



Occupation Crimes Report in Jerusalem Governorate during February 2023



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Occupation Crimes Report in Jerusalem Governorate

During February 2023

A martyr, about (165) arrests, (41) facilities that were demolished, and (3583) settlers stormed the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque during the month of February 2023

A fierce attack launched by the occupation against Jerusalemite prisoners and Jerusalemites declared civil disobedience in several areas of the governorate in response to the crimes of the occupation against them

The martyrs:

On the evening of February 10, settlers shot at the young Hussein Khaled Qaraq (32 years old) at the crossroads of the Prophet Samuel northwest of occupied Jerusalem, which resulted in his death from his critical wounds. It is reported that the martyr Qaraq lives in the town of Al-Issawiya, south of occupied Jerusalem, is married, and has three children.

Israeli media claimed that the martyr ran over a group of settlers who were present. After Qaraq had martyred, the occupation forces arrested his wife, parents, sisters, and brothers.

At the dawn of Sunday, February 12, the occupation forces closed two homes for the martyr's family, in the town of Al-Tor, east of occupied Jerusalem, the first for his father and the other for his sister.

A huge numbers of occupation forces stormed the town of Al-Tor, surrounded the house, and closed the road leading to it. The occupation soldiers began closing the doors of the house and its windows with the (iron sheets), after demolishing its internal walls with hand tools, after the family gave a few hours to empty its contents.

On February 15, the Jerusalem occupation municipality decided to fire the Jerusalemite, "Aya Qaraq," the wife of the martyr Hussein Qaraq, from her job as educational aid in the occupied Jerusalem schools affiliated to the occupation municipality.

On February 27, the homes of the Qaraq family were reopened in the town of Al-Tor in occupied Jerusalem, after the occupation decided to close them.

The file of the martyrs whose bodies are detained by the occupation

On February 5, the occupation authorities handed over the body of the holy martyr Muhammad Ali (17 years) from the Shuafat camp in north-eastern occupied Jerusalem, after holding him for more than two weeks, then large audiences from the camp and the city of Jerusalem held the funeral of the martyr, in a march that started from his home towards the Anata Cemetery.

It is reported that the martyr Muhammad Ali was martyred on January 25, after he was shot by the occupation during confrontations that broke out in the Shuafat camp, after the occupation forces demolished the home of the martyr Adi Al-Tamimi

During the month of February of 2023, the occupation authorities detained the body of the martyr Hussein Qaraq, which has increased the number of Jerusalemite martyrs

whose bodies are being held by the occupation authorities in the occupation refrigerators and the number graves 25. They are: the martyr (Khairi Alaqam), the martyr (Say goodbye to Abu), in 2023, the martyr (Karim Al Qawasmi), the martyr (Muhammad Abu Juma), and the martyr (Barakat Odeh), the martyr (Hubbas Ryan), and the martyr (Aamir Al Halabi) in 2022 ,The martyr (Fadi Abu Shakhidem) The martyr (Mahmoud Hamidan) The martyr (Ahmed Zahran) The martyr (Zakaria Badwan) and the martyr (Shahir Abu Khadija) And the martyr (Ahmed Erekat) and (Ibrahim Helsa) in 2020, and the martyr (Asir Aziz Owaisat) in 2018, and the martyr (Fadi Qanbar) in 2017, Al-Shah ,The martyr (Nabil Halabi) and the martyr (Osama Bahr) in 2001, the martyr (is a full bogged down) in 1986, and the martyr (Jaserstat) in 1968.

Civil disobedience:

As a result of the continuation of the daily occupation crimes against the people of Jerusalem and all the Palestinian governorates, such as killing, arresting, demolishing homes, and using prisoner, In addition to the abuse, repression, and daily attacks on the Shuafat military checkpoint, and as a protest by citizens in occupied Jerusalem against all these crimes, the national and Islamic forces called to civil disobedience and a comprehensive strike in the Jerusalem governorate.

On February 19, the towns of Anata, the Shuafat camp, Jabal Al-Mukabber, Al-Issawiya, Al-Tor and Ram in the occupied Jerusalem governorate joined the civil disobedience, so the youths closed the entrances to the Shuafat camp, Anata, Jabal Al-Mukabber, Al-Ram and Al-Issawiya in the early dawn hours.

Clashes erupted between youths and the Israeli occupation forces at the entrances to Al 'Issawiya village, Jabal Mukaber and Shu'fat refugee camp, after the implementation of civil disobedience, during which the occupying forces fired tear gas canisters and summoned a car for wastewater.

The occupation forces summoned a bulldozer to remove the barriers that the youths placed after declaring disobedience in the Shuafat camp, the town of Al-Issawiya, and Jabal Al-Mukabber in occupied Jerusalem. However, this did not discourage young men from closing roads to complete civil disobedience against the occupation. The occupation forces removed Palestinian flags and flags from the town of Al-Issawiya in occupied Jerusalem.

Settler attacks

Settler attacks and provocations are increasing in frequency every month. During the month of January, settlers carried out about (9) attacks punctuated by two physical abuse attacks. Among the attacks was the throwing of stones by settlers towards the people on the road to the town of Beit Aksa in occupied Jerusalem.

Settlers attacked the “Christ's imprisonment” in the Old City of occupied Jerusalem. On February 6, the deputy mayor of the occupation, Arye King, and a group of settlers planted trees on the land of Jerusalem citizenship (Fatima Salem) in the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood of occupied Jerusalem. This is a continuation of the chain of confiscation of the property of the Jerusalemites pursued by the occupation authorities.

A number of settlers attacked the homes of citizens in the Wadi Helwa neighborhood of Silwan, and a number of other settlers attacked the homes of the people in the town of Umm Tuba, south of occupied Jerusalem.

On February 22, settlers stormed the town of Beit Iksa in occupied Jerusalem, made racist slogans and damaged vehicle tires.

Recorded injuries

During the month of January, Jerusalem Governorate monitored injuries resulting from the use of excessive force by the occupation forces against Jerusalemites in various parts of the occupied capital. About (30) injuries as a result of live and metal bullets coated with rubber and severe beatings by the occupation forces, in addition to hundreds of cases of gas asphyxia.

Violations and challenges in the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque

The Israeli occupation forces has imposed restrictions on the doors of the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, harassed and searched worshipers and confiscated their identity cards, in conjunction with securing the incursions of settlers into the courtyards of Al-Aqsa Mosque. The Jerusalem Governorate monitored the incursions of extremist settlers into the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque during the month of February, as (3583) settlers and (63,040) under the name of tourism stormed the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque under the strict protection of the heavily armed special occupation forces.

The file of excavations under the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and preventing restoration

On February 6, a stone fell from the outer surface of the Dome of the Rock prayer in the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, and this stone is part of ceramic tiles measuring (20 * 20) cm

approximately, added to the Dome of the Rock Mosque after the recent Egyptian restoration. It fell from the western façade under the gutter to the polygon to the left of the main western entrance to the Dome of the Rock Chapel. This is in conjunction with the occupation's prevention of restoration work.

On February 8, rainwater seeped into the Marwani prayer hall, one of the chapels of Al-Aqsa Mosque, through holes in its roof, due to the occupation preventing the Islamic Endowments Department from restoring Al-Aqsa prayer rooms. The water leak led to the sinking of the prayer hall's carpets in separate places, forcing Al-Aqsa guards to put plastic sheets in the places where water leaked, to try to minimize the damage to them.

It is noteworthy that the occupation over the years prevents restoration operations in Al-Aqsa Mosque, while it continues excavation work in Al-Buraq Square, and the construction of Judaization tunnels under the mosque.

Arrests

Arrests carried out by the occupation forces continue brutally against the people in the Jerusalem governorate, as about (165) a case of detention of citizens in all areas of the Jerusalem governorate was monitored during the month of February.

Decisions of the occupation courts

The occupation courts impose unfair decisions against the detainees, ranging from issuing actual prison sentences, imposing house arrest, in addition to deportation decisions and heavy fines, including those against whom the occupation court issued travel bans, in addition to extending the detention of a large number of detainees for long months without bringing clear charges against them.

1. Actual prison terms

The racist occupation courts (35) issued a sentence of actual imprisonment against Jerusalem prisoners, including (14) administrative detention ruling "that is, without clearly identifying a charge against them" «In addition to imposing very heavy financial fines which increase the suffering of their families.

One of the highest sentences issued by the occupation authorities during the month of February was the sentence issued against the prisoner of Jerusalem, Muhammad Fahmi Muhammad Al-Farroukh (44 years old), from the town of Silwan, where the occupation authorities sentenced him to 19 years in prison.

2.Home imprisonment decisions

In addition, 30 house arrest orders issued by the occupation authorities against Jerusalemite citizens, including many children, were monitored. The duration of the house arrest orders issued ranged from two to 15 days.

3.Deportation and travel ban decisions

The month of February witnessed the issuance of deportation orders by the occupation authorities from the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Old City, in an attempt to control Al-Aqsa Mosque and the surrounding places, so they issued about (18) deportation orders, including (6) decisions to deport from Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The occupation authorities also renewed a travel ban on one of the Jerusalem marabouts until July 21.

Demolition and bulldozing operations

During the month of February, (44) structures were demolished and bulldozed in the occupied Jerusalem governorate, of which (13) structures were forcibly self-demolished, in addition to (3) land levelling operations.

During the month of February, Israeli vehicles and crews demolished 28 facilities, including 9 houses, 7 shops, two agricultural facilities, a café, a wooden room, a retaining fence, a barracks, a parking lot, caravans and horse breeding barracks, 3 water tanks, and two agricultural barracks.

Demolition decisions, forced evictions and land confiscation

The occupation authorities handed over about 36 demolition notices to a number of commercial establishments and houses, perhaps the most prominent of these notices was in Al-Sala'a neighborhood in Jabal Al-Mukaber town, where the occupation forces distributed demolition notices to about 20 shops, and on February 16, the occupation authorities suspended demolition orders on some doors of the homes of the residents of the town of Al-Isawiya after storming it, announcing a new massacre in the town, as the decisions included ten residential buildings each building contains two apartments - ten apartments or more.

Land confiscation:

The Israeli occupation forces issued a decision regarding the confiscation of an area of (252,395) dunums of land in the town of Hizma under the pretext of expanding the main

road between the towns of Hizma and Jaba, northeast of occupied Jerusalem, so that the lands threatened with confiscation under that pretext become more than (500 dunums) owned by citizens of the town of Hizma, part of which is located within the boundaries of the so-called "occupation municipality", and the other part is within the boundaries of the "Civil Administration".

Violations against prisoners

During the month of February, the occupation government launched a campaign against the prisoners. The occupation authorities imposed financial penalties in addition to seizing private property for "243" Palestinian prisoners, including about "168" prisoners from occupied Jerusalem, on the pretext that they received money from the Palestinian Authority.

On February 15, the Israeli Knesset approved by a majority the draft law to withdraw citizenship or residency and to deport Palestinian prisoners or those released from prisons from the interior and Jerusalem if it is proven that they received any funds from the Palestinian Authority.

On February 26, the Israeli Ministerial Committee for Law-Enacting approved the law on the execution of prisoners who carried out operation.

In implementation of the decisions of the occupation government, on February 13, the occupation intelligence seized the bank account of the liberated prisoner "Walid Alyan" from the village of Al-Issawiya, and confiscated all the money in his possession on charges of receiving a prisoner's pension from the Palestinian Authority.

The Israeli occupation forces also raided the house of the Jerusalem editor "Ibrahim Derbas" in the town of Issawiya, and confiscated an amount of \$ 1,500 and some of the contents of the house, in addition to imposing a fine of 107,000 shekels on him. In addition, the occupation forces stormed the house of the prisoner "Tamer Muhareb Malihat", who has been a prisoner for some time, and the house was searched under the pretext that the family received a salary from the authority (prisoner's salary), and the occupation demanded the family an amount of 65 thousand shekels, and the mother's vehicle was detained with a value of 180 thousand shekels, and summoned to court.

On 16 February, the Israeli occupation forces raided the house of the Jerusalemite prisoner "Ahmed Manasra" and seized gold jewelry, money and personal property after vandalizing the contents of the house. The Israeli occupation forces also raided the house of the liberated prisoner, "Mohammed Hassan Al-Ferrari", and seized a large amount of

money from his father's bank account. The Israeli occupation forces raided the house of the Jerusalemite prisoner "Obeida Al-Taweel" in the town of Beit Hanina, and seized money, private property and gold jewelry. In addition, the occupation authorities decided to seize the bank account of the Jerusalemite prisoner, "Muhammad Arafat Obeidat", sentenced to 19 years in prison, and the occupation authorities decided to close the bank account of the father of the Jerusalemite prisoner, "Bashar Al-Obaidi", it is reported that the prisoner spent nine years in captivity and is scheduled to be released after four months.

On February 19, the Israeli occupation forces stormed the house of the liberator "Abbas Al-Salhi" in the town of Shuafat in occupied Jerusalem and seized an amount of 650 shekels and silver jewelry.

On February 21, the Israeli occupation forces raided the house of the prisoner "Mohammed Farhat", destroyed its contents and confiscated a sum of money.

The Israeli occupation forces raided the house of the liberated prisoner "Muhammad Qarsh Abu Hassiba", residents of Beit Hanina, seized his private car, searched his house and seized some formula and cash.

On February 26, the Israeli occupation forces raided the house of the two prisoners, "Saud Alyan" and "Mansour Al-Abbasi" in Silwan, and seized a sum of 30,000 shekels inside the bank from the account of the released prisoner Saud Alyan. The Israeli occupation forces stormed the house of the liberated Jerusalemite prisoner "Suhaib Al-Awar" in Silwan town and searched its contents. The Israeli occupation forces confiscated the vehicle of the liberated prisoner "Walid Alyan" from the town of Issawiya while he was passing through the Damascus Gate area in occupied Jerusalem.

The occupation summoned "Mahmoud Muhammad Alyan", the father of the prisoner Saud Alyan, and the occupation police informed him that all properties registered in his name would be seized.

As part of the restrictions on the prisoners and their families, the occupation handed over on February 13 the liberated prisoner Munther Hamada a decision to prevent the visit of his wife, the prisoner of Jerusalem, Fadwa Hamada, for a period of 4 months.

Violations against Jerusalem Institutions and Monuments

In continuous attempts to suppress the presence of Jerusalemites and undermine any Jerusalemite efforts inside the city of Jerusalem, the occupation continues to target

educational institutions and students, as the occupation forces fired tear gas canisters at students at Al-Quds University Abu Dis in occupied Jerusalem.

Settlers attacked land belonging to the orphanage school in the Wadi al-Rababa neighborhood in the town of Silwan in occupied Jerusalem. On 15 February, the Israeli occupation forces assaulted a student and forced him to undress despite the cold weather, then beat him and arrested him, and when his sister tried to document the moment of his arrest, a female soldier attacked her at the checkpoint of the apartheid Shuafat camp.

The Israeli occupation forces also obstructed students' access to their schools by imposing restrictions on the checkpoint of the apartheid Shuafat refugee camp in Jerusalem more than once during the month. On 25 February, the Israeli occupation forces prevented student buses from passing through the same apartheid checkpoint. The Israeli occupation forces also searched a child with special needs at the Shuafat refugee camp checkpoint, in violation of international laws and conventions.

On February 25, the Committee of Parents of Al-Mevlevi School in the Old City of occupied Jerusalem organized a sit-in and a stand against the decision of the occupation municipality to merge Al-Mevlevi School for Girls and Al-Omariya Boys into one mixed school, and to evacuate Al-Qadisiyah School for settlement and Judaization purposes.

On February 8, the Israeli occupation forces arrested Ahmed Hababeh, a journalist for Palestine TV, while he was passing through a checkpoint near the town of Beit Ikra northwest of occupied Jerusalem.

On 13 February, the Israeli occupation forces assaulted a number of journalists and prevented them from covering the demolition of houses in the town of Jabal Mukaber, and Al-Jazeera cameraman Wael Al-Salaymeh was injured by rubber bullets in the foot.

As part of the attack on medical centers, the Israeli occupation forces raided a medical center in Ras Khamis neighborhood, northeast of occupied Jerusalem, searched it and tampered with its contents.

Violations against Christian monuments

On February 2, (3 settlers) stormed the " Christ Confinement " church in the Old City of occupied Jerusalem, opposite the Al-Omariya school, and they broke and destroyed some of its contents and tried to set it on fire with the aim of burning it, and the guard at the place confronted them and informed the occupation police to deal with them.

It is reported that this fourth attack, to which Christian places of worship in Jerusalem have been subjected by Jewish extremists, since the beginning of this year, when the cemetery of the Episcopal Church was attacked and broken by crosses, the Armenian Patriarchate was also subjected to an attempt to storm it, and wrote racist phrases on its walls.

Settlement projects

The occupation authorities seek to impose a new reality on the occupied city of Jerusalem through the implementation of dangerous settlement projects. In February, the occupation authorities continued to work on 4 settlement projects, the most prominent of which were: -

The Marker Hebrew website said that the "Israeli" government coalition led by right-wing parties is pushing forward a plan to establish a settlement neighborhood on the lands of Jerusalem International Airport, near Qalandia camp north of occupied Jerusalem.

The website indicated, according to the translation of the "Al-Hudhud" website, that the settlement neighborhood will be built on an area of one thousand and 243 dunums, which had been controlled by the occupation authorities, and the so-called "Israel Land Fund".

The website added that "the planned will include nine thousand settlement housing units, and will also include about 350 thousand square meters of trade, labor and tourism areas".

It also indicated that the new government coalition "is trying to advance this plan, which is the subject of dispute, after about three decades during which the government refrained from planning and developing settlements within the 1967 borders".

The Hebrew website claimed that "the United States has put international pressure on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to prevent the establishment of this neighborhood, because it will cut off regional communication for Arab neighborhoods and prevent their expansion, and affect the possibility of a political settlement in the future".

And it added that the plan returned to the table of the so-called "The District Committee in Jerusalem" last year, "but its approval was delayed due to the requirement to conduct an environmental survey".

It continued: "Last week, there were deliberations with the participation of Netanyahu and representatives of the coalition blocs on the issue of re-pushing the plan forward, and some of them even toured the land allocated for construction."

- The occupation municipality has begun to establish a new base in the Wadi al-Rababa neighbourhood as part of what is known as the suspension air bridge project, which will allow for an increase in the number of settlers who stormed the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque.

- The occupation authorities announced a new settlement plan on the occupied lands of Jerusalem, through which they seek to continue to change the features of the holy city and erase its Palestinian Arab history, according to analysts.

The plan includes the construction of settlement commercial centers and towers, as well as large areas of construction for settlement housing and recreational centers for settlers, on an area of about 1.2 million square meters.

Khalil al-Tafakji, an expert on settlement affairs, confirmed that "the project is located at the entrance to western Jerusalem, specifically on the lands of the town of Lifta, destroyed in 1948, and will establish so-called sovereign institutions."

"Tunnels and railways will pass through the underground in the area to connect them directly with Tel Aviv, as well as embassies and hotels," he said.

"What was announced in the media was a literal translation from Hebrew into Arabic without verifying the locations that were indicated on the ground, meaning that it shows that the settlements are east of Jerusalem, which is not true," he said.

Nasser al-Hadmi, head of the Jerusalem Anti-Judaization Committee, said, "The project is considered old-new, and it is a replacement Judaization project within the framework of the occupation's Judaization strategic projects, through which it seeks to erase Jerusalem's landmarks and history."

"Since its inception, the occupation, as part of one of its central strategies, has destroyed and wiped out about 500 Palestinian villages in order to change the country's features," al-Hadmi said.

He pointed out that "the occupation's efforts to change the features of the city of Jerusalem have existed since previous projects, including what (Avigdor) Lieberman talked about when he was a minister in the government of (Benjamin) Netanyahu, about the need to change the entrances to the city of Jerusalem, especially the northern and southern entrances, and change their historical identity."

- Researcher Moaz Ighbaria revealed the existence of a tunnel under the Al-Maghariba neighborhood, extending from the bottom of the southwestern Al-Aqsa wall, to the Al-Buraq Wall, explaining that the tunnel is branched water channels. It will be prepared, to open it to tourists.

"The occupation authorities will open the tunnel to tourists, after preparing it and removing what is inside, explaining that the occupation will erase all Arab-Islamic monuments and inscriptions inside it, to remove any evidence indicating the Arab presence in it," Ighbaria added.

And he said also that "The water channels are ancient and long time old, and their falling under the control of the occupation and their exploitation of them in all respects will be a loss of our rich archaeological resources".

An academic and specialist in Jerusalem affairs, Jamal Amr, said that "the tunnel is located under the Moroccan neighborhood and the neighborhood of honor, adding, that it is not an ordinary tunnel, but rather a network of complex tunnels, and the main tunnel of which goes from north to south, towards Silwan, and these tunnels date back to the Canaanite Jebusite era, and they fall under the oldest water system in all cities of the world, in the name of the Jerusalem water system."

"These tunnels have branches that go in all directions under Al-Aqsa Mosque," Amr said, describing them as a complex network by all standards.

He added that "a branch of these tunnels is heading towards the Bab al-Silsila bridge, and recently work is being completed on a tunnel heading from this network towards the Jaffa Gate, and another tunnel towards Solomon's Cave, adjacent to Damascus Gate from the side of Bab al-Sahira, and this tunnel penetrates the Old City, from under the Hospice building."

"These tunnels represent a great danger, because most of their engineering plans are hidden, and the occupation does not allow the tunnels to enter or photograph them," he said.

Amr added that the tunnel plan includes the occupation attempt to enter through the Al-Buraq Wall, between the Islamic Museum and the tribal chapel, and stressed that entering the area will be a major disaster and the number of churches will then reach 102 synagogues, around Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Amr pointed out that "the occupation has expanded the network and opened large gaps in it, to become tourist stations, where the biblical Talmudic narrative is presented. Israeli

tour guides are telling their own false narratives that these tunnels date back to the First and Second Temples."

"The continuous digging of these tunnels has led to cracks in the buildings of Al-Aqsa Mosque, and in the walls and floors," Amr said.

He stressed that "what is happening in the buildings is an attempt to Judaize the vicinity of Al-Aqsa," considering that "the fall of the stones of Al-Aqsa Mosque, on the basement, and the cracks in the Islamic Museum, are all indicators of tampering in this square between Bab Al-Maghariba and the tribal chapel, which can accommodate thousands of worshipers, and if it is penetrated, there will be a disaster that befell Al-Aqsa Mosque."

The latest series of tunnels is one of the most dangerous complex and interconnected settlement projects, which extend beneath the Al-Aqsa Mosque, and which seek attempts to implement the plans of the so-called "Temple".

Last January, according to the Arab Studies Association, the District Committee for Planning and Building in the Israeli municipality in Jerusalem announced the deposit of a master plan in the settlement of Neve Yaakov, which was built on the lands of the village of Beit Hanina, to expand the construction and addition of 16 housing units on an area of 1.2 dunums.

The local committee for planning and building in the occupation municipality in Jerusalem also announced the application for a permit in the settlement of Ramat Shlomo, to build an institution.

The District Committee for Planning and Building in the Israeli Municipality in Jerusalem announced the request for a building permit to add a floor to an existing building in the settlement of Givat Hamftar.

The District Committee for Planning and Building in the Israeli Municipality in Jerusalem announced the amendment of the master plan in the settlement of Ramot, with the aim of increasing the area from 44.6 dunums to 45.1 dunums, and increasing it. The number of housing units from 200 units to 263 units, and the project was approved on 11/1/2019.

The information attached to the above report was monitored on a daily basis by the Public Relations and Media Unit in Al-Quds Al-Sharif Governorate.