Wadi al-Hummus in Jerusalem is facing Israeli ethnic cleansing:

Human rights violations in Jerusalem in July 2019

Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor and HUMENA for Human Rights and Civil Participation
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Introduction

The Israeli authorities have escalated their abuses against Palestinians living in occupied Jerusalem. July 2019 witnessed the largest demolition orders in one day since 1967 that reached 11 buildings with a total of 72 apartments, in a crime that amounts to ethnic cleansing.

In the context of shooting crimes and violations of the right to physical integrity, the Euro-Med and HUMENA documented during the reporting period the injury of seven Palestinians, including a child, a journalist and an elderly, in five raids involving gunfire and direct assault.

The Israeli forces conducted 43 raids in the towns and neighborhoods of occupied Jerusalem, during which 102 Palestinians were arrested, including 19 children, in addition to three females, one of them is a child, and a journalist.

This month, the Euro-Med and HUMENA documented two incidents which reveal the Israeli authorities’ disregard for childhood, including summoning Mohammed Rabi’ Alayyan, four years old, and Qais Firas Obeid, six years old, under the pretext of throwing stones at Israeli forces.

Among the crimes of systematic demolitions carried out against Palestinians’ homes and property in occupied Jerusalem, the Israeli authorities destroyed in July a car park, a garage, a warehouse, a car wash, and five commercial facilities, in addition to the demolitions that took place in the Wadi al-Hummus neighborhood. Several parties, including the Israeli government, municipal authorities of Jerusalem or judicial authorities, collude to carry out systematic demolitions aimed to displace Palestinians, as part of the occupation’s efforts to change the demographic reality in the occupied city. The Israeli authorities claim that demolitions are due to the lack of permits, while denying Palestinians permits despite their attempts to obtain them.

The Euro-Med and HUMENA monitored five serious violations as part of crimes of settlement expansion and Judaization of the occupied city, most notably the seizure of a Palestinian house and the evacuation of a building by force in order to hand both over to the Israeli settlers. At the same time, the Israeli occupation authorities approved the establishment of 216 new housing units in the Gilo settlement.

This Israeli systematic policy reflects its apparent pursuit of a demographic change in Jerusalem, employing all its governmental, political, and security arms, to achieve this end. On the other hand, they allow settlers and their associations to control as many
properties as possible in the city.

The Euro-Med and HUMENA documented the Israeli authorities' removal of seven Palestinians from Al-Aqsa Mosque, including a woman and a child. On the other hand, more than 840 settlers stormed Al-Aqsa, accompanied by tight security from the Israeli police and special forces, where most of the storming was accompanied by provocative acts and attacks on those present at the place from The Moroccan Gate (Bab al Magharibah). In this report, the Euro-Med and HUMENA examine the abuses against the Palestinians in Jerusalem from a legal point of view, taking into account the responsibility of the Israeli authorities and the status of Jerusalem in international law.
First: Shootings and violations of the right to physical integrity

During the reporting period, the Israeli forces have injured seven Palestinians, including a child, a journalist and an elder, in five raids that included shootings and direct assault, in the neighborhoods of occupied Jerusalem. Details of the attacks are as follows:

On Tuesday, July 2, 2019, the Israeli forces opened fire at ‘Ali Bilal Taha, 16. According to the follow-up, after the child was injured, the Israeli forces arrested and dragged him on the ground for a period of time near a checkpoint without being treated. In addition, the Israeli forces used live ammunition and tear gas canisters to suppress the demonstrators. As a result, dozens of Palestinian civilians suffered from suffocation due to tear gas inhalation.

About a week later, on Wednesday evening, July 10, 2019, during a raid in the village of al-Issawiya, northeast of Jerusalem, the Israeli forces raided the home of the family of Mohammed Samir Obeid, 20, who was killed by the Israeli forces in late June 2019 and destroyed the monument the residents in his memory. The Israeli forces besieged the area and prevented Palestinians from approaching it by force.

During their withdrawal from the area, the Israeli forces fired rubber-coated metal bullets indiscriminately and beat young men, women and elders.

According to field researchers, four Palestinians were injured and taken to a clinic for treatment. One of them was Na’im Hamdan, 63, diagnosed with diabetes, who was bruised and fainted after being beaten. He was injured in his hand’s palm after the Israeli forces handcuffed him in an attempt to arrest him. In addition, three Palestinians suffered from suffocation and burns after being sprayed with pepper gas. The Israeli forces arrested Mohammed Abu Sobeih, 17, and Mus’ab Amin Muheisen, 16, and severely beat him, causing bruises and injuries.
On Saturday, July 20, 2017, the Israeli forces fired tear gas and sound bombs at people protesting against the Israeli authorities’ decision to demolish 16 residential buildings in Wadi al-Hummus neighborhood, in Sur Baher village, south of East Jerusalem, resulting in the injury of journalist Ayat Arqawi, 29, who was wounded by a tear gas canister in her waist.

The following day, Sunday, July 21, 2019, the Israeli forces fired live bullets, rubber-coated bullets, and tear gas canisters at dozens of Palestinians as they attempted to storm the Al-Issawiya Secondary School, northeast of Jerusalem, after destroying the schools' locks and confiscating banners and pictures of Palestinians who were killed by the Israeli forces. During the operation, a Palestinian child was wounded by a rubber-coated metal bullet in the abdomen and he was transferred to al-Makassed Hospital in al-Tur neighborhood, east of Jerusalem.

According to field researchers, Israeli forces deliberately and heavily fired live bullets and metal bullets at Palestinian houses, where metal bullets penetrated the windows of two houses belonging to the family of ‘Ajlouni, and the family of ‘Obeid, causing shattering glass and a TV and chandelier were destroyed. In addition, the Israeli forces assaulted the two brothers, Rami, 34, and ‘Alla’, 36, Esmat’ Obeid, who were beaten and dragged after spraying them with pepper gas and using an electric pistol against them while standing in front of their shop, as one of them fell unconscious.
Second: Incidents of Intrusion and Detention

The Israeli forces carried out raids against Palestinian neighborhoods and houses in Jerusalem, during which they destroyed property, assaulted residents, arrested many without warrants or search orders, interrogated them for long hours, and imposed fines on them. It has been observed that Israeli forces practiced a policy of arresting Palestinians as a tool of punishment and intimidation without any pretext or legal reason.

During the month of July, the Euro-Med and HUMENA teams documented the Israeli forces’ 43 incursions into the towns and neighborhoods of occupied Jerusalem, including the arrest of 102 citizens, including 19 children, and three females, one of them was a child, and a journalist.

The following are the most prominent raids and arrests:

On Monday, July 1, 2019, the Israeli forces raided Mohammed Samir Obeid’s house, 21, during his funeral, after the Israeli forces killed him on June 27, 2019, in the village of al-Issawiya, east of Jerusalem, and detained his body for five days. During the raid, they arrested two young men, Uday Ayman Obeid, and Mohammed Ahmed Obeid, and beaten them severely, and detained a third young man and beaten him prior to his release.

On the same day, the Israeli forces arrested 13 Palestinians, including four children from Al-Tur neighborhood, east of Jerusalem, after they erected a checkpoint at the entrance to Issawiya village and stopped and searched passing vehicles.

al-Hawa, 20, Mustafa Mohammed Abu Ghannam, 19, Mohammed Khaled Abu Ghannam, 22, Ayman Bakir, 21, Hazem Karsha, 20, and Bashar Karsha, 19.

On the following day, Tuesday, July 2, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested Tariq Sa’ad al-‘Abbas, 27, in Wadi al-Rababa neighborhood in Silwan, and took him for questioning in addition to ‘Adham Fayez’ Obeidat, 18, from Jabal al-Mukaber, south Jerusalem, after they stormed and searched his house.

On Wednesday, July 3, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested three people from Abu Dis town east of Jerusalem, Mohammad Ibrahim Erekat, Suhaib Mahmoud Jaffal and Basil A’ffan, during wide-scale raids against residential buildings and houses.

In the Shu’fat neighborhood, north of the Old City of Jerusalem, the Israeli forces arrested five Palestinians: A’nan Nasser Abu Khudair, 22, Mahmoud Adib Haddad, 24, and A’dnan Mohammed Haddad, 19, Saif al-Din al-Asmar and Ibrahim Abu Nea’ during raids against Palestinian houses.

On the following day, July 4, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested ‘Orabi Mahmoud al-Rishq, 24, after they raided his family house in Haret al-Wad in the Old City. Around one and a half hours later, the Israeli forces arrested Mandalin Ammar Issa, 26, the director of Qawafel Al-Aqsa Project of Al-Aqsa Association for Protection & Maintenance of Islamic Waqf. They interrogated her and released her the next day. However, she was handed a removal order from Al-Aqsa for a month.

On Saturday, July 6, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested Ahmad Anwar Jamjoum, 18, and Nassar Jamjoum, 19, while they were near The Golden Gate (Bab al-Rahma), east of Al-Aqsa Mosque, for interrogation. On the same day’s evening, the Israeli forces arrested Fadi Ali Adwan, 34, the brother of Muhammed Ali Adwan, 23, who was field-executed by the Israeli forces on April 2, 2019 while he was near Deir Ammar refugee camp, northwest of Ramallah after being accused of carrying out a run-over, near Hizma town, northeast of Jerusalem. In addition, the Israeli forces raided during the same evening the house of Ibrahim Ahmed al-Zaghal, 14, in the central neighborhood of Silwan, south the Old City, to arrest the child, who was not present at the time of the raid. The Israeli soldiers demanded the family to extradite the child, and detained his father, for several hours inside a police vehicle to pressure the family. The child surrendered himself and he was severely beaten and taken for interrogation.
On the following day, July 7, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested Ahmed Muhammad Darwish, 21, near the entrance of al-Issawiya village, northeast of Jerusalem, and took him for interrogation.

On Monday, July 8, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested eight citizens, including a girl and two children, during a raid against al-Issawiya village, northeast of Jerusalem. They raided and searched Palestinian houses and assaulted their residents. The detainees were: Bara’a Wael Mahmoud, 20, Walid Ziad Obeid, 17, Muhammad Ramzi Muheisen, 15, Muhammad Zakaria Elyan, 19, and Majd Mousa Muhammad Halaiqa, 26, Ali Muhammad Obeid, 19, Saleh Bader Abu Assab, 19, and Yazan Ayman Abi, 20. On the same day, the Israeli forces arrested two children Muhammad Mazen Shweiki, 7, and Mahmoud Ezzedine Shweiki, 11 during a raid against several houses in the central neighborhood of Silwan, south the Old City.

On Thursday, July 11, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested Husam Muhammad Taha, 21, after they raided his family’s house in Qatana, northwest of Jerusalem.

On Saturday, July 13, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested Ahmed Rizk Oweisat, 20, and Nour Khalil Elyan, 21, during a raid on several houses in the town of Jabal al-Mukaber, southeast of Jerusalem. Two hours later, the Israeli forces arrested two citizens after they raided and searched several houses in the Old City. The two detainees are Muhammad Mamoun al-Razem, 20, and Ahmed Abu Ghazaleh, 19.

On Sunday, July 14, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested Sultan Sarhan, 14, during a raid against his family’s home in Silwan, south of the Old City. On the same day, the Israeli police raided Bab al-Rahma chapel, east of Al-Aqsa, and removed the wooden partitions, which are intended to separate men from women inside the mosque and a shoe cabinet. Occupied Jerusalem has been in a state of tension since last mid-February after Palestinian worshipers managed to open Bab al-Rahma chapel in Al-Aqsa, which has been closed since 2003 by an Israeli decision, under the guise that it is run by an illegal institution.

On Monday, July 15, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested Mustafa Firas Al-Abbasi, 15, after raiding and searching his family’s home in Silwan, south of the Old City. An hour later, the Israeli forces arrested three Palestinians during raids on houses in the village of Sur Baher, south of Jerusalem. The detainees were: Muhammad Ibrahim Dawriat, 38, Obada
Khaled Amira, 28, and ‘Amira Muhammad Amira, 26. The Israeli forces also arrested Muhammad Maher Al-Karaki, 23, from Al-Tur neighborhood, east of the Old City.

On Thursday, July 18, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested two children, Ahmed Hamza Ayyad, 16, and Abdullah Tawfiq Halabiya, 14, during a raid in Abu Dis, east of Jerusalem.

On Sunday, July 21, 2019, the Israeli soldiers arrested Shadi Raed Al-Hatawi, 19, from Al-Ram village, north Jerusalem, during a raid. On the same day, the Israeli forces arrested Bahjat Ali al-Razem, 26, and Tamer Ahmed Khalafawi, 22, during a raid against a number of houses in al-Sa’adiya neighborhood in the Old City.

On Monday, July 22, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested Amir Muhammad Fathi Obeid, 11, after they stormed and searched his family’s home in Issawiya village, northeast of Jerusalem.

On the next day, July 23, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested 11 citizens, including two children, during wide-scale raids in which large numbers of special forces, police, and intelligence agents took part against a number of houses in al-Issawiya village, northeast of Jerusalem. The operation continued for more than 9 hours. During the operation, the Israeli forces erected roadblocks and closed the entrances and exits of some neighborhoods. The detainees were: Mounir Kayed Mahmoud, 19, Ayoub Bader Abu Assab, 21, Samir Akram Attia, 16, Diyaa Ayman Obeid, 17, Louay Muhammad Badr, 19, Saleh Abu Assab, 19, Taj Maher Muheisen, 20, Rashid Darwish, 19, Mahmoud Awni Mahmoud, 18, Muhammad Mbtissem Obeid, 19, and Mansour Mahmoud, 20.

On Wednesday, July 23, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested photojournalist Saleh al-Zaghari from Beit Hanina, north of Jerusalem, after storming and searching his house.

In the early hours of the morning of Thursday, July 25, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested seven citizens, including a father and two sons, after storming their homes in al-Issawiya village, northeast of Jerusalem. The detainees were: Thaer Abed Mahmoud, and his two sons, Muhammad and Abdel Rahman, Adham sabta, Muhammad Amin Khallaf, Muhammad Abed Atia, and Nassim Amjad Mohsen.
On Sunday, July 28, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested eight Palestinians, including one child. The detainees were Imad Jarrah, 12, Muhammad Ayman Obeid, Muhammad Adnan Obeid, Samer Anwar Obeid, Muhanad Anwar Obeid, Muhammad Ali Nasser, and Akram Mustafa and Shaker Amjad Mustafa. On the same day, the Israeli forces arrested three other Palestinians from Al-Ram town in Jerusalem, and they were: Hamza Rajabi, Faraj Idris and Muhammad Idris.

On the following day, July 28, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested seven citizens from al-Issawiya town, including two children. The detainees were: Nagham Muhammad Hassan Elyan, 16, Mutasim Hamza Obeid, Yousef Hashim Elyan, Majed Suleiman Dari, Muhammed Elyan, Anas Elyan, and Fadi Yousef Obeid. On the same day, the Israeli forces raided the house of the brothers Mahmoud and Yazid al-Hout after storming Anata town, northeast of Jerusalem.

On the same day, in an incident reflecting the occupation forces’ disregard for childhood, the Israeli police summoned child Muhammad Rabi Elyan, four years old, along with his father, to interrogate him on charges of throwing stones at an Israeli police car as it stormed al-Issawiya town. The Israeli authorities retreated from interrogating the child following official and popular protests and investigated his father instead, warning him against allowing his son to throw stones at the police.

On Tuesday, July 30, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested five citizens from al-Issawiya village, northeast of Jerusalem, in which it raided and searched houses. The detainees were: Sari Raed Jaber, Juma Marwan Hamdan, Nayef Waseem Obeid, Mahmoud Ramadan Obeid, and Abed-Abu Saima. On the same day, the Israeli forces arrested Zakariya Elyan, 48, from his workplace in Sha'ari Tasdeq Hospital, west of Jerusalem.

In the same day’s evening, the Israeli police summoned child Qais Firas Obeid, 6 for questioning along with his father, after being chased by Israeli soldiers for allegedly throwing stones at them. The child denied that and said he threw a cardboard juice box, during the presence of the Israeli forces in front of his house in al-Issawiya. This was the second case in 24 hours in which Israeli forces were pursuing a child at a young age, without any regard for humanitarian standards or international laws governing dealing with minors.
On Wednesday, July 31, 2019, the Israeli forces arrested Yasser Darwish, the secretary of Fatah movement after storming his house in al-Issawiya town in occupied Jerusalem, and summoned Jehad Qus, 25, the son of the director of the prisoners’ club in Jerusalem, Nasser Qus, a resident of the Old City, for questioning at the al-Qishla detention center in Jaffa Gate area.

According to the Euro-Med's and HUMENA's field researchers; the Israeli occupation forces intentionally carry out raids against houses and neighborhoods at night and dawn hours, in disregard for the principles of international law that places restrictions on raids at this time, for their psychological impact on children and women. In addition, the Israeli forces' raids included detaining and interrogating citizens in rooms in their homes or in the open air, in addition to vandalizing their property and confiscating some of items.
Third: Demolition of houses, property, and objects

During July 2019, Israeli forces continued their systematic destruction against Palestinian homes and property in Jerusalem, as part of a comprehensive plan, beginning with the distribution of demolition notices to the actual demolitions. This month, the Israeli forces carried out the largest demolitions of Palestinian civilian property in Wadi al-Hummus neighborhood, in Sur Baher town, south of occupied east Jerusalem, displacing dozens of Palestinian civilians and evicting hundreds of out their homes. A residential building containing 72 apartments was also destroyed in an incident that amounts to an ethnic cleansing crime for which the Israeli government is responsible. According to the Euro-Med and HUMENA, several bodies, possibly from the occupation government, the Israeli authorities, or judicial bodies, collude to carry out systematic demolitions that aim at the forced displacement of Palestinians. This comes as part of the Israeli authorities’ efforts to changing the demographic reality in the occupied territories.

The Israeli authorities also claim that Palestinians building houses without a license is an excuse to demolish those buildings. At the same time, they deny Palestinians’ access to such license despite their attempts to obtain them. In addition, during the same month, the Israeli forces destroyed a storehouse, a garage, a warehouse, a car wash, and five commercial facilities.

The destroyed houses and buildings are to be added to what the Israeli authorities have demolished until mid-2019, which is more than 59 houses in the city of Jerusalem. While 2018 witnessed 215 demolitions, in addition to orders to demolish 546 buildings in the West Bank and Jerusalem.
The following are the main demolitions and demolition notifications documented by the Euro-Med and HUMENA during July:

Members of the Israeli municipality, accompanied by Israeli police forces, stormed several neighborhoods in Silwan, south of the Old City of Occupied Jerusalem on Thursday, July 4, 2019. They distributed dozens of demolition notices, informing some residents of Wadi Qaddum and Al-Bustan neighborhoods that their houses are going to be demolished, claiming that those houses belong to the Israeli municipality.

According to Fakhri Abu Diab, the spokesman of the Defense of Lands and Real Estates Committee in Silwan, the municipality is also planning to demolish 100 housing units from Al-Bustan neighborhood in order to convert it into King’s Garden. As a result, the whole neighborhood is at risk of being demolished at any moment as demolition decisions are on hold.

On Thursday, July 11, 2019, the Israeli forces attacked dozens of Palestinians who protested against the decision of the Israeli authorities to demolish 16 residential buildings in Wadi Hummus neighborhood, south of East Jerusalem. The forces also dispersed the protesters using tear gas canisters after removing a protest tent that the Wall and Settlement Resistance Committee put up.

On Wednesday, July 17, 2019, the Israeli occupation forces demolished a 900-square-meter commercial storehouse along with its concrete floor, which belongs to Al-Natsheh family from Beit Hanina town, to the north of occupied Jerusalem.

On the same day, for the third time, the Israeli army, along with about 15 military vehicles of The Organization and Construction Department, attacked the place. They destroyed an area of 80 square meters containing a garage and a warehouse belonging to Waddah Wasfi Abu Dayyeh in Al-Khalayleh neighborhood, in the northwest of Jerusalem City.

It is worth mentioning that the residents of Al-Khalayleh neighborhood are facing severe restrictions that the Israeli forces impose. They are not allowed to enter food, cooking gas, and meat except under the coordination of the Civil Administration. The residents are also not allowed to build, expand, or even repair their homes.

On the same day, the Israeli bulldozers demolished a car wash in the village of Sur Baher, south of Jerusalem of 400 square meters, which was established about three months ago, and belongs to Palestinian families of Attia and Bakirat. Moreover, the Israeli bulldozers demolished five shops belonging to Mohammed Hamdan al-Abbasi in the Abu Tayeh neighborhood of Silwan, south of the Old City, claiming that the shops had no permits after the Israeli High Court rejected a request filed by Abbasi’s lawyer not to de-
According to the field researchers, Israeli forces pushed away citizens who were near the shops, assaulted them, and arrested the young man Mahhdi Hamdan Abbasi. The facilities of the 250-meter area contain a restaurant, a carpet and curtain shop, and a wood-shop, and they were run by Abbasi and To' ma families. It is noteworthy that the Abbasi family went to the Supreme Court through their lawyer in an attempt to stop the Israeli demolition so they could get a permit from the municipality, but the court rejected their request.

**Mass destruction in Wadi Al-Hummus**

On Monday, July 22, 2019, the Israeli forces carried out massive destruction of Palestinian properties in Wadi al-Hummus neighborhood, in Sur Baher town, south of Jerusalem. Dozens of citizens were displaced, and hundreds evacuated their homes as hundreds of Israeli policemen, and dozens of military vehicles and bulldozers stormed Wadi al-Hummus neighborhood. The neighborhood was later turned into a closed military zone to carry out the largest mass demolitions in Jerusalem, since its occupation in 1967.

The operation, however, lasted for more than 18 hours in which the Israeli forces destroyed ten residential buildings containing more than 70 apartments. During the operation, Israeli forces also confronted residents of the buildings who protested against the demolition orders by rubber bullets and stun grenades fired inside the apartments. The massive demolitions caused the displacement of about 25 people from their homes, more than half of them were children, as well as dozens of other families.

The issue of Wadi al-Hummus, which has a population of about 6,000 began when the Israeli authorities decided the route of the Apartheid Wall in 2003, which was supposed to be built between the homes of citizens in that area as most of the village's lands are located outside the boundaries of the Jerusalem municipality. Most of these lands are considered part of the Palestinian Authority’s areas, known as A, which pushed many of Jerusalem's residents to purchase some lands in Wadi al-Hummus neighborhood because they were unable to purchase and build in areas within the boundaries of the municipality that is under the Israeli authorities. This was the only solution due to the high prices and difficulty of obtaining building permits.

Residents of Wadi Al-Hummus managed to get building permits from the Palestinian Ministry of Local Government. However, after approving the Wall’s route plans, some houses were located outside the village of Sur Baher, which means that Wadi Al-Hum-
Wadi al-Hummus in Jerusalem is facing Israeli ethnic cleansing

mus will be under the Israeli-controlled territory, despite the fact that the residents have filed a petition against the route that passes through the village of Sur Baher. The Israeli authorities rejected the petition.

According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), “the buffer zone contains more than 200 buildings, including about 100 building built after the issuance of the military order in 2011, in the context of severe restrictions on the ability of Palestinians to obtain building license in East Jerusalem.”

Since 2009, the Israeli authorities have demolished some 69 buildings in the village of Sur Baher or forced their owners to demolish them on their own, under the pretext of building without a license. Some 400 people have been displaced or affected by these demolitions, half of them are children under the age of 18, according to OCHA.

Legally, the Israeli occupation forces are committing a flagrant violation of the rights of Jerusalemites to live in dignity. The destruction of houses and the mass displacement of Palestinian citizens amount to crimes of ethnic cleansing, which is a crime against humanity under the International Criminal Court’s laws. In addition, the Israeli occupation forces committed a war crime under Article VIII of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in 1998, which defined the crime of aggression as: “extensive destruction and appropriation of property, not justified by military necessity and carried out unlawfully and wantonly,” which applies to what was committed by the Israeli forces in Wadi al-Hummus.
Fourth: Settlement and Judaization:

The Israeli authorities seek to impose a demographic change in the city of Jerusalem, employing all its government, political and security arms. On the other hand, they allow settlers and their associations to control as many properties as possible in the city. This month, the Euro-Med and HUMENA documented five serious violations, most notably the seizure of a house, and the evacuating of a building by force and handing it over to settlers. In exchange for the demolition of Palestinian homes, the Israeli authorities approved the construction of 216 new housing units in the Gilo settlement.

On Tuesday, July 2, 2019, following a decision by the Israeli courts to leak Christian property in Jerusalem’s Omar Ibn al-Khattab Square to Jewish settlers, the lawyer of the Ateret Cohanim Association handed the director of the Imperial Hotel a notice to evacuate the hotel within one month in addition to a fine of ten million shekels (about US $ 2.7 million) for using the hotel since 2004. The hotel has been run by the Jerusalem-based Dajani family on a church lease since 1949, and according to the hotel’s management, it will appeal to Israeli courts.

On Monday, July 8, 2019, a group of settlers, under the protection of Israeli forces, seized a house belonging to Ihab al-Muhdar in the Sawana neighborhood in the center of occupied Jerusalem. The house is composed of four apartments, and settlers emptied the house and dumped their belongings in the street.

On Wednesday, July 10 2019, the Israeli forces forcibly evacuated a building belonging to the Siam family in the Wadi Hilweh neighborhood of Silwan, to the south of the Old City, handing it over to the Elad settlement association, two days after an Israeli Supreme Court decision to reject a petition by the family to freeze and postpone the decision to
vacate the property. The family tried for 25 years to prevent it from being seized at Israeli courts. The eviction decision was implemented by the Israeli authorities, preceding a hearing in the Supreme Court to consider the ownership of land. During the forced evacuation, the Israeli forces, accompanied by settlers, severely beat residents and their supporters. The confiscated property consisted of a house in which Ilham Siam and her four children live, in addition to a half-donum area of land and a warehouse.

On the same day, the Jerusalem Municipality's Planning and Construction Committee approved the construction of two towers of 18 floors in Gilo settlement south of Jerusalem, providing settlers with 216 housing units. In addition, the Israeli authorities intend to expand the settlement of Brakha, which will begin to seize 511 dunums of the area No. 15 of the villages of Burin, Iraq Burin and Kafr Qalil to the south of Nablus.
Fifth: Removals from Al-Aqsa:

The Israeli forces have adopted an arbitrary policy towards Palestinians who attend to Al-Aqsa Mosque. Especially during periods when groups of settlers storm the mosque, the presence of the Palestinians in the courtyard of the mosque at those times might subject them to removal orders or arrest. This is especially true in the area of The Golden Gate (Bab al-Rahma), where they could be charged with “disturbing public order” which is clearly a broad and loose charge. During July, the Israeli authorities removed seven citizens, including a woman and a child from Al-Aqsa Mosque, as follows:

On Friday, July 5, 2019, the Israeli forces removed Mandalin Ammar Issa, 26, from Kafr Qassem, the director of Qawafel Al-Aqsa Project of Al-Aqsa Association for Protection & Maintenance of Islamic Waqf for one month after she was arrested the previous day while she was near The Tribe’s Gate (Bab al Asbat). They took her to an interrogation center, then released her after giving her a removal order.

On Monday, July 8, 2019, the Israeli authorities removed three citizens from occupied Jerusalem from al-Aqsa for two weeks, and they were: Ahmad Rukn, Ahmad al-Shawish, and Ibrahim al-Natsheh. The Israeli occupation forces arrested the three young men on Sunday evening, July 7, 2019, after storming The Golden Gate chapel.
On Tuesday, July 23, 2019, the Israeli authorities removed child Malik al-Nabulsi, 14, from Al-Aqsa for 15 days, and young man Ihab al-Zughair for three months.
Legally, the decision of removing a person from his or her home and place of residence is contrary to the fundamental principles of international law which guarantee freedom of residence and protect this right from expulsion, prosecution or displacement. Article 7 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, considers that “‘Deportation or forcible transfer of population’ means forced displacement of the persons concerned by expulsion or other coercive acts from the area in which they are lawfully present, without grounds permitted under international law” is “a crime against humanity when committed in the context of a widespread attack or systematically directed against any group of civilian population.”
Sixth: Storming Al-Aqsa Mosque courtyards:

The Israeli authorities continued their restrictive practices, mostly aimed at provoking Palestinians inside the courtyards of Al-Aqsa, by the storming of groups of settlers of the mosque and provoking the feelings of worshipers there. This comes under strict protection of the Israeli police and members of the Israeli special units that provide full cover for storming the mosque and dealing with extreme violence with young men and women present there.

In July 2019, the Euro-Med and HUMENA recorded the storming of more than 840 settlers to the yards of Al-Aqsa, accompanied by security members from the Israeli police and Special Forces, while most of the stormings were accompanied by provocative acts and attacks on those present in The Moroccan Gate.

The Following are details of the most prominent storms:

On Tuesday, July 2, 2019, about 55 settlers stormed Al-Aqsa from The Moroccan Gate (Bab al Magharibah), guarded by Israeli police units, and wandered into the squares of the mosque before they left from The Chain Gate (Bab al Silsilah).
The following day, Wednesday, July 3, 2019, 195 settlers stormed the courtyards of Al-Aqsa, including the Israeli Minister of Agriculture, Uri Ariel, where some of them tried to perform Talmudic prayers, in an attempt to provoke Muslims there.
On Thursday, July 4, 2019, 74 settlers stormed Al-Aqsa, under the protection of the Israeli special forces, where one of the settler groups was led by the ultra-Orthodox member of Knesset, Yehuda Glick.
On Sunday, July 7, 2019, 64 settlers stormed the Al-Aqsa and carried out tours throughout it before leaving from The Chain Gate.

On the next day, July 8, 2019, 50 settlers stormed Al-Aqsa Mosque from The Moroccan Gate area under heavy guard from the Israeli special forces.

On Thursday, July 11, 2019, 138 settlers stormed Al-Aqsa, accompanied by members of the Israeli special forces, while the Israeli authorities imposed strict procedures on the entry of young Palestinians to the mosque, and confiscated their identity cards at the main gates of Al-Aqsa.

On Sunday, July 14, 2019, 71 settlers, eight Jewish students and six Israeli intelligence agents stormed Al-Aqsa, accompanied by members of Israeli special forces, following a storming by the Israeli police of the Golden Gate chapel, on the morning of the same day.

On the following day, Monday, July 15, 2019, dozens of Israeli settlers stormed Al-Aqsa from The Moroccan Gate, under heavy guard of the special forces of the Israeli police.

On Tuesday, July 16, 2019, dozens of settlers stormed Al-Aqsa from The Moroccan Gate. The Islamic Endowments Department in Jerusalem documented the storming of 41 settlers, 115 employees of the Israeli occupation government and 25 members of the Israeli intelligence services of Al-Aqsa, noting that they performed Talmudic prayers before they left from The Chain Gate.

On Thursday, July 18, 2019, a number of Jewish settlers performed Talmudic prayers and rituals at the Golden Gate area on the eastern side of Al-Aqsa, under the protection of special units of the Israeli occupation police.

On Sunday, July 21, 2019, a number of settlers and rabbis, including Eliyahu Weber and Rabbi Yoel Elitzur, stormed the yards of Al-Aqsa under a heavy guard from the special forces, following a call by “the Union of the Temple Organizations” to storm Al-Aqsa in large numbers. On the same day, the Israeli police stormed the Golden Gate chapel and seized some of its furniture.

On Tuesday, July 23, 2019, 80 settlers and Talmudic students stormed Al-Aqsa from The Moroccan Gate and carried out provocative tours under the protection of special Israeli forces.

The following day, Wednesday, July 24, 2019, 51 settlers stormed Al-Aqsa accompanied by heavy police forces.

On Thursday, July 25, 2019, dozens of settlers stormed Al-Aqsa Mosque, where settlers came in small and successive groups from The Moroccan Gate, under the protection of the Israeli special forces.
On Monday, July 29, 2019, some 42 settlers stormed Al-Aqsa's Moroccan Gate and conducted provocative tours in the courtyards of the mosque, accompanied by the special forces of the Israeli police.

On the following day, Tuesday, July 30, 2019, settlers stormed Al-Aqsa again from the same gate, in an attempt to perform prayers and rituals at the mosque courtyards.

On Wednesday, July 31, 2019, dozens of settlers stormed Al-Aqsa and carried out provocative tours before leaving from The Chain Gate.
Conclusion and recommendations:

The multiple and complex crimes carried out by the Israeli authorities in Jerusalem show that they are rapidly holding a systematic policy to impose a fait accompli, increasing the Judaization of the city, and changing its geographical and demographic character, through the extensive destruction and mass displacement of Jerusalemites, which are taking place in parallel with the construction of more housing units for settlers.

The Euro-Med and HUMENA for Human Rights and Civil Participation believe that this escalation in the implementation of this racist policy is approved by the US administration. Since its declaration of recognition Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, the US administration has legalized these crimes, amid international silence which amounts to complicity of the international community.

Accordingly, The Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor and HUMENA for Human Rights and Civil Participation:

- Demand the international community to break the cycle of silence or shy statements of condemnation and to take decisions and adopt positions in order to stop the occupation crimes and gross violations of the rules of the international human rights law and the international humanitarian law.

- Warn that ignoring the largest single-day demolition in Wadi al-Hummus, which amounts to an ethnic cleansing crime, will encourage the Israeli authorities to continue and escalate the policy of house demolitions and displacement of Jerusalemites. Especially, as the policy of distributing warrants continues, as there are plans to destroy more than 25,000 Palestinian houses under the pretext of lacking a license.

- Call on the international community to take responsibility and protect the city of Jerusalem and its Palestinian population as inhabitants of an occupied area under the resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly and to take responsibility for them considering that Jerusalem falls under international responsibility in accordance with UN General Assembly Resolution 181.
Demand to stop the policy of racial discrimination against Palestinians when it comes to investigation, prosecution, and trial procedures.

Call upon international organizations concerned with childhood to urgently intervene to protect Palestinian children in Jerusalem from arrest, summons, and house arrests.
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