but also implemented their threats and demolished his house and houses of his family. ‘Alian Family building, which is on an area of about 370 sqms of two floors that contain 4 apartments, sheltered ‘Ali ‘Alian, his wife and children, Amjad, Murad, and Fadi with their families (i.e. around 20 family members, including 12 kids.) After IOF finished the demolition and withdrew, they returned to confiscate the Palestinian flags that were fixed on the rubbles and fired rubber bullets and sound bombs randomly at dozens of citizens gathering there. As a result, Mohammed Abu al-Hummus, 51, Head of the Follow-up Committee in al-Issawiya village, was injured with a rubber bullet in the abdomen, after IOF hit him with rifles’ butts on his hand to smash his cell phone. He was taken to al-Maqased Hospital for treatment.

In the morning, Israeli occupation forces demolished 2 stores belonging to Mohammed ‘Omer Salman Tarshan in Sour Baher village, south of occupied East Jerusalem. The owner, Mohammed Tarshan, said that the Israeli Municipality demolished the 2 stores (each is 60 sqms) without any prior notice. Tarshan added that this is the second time IOF demolish his stores as the Israeli Municipality bulldozers demolished on 28 October 2020 2 stores that were built back in 1940 when they were rented as a

coffee shop and a flower shop in addition to an under-construction house in the second floor that is around 100 sqms.

On Friday, 26 February 2021, Israeli occupation forces demolished a tent sheltering 'Alian Family that was established by them on the rubble of their residential building, noting that the Israeli Municipality bulldozers demolished the building last Monday in al-'Issawiya village, northeast of occupied East Jerusalem, amidst IOF's heavy firing of rubber-coated bullets and sound bombs.

Fadi 'Alian, al-Aqsa Mosque's guard and one of the owners of the residential apartments demolished, said that IOF tore down his family tent set up on the rubble of their residential building that included 4 residential apartments and sheltered 20 persons, including 12 children, near the entrance to al-Issawiya village. Alian said that IOF was irritated by the citizens' solidarity with the family cause as they previously raided the tent and attacked those who were inside. They threatened the citizens in case they returned to the tent in solidarity with the family. 'Alian added that IOF again raided the tent in the dawn and removed it after firing sound bombs randomly to disperse those inside the tent. They also removed the solidarity slogans fixed on the building rubble. It should be noted that 'Alian family previously stated that the decision to demolish the family building, which was implemented last Monday under the pretext of unlicensed construction, was a political decision par excellence, especially since their son, Fadi, previously received several calls from the Israeli Intelligence threatening him to demolish his family building if he continued to work as the Head of the Guard Unit in the mosque. The family added that Fadi was arrested several times and teased him lately until they demolished the family building which was established more than 10 years ago under the pretext of unlicensed construction.

**The demolitions carried out by army forces are part of a systematic policy to forcibly displace Palestinians, with the aim of changing the demographic character of the occupied city. Such actions amount to a**

war crime. The policy of racial discrimination by Israeli forces is clear; while it places restrictions and obstacles on Palestinians preventing them from obtaining building permits, it uses the lack of permits as a pretext for mounting demolitions, besides security, punitive and other pretexts, which ultimately contribute to the policy of destroying houses in order to displace Palestinians, in return for allowing the establishment of hundreds of settlement units and providing support and budgets for Israelis to do so.

The illegal destruction and removal of civilians in the Occupied Territories violates the Fourth Geneva Convention and constitutes a war crime under Article 8 (item 4) of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court of July 17, 1998, which provides for the definition of the crime of aggression as: “Extensive destruction and appropriation of property, not justified by military necessity and carried out unlawfully and wantonly.”

#### **Fifth: Decisions of confiscating and seizing properties**

**Europeans for al-Quds documented the handing over of a residential building decision, and the families' appeal against the decision to evacuate 4 residential buildings for the benefit of settlement projects was rejected.**

On Sunday afternoon, 14 February 2021, the Israeli occupation authorities handed Batn al-Hawa Families' lawyer in Silwan village, south of occupied East Jerusalem's Old City, a decision by the Israeli Magistrate Court to vacate a residential building belonging to Younis Shehadah and his sons in favor of Ateret Cohanim Jewish organization.

Ibrahim Shehadah, Younis Shehadah's son, said that he was surprised with the Magistrate Court's decision to vacate his family's building comprised of 5 residential apartments and give them till next July to implement it. Shehadah said that his father presented all the papers to the court that prove he has lived in the building since before 1967. He

added that “all the allegations are void and fake, and we will resort to the courts to refute them although we know that the Israeli judiciary will not bring us justice,” emphasizing they would stay at their home and stick to it. Ibrahim also said that his father has not received the eviction decision yet, but their lawyer, Yazid Qe’awar, has it. He added that his father and siblings live in the residential building comprised of 5 apartments in Batn al-Hawa neighborhood. It should be noted that Younis Shehadah (83), his wife and children, Yousif, Mohammed, ‘Ali and ‘Alaa and their families of 22 members live in the building.

Head of Batn al-Hawa Neighborhood Committee, Zuhair al-Rajabi, said that 9 families out of 87 families have so far received eviction decisions from the Israeli courts from, indicating that most of them have filed appeals to the decisions, and others are waiting for the responses to their appeals. It is noteworthy that the families that received eviction decisions in Batn Al-Hawa neighborhood are: Dweik, Shweiki, ‘Awad Jaber al-Rajabi, ‘Odah, Jawad Abu Nab, ‘Abd Jaber al-Rajabi, Selm Ghaith, Rushdi Abu Ramouz and Shehadeh. The eviction decisions issued by the Israeli courts against the Palestinian families in favor of “Ateret Cohanim” settlement association came under the pretext of the land on which the houses are built belonged to the Yemeni Jews in 1892. Al-Rajabi indicated that the Israeli courts stated issuing eviction decisions against the residents of Batn al-Hawa neighborhood in 2015. The number of residents at risk of eviction ranges from 850 to 1000. He added that the Neighborhood Committee, in cooperation with human rights organizations, filed a case before the Israeli court against the “Ateret Cohanim” settlement association. The committee also filed a request to the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to stop the political evacuation decisions supported by the Israeli government, which aims to displace about 1,000 Palestinians.

On Monday afternoon, 15 February 2021, the Israeli District Court rejected the appeal filed by 4 Palestinian families from Karam al-Ja’ouni

area in Sheikh Jarrah, north of occupied East Jerusalem's Old City, demanding the court to stop evacuation of their houses in favor of Israeli settlers, who claim their ownership of the land, where the houses are built.

The families' lawyer, Sami Irshayed, said that the Israeli District Court rejected the appeal filed against the decision of the Magistrate Court to evict the families of Iskafi, Kurd, Ja'ouni and Al-Qasem from their houses in favor of settlers, and the families were given until 02 May to implement the eviction decisions. The families' lawyer, Sami Irshayed, added that Israeli bodies claimed ownership of the land where the families' properties are built in the "Karam al-Ja'ouni" neighborhood in Sheikh Jarrah, and it was registered in 1972. Thus, the Magistrate Court issued an eviction decision against the aforementioned families last October, and the families filed an appeal to the District Court which was rejected on Monday. The families intend to go to the Supreme Court to file another appeal. Lawyer Irshayed explained that the residents of the "Karam al-Ja'ouni neighborhood" in Sheikh Jarrah have lived in their houses since 1956, upon an agreement between the Jordanian government represented by the "Ministry of Construction and Development" and UNRWA, to provide residences for 28 refugee families in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood, in exchange for giving up their UNRWA relief cards, and one of the conditions was to pay a symbolic rent, provided that the property will be authorized for housing after 3 years, but this has not been done. Several years following the occupation of Jerusalem, the Israeli authorities began to pursue the residents of Sheikh Jarrah and demand that they vacate their houses under the pretext of "ownership of the land."

**The confiscations come to impose a demographic change in Jerusalem, and all its governmental, political, and security branches are used for that. On the other hand, the settlers and their settlement associations**

**are given free rein to control the largest possible number of properties in the city.**

### **Sixth: Settlement and Judaization**

The Israeli army authorities are seeking to impose a demographic change in the city of Jerusalem, and for this purpose they employ all their governmental, political and security branches. On the other hand, the settlers and their settlement associations are given free rein to control the largest possible number of properties in the city.

During this month, Europeans for al-Quds monitored three Israeli decisions related to approving new settlement units and planning to convert the Mufti's Palace into a synagogue.

#### **Details:**

On February 10, Hebrew media sources revealed a plan for the occupation town in occupied Jerusalem, aimed at expanding the settlement of Pisgat Ze'ev north of the occupied city, for 350 million Israeli shekels (about 110 million US dollars). The project includes building 900 new settlement units, in addition to building Commercial complexes and railway plans. The new plan follows the approval of the establishment of a large park in the settlement, spanning an area of 17 dunums, for 45 million shekels (about 14 million US dollars), to provide its services to several settlements in the occupied city.

On February 13, the National Bureau for Land Defense and Settlement Resistance revealed that the Prime Minister of the Occupation had agreed to establish settlement projects in the E1 area, which began with the construction of settler bypass roads linking settlements in Jerusalem envelope. The occupation authorities will work to deport Bedouin communities In the (E1) area and isolating the Palestinian areas in occupied Jerusalem from their Palestinian surroundings, according to the office.

In another context of demographic targeting, the occupation organizations are working to seize Palestinian homes in the areas surrounding Al-Aqsa. On February 14, the Israeli Magistrate's Court issued a decision to maximum vacate a residential building, belonging to the Jerusalemite, Yunis Shehadeh, until the end of August 2021. 22 Palestinians, who are the children and grandchildren of Shehadeh, reside in the building.

Israel's decisions reflect the ongoing policy of imposing a fait accompli of settlement and Israeli discrimination by increasing confiscation of Palestinian land and demolishing of their houses while allowing more residential units for Israeli settlers.

Israeli army continues expansion of settlement at the expense of the Palestinian lands in Jerusalem is a representation of Israel's efforts to change the demographic identity of Jerusalem. Settlement projects violate International Law which affirmed that the establishment of settlements and the transfer of people to the occupied territories violate international conventions, particularly the Fourth Hague Convention of 1907, the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, the Charter of the United Nation of 1945, the International Covenants of 1966, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 and the General Assembly and UN Security Council resolutions on the illegality of settlements and in the occupied territories.

The settlements expansion is a violation of Resolution 2334 which was overwhelmingly adopted by UN Security Council on December 23, 2016. UNSC demanded Israel to stop settlement activities in the occupied territories including East Jerusalem. The resolution affirmed the illegality of Israel's establishment of settlements in the Palestinian territories since 1967, including East Jerusalem.

## **Seventh: Attacks and Incursions into Al-Aqsa Mosque**

Israeli army forces have continued their incursions into Al-Aqsa Mosque, imposing restrictions on the access of Muslim worshipers to reach it, issuing Judaization decisions, and preventing the reconstruction of the Mosque while allowing settlers to storm it, imposing a new fait accompli there.

Al-Aqsa incursions usually take place in two periods: the first is from 11-7:30 am, and the second is from 2:30-1:30 pm. Stormings occur every day except on Fridays and Saturdays, with heavy guard from the Israeli special forces, policemen, and Intelligence officers.

Settlers' incursions start from the Dung Gate (Bab al-Magharibeh) in the west. Then, they head to the square of the Triple Chape and Solomon's Stables, then to the eastern wall of the Mosque near the Golden Gate, then along with the northern wall of the Mosque, all the way to the south to Cotton Merchant's Gate (Bab al-Qattanin) and they finally leave from the Chain Gate (Bab al Silsilah).

On the other hand, the occupation authorities continued excavation work in Al-Buraq Square and near the Dung Gate at the western wall of Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The occupation police activated the loudspeakers that they installed in the vicinity of Al-Aqsa, and confused worshipers during Friday prayers under the pretext of broadcasting instructions about the Coronavirus pandemic.

**It is clear that the Israeli army while imposing restrictions on the access of Muslim worshipers to Al-Aqsa Mosque and impeding its reconstruction, facilities settlers' incursions. The Israeli army's violations and restrictions in Al-Aqsa and Jerusalem come as part of the policy of collective punishment and a flagrant violation of freedom of worship, belief, access to holy places and places of worship, and practice of**

religious rites, which are guaranteed by all international conventions and agreements.

These aggressions have violated Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that stated, "Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private," as stipulated in Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Israeli aggressions have also violated UN Resolution 149 issued on December 11, 1948, that affirmed establishing UN Consolation Commission and placing Jerusalem under a permanent International order. The Resolution included the need to protect the holy places and religious buildings in Palestine and ensured free access to these sites according to the existing rights and the historical customs.

### **Eighth: Removals from Al-Aqsa Mosque and Jerusalem**

In February 2021, the Israeli authorities issued 29 removal decisions, 27 of them were deportation decisions from Al-Aqsa Mosque.

#### **The most prominent removal cases:**

On Saturday, February 6, the Israeli occupation authorities deported Fatima Khader, 63, from the town of Beit Hanina in occupied Jerusalem, from the Old City and Al-Aqsa Mosque for six months.

The occupation forces arrested the Jerusalemite Khadr on January 21, after storming and searching her house in the town of Beit Hanina, and released her at a later time.

On Monday, February 8, the occupation forces arrested the head of the Committee for the Care of Islamic Cemeteries in Occupied Jerusalem, Engineer Mustafa Abu Zahra, and took him to an interrogation center,

then released him after hours of interrogation on condition that she be deported from Al-Aqsa and the Old City for 15 days.

On the next day, the occupation authorities deported Al-Aqsa guard, Ammar Bakeer, after arresting him from inside Al-Aqsa, for a week, provided that he would review the occupation intelligence services after the expiration of the deportation period.

On February 10, the occupation forces deported three worshipers from Al-Aqsa for a week, following their arrest near the Bab Al-Rahma area.

On February 12, the Israeli authorities deported the Jerusalemite Wahid Shabana to the West Bank, claiming that he holds a Palestinian identity in the West Bank, even though he has lived in Jerusalem since his birth.

On February 15, the Israeli occupation authorities deported the two young men, Nizam Abu Rmouz, 39, and Majd Kabha, from Al-Aqsa Mosque and its courtyards. Abu Rmouz reported that the Israeli police handed him a new decision to deport him from Al-Aqsa and its gates for 6 months, after he was deported several times totaling more than 3 years, the last of which was in last August, for the same period. The occupation authorities also handed the young Majd Kabha, a resident of the occupied authorities in 1948, a decision to deport him from Al-Aqsa Mosque courtyards and gates for 4 months.

On February 21, the occupation authorities deported the teacher, Khadija Khwaisah, from Al-Aqsa for a week. The deportation was preceded by the arrest of Khwais from the door of the tribes, and interrogation with her at the Al-Qishla Center in the occupied city.

On February 22, the occupation authorities deported the academic Gamal Amr from Al-Aqsa for 10 days, following his arrest against the background of his statements on social Media networks about the targeting of Al-Aqsa Mosque in conjunction with the elections of the Israeli "Knesset".

Amr was arrested from his home before he received a decision of deportation from the mosque.

On the same day, the Israeli occupation authorities deported the 20-year-old young Daniel Zuhair Abu Nasra from the town of At-Tur in occupied Jerusalem for two weeks. This came after the occupation intelligence summoned him for interrogation at the Al-Maskobiyya Center, west of Jerusalem, and handed him a decision to be removed from his place of residence for 14 days, in addition to a two-day home detention.

Israeli forces' policy of removing Palestinians from Al-Aqsa Mosque is a violation of the right to worship, which has been affirmed by international conventions, as well as an attempt to remove influential Palestinian and Islamic leaders and personalities that confront the policy of imposing an Israeli de facto there. Thus, it is facilitating the army's attempts to carry out its repeated incursions and attacks.

Israeli army's continued practice of "forced removal" is a continuation of its violations of all international human rights conventions, and a clear violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which prohibits the forcible transfer and removal of protected persons from occupied territory to the territory of any other country. This removal policy is also considered a war crime and a crime against humanity under the Rome Statute.

### **Ninth: Settlers' attacks**

On the evening of Thursday, February 4, an Israeli settler attacked the Romanian Orthodox Church in the center of East Jerusalem, attempting to storm it, resulting in damage to its gate and main yard. The head of the Romanian Palestinian Friendship Association, Hashem Abu Lafi, stated that a settler attacked the church, after smashing the lock of one of its gates. Abu Lafi added that this attack was preceded by a long series of

attacks by extremist settlers and an attempt to attack clerics there. For its part, the Israeli police issued a statement on Sunday morning, stating that they had arrested a 41-year-old Israeli on suspicion of damaging the Romanian Orthodox Church in Jerusalem. In response to this, Israeli newspapers reported that the suspect threw rocks and bottles at the church's courtyard in the Al-Misrara area. It was explained that in an investigation opened by the Israeli police, it was revealed that the suspect had threatened in recent weeks that he intended to burn the church.

On the evening of Sunday, February 28, 17-year-old Mohammad Hassan Abu Al-Hummus was moderately wounded in the face, after settlers attacked him in the "French Hill" in occupied Jerusalem. Jerusalem sources reported that a group of settlers attacked a number of young men and boys with stones, sticks and hands while they were on "French Hill". Abu Al-Hummus, a resident of Al-Issawiya, had injuries to the face, which prompted him to be taken to hospital for treatment. This attack comes one day after settlers attacked a girl in the same area, where the occupation forces arrested three young Jerusalemites after they tried to defend the girl. The Jerusalemite lawyer, Hamzah Qutayna, indicated that the occupation forces, as usual, came to the scene quickly and arrested the youths and left the settlers who had attacked the attackers without any accountability.

On the same day, dozens of settlers assaulted the young man, Ibrahim Abu Hamed, while he was working in the One Hundred Shaareem neighborhood, west of Jerusalem, while driving his vehicle, by surrounding him, opening the vehicle doors, smashing its windows, hitting him and trying to suffocate him.

Concurrently, settlers attacked the Jerusalemites' vehicles while they were passing by Street No. 1, by throwing stones at them, which resulted in damage to several vehicles.

## **Tenth: Siege, barriers, and freedom of movement**

Israeli occupation forces continue to impose a suffocating siege on Palestinian towns and neighborhoods in occupied Jerusalem, restricting Palestinians' access from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. They only allow Palestinians with West Bank IDs, and only men above -55years old and women above -50years old to enter East Jerusalem without requiring prior permits, with conducting security checks as a condition of their entry. As for the rest of the Palestinians, they are required to obtain a special permit. The majority of Palestinians from the Gaza Strip are denied access to occupied Jerusalem and a very small number of Palestinians from Gaza are allowed in, after obtaining special permits.

Israeli army forces set up 13 fixed checkpoints in occupied Jerusalem and dozens of flying checkpoints that stop Palestinians as they pass through and abuse them.

This month, Europeans for al-quds observed more than 35 flying checkpoints in the neighborhoods of the occupied city.

### **Conclusion and recommendations:**

Field documentation showed that the Israeli army continued its attacks inside the occupied Jerusalem. During this month, the displacement and forced eviction of citizens from the Rababa Valley and the prevention of reconstruction of Al-Aqsa Mosque became clear. The Israeli occupation forces continued to demolish homes and civilian objects and carry out mass arrests.

The Israeli army continued its violations of the right to life and physical integrity and use excessive force and perpetuate a policy of abuse and pressure on the people of Jerusalem. It imposed an atmosphere that makes their lives harder in parallel with an escalation of arrests and

continuation of demolitions as part of a systematic policy to impose a fait accompli, dedicated to the Judaization of the city and the change of its geographical and demographic character.

**Therefor, Europeans for al-Quds:**

- Condemns the continued Israeli attacks against the Jerusalemites and their properties and believes that it is part of an attempt to liquidate Palestinian presence in the city and change its identity and Arab-Palestinian character.
- Warns of Israeli plans to establish a synagogue in the Mufti Palace and the danger of continuing to prevent the reconstruction of Al-Aqsa Mosque.
- Warns against Israeli plans of imposing a spatial and temporal division of Al-Aqsa Mosque causing new conflict and violence.
- Demands that UN assume its responsibilities in stopping Israel's violation of relevant Security Council resolutions. It is time to put in place some operational mechanisms to address Israel's deliberate violation of rules of international law.
- Calls upon the international community to assume responsibility and protect the city of Jerusalem and its Palestinian population as inhabitants of an occupied area under resolutions of UN Security Council and General Assembly, and by bearing their responsibility as Jerusalem falls under international responsibility following UN General Assembly Resolution 181.
- Urges the international community to work to end the policy of racial discrimination against Palestinians when it comes to interrogation, prosecution, and trials.

- Calls upon concerned international organizations to intervene to stop the policy of forced removals and violation of freedoms and right to worship.
- Reiterates its call on the international community to break the cycle of silence and go beyond statements of condemnation, by taking decisions and positions to stop military decisions which violate the rules of International Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law.

