

## Jerusalem Chrono 2020

### January

**Jan. 1:** According to Waqf Director Azzam Khatib, 29,610 Jewish "fanatics" entered the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound throughout 2019, marking an "escalation in the frequency of violations" on the historical and legal status of the Islamic site. According to Yareah, an organization that promotes Jewish visits to the Temple Mount, 30,416 Jews visited the site in 2019.

- Israeli police and Jerusalem municipal inspectors remove a huge Palestinian flag with the faces of the late Yasser Arafat and PA President Mahmoud Abbas that was hung over the Old City wall near the Damascus Gate. Jerusalem Mayor Moshe Lion denounces the hanging of the flag, saying "The only sovereignty in Jerusalem is Israeli sovereignty."

- Israeli police takes down Fatah banners in several locations in the city, including Silwan, At-Tur and Issawiya, that were put up to mark the movement's 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

- In Silwan, Israeli forces demolish two houses belonging to the Al-Khalayleh family.

- The Israel Land Authority publishes three tenders for the construction of a total of 461 housing units in the Pisgat Zeev settlement based on outline plans which were approved in 2019 (TPS 330530 and 330506). while one additional tender for commercial buildings in Gilo was published on January 2:

**Jan. 2:** Israeli forces detain Fatah Secretary General in Jerusalem Shadi Matour, hours after raiding his home in Wadi Al-Joz, in what is seen as attempts to prevent any activities marking Fatah's 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary. At least two other Fatah activists are also detained.

- Six residents of Issawiya - Anwar Sami Obeid, Muhammad Elayyan, Fayez Muhammad Mheisen, Muhammad Musa Mustafa, Adam Kayed Mahmoud and Mahmoud Ramadan Obeid - are placed under nighttime curfew for several months in a rare move invoking a British Mandate-era regulation

- At the Bab Ar-Rahmeh prayer area inside the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, Israeli police assault several Palestinian worshippers with teargas and detain two of them for no reason.

- The Israel Land Authority publishes a tender for the construction of commercial buildings in Gilo settlement (TPS 13157).

**Jan. 5:** Israeli forces prevent Sheikh Ismail Hawahdeh, preacher of Al-Aqsa Mosque, from entering Jerusalem for the third consecutive week.

- Some 44 Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound under police guard.

**Jan. 7:** In a press statement, the Waqf Council warns that with its measures in Al-Aqsa, Israel is pushing the region into a bitter conflict.

- Israeli forces raid the house of the Governor of Jerusalem, Adnan Ghaith, in Silwan.

- Israeli forces assault Palestinian worshippers at the Bab Ar-Rahmeh prayer areas, detaining six of them, and at the Bab Hutta of Al-Aqsa Mosque, denying them access.

**Jan. 8:** Israeli municipal staff deliver at least 12 home demolition notices to Palestinians in Issawiya under the pretext that their homes were built without a permit.

- At least 45 Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound under police guard.

- Jordan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates condemns the Israeli police attacks on worshippers inside Al-Aqsa Mosque compound as well as the Israeli authorities' erection of wooden poles and metal structures at the southern wall of the mosque, stressing that the Jerusalem Waqf is the sole institution responsible for administrating the compound's affairs.

- At a meeting in Jeddah, permanent delegates of the OIC inform member states about the strategic plan to develop the vital sectors in Jerusalem, and mechanisms proposed by the PA to implement it.

**Jan. 9:** Israeli police raid the home of Jerusalem governor Adnan Ghaith in Silwan, and handed his family a summon for him to appear before the Israeli intelligence.

- Municipal staff distribute 12 demolition orders to Palestinian residents in Issawiya for being built without permits.

- Amid stormy weather, Israeli authorities force the two families of the brothers Maher and Mohammed Al-Nassar in Jabal Mukabber to demolish their houses, rendering 15 people, including 11 minors, homeless.

**Jan. 10:** Israeli police bans four Palestinian youths from entering Al-Aqsa Mosque for 5-6 months.

**Jan. 12:** Some 44 Israeli extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound provoking Palestinian worshippers by listening to lectures on the alleged "Temple".

- The authorities ban entry to Al-Aqsa Mosque to Malik Nabulsi, 14, for 15 days and Ihab Zagher for a week.
- In Jabal Al-Mukabber, Sayil Ibrahim Ja'abees is forced to self-demolish his own home.
- In Issawiya, Hisham Dari is forced to demolish the retaining wall he had built around his land and ordered not to use it.
- Israel opens a community police station in Sur Baher at an integrated community service center that also has other government services, including emergency medical services, and an office of the Population and Immigration, to replace more aggressive Israeli policing by community policing carried out by officers who are becoming familiar with the neighborhood and trying to solve the problems there. At the opening ceremony attended by Mayor Moshe Leon, Public Security Minister Gilad Erdan says that Arabs in the "capital" deserve to have personal security just as Jewish residents of the city do, adding "We are unifying the city through deeds, and I'm proud of having the privilege to strengthen Israel's sovereignty over the entire city."

**Jan. 13:** *Haaretz* reports that after the Interior Ministry sped up its handling of applications due to criticism, some 1,200 Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem received Israeli citizenship in 2019, up from 362 in 2018 and marking the largest number since 1967, while also the number of rejections increased from 340 in 2018 to 1,361.

- The PLO has warned that Israel will close UNRWA schools in East Jerusalem as part of its efforts to eliminate the Palestinian cause, saying the plan was also part of the so-called US "deal of the century" which wants to get rid of UNRWA.

**Jan. 14:** EU envoy to the Palestinians Tomas Niklasson expresses concerns over the "worrying developments and violence" in Issawiya in recent months.

**Jan. 15:** Some 148 Israeli extremists, including 7 intelligence officers, enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the morning, performing Talmudic rituals and listening to presentations on the alleged "Temple Mount". Meanwhile, Israeli police forces restricted entry to Palestinian worshippers.

- Israeli authorities prevent the Al-Waad Al-Sadiq and Al-Fursan schools in the Jerusalem governorate from opening for the second semester under the pretext that they did not obtain license.

**Jan. 16:** Musa Bashir and Ammar Nassar are forced to demolish their own homes in Jabal Al-Mukabber to avoid paying exorbitant costs if the West Jerusalem municipality demolishes them.

- Several police officers barge into the Aqsa Mosque's Bab Al-Rahmeh prayer building without removing their shoes, provocatively tour the building and take photos.

**Jan. 17:** After morning prayers at Al-Aqsa Mosque Israeli forces violently disperse Palestinian worshippers, who march in protest against the increasing and provocative presence of settlers on the compound. At least five Palestinians are wounded and three arrested.

- Ammar Nassar is forced to demolish his house in Jabal Al-Mukabber for building without a permit.

**Jan. 18:** Israel Border Police arrest an elderly woman after allegedly trying to attack Israeli security personnel with a knife at Damascus Gate.

**Jan. 19:** Israeli forces raid the home of former Mufti of Jerusalem and current head of the Higher Islamic Council, Sheikh Ekrima Sabri, and ban him from Al-Aqsa Mosque for one week.

- Some 130 Jewish extremists, including 32 yeshiva students, enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, some of which perform Talmudic rituals.

**Jan. 20:** In an interview with the Israeli daily *Israel Hayom*, Italian opposition leader Matteo Salvini of the far-right League party vows that if he is elected to head the government, he will recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

- Palestinians launch 'The Great Fajr' campaign which urges Palestinians to participate in mass dawn prayers to protest Israeli presence and measures at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in Jerusalem and the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron.

- Some 102 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque escorted by police and performing Talmudic rituals.

- The Israeli District Court in Jerusalem has ordered the Rajabi family – 16 people - to move from their three-story building in Silwan's Batn Al-Hawa neighborhood to hand it over to settlers from Ateret Cohanim, who claim ownership of the land.

- Palestinian students protest against the decision to impose the Israeli curriculum on their schools in Sheikh Jarrah.

- Israeli authorities deliver eviction orders to 22 Palestinian households in the Bab Al-Silsila area of the Old City under the pretext they are about to collapse due to cracks in the walls caused by Israeli excavations under these homes.

- After arresting his 15-year-old son Saadi, the Israeli forces summon the Fatah official for the holy sites in Jerusalem, Haji Awad Al-Salaymeh, for immediate investigation to the Al-Maskobiyya prison.

**Jan. 21:** An Israeli court rules in favor of demolishing four Palestinian-owned houses in Wadi Al-Hummus area in Sur Baher, belonging to the Na'im Alaiwa, Usama Hamad, Mohammad Abu Tir and Na'im Al-Atras. In the same area, 11 buildings were destroyed in July 2019.

**Jan. 22-23:** Over 40 world leaders gather in Jerusalem for the "Holocaust Forum" to mark 75 years since the liberation of the Nazis' Auschwitz extermination camp where over a million Jews were killed.

**Jan. 22:** French President Emmanuel Macron visits the Old City, walking in the footsteps of one of his predecessors, Jacques Chirac in 1996, by engaging in a heated argument with Israeli forces. The altercation begins when Israeli forces personnel push past the French detail and are first to enter the Church of Saint Anne, which is French state property. The Roman Catholic church, located at the start of Via Dolorosa in the Old City's Muslim Quarter, was offered by the Ottoman Empire to France in 1856. It is one of four French state properties in Jerusalem.

**Jan. 23:** In Beit Safafa, Israeli Jewish extremists set Al-Badriya Mosque on fire and spray racist slogans on its walls such as "death to Arabs" and "death to Palestinians".

- Some 52 Jewish extremists escorted by police tour Al-Aqsa Mosque before gathering at the Bab Ar-Rahmeh yard.

- Israeli forces ban two young men, Munir Al-Basiti and Muhammad Sharifa, from the Al-Aqsa Mosque and its surroundings for four months.

**Jan. 24:** In Sharafat, settlers set fire to the Badriyah Mosque and write hateful slogans on its walls.

- After arresting at least ten Palestinians residents of East Jerusalem overnight, Israeli forces enter the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound after morning prayers and disperse the worshippers.

**Jan. 25:** The District Planning Committee rejects the possibility for residents of Walajeh to formally legalize their homes and further develop the village.

**Jan. 26:** An Israeli court rules in favor of evicting the Dweik family building in Silwan and turn it over to the Ateret Cohanim settler organization.

**Jan. 27:** Sheikh Ekrima Sabri, Al-Aqsa Mosque Imam, head of the Islamic Higher Committee, and member of the Islamic Waqf Council, is banned by an Israeli military order for 4 months to enter Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif.

**Jan. 28:** The District Committee discusses objection to a plan for a dormitory and a yeshiva at the so-called Glassman compound in the midst of Sheikh Jarrah (TPS 68858).

- Israeli forces demolish a shop for sanitary tiles and ware in Wadi Al-Joz.

- Some 160 Jewish extremists, including 115 yeshiva students, escorted by police tour Al-Aqsa Mosque in a provocative manner.

**Jan. 29:** Israeli police close all gates leading to Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif after two Palestinians are arrested, allegedly attempting to carry out a stabbing attack against an Israeli police officer on the Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif.

- Jordan's Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs warns against imposing Israeli "rules" in order to change the *status quo* in Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif, and on Islamic and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem.

**Jan. 30:** Israeli forces shut off access to the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound further increasing tension in the city amid the proposed US 'peace plan'.

- Israeli intelligence services sent hundreds of SMSs to Palestinians threatening them in case of "committing any breach of law" during prayers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

**Jan. 31:** In East Jerusalem, Palestinian worshippers participate in the fourth Friday of the "Great Fajr Campaign" protesting against the Trump Administration's Israel-Palestine plan, saying Jerusalem will not be divided. At least 10 Palestinians are injured as Israeli forces attack and force them to leave Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

- Speaking at the 5<sup>th</sup> Anatolian Media Awards ceremony in Ankara, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan says that the US "Deal of the Century" is an "occupation project" and that "Jerusalem is not for sale. Jerusalem is a red line for us."

- Israeli forces hand Fatah Secretary General in Jerusalem, Shadi Al-Matour, a decision to ban him from Al-Aqsa Mosque and the Old City for a week.

## February

**Feb. 2:** Over 40 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque escorted by police and perform Talmudic rituals.

**Feb. 3:** Some 140 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque in groups, many performing Talmudic rituals. Israeli police arrest Al-Aqsa Mosque guard, Ahmad Abu Aliya.

- A statement at the end of an OIC meeting in Jeddah, which rejected the Trump proposal, stresses East Jerusalem as “the eternal capital” of a future Palestinian state and that it remains the cornerstone issue of Muslims around the world.

**Feb. 4:** 45 Jewish extremists enter the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound under police guard.

- Israeli police ban Aya Abu Nab from entering Al-Aqsa Mosque compound for 4 months because of her frequent presence near or in the Bab Ar-Rahmeh prayer area.

- Israeli forces demolish a house owned by Jihad Al-Shawamrah in the Ashqaria area of Beit Hanina;

- In Jabal Al-Mukabber, Israeli forces demolish the foundations of a house owned by Ismail Qara'en who is disabled.

**Feb. 6:** At least 58 Jewish extremists and yeshiva students tour Al-Aqsa Mosque in groups, while police restrict entry to Palestinian worshippers.

- Shadi Bana, 45, a Palestinian citizen of Israeli from Haifa, is shot dead by Israeli forces after a shooting attack in the Old City which left an Israeli policeman lightly wounded.

- The Jerusalem municipality's name and commemoration committee rescinds its decision of June 2019 to name four streets in Silwan after rabbis and a fifth after a Jewish organization passing a resolution to find either neutral or Arab names instead.

- At least 12 Golani Brigade soldiers are wounded overnight in an alleged car ramming attack near the First Station in West Jerusalem. The driver – Sanad Al-Turman, 25, from At-Tur - first escapes (Israeli forces find the car later in Beit Jala) but is later arrested at the at the Gush Etzion Junction, saying that it was an accident, that he lost control of the car and did not mean to hurt anyone.

**Feb. 7:** Israeli police turns back busloads of worshipers from the Galilee and the Triangle region on their way to Al-Aqsa Mosque compound for Friday morning prayers.

- Israeli police enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, assaulting worshipers following the Friday morning prayer.

**Feb. 8:** Greek Orthodox Archbishop Atallah Hanna, Archbishop of Sebastia, tells a delegation of Waqf employees that the Greek orthodox Church condemns, rejects and denounces the brutal practices of the occupying authorities inside the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

**Feb. 9:** Maha Abu Qalbin Al-Dibs is forced to self-demolish her house in Jabal Al-Mukabber.

- Some 62 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque under police guard, partially performing provocative Jewish rituals.

- The planning department within the Jerusalem municipality has opened a file for a new detailed outline plan (TPS 764936) to construct 6,000-9,000 new settlement units and shopping centers on the lands of Qalandia Airport (Atarot) and stretching up to the separation wall near Kufr Aqab. Part of the land is owned by the state and the Jewish National Fund, but a large proportion belongs to Palestinians.

- The Sultanate of Oman Post launches a new postage stamp under the slogan "Jerusalem, the capital of Palestine", re affirming the support of the Arab world to the Palestinian cause.

**Feb. 10:** Some 79 Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque under police guard, provocatively touring the holy site.

- Israeli forces ban Fatah Secretary General in Jerusalem Shadi Matour for six months from the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

**Feb. 11:** Amid heavy police presence and tight restrictions on Palestinian worshipers, Israeli police allows 123 Jewish extremists into Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the morning, where they perform Talmudic rituals. Two Palestinian worshipers are handed orders banning them from entering the holy site for four and six months respectively.

- Israeli authorities ban the head of the Committee for the Care of Islamic Cemeteries of the Islamic Endowments in Jerusalem, Hajj Mustafa Abu Zahra, from Al-Aqsa Mosque for six months.

**Feb. 12:** *Haaretz* reports that Israeli Jerusalem Mayor Moshe Leon and Jerusalem Affairs Minister Zeev Elkin have decided to suspend plans for a commercial center next to Umm Tuba because settlers from nearby Har Homa objected on the grounds that the project would lead to the “mixing of populations” and pose a danger to young women from Har Homa.

- 50 Jewish extremists, 20 yeshiva students, and 21 security forces provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound under police guard.

**Feb. 13:** Some 122 Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque under police guard and tour the site.

- Israeli forces demolish the family house of Iyad Shweiki in Silwan, under the pretext of being built without an Israeli permit, and claim they would build a school in its stead.

- In the Old City, the house of Thaher Sharabati partially collapses as a result of ongoing underground excavations by Israeli and settler institutions.

**Feb. 14:** Israeli police assault Palestinian worshipers after dawn prayer at Al-Aqsa Mosque as well as at the Bab Al-Asbat and Bab Hutta areas. They also restrict the roads leading to the holy Muslim site to hinder the movement of worshipers taking part in the "Great Fajr Campaign."

**Feb. 17:** The Israeli government approves a controversial plan to extend the high-speed Tel Aviv-Jerusalem train line to the Western Wall, under pressure from far-right Transportation Minister Bezalel Smotrich. The plan would require excavating over 3 km of tunnel beneath downtown Jerusalem and under the Old City.

**Feb. 18:** Muntaser Shqeirat is forced to self-demolish his home in Jabal Mukabber.

- Rightwing Rabbi Yehuda Glick and scores of Jewish extremists provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

- Israeli forces raid the Volunteer for Hope organization in Beit Hanina under the pretext of holding "prohibited activities", seize four computers and other material and summon its director, Silvia Abu Laban, for interrogation.

- Former Likud MK Yehuda Glick is detained on the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and removed from the site after failing to coordinate with the police his tour with a group of Jewish extremists.

- Israeli forces demolish a horse barn and a cesspit belonging to Ahmad Warad Al-Za'tara in Jabal Al-Mukabber under the pretext of unlicensed building.

- Israeli police fine people handing out free food and violently disperse crowds during Friday morning prayers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif.

**Feb. 19:** Israeli authorities order the bakery of Nasser Abu Sneineh in Bab Hutta, Old City, to close after 60 years in business for providing ka'ek (bread with sesame) to Palestinian worshipers headed to Al-Aqsa Mosque.

**Feb. 20:** Prime Minister Netanyahu announces plans to build another 2,200 housing units in the Har Homa settlement as well as 3,000 settler units in the Givat Hamatos.

**Feb. 22:** Maher Yousef Za'atara from Jabal Mukabber is shot and killed near Al-Aqsa Mosque compound after allegedly trying to stab Israeli soldiers although eyewitnesses claim he had only risen his hands as instructed by them. Later, Israeli forces arrest his mother and brother.

- EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell warns that Israel was harming the possibility of a two-state solution to the conflict with its plan to expand Har Homa neighborhood and create a new one on Givat Hamatos.

**Feb. 23:** Some 48 Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound under police guard, with some of them performing Jewish rituals.

- The Arab League condemns Israel's announcement to construct thousands of new settlement units in occupied East Jerusalem.

- Israeli police summons Jerusalem Governor Adnan Ghaith to appear before the Israeli intelligence for interrogation.

- Germany and Italy reject Israel's decision to build thousands of settlement units in Jerusalem and call on Israel to end its illegal settlement activities.

**Feb. 24:** Some 39 Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in groups, many performing Talmudic rituals.

- Israeli authorities issue a tender for 1,077 homes in the controversial Givat Hamatos settlement.

- A new survey issued by the Centre for Strategic Studies at the University of Jordan shows that the Palestinian cause and Jerusalem topped the "interests list" of 61% of the national sample and 70% of the surveyed opinion leaders, and that the majority of both samples felt that the top priority should be to maintain an uncompromising stance on Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine.

**Feb. 25:** Addressing the annual Besheva conference in Jerusalem, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announces he would advance plans for the construction of 3,500 settler units in the undeveloped area E-1 near Ma'ale Adumim, saying that "This thing has been frozen," but has "enormous significance."

- Democratic presidential candidate Senator Bernie Sanders says he would consider reversing President Trump's decision to move the US Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem.

**Feb. 26:** Some 221 Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in groups, many of whom perform Talmudic rituals.

- Israeli forces arrest director of the Arab Studies Society, Khalil Al-Tufakji, and the President of the Chamber of Commerce, Kamal Abeidat after searching their houses.

**Feb. 27:** The Jerusalem District Committee decides to advance a new detailed Outline Plan (TPS 285411) for 500 housing units in part of the area of Har Homa E.

## March

**March 3:** Scores of Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and provocatively tour the site.

**March 4:** 83 Jewish extremists and 78 yeshiva students tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound protected by Israeli police.

**March 5:** Some 76 Jewish extremists, 17 yeshiva students, and 70 security forces in civilian clothes enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups and provocatively tour the site.

**March 6:** In a statement during an official visit to Jordan, UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay commends King Abdullah for his constructive role as Custodian of the Holy Sites in Jerusalem, as well as for his vision in aiming to ensure that Jerusalem remains a unifying city of peace and harmony for the three monotheistic religions

**March 8:** The Jerusalem District Court orders the Israeli Jerusalem Municipality to release land sold by the Greek Orthodox Church several years ago to a group of private investors (Nayot Komemiyut Investments), clearing the way for them to try to close deals with apartment owners before legislation might limit their room to maneuver.

**March 8:** A request to appeal the District Planning Committee's January 25 decision submitted by Walajeh residents and the Norwegian Refugee Council to the National Planning Committee is officially denied.

**March 9:** The Israeli Defense Ministry advances plans for what it called a "sovereignty road" that would have Palestinian traffic by-pass Israeli settlements in the E1 area. This separate Palestinian-only is supposed to link Az-Za'im with neighboring Anata, Hizma and Ar-Ram. And not interfere with Israeli plans to connect Jerusalem with the Ma'ale Adumim bloc. According to Defense Minister Bennett, "The project will improve the quality of life of the residents in the area, avoid unnecessary friction with a Palestinian population and most importantly - allow for continued settlement construction."

**March 10:** Israeli police arrest Palestinian youth near Bab As-Sahera area for allegedly possessing a knife and planning a stabbing attack.

- A Jerusalem municipality committee, led by right-wing activist Yonatan Yosef, has put a hold on dozens of building plans for Palestinians in East Jerusalem, saying they have not proven their ownership of the land.

**March 11:** In its annual global human rights report, the US State Department has changed its standard description of East Jerusalem Palestinians from "Palestinian residents" of the city to "Arab residents" or "non-Israeli citizens" – a move harshly criticized by Palestinian leaders.

**March 12:** Israel Nature and Parks Authority staff begin work on privately owned Palestinian land in the Ben Himmon Valley area between Abu Tor and Silwan, which surround a cultural center and cafe run by the Elad settler group.

**March 15:** The Islamic Waqf decides to shut the Al-Aqsa and Dome of the Rock Mosques as a precaution against the Coronavirus until further notice. Prayers will still be held on the compound's huge open area.

- Volunteers and NGOs in Jerusalem launch At-Tajamu Al-Maqdisi (the Jerusalem Alliance) to confront the novel coronavirus, raising awareness and providing emergency needs - for the city's 350,000 Palestinians.

**March 16:** Israeli forces arrest 12 Palestinian volunteers from the newly formed Jerusalem Alliance who were involved in the disinfection of the Al-Aqsa Mosque area.

- Israeli police arrest Sheikh Najeh Bkeirat, deputy director of the Islamic Waqf Department and Aqsa Mosque Affairs from his home in Sur Baher.

**March 18:** Israeli police summons director of Al-Aqsa Mosque Sheikh Omar Kiswani for questioning at the Russian Compound interrogation center in West Jerusalem, without giving any reason.

**March 19:** Israeli forces raid Issawiya, stopping people and searched dozens of vehicles, before randomly launching teargas and stun grenades at peoples' homes, resulting in dozens of Palestinians suffocated teargas inhalation.

**March 20:** During the Friday sermon, Israeli police shut down a number of gates to Al-Aqsa Mosque compound allowing much fewer worshipers to enter the holy site. They also fire sound grenades to disperse the worshipers gathering around the gates.

**March 21:** Israeli forces raid the home of the head of the Waqf Council of Jerusalem, Sheikh Abdul-Azim Salhab, and fine him NIS 5,000 for allowing Muslim worshipers into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound a day earlier for Friday prayers.

**March 22:** While Israeli police put more restrictions on Palestinian worshipers, claiming it was a protective measure against coronavirus, scores of extremist Jews force their way into Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and perform Talmudic rituals.

- The Waqf announces it is closing the Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif for Muslim worshippers amid the outbreak of the coronavirus. The move comes after Israel's decision to close the Mughrabi gate, through which Jews and tourists enter the site.

- Palestinians denounce Israel alleged plans to cut off the densely-populated Shu'fat refugee camp, which is home to some 70,000 East Jerusalem residents, to stem coronavirus spread.

**March 24:** Israel detains four Palestinians volunteering for coronavirus disinfection of public facilities near the Old City's Lions' Gate.

**March 25:** Jordan's King Abdullah II, custodian of Holy Places in Jerusalem, has instructed the Islamic Waqf Department in Jerusalem to waive rentals of all Waqf properties in Jerusalem until the end of 2020 due to the coronavirus crisis.

**March 26:** Despite the closure due to the coronavirus, dozens of Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and perform Talmudic rituals near the al-Buraq.

- Church leaders in Jerusalem decide to shut down the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, following concern of the spread of coronavirus pandemic.

**March 28:** In light of the difficult economic situation and closure of shops as a result of the spread of coronavirus crisis, Jerusalem's Orthodox Church joins the decision of the Islamic Waqf Department in Jerusalem in exempting their Old City's Palestinian tenants from rent for the year 2020.

**March 30:** Kan Radio reports that in coordination with Israel as part of the joint fight to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, PA security services openly operate in Kufr Aqab, which is within Jerusalem's city limits, and in Abu Dis and Al-Izzariya, which are in Area B.

- Israeli undercover forces raid Shu'fat refugee camp and detain seven Palestinians.

- Israeli forces assault Palestinian voluntary teams fighting coronavirus outbreak in Hizma.

## April

**April 3:** Israeli forces search the home of Jerusalem Affairs Minister Fadi Al-Hidmi, confiscate money intended for charity, and arrest him on suspicion of acting on behalf of the PA in coordinating its coronavirus response in East Jerusalem. He is also beaten and forced to wear a dirty and bloody mask before being released without even seeing a judge.

**April 4:** Palestinian Governor of Jerusalem Adnan Gheith issues a warning for Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem, against buying goods or used items from religious Jews, who traditionally replace old furniture or clothes during the Passover holidays, as this may bring health risks due to the spread of Coronavirus.

**April 5:** Israeli forces arrest Jerusalem Governor Adnan Ghaith under suspicion of acting "illegally" on behalf of the PA to combat the coronavirus crisis. The next day, the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court rejects a police request to extend his arrest by eight days, with Judge Naeel Mohana ruling that Ghaith's activity complies with Health Ministry guidelines and was intended to disseminate information among residents which does not violate the law. The police intend to appeal the decision.

- Shadi Matour, director of Fatah's Jerusalem branch, is also taken into custody for a few hours by Israeli forces and warned against Fatah's continued "Corona" activity in Jerusalem in establishing "emergency committees" to deliver food, set up roadblocks and to urge the local population to accept "medical assistance" that they facilitate.

- Three Palestinian municipal street cleaners are attacked by three settlers with a knife and tear gas in the Ramat Eshkol settlement. Jerusalem Mayor Moshe Leon's office releases a statement condemning "violence of any kind towards any group, and certainly towards municipal employees who were faithfully doing their job for the city and its residents."

**April 6:** Hinting at Turkey and recent donations by the UAE, deputy mayor of Jerusalem, Fleur Hassan-Nahoum, says that the Israeli municipality is "fully aware of illegal donations in East Jerusalem," and of the fact that various players are trying to further their political agenda by interfering in the eastern part of the city, stressing the municipality was the only legitimate authority on the ground.

**April 7:** Diplomats from several European countries based in Jerusalem videoconference with PA Minister of Jerusalem Affairs Fadi Hidmi following his arrest, expressing concern “at the 3 April raid by Israeli police on his home, his detention and questioning about his work to prevent the spread of Covid19 in East Jerusalem.”

- Israeli forces raid the house of Fatah Secretary general in Jerusalem, Shadi Matour, in Beit Hanina for the second consecutive day.

- Sheikh Ekrima Sabri, preacher of the Aqsa Mosque, holds Israel fully responsible for any harm afflicting the Palestinian prisoners in case of a coronavirus outbreak in its jails. He also hails the efforts being made by many people to alleviate the suffering of the people and their support for hospitals, clinics and elderly care homes during the ongoing coronavirus crisis.

**April 8:** Adalah, the Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, in coordination with the Civic Coalition to Defend Palestinian Rights in Jerusalem, submit a petition to the Israeli Supreme Court to provide Corona examinations and medical services to the residents of Kufr Aqab and the Shu’fat camp.

**April 9:** The EU donates 9.5 million euros to the six hospitals in East Jerusalem.

**April 11:** Due to the coronavirus outbreak, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher closes on Easter, for the first time since Black Death in 1349, with only a few of priests celebrating “Holy Saturday”.

**April 13:** The Jerusalem Doctors’ Network warns about the spread of the coronavirus in East Jerusalem and calls on residents to take measures to protect themselves, given the lack of information from Israeli authorities in this regard.

- In response to the urgent Israeli Supreme Court petition that Adalah submitted a week ago, Israel commits to open health clinics and coronavirus testing centers for some 150,000 Palestinian residents living in Kufr Aqab and Shu’fat refugee camp, i.e., beyond the separation wall.

- Israeli authorities arrest PLC member Mohammed Abu Tir, 69, from his home in Um Al-Sharayet, Ramallah, where he was expelled to from Jerusalem in 2010. A week later, he was put under administrative detention for four months.

- The Israeli Health Ministry opens a testing clinic in Silwan, which, however, is only accessible to members of the Clalit health insurance organization.

**April 14:** At night, Israeli police raid a coronavirus testing clinic opened in a hall at a local mosque in Silwan and arrest its organizers because the kits were provided by the PA and the clinic is operated in collaboration with the PA.

**April 15:** UNRWA spokesperson Sami Mshasha says that Israel is clamping down on UNRWA staff in East Jerusalem by restricting their entry into and exit from the Shu’fat camp where they try to control the coronavirus' spread.

- Mufti Sheikh Mohammed Hussein announces that Muslims must hold prayers during Ramadan at home and not in mosques, to curb the spread of the coronavirus pandemic.

- Israeli police raids a coronavirus testing clinic in Silwan and arrests its organizers claiming it was clinic was operated in cooperation with the PA.

**April 16:** The Islamic Waqf Council, decides to extend the entry restriction of Muslim worshipers to Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif during the holy month of Ramadan for the first time in its history in an effort to stem the spread of coronavirus, prayers continued to be held in the Al-Aqsa Mosque by Islamic Waqf personals.

- Israeli police summons Sheikh Omar Kiswani, the Director of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, for questioning.

**April 18:** With the death of Nawal Abu Hummus, 78, from Issawiya East Jerusalem records its first confirmed fatality from coronavirus.

**April 19:** Eastern Orthodox priests hold a mass for Easter Sunday in an empty Church of the Holy Sepulcher due to restrictions in place to prevent the spread of the new coronavirus.

- The Israeli District Planning and Construction Council deposits a plan for 1,300 new housing units in Gilo settlement, including public buildings, commercial areas, workshops, open areas, a school and a sports and cultural club.

**April 20:** Nafouz Joulani, 57, from Silwan has become the second fatality from coronavirus in Jerusalem.

**April 23:** Israeli forces clash with Palestinian youth in Kufr Aqab, where they tried to cut off street signs.

**April 26:** The Israeli Jerusalem municipality publishes a first list of coronavirus cases in East Jerusalem, showing 143 infections.

**April 27:** Israeli security services raid the house of Sheikh Ekrima Sabri, Al-Aqsa Mosque Imam, head of the Islamic Higher Committee, and member of the Islamic Waqf Council, and threaten him after he stated that Al-Aqsa Mosque would open its doors if Israeli forces allowed Jewish extremists to enter the holy site.



**April 28:** Israel detains five Palestinians from Issawiya following a night of clashes triggered by an Israeli army raid.

**April 29:** In Wadi Al-Joz, Israeli police prevent the Ramadan musaharati, the person who beats a drum to wake people up before dawn to eat in order to start the day-long fast, from doing his traditional job, threatening to arrest him.

- Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden says that the US Embassy in Israel would remain in Jerusalem if he's elected, although he called President Trump's decision to move it from Tel Aviv "short-sighted and frivolous."

## May

**May 5:** Israeli forces raid the homes of and arrest 7 East Jerusalem residents for allegedly working for and being funded by the PA: Secretary General of the Popular National Conference for Jerusalem Maj.-Gen. Bilal Al-Natsheh, his office manager Muath Al-Ashhab, the Israeli court-appointed custodian of the Mamilla Cemetery Hajj Mustafa Abu Zahra, the mayor of Kufr Aqab Imad Awad, the writer, poet and activist Rania Hatem, journalist Tamer Obeidat, and activist Jad Al-Ghoul from Silwan.

- Israeli forces arrest six youths from Issawiya.

- The Asir Prisoner's Club report that Israeli forces have arrested over 600 Jerusalemites since the beginning of the 2020.

**May 6:** Israel's High Court of Justice orders the state to respond by May 11 to a petition claiming that the government cut a deal with Jordan to keep Jews off the Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif for the duration of the coronavirus epidemic.

**May 7:** Speaking over phone with Al-Aqsa Mosque preacher Sheikh Ekrima Sabri, the speaker of Tunisia's parliament Rached Ghannouchi denounces Israeli practices against the holy site, adding that Tunisia rejects "the policies of Judaization and the seizure of Palestinian lands."

- A group of Jewish extremists, escorted by police, perform Talmudic prayers in front of Al-Aqsa Mosque's Al-Mushrah Gate.

**May 10:** The Jerusalem Islamic Waqf decides not to open the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound despite other easing taking place, saying that this would lead to tens of thousands of worshippers, which the Waqf could not control and which could lead to mass infection.

- The District Committee approves for deposit a plan for a new 72-housing unit settler enclave in Beit Hanina (TPS 740993), initiated by Municipal Councilman Aryeh King in coordination with Israeli individuals who claim to own land in the neighborhood.

**May 11:** A poll conducted by the Washington Institute in 2018-2019, and during the first two months of 2020 finds that most Palestinian Jerusalemites prefer to join the PA over Israeli citizenship, with only 15% favoring the latter, which marks a drop from 52% in a similar poll a few years ago.

- The PA cabinet issues a statement condemning Israel for closing the Palestine TV office in East Jerusalem and preventing its crew from working in the city and in Israel, citing the violation of the signed agreements reached in 1994.

- Exploratory drilling starts just outside the Old City for a controversial transportation project to extend the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem fast rail to the Dung Gate south of the Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif to bring visitors from Ben Gurion Airport straight to the Wailing Wall. The project involves excavation of some 2.9 km under the Old City of Jerusalem.

**May 12:** Palestinian envoy to the UN, Riyad Mansour, is preparing a letter to the President of the UNSC and UNGA deploring the closing down of Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem.

- The Iranian parliament approves a bill with a list of measures against Israel, such as the establishment of an Iranian diplomatic mission in Jerusalem to 'Palestine,' boycott measures and bans on contact and agreements between Iran and Israel.

**May 15:** Yamina MK Rafi Peretz inks a deal with Prime Minister Netanyahu to enter the new coalition government as minister of Jerusalem, heritage and national projects.

- The International Press Institute (IPI) has called on Israel to allow Palestine TV to reopen in Jerusalem, with IPI Executive Board Vice Chair Daoud Kuttub saying, that "All journalists should have freedom of movement and must not be restricted from covering areas of conflict. The 350,000 Palestinians of East Jerusalem have a right to have a credible television station and reporters on the ground to report about their situation."

**May 17:** Israeli police invade the “Volunteer for Hope” charitable organization in Beit Hanina and order it closed for six months on the grounds that it allegedly is associated with the PA.

**May 18:** A hearing is held in the Israeli High Court to consider a petition filed by Yehuda Etzion and Arnon Segal on behalf of Jewish worshipers on the question of opening the Al-Aqsa Mosque Compound to those who wish to enter the holy site.

- Israeli forces demolish six structures (three homes and three agricultural buildings) in a part of Al-Walaja, which is inside the Nahal Rephaim National Park, which Israel established on its land in 2013.

**May 19:** Germany has recently donated €700,000 to the Augusta Victoria Hospital to support its fight against the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic.

- Israeli police assault and detain two Palestinians in the Old City, one of them the son of the Imam of Al-Aqsa Mosque, and arrest a Waqf guard at the Dome of the Rock inside the Al-Aqsa compound.

**May 20:** Jordan denies reports of a deal with Israel related to the arrangements at Al Aqsa Mosque, stressing that it was the administration of Jerusalem’s Awqaf and Al-Aqsa Mosque Affairs – as the legitimate body – which decided the protective Coronavirus measures inside the holy site

**May 21:** Hundreds of Jews take part in the “Jerusalem Day” march, marking Israel’s seizure of the city in 1967. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, police prevent the march from provocatively passing through Palestinian neighborhoods as usual.

**May 22:** Israeli forces attack and assault Palestinians performing nightly Islamic prayers (Isha and Taraweeh) during Ramadan at Bab Al-Asbat (the Lions' Gate).

**May 24:** Israeli forces violently disperse a crowd of Muslims in the Old City demanding to enter the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound for the Eid Al-Fitr holiday, which marks the end of Ramadan.

**May 25:** Israeli forces shoot a Palestinian man after an attempted stabbing attack near Jabal Al-Mukabber.

- Israeli police assault Palestinian worshipers performing nightly prayers at Bab Al-Asbat, outside Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

- The Jerusalem District Committee grants final approval of a master plan that provides for the construction of 2,000 units in the “Har Homa E” settlement (aka Har Homa West).

**May 26:** The Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemns the Israeli NIS 200-million plan for the development in Jerusalem that Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu approved a day earlier as it “aims at deepening the Judaization of the city by force and creating new facts in favor of the occupation's narrative and its false claims.”

- Israeli police ban Hamza Nimr, an employee of the Islamic Waqf Department, from entering Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif for six months after he opposed the entry of an Israeli police officer into Dome of the Rock.

**May 27:** The Islamic Waqf Council announces that Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif will reopen to Muslim worshippers Sunday, May 31, two months after they suspended entry to holy site due to the coronavirus pandemic.

**May 28:** The Siam family is forced to tear down parts of its home in Silwan after receiving demolition order from the Israeli West Jerusalem municipality for building without permit.

- Israeli authorities issue a confiscation order to a plot of land in Wadi Al-Rababa in Silwan to be used as a cemetery for Israeli Jews.

- Palestinian activists call for marching *en masse* to Al-Aqsa Mosque the next day (Friday) to resume performing daily prayers observing anti-coronavirus measures in order to resist any Israeli attempt to restrict their entry to the Islamic holy site.

**May 29:** Israeli police arrest Sheikh Ekrima Sabri, Al-Aqsa Mosque Imam, head of the Islamic Higher Committee, and member of the Islamic Waqf Council, after storming his house in occupied Jerusalem under the pretext of “incitement”.

- Members of the Bashir family are forced to demolish their home in Jabal Al-Mukabber.

**May 30:** Israeli forces shoot and kill unarmed autistic Iyad Hallaq, 32, as he is heading to a school for students with special needs in Jerusalem’s Old City, claiming they spotted a “suspicious object that looked like a pistol.” Israeli police closed all gates leading to the Old City following the killing.

**May 31:** *Israel Hayom* reports that secret US-mediated meetings have been underway since last December between Israel and Saudi Arabia to include representatives of the latter in the Islamic Waqf Council at Al-Aqsa Mosque.

- A huge number of Palestinians attend the funeral of autistic Iyad Hallaq who was shoot dead by Israeli police a day earlier.

- Israeli police clamp down on two peaceful Palestinian sit-ins marking the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Faisal Husseini and protesting the killing of Iyad Hallaq. They arrest several people, including Jerusalem Governor Adnan Gheith.
- The Israeli West Jerusalem municipality has issued an order to evict and demolish 200 decades-old Palestinian-owned structures in the Wadi Al-Joz industrial area, including car repair and parts shops, restaurants, and other facilities, and replace it with a high-tech "Silicon Wadi". The move is seen as a bid to obliterate the only Palestinian industrial area in East Jerusalem, use the land to build Israeli structures and change the Palestinian character of the city.
- The Islamic Waqf Council in Jerusalem lifts entry restrictions of the Al-Aqsa Mosque for Palestinian worshippers after 69 days of suspension; the council took the decision after the slowed spread of coronavirus. Thousands of Palestinian worshippers perform the dawn prayer at Al-Aqsa Mosque. Over 200 Jewish extremists also force their way into the compound, and at least 8 Palestinians are arrested for protesting their presence.
- Israeli forces prevent a memorial ceremony for Faisal Al-Husseini at Orient House in Sheikh Jarrah.
- The Grand Mufti of Jerusalem and Palestine Sheikh Muhammad Hussein calls on the Arab and Islamic countries to rise in order to shoulder their responsibility in defending, protecting and caring for the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, especially from Israeli Judaization attempts that extend to the entire Holy City.

## June

**June 1:** The Knesset extends the Citizenship and Entry Law for yet another year.

- Israeli police expel Muslim worshippers from the Bab Ar-Rahmeh prayer building at Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and allow dozens of Jewish extremists to enter the site and perform rituals.
- Brothers Imad and Ahmad Mashahreh are forced to demolish their two homes in Jabal Al-Mukabber to avoid the high cost charged by the municipality.

**June 2:** Israeli forces demolish six under-construction structures in Jabal Al-Mukabber belonging to Mohammad Za'atra.

- Israeli forces demolish a home belonging to Ahmad Abu Diab in Silwan.
- Israeli forces detain Islamic Waqf official called Husam Sidr from Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.
- Dozens of Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound escorted by police officers. Some are performing rituals during their tour.
- Palestine urges the ICC to open an official investigation into Israel's demolition of homes of Palestinians in East Jerusalem, as they may be considered as war crimes under international law and the Geneva Convention.
- *Times of Israel* reports that East Jerusalem's Palestinian residents feel increasingly alienated from the State of Israel, with recent years showing plummeting interest in obtaining Israeli citizenship. According to polls conducted by David Pollock of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy the percentage of East Jerusalem Palestinians who said they would prefer to become citizens of Israel, even after a Palestinian state was established dropped from a high of 52% in early 2015 to about 15%.

**June 3:** Jerusalem Chief Rabbi Aryeh Stern makes a condolence call to the family of killed autistic Iyad Hallaq and decides afterwards to appoint Uri Borovsky, a former Arab affairs adviser to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, as special adviser for Arab affairs, in an attempt to promote coexistence and good neighborly relations between the various populations in the city.

- Different groups of over 170 Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound escorted by police officers and provocatively tour the holy site.
- Dozens of Palestinian protestors, including Islamic Waqf personal and Arab MKs, protest against ongoing police harassment of Sheikh Ekrima Sabri, the latest of which was interrogating him for several hours.

**June 4:** Israeli police break up a protest in solidarity with former Mufti of Jerusalem and current head of the Higher Islamic Council, Ekrima Sabri, who is banned from entering Al-Aqsa Mosque compound for four months by Israel. In response to the ban, the PA Ministry of Foreign Affairs accuses Israel of violating the Muslims' right to freedom of worship.

- Palestinian residents of Silwan have petitioned the High Court of Justice, claiming that the Charitable Trust Registrar helped the Ateret Cohanim settler organization acquire control over a historic land trust in the Batn Al-Hawa area, which houses 700 Palestinians now threatened with eviction.

**June 7:** Israeli authorities hand eight Palestinians, including the director of the Prisoner Club in Jerusalem, Nasser Qous, orders banning them entry to the Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Al-Sharif for periods ranging between one week and six months.

- One week after the police shooting of Iyad Hallaq, Prime Minister Netanyahu calls his death a “tragedy.”

**June 8:** Israeli authorities issue orders banning over 20 East Jerusalem Palestinians from entering Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Al-Sharif for periods ranging from 3-6 months.

- Over 70 Jewish extremists, including Rabbi Yehuda Glick, enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound escorted by police.

- Israeli police raid the family homes of 25 Fatah activists in At-Tur, Wadi Al-Joz, Silwan, Issawiya and the Old City and detain them on suspicion of operating as representatives of the PA and its security forces in East Jerusalem.

- According to the Palestinian Prisoners Association, 845 Palestinians have been arrested from East Jerusalem since the beginning of 2020.

- Israeli forces dismantle and seize a greenhouse belonging to a resident of Al-Sawahreh Ash-Sharqiya under the pretext that it was built without a permit.

- Israeli forces demolish the house of Aisha Hijazi, who provides alone for her eight children, in Silwan.

- The National Library of Israel, in coordination with the British-based Arcadia Fund, has announced a major initiative to open digital access to over 2,500 rare Islamic manuscripts and books. The entire collection - in Arabic, Persian and Turkish - which date from the 9th to the 20th centuries, is expected to be completed in three years.

**June 9:** Over 52 Jewish extremists, escorted by police, enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound; some of them perform Talmudic rituals.

- Police arrest six demonstrators at a protest against police violence in the wake of the deadly shooting of Palestinian autistic Iyad Hallaq on May 30, for blocking the city’s light rail line. Similar protests are staged in Haifa and Jaffa.

- Commenting on the death late of Iyad Hallaq, President Reuven Rivlin calls for “everything to be done so that such an incident does not repeat itself.”

**June 10:** Israeli forces demolish four Palestinian-owned decades-old buildings in Al-Walaja without a demolition order, as part of its preparations to open a new park around the adjacent Ein Haniya spring. One of the buildings housed a family while the others were used by farmers to store equipment.

**June 11:** In the wake of the ICC’s investigation into war crimes by US soldiers and Israelis against Palestinians, US President Trump signs an executive order authorizing the possible imposition of economic sanctions and visa restrictions on certain persons associated with the ICC, including agents of States Parties that cooperate with the Court.

- Scores of Jewish extremists, escorted by police, enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in groups, some performing religious rituals.

**June 14:** Scores of Jewish extremists escorted by police forces enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound. One group loudly performs Talmudic hymns.

**June 15:** Israeli forces raid the Ras Shehadeh neighborhood in Shu’fat refugee camp and demolish two apartments and four storage places belonging to Ehab and Usama Alqam for being built without license.

- Israel extends the tender deadline for the contentious Givat Hamatos project.

- Dozens of Jewish extremists escorted by police forces tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, including rightwing Rabbi Yehuda Glick giving a lecture about the alleged temple mount.

**June 16:** During confrontations in Kufr Aqab, five Palestinians are injured by Israeli forces while dozens of others suffocate due to inhaling toxic gas.

- Dozens of Jewish extremists escorted by police forces tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups, while access for Muslim worshippers is restricted.

**June 17:** Israeli forces demolish Palestinian-owned under construction buildings, a shack, and several shops in the area between Abu Dis and As-Sawahreh Ash-Sharqiya as well as the wall surrounding Abu Dis University’s soccer field.

- Some 215 Jewish extremists escorted by police forces tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, while police expel Muslim worshippers from the site’s eastern area.

- Jordan condemns Israeli authorities' continuation of activity on the Western Wall, which is an integral part of the Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif, since all maintenance and restoration work falls under the exclusive authority of the Jerusalem Awqaf Department.

**June 18:** The Israeli West Jerusalem municipality hand a demolition order to Yasin Taha Zaatra for his 10-year old house in As-Sawahreh.

- Some 158 Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in groups. Israeli police detain Fadi Alayan, one of the Al-Aqsa guards.

- The EU and WHO deliver vital medical supplies to East Jerusalem hospitals for COVID-19 response.

- *Haaretz* reports that the Nof Tzion settlement enclave in Jabel Mukabber has been connected to the Israeli electricity grid this week, switching from the Jerusalem District Electricity Company following complaints about the latter's frequent power cuts.

**June 21:** Israeli police forces escort dozens of Jewish extremists into Al-Aqsa Mosque where they performed provocative rituals while restrictions were tightened on Muslim worshipers entering the site.

- On the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, Israeli police arrest guard Abdel Karim Qa'oud as well as five women at the Bab Ar-Rahmeh prayer area.

- In the evening, Israeli police close the Aqsa Mosque's Asbat (Lion's) Gate, forcing Palestinians to leave Al-Ghazali Square outside the holy site in order to secure a march by extremists Jews carrying Israeli flags and temple mount banners.

- The District Committee approves for deposit a second plan for a new 72-housing unit settler enclave in Beit Hanina (TPS 740951) (see also 10 May), initiated by Municipal Councilman Aryeh King in coordination with Israeli individuals who claim to own land in the neighborhood.

**June 22:** The Islamic Waqf Department warns that Israel is on the verge of changing the long-observed *status quo* at Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem as a Muslim-only holy place. Ekrima Sabri, former Mufti of Jerusalem and current head of the Higher Islamic Council, says in a statement that the Waqf is losing control over the holy compound, particularly its Bab Ar-Rahmeh area.

**June 23:** Dozens of Jewish extremists escorted by police tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, performing Jewish rituals in its eastern area.

**June 24:** The Jerusalem District Court denies a final request by the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate to block the sale of church property in the Old City to the Ateret Cohanim settler group.

- Some 67 Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in groups and under police guard, while restrictions are imposed on Muslim worshipers whose IDs are seized upon entry and until they leave.

**June 28:** Jordan's Foreign Ministry condemns Israel's decision to build an elevator connecting the Old City with Al-Buraq Wall (the Western Wall), saying it violates international law and UNESCO resolutions.

**June 29:** During a hearing at the Israeli High Court of Justice of arguments concerning the controversial cable car project, the State admits that its implementation will require the confiscation of privately owned Palestinian land in Silwan.

**June 30:** After an almost 30 year long legal battle, the Jerusalem District Court rejects the appeal of the Samarin family of 18 and orders it to evict its property in Silwan, overlooking the Al-Aqsa Mosque, for the benefit of settlers. In addition, they are forced to pay \$5,800 to the Jewish National Fund, which has been deemed the legal owner of the property.

- Israeli forces raid the Obeid neighborhood in Issawiya triggering clashes with Palestinian youths, at least three of whom are injured.

- Settlers invade a vacant, illegally built building in the Wadi Hilweh section of Silwan which they claim they had purchased from its Palestinian owners, who had left the house after receiving a demolition order.

## July

**July 1:** At dawn, Israeli forces raid several homes in At-Tur, Beit Hanina, Wadi Al-Joz, Sur Baher, and Al-Issawiya, confiscate mobile phones and some documents and arrest 11 people for violating the law by working for the PA in Jerusalem.

- In Al-Issawiya, Israeli forces destroy a house and barracks for horses.

**July 2:** The Jerusalem Islamic Waqf Council receives a notice that the Israeli police has submitted an urgent request to the Jerusalem Magistrate court to close the Bab Ar-Rahmeh prayer house, giving the council until 27 July to respond.

**July 3:** Dozens of Jerusalemites participate in Friday prayers held over lands threatened with seizure in the Wadi Al-Rababa neighborhood of Silwan.

**July 6:** Israeli municipal staff hands demolition orders against 30 Palestinian houses and structures in Issawiya under the pretext of construction without a permit.

**July 7:** PA Foreign Minister Riad Malki calls on the international community and UNESCO to put pressure on Israel to stop its illegal actions and attempts to deliberately sabotage Palestinian Christian and Muslim heritage, and to take actual steps to ensure the implementation of UNESCO resolutions on Palestine, including those on Al-Aqsa Mosque/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif, and to demand an end to illegal Israeli excavations in Jerusalem.

- 13 Church leaders in Jerusalem issued a joint statement, saying: "We, the Heads of the Churches and Christian Communities in Jerusalem, stand united in our commitment to safeguard the historical Status Quo of the Holy Sites and rights of the Churches which are universally recognized. The case of Jaffa Gate threatens this Status Quo. We are concerned by the recent judgment of the District Court of Jerusalem, which dismissed evidence demonstrating the Greek Orthodox Church's case. We strongly support the efforts of the Greek Orthodox Church in their plea for justice...We don't see this case as a mere property dispute. We see the undertaking of radical groups to take control of properties at Jaffa Gate as a systematic attempt to undermine the integrity of the Holy City, to obstruct the Christian pilgrim route and to weaken the Christian presence in Jerusalem."

**July 8:** Israeli forces arrest Engineer Bassam Al-Hallaq, official of the construction department of the Al-Aqsa Mosque for undertaking restoration work inside the Marwani Mosque on the compound.

- Israeli forces demolish the foundations of a house in Silwan, belonging to Iyad Abu Sbeih which was already self-demolished by its owners for being built without permit.

- Israeli forces demolish a shop in Wadi Al-Joz.

**July 9:** An Israeli Court orders the closure of the Bab-Al-Rahmeh prayer site on the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

- Jewish right-wing leader Yehuda Glick leads a tour of extremists on the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, also performing Jewish rituals.

**July 10:** Israeli forces summon Secretary of Fatah in Jerusalem, Shadi Matour, to the Muskobiya interrogation and detention center.

**July 11:** After limiting worshipers to 19 only in order to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher closes its doors again due to increasing infection cases in the city.

**July 12:** During a raid of Al-Issawiya, provoking clashes with Palestinian residents, Israeli forces injure eight Palestinians.

**July 13:** Israeli authorities distribute eviction notices on tens of dunums of land in Al-Issawiya, including residential and commercial facilities and areas planted with trees, on the pretext that they are owned by the state of Israel.

- Palestinians warn against introducing any changes in Al-Aqsa Mosque in light of Israel's intention to shut down Bab Al-Rahmeh prayer area for Muslim worshippers.

- The family of autistic Iyad Hallaq who was fatally shot by Israeli police on 30 May is informed that the security cameras at the site of the killing were allegedly not working, meaning that there is no evidence about what happened."

- A few days after changing the status of the ancient Hagia Sophia church, which had been transformed into a mosque in 1453 and then into a museum in 1934, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan vows to "liberate Al-Aqsa Mosque" from Israel, saying "the resurrection of Hagia Sophia" was part of the "return of freedom to Al-Aqsa."

- Israeli authorities ban journalist Sondos Owais from Al-Aqsa Mosque for three months, preventing her from covering events at the holy site.

**July 14:** Islamic organizations, including the Waqf, reject an Israeli court ruling issued on July 2 to close Bab Al-Rahmeh inside Al-Aqsa Mosque compound for Muslim worshippers, stressing that everything within the walled holy compound is purely Islamic and Israel has no rights or authority over it.

**July 15:** Israeli forces demolish a house owned by Ghassan Shkeirat in Jabal Al-Mukabber under the pretext of construction without a permit.

- Israel orders three Palestinians not to be at Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem and bans travel for one Jerusalem resident.

**July 17:** About 10,000 worshippers attend restricted Friday prayers.

**July 19:** Israeli police raid the home of Palestinian governor of Jerusalem Adnan Gheith in Silwan and arrest him on allegation of working on behalf of the PA and over "suspected terrorism."

**July 20:** Right-wing Rabbi Yehuda Glick and over 90 extremist Jews enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in groups, with some performing Jewish prayers publicly near Bab Ar-Rahmeh, while entry for Muslim worshipers is restricted.

**July 22:** Some 228 Jewish extremists enter the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in groups and tour the site.

- Israeli police arrest Rania Elias, head of the Yabous Cultural Center and her husband Suhail Khoury, director of the Edward Said National Conservatory of Music, in their Beit Hanina home on charges of allegedly financing terrorist organizations, referring to their affiliation with the PFLP. They are later released “under conditions.” Police also raid both organizations and confiscate documents. Also arrested is Daoud Al-Ghoul, who heads Al-Shafaq, the Jerusalem Network of Arts of which the other two centers are members as well.

- Israeli forces demolish a house under construction in Jabal Al-Mukabber, belonging to Seif Eddin Jumaa.

**July 23:** At least 59 extremist Jews tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, while entry for Muslim worshipers is restricted.

- Using the municipal cleanup ordinance on the pretext of “placing an obstacle in the street”, the Nature and Parks Authority personnel accompanied by police forces demolish a large block-structure that served as a warehouse in Silwan.

**July 24:** Israeli police forces raid Bab Ar-Rahmeh prayer area at Al-Aqsa Mosque and detain three Palestinians standing at the nearby Bab Ar-Rahmeh cemetery.

**July 26:** Dozens of extremist Jews tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, with at least one of them reciting Jewish prayers loudly in front of the Magharbeh Gate. At the same time, entry restrictions are imposed on Muslim worshipers whose IDs are seized until they leave the holy site.

**July 27:** Israeli police raid Shu'fat refugee camp, arresting 13 suspects for rioting and attacking Israeli forces, the use and possession of weapons, and drugs.

**July 28:** Yabous Cultural Centre and the National Conservatory of Music call on human rights organization, UNESCO and the EU to denounce the Israeli raid of their premises in Jerusalem last week and to support the right of Palestinian organizations and scholars to function freely without Israeli interference in the city.

- Israeli police summons for interrogation senior Fatah officials, Areen Az-Za'aneen and Bilal Natsheh, warning them against pursuing activities in East Jerusalem.

- At least 100 Jewish extremists and rabbis tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups, with some reciting Jewish prayers, while Muslim worshipers' entry is restricted and their IDs are seized until they leave.

- Israeli forces demolish five structures, some of which belong to the Abu Al-Hummus and Darwish families, and raze 14 dunums of land in Issawiya.

**July 29:** Israeli police summons deputy governor of Jerusalem, Abdullah Siam, for interrogation over his activities in East Jerusalem, along with three senior Fatah officials - Adel Abu Zneid, deputy head of the Fatah secretary-general in Jerusalem, Amer Awad, secretary-general of Fatah in Beit Hanina, and Eyad Bashir, secretary-general of Fatah in Jabal Al-Mukabber.

- Some 156 Jewish extremists escorted by Israeli police enter the Al-Aqsa Mosque in different groups and carry out provocative tours.

**July 30:** In violation of the *status quo*, Israeli police allow at least 1,000 Jewish extremists, including Rabbi Yehuda Glick to openly perform religious rituals at Bab Al-Rahmeh on the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, arresting at least 5 Palestinian worshippers trying to stop them.

- Israeli forces detain Mohannad Al-Ansari, a guard of Al-Aqsa Mosque, as well as Fatah secretary in Jerusalem, Shadi Matour, while he was in front of the District Court to attend a hearing for the imprisoned Jerusalem Governor, Adnan Gheith.

- Assistant Secretary-General for Palestine and the Occupied Arab Territories at the Arab League, Saeed Abu Ali, strongly condemns in a press statement Israel's continued attacks on the sanctity of Al-Aqsa Mosque as well as on Palestinian institutions and individuals, and warns of the consequences of a religious war igniting the entire region.

## **August**

**Aug. 3:** Iyad Abu Sbeih is forced to demolish his family home in Silwan for being built without a permit, while brothers Samir and Suleiman Al-Qaq begin emptying their two apartments in order to self-demolish them to avoid paying the high cost of demolition. In Jabal Al-Mukabber, also Illan Oweisat is forced to demolish his home.

**Aug. 4:** On condition not to get in touch with each other, Fatah or Palestinian leaders and officials in the West Bank, the Israeli Magistrate Court in Jerusalem orders the release of Jerusalem governor Adnan Ghaith, and intelligence chief Jihad Al-Faqih, after detaining them since July 19.

- Some 122 Jewish extremists enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in groups and provocatively tour the site.

**Aug. 5:** In Silwan, Israeli forces demolish two houses belonging to Samer and Suleiman Al-Qaq, as well as another house belonging to Sharif Amro and a barbershop owned by Amr Shiha, all under the pretext of unlicensed construction.

- Mohammad Alon is forced to tear down his family house, displacing his 7-member family.

- After nearly 12 years of deliberations in Israeli courts, Palestinian lawyers Asaad Mazzawi and Muhammad Bashir have foiled a large-scale land ownership forgery in Jerusalem, defending the joint ownership right of the Al-Araj and Khalayleh families to over 11,500 dunums of land in As-Sawahreh, proving them as rightful owners.

- An Italian Court rules in favor of two Italian pro-Palestine organizations against Italian national public broadcasting company RAI, requesting Flavio Insinna, host of the popular TV show "L'Eredità" to deliver a statement saying "International law does not recognize Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Israel." This comes after the show, on 21 May, deemed the answer "Tel Aviv" of a contestant asked what is the capital of Israel wrong.

**Aug. 6:** Israeli forces demolish the Al-Qaq family home in Silwan.

- Some 130 Jewish extremists and yeshiva students tour the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups escorted by Israeli police.

**Aug. 8:** After allegedly discovering a "suspicious object", Israeli police close the Damascus Gate area, search people and their belongings, and detain dozens of Palestinians.

**Aug. 9:** Nihad Subaih Shqeirat is forced to demolish his family home in Jabal Al-Mukabber for building without a permit.

- The Jerusalem Municipality's Planning & Building Committee decides to delay its final approval of plans to build a cable car line until the High Court of Justice issues a ruling on whether or not the state is permitted to expropriate the privately owned Palestinian land that is needed to carry out its construction.

**Aug. 10:** At least 43 Jewish extremists, including rightwing Rabbi Yehuda Glick, enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in groups and provocatively tour the site, performing Jewish prayers in its eastern area.

- During a videoconference with Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu marking the ratification of a free-trade agreement, Colombian President Ivan Duque says his country will open a trade and innovation office in Jerusalem.

**Aug. 11:** Some 193 Jewish extremists enter and tour the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

- In Sheikh Jarrah, Ibrahim Sabia and Khaled Abu Taa are forced to demolish their homes for being built without license.

- Israeli forces demolish a three-apartment building in Silwan's Wadi Qaddum area under the pretext of construction without permit, displacing over 25 members of the Tahhan family.

**Aug. 12:** The Waqf in Jerusalem decides to raise the alert level on Fridays and congregate prayers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound as 166 Jewish extremists barge their way to the site.

- In Jabal Al-Mukabber, Aziz Alaayan is forced to tear down a 100-m<sup>2</sup> extension to his house to avoid the municipality's demolition costs. Israeli forces also raze a plot of land in the same neighborhood.

**Aug. 13:** At least 149 Jewish extremists, including a group of soldiers, tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound under police guard.

**Aug. 16:** Some 195 Jewish extremists led by former right-wing MK Yehuda Glick force their way into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in separate groups.

**Aug. 17:** Israeli arsonists set fire to 13 Palestinian cars in Beit Safafa and write anti-Palestinian racist graffiti on walls in what is believed a "Price Tag" act.

- Israeli authorities ban the PA Jerusalem governor, Adnan Ghaith, from entering the West Bank for a period of six months.

- In a stabbing attack in the Old City, Ashraf Hassan Atallah Halasa, 30, moderately wounds a Border Police officer before being shot dead by other officers. Police close off the area, including Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, and arrest Halasa's mother and two brothers from their home in Sawahra Ash-Sharqiya.

- Mufti of Jerusalem Sheikh Muhammad Hussein has issued a *fatwa* stating that it is *haram* (forbidden according to Islamic law) to pray in Al-Aqsa Mosque while arriving through the normalization agreement between Israel and the



UAE. Hussein said that “prayers in Al-Aqsa Mosque are open to those who come from the legitimate Palestinian gate and not to those who put the US’ Deal of the Century plan into practice.”

**Aug. 18.:** Israeli bulldozers demolish a 4-story residential building under construction in Jabal Al-Mukabber belonging to Aziz Ja’abis, prompting clashes with Palestinian youths.

- At least 43 Jewish extremists, including a group of students, tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound under police guard.

**Aug. 19:** Some 98 Jewish extremists, including rightwing Rabbi Yehuda Glick, tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound under police guard. During their presence, Israeli police detain two Al-Aqsa employees and one Muslim worshipper.

- Dr. Abbas Shuman, a member of Al-Azhar's Committee of Senior Scholars in Egypt has rejected a fatwa by Jerusalem Mufti Sheikh Muhammad Hussein forbidding the Emirati people from praying in Al-Aqsa Mosque following the UAE-Israeli peace accord, saying there is no "religious justification for declaring as haram (forbidden) the worship of any Muslim people in any mosque all over the world based on a political stance taken by these people's leadership."

**Aug. 22:** Ghalib Al-Abbasi is forced to demolish the foundations of his house built 8 years ago in Silwan.

**Aug. 23:** Some 85 Jewish extremists tour the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups escorted by Israeli police.

**Aug. 24:** Some 82 Jewish extremists and 20 yeshiva students tour the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups escorted by Israeli police.

- Speaking to Voice of Palestine Radio, Deputy Governor of Jerusalem, Abdullah Siyam, says that 18,000 homes in East Jerusalem are threatened with demolition and that there is a need for over 15,000 additional housing units

**Aug. 25:** In Silwan, Israeli forces demolish a family apartment belonging to Khaled Khalis under the pretext of building without a permit.

- Brothers Bilal and Mohammed Dabash are forced to self-demolish their homes in Sur Baher.

- In Sur Baher, Mohammad Amira is forced to destroy his own house to avoid having to pay the heavy municipal fine and demolition costs.

- Israeli forces arrest nine Palestinian from Jerusalem on suspicion of carrying out security activities for the PA.

- Israeli forces notify Jerusalem Governor Adnan Ghaith that his movement within Jerusalem would be restricted.

**Aug. 26:** Israeli forces destroy three Palestinian houses in Jerusalem.

- Some 137 Jewish extremists enter the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, some of them performing Jewish prayers.

**Aug. 27:** The Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, Sheikh Muhammad Hussein, resigns from the UAE Forum for Promoting Peace in Muslim Societies over its statement endorsing normalization with Israel, which he calls “a stab in the back of Palestinians and Muslims, and a betrayal for Muslim and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem.”

- In a press statement issued after his meeting with Spanish Consul in Jerusalem Ignacio Garcia-Valdecasas, PA Minister of Jerusalem Affairs Fadi Al-Hidmi says Israeli authorities have demolished about 115 buildings in East Jerusalem since the beginning of this year.

**Aug. 30:** Khaled Bashir is forced to self-demolish his home in Jabal Al-Mukabber to avoid paying fines and the municipal demolition fees.

**Aug. 31:** At least 117 Jewish extremists enter the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, some performing Jewish prayers, while entry is restricted to Palestinian worshippers.

- Brothers Abdel-Salam and Uday Al-Razim are forced to self-demolish their apartments in Beit Hanina to avoid paying fines and the municipal demolition fees.

- Israeli press reports that a new pit was uncovered on the southern side of the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, allegedly caused by a falling floor tile due to extensive renovations by the Waqf at the site.

- Abu Dhabi crown prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed An-Nahyan says that the UAE is committed to the establishment of a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

## September

**Sept. 1:** Speaking with Turkish Consul General in Jerusalem, Ahmet Riza Demirer, Jerusalem Mufti Sheikh Mohammed Hussein hails Turkey's support for the Palestinian cause and urges Arabs and Muslims to fulfill their responsibilities towards the Palestinian people and protect their sacred places.

- Some 52 of Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound escorted by Israeli police.

**Sept. 2:** Alaa Borqan is forced to demolish his own house in At-Tur after a court ruled that it was constructed illegally.

**Sept. 3:** The Interior Ministry informs Palestinian-French Salah Hamouri, who was sentenced to seven years in prison for his involvement in the attempt to assassinate Rabbi Yosef Ovaid, but was released after two years as part of the 2011 Gilad Shalit prisoner exchange, of its intention to revoke his permanent Jerusalem resident status, effectively deporting him, due to his continued ties to the PFLP. He has one month to appeal the decision.

- The Jerusalem Magistrate's Court rules that the four families of the Abdel-Fatah Rajabi house in Batn Al-Hawa, Silwan, should evacuate their homes in favor of settlers within six months.

- 53 Jewish extremists and 70 yeshiva students tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound escorted by Israeli police.

**Sept. 4:** Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu announces that Tel Aviv and Pristina had agreed to establish diplomatic ties and Kosovo, along with Serbia, will open its embassy in Jerusalem.

- The Jerusalem Magistrate court orders the eviction of 30 Palestinians from the Daoudi (7 individuals), Dajani (11 individuals) and Hammad (12 individuals) families from their homes in Karm Al-Jao'uni area of Sheikh Jarrah until August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, in favor of settlers. The eviction lawsuits against were filed by the "Nahalat Shimon" company, which is owned by a US-based firm registered in Delaware.

**Sept. 5:** Israel forces attack Al-Aqsa guards inside the Dome of the Rock and arrest three of them.

- Evangelical Christian President of Malawi, Lazarus Chakwera, says that Malawi had "resolved" to open a "new diplomatic mission" in Jerusalem.

**Sept. 6:** Secretary-General of the PLO Executive Committee Saeb Erekat warns that the PA would cut off all ties with any country which transfers its embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem in violation of international law.

- Israel's National Security Council has discussed closing the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound to both Jewish and Muslim worshipers in light of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

- Israel forces storm Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and install loudspeakers on the roof of Al-Aqsa School.

**Sept. 7:** Secretary-General of the PLO Executive Committee Saeb Erekat says the US once again violates international law by encouraging nations to recognize Jerusalem as capital of Israel.

- The EU warns Serbia and Kosovo that they could undermine their EU membership hopes by moving their Israeli embassies to Jerusalem.

- Jordan denounces continuous Israeli violations against Al-Aqsa Mosque, the latest being the installation of speakers over the northern and western walls of the compound and the arrest of several Waqf employees.

**Sept. 8:** The Palestinian neighborhoods of Beit Hanina, At-Tur, Issawiya, 'Anata, and Shu'fat refugee camp are defined as being red by Israeli authorities and placed under a nighttime curfew in an attempt to reduce the spread of the coronavirus.

- An Israeli court in Jerusalem decides on the evacuation of the Rajabi family home in the Batn Al-Hawa area of Silwan in favor of the Ateret Cohanim settler group.

**Sept. 9:** East Jerusalem private schools are ordered closed and switch to online teaching.

- 53 Jewish extremists force their way into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

**Sept. 10:** The Israeli authorities restrict the movement of the PA's Governor of Jerusalem, Adnan Ghaith, to his neighborhood, Silwan, and prohibit him from being in contact with over 50 people, including President Mahmoud Abbas and Prime Minister Mohammed Shtayyeh.

**Sept. 11:** Israeli forces ban four Waqf employees from the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound for periods from 3 to 5 months.

**Sept. 13:** Jewish extremists force their way into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

**Sept. 14:** Israeli municipality forces storm Silwan and hand demolition and municipality summon notices to several facilities, including the Al-Qaqaa Mosque, built in 2012 in the Ain Al-Luza neighborhood, giving residents 21 days to object to the demolition decision.

- In Beit Hanina, Israeli forces detain Secretary of Fatah in Jerusalem, Shadi Matour, and his wife in an attempt to deport the wife from the city under the pretext that it she was "illegal" in the city because her residency had recently been revoked.

- Israeli forces hand a demolition notice against the house of Secretary of Fatah, Ahmed Al-Abbasi, in Silwan.

- Israeli police storm the Bab Ar-Rahmeh prayer hall and take photos of it, provoking Palestinian worshipers at the site.

- An Israeli court rules in favor of the forceful eviction of the Salah family from their house in Silwan to make room for the Elad settler group.

**Sept. 15:** Two Palestinian families are forced to demolish their houses in Jabal Al-Mukabber.

- Scores of Jewish extremists force their way into Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque compound amid calls for a large-scale intrusion into the site.

**Sept. 16:** *Haaretz* reports that last week Jerusalem Magistrate's Court Judge Efrat Eichenstein has ruled that 26 members of Al-Fatah Rajabi family living in Silwan's Batn Al-Hawa area must hand over their homes to the Ateret Cohanim settler group.

- 126 Jewish extremists force their way into Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque compound amid calls for a large-scale intrusion into the site.

- In response to Israeli intentions to allow Jews to continue entering the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound during the lockdown, the Islamic Waqf Department retracts its decision to close the site to worshippers in a bid to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

**Sept. 17:** A total of 124 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups escorted by Israeli forces.

**Sept. 18:** Islamic Waqf officials reiterate their refusal to halt religious services at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound during the newly imposed lockdown due to the continued allowance of Jews to enter and perform rituals at the site.

- Israeli forces detain two residents of Jerusalem, Issam Omairah and Rafat Najib, near Lion's gate and later ban them from entering Al-Aqsa Mosque compound for 6 months.

**Sept. 20:** Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernandez announces his country's intention to move its embassy to Jerusalem hopes to move its embassy in Israel to Jerusalem before the end of 2020, writing on Twitter: "To strengthen our strategic alliance, we spoke to arrange the opening of the embassies in Tegucigalpa and Jerusalem, respectively."

- Dozens of Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound escorted by Israeli police.

**Sept. 21:** Muslims are called upon to attend prayers at Al-Aqsa Mosque to ward off attempts by Jewish extremists to change the *status quo* at the Muslim holy site.

- 32 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound escorted by Israeli forces.

- Israel expands its surveillance of Al-Aqsa Mosque. The Waqf condemns the move as an attempt to undermine Jordan's custodianship and impose Israeli sovereignty.

- Companies linked to Israeli-Russian billionaire Roman Abramovich have donated \$102 million to the right-wing Elad settler group, which works to increase Jewish presence in East Jerusalem.

**Sept. 22:** The parents of autistic Eyad Hallaq, who was killed by Israeli police on 30 May, have petitioned the High Court of Justice to conclude the investigation of the case and put the two police officers involved on trial.

- The Jerusalem District Committee approves the Har Homa E Outline Plan (TPS 285411) for 570 housing for deposit pending some modifications.

- Addressing the UN General Assembly, Turkish President Erdogan accuses Israel of extending its "dirty hand" over Jerusalem, prompting a walkout from Israel's UN envoy Gilad Erdan.

- Israeli forces seize street vendors' stalls near Qalandia checkpoint and destroy their products, triggering clashes.

**Sept. 29:** Israeli occupation forces seized a petrol station and a street for street vendors near Qalandia checkpoint

**Sept. 30:** The Israeli authorities summons PAs Governor of Jerusalem, Adnan Ghaith, for interrogation.

## October

**Oct. 1:** Israeli forces summon the PA's governor of Jerusalem, Adnan Ghaith, to questioning at the Russian Compound police station in West Jerusalem.

- The Israeli municipality orders the demolition of two homes belonging to brothers Amer and Ammar Abu Mayaleh family in Ras Al-Amoud for they were built without a permit.

- Referring to the Ottoman Empire control, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan tells the parliament in Ankara, that "In this city that we had to leave in tears during the First World War, it is still possible to come across traces of the Ottoman resistance. So Jerusalem is our city, a city from us."

- PLO Executive Committee member Saleh Rafat tells the Voice of Palestine that Palestine has officially asked the EU to exert pressure on Israel to permit holding the Palestinian elections in East Jerusalem.

**Oct. 3:** Israeli forces arrest two guards of the Bab Ar-Rahmeh cemetery, Mohammad Al-Shalada and Ahmad Al-Dalal.

**Oct. 4:** The Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs condemns the repeated incursions into the Al-Aqsa Mosque by large numbers of Jewish extremists, their provocative performance of Talmudic prayers, and the frequent expulsion of Muslim worshipers from the site.

**Oct. 5:** Czech President Miloš Zeman's spokesman Jiří Ovčáček confirms that the Czech Republic is ready to take further steps towards moving its embassy to Jerusalem.

**Oct. 6:** At least 69 Israeli extremists in addition to security forces enter the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

- For the first time in 30 years, the Jerusalem municipality has approved a master plan for Issawiya, including a new zoning mechanism to allow for the retroactive approval of most of the "illegal" buildings, but excluding the requested increase of the neighborhood's size to meet future needs.

**Oct. 8:** The Jerusalem Magistrate court orders the eviction of four other Palestinian families – Skafi, Jaouni, Abu Hasna, and Al-Kurd - from their homes in Sheikh Jarrah to make way for settlers. The eviction lawsuits against were filed by the "Nahalat Shimon" company, which is owned by a US-based firm registered in Delaware.

**Oct. 10:** Dozens of Jewish extremists protected by Israeli forces perform religious rituals at the historic Qattaneen market leading to the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

**Oct. 11:** Prime Minister Shtayyeh announces the approval of projects worth \$5.7 million for a number of institutions and charities in Jerusalem in the fields of health, culture, development and education, funded by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development in Kuwait.

**Oct. 15:** A business delegation from Abu Dhabi visits the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound under the protection of Israeli police.

- During clashes with Israeli forces storming parts of the Shu'fat camp, dozens of Palestinians are injured by tear gas.

- 29 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound escorted by Israeli forces.

**Oct. 16:** Israeli forces block off the Old City and Al-Aqsa Mosque for the fourth consecutive week, preventing thousands of worshipers from performing Friday prayers there, as part of preventive measures and a general closure to limit the spread of the Corona virus.

**Oct. 18:** Palestinians expel a delegation of Emirati normalizers from the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound after they entered the Dome of the Rock prayer hall under police guard. PA Prime Minister Shtayyeh condemns the visit, saying "Al-Aqsa Mosque should be entered through the gate of its owners, not through the gate of the Israeli occupation."

- Some 119 Jewish extremists, led by Yehuda Glick, enter the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

**Oct. 19:** *Israel Hayon* quotes Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem Fleur Hassan-Nahoum that Israel and the UAE had set an agenda to discuss bringing "between 100,000 and 250,000 Muslim tourists a year" from the Gulf to visit East Jerusalem, including the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

- About 74 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in separate groups escorted by Israeli forces. Some of them perform Talmudic rituals.

- Israeli forces arrest two guards from the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

**Oct. 20:** The Israeli municipality issued demolition notices against 13 Palestinian houses in Silwan for being built without a permit.

- Some 82 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in separate groups escorted by Israeli forces.

**Oct. 21:** 62 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound escorted by Israeli forces.

**Oct. 22:** Some 81 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in a provocative way.

**Oct. 25:** Some 67 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, led by far-right Yehuda Glick and MK Shuli Maalem.

**Oct. 26:** Over 100 Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups.

- Archbishop Pierbattista Pizzaballa, the most senior Roman Catholic official in the Middle East, has been appointed by Pope Francis as the new Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem after the office had remained vacant since 2016.

**Oct. 27:** Some 47 settlers provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, while access for Muslim worshipers is restricted.

- Israeli forces demolish number of commercial stores in Shu'fat refugee camp.

- Israeli forces demolish a building belonging to the Tarshan family in Sur Baher.

- Israeli forces raid the neighborhoods of the town of Issawiya

- Al-Quds and Al-Ayyam reveal that Israeli authorities advanced a plan targeting the Jaffa Gate Citadel, which it falsely calls the Tower of David, as the entrance of the Old City of Jerusalem.

**Oct. 28:** Israeli forces raid the offices of the Islamic Waqf Department near Chain Gate adjacent to the Al-Aqsa Mosque, confiscating some devices and other items.

- The Jerusalem Local Planning and Construction Committee approves a master plan to develop the Wadi Al-Joz industrial area, which will see 200 Palestinian industrial buildings evicted and demolished to establish the "Silicon Wadi" hi-tech park, some 900 hotel rooms, a park, and new roads, in their stead.

**Oct. 29:** Israeli forces issue demolition orders against several Palestinian-owned houses in Al-Isawiyya, and take pictures of others.

- Sheikh Ikrima Sabri, head of the Islamic Supreme Council, calls for a "day of rage" the next day (Friday) to protest against French President Emmanuel Macron for his recent remarks about the Prophet Muhammad.

**Oct. 30:** Hundreds of Palestinians gather at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound to demonstrate against French President Emmanuel Macron and his comments protecting the right to caricature the Islamic Prophet Mohammad.

- The Dominican Republic's foreign ministry says in a statement it was evaluating moving its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, where it had been until 1980.

**Oct.:** The Israeli municipality of Jerusalem erects a sign at Damascus Gate reading "Ma'Alot Hadar VaHadas" (i.e., "Hadar and Hadas Steps"), named after Israeli police officers Hadar Cohen and Hadas Malka, who were killed in confrontations with Palestinians in 2016 and 2017.

## November

**Nov. 1:** Dozens of Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

**Nov. 3:** Israeli forces demolish a house belonging to the Idris family in Beit Hanina's Al-Ashqaria neighborhood for being built without a permit.

- Israeli authorities hand deputy director of the Islamic Waqf, Sheikh Najeh Bkeirat, an order banning him from Al-Aqsa Mosque for 6 months.

- Israeli forces issue stop-work and demolition orders against several Palestinian-owned houses in Issawiya and Silwan under the pretext that they were built without a permit.

- An Israeli court rules to uphold eviction of eight Palestinian families in the Batn Al-Hawa neighborhood of Silwan and one large family in Sheikh Jarrah.

- *Al-Quds* quotes Chairman of the Palestinian Housing Council Ibrahim Shaaban as saying that there is a need to construct 30,000 housing units for Palestinians in East Jerusalem to solve the housing crisis.

- Malawi says it will open a full embassy to Israel in Jerusalem, becoming the first African nation to do so.

**Nov. 4:** Despite an ongoing court case, Cable Car project director Shmulik Tzabari says work will start within two weeks to remove existing infrastructure such as water, sewage and telecommunications. A go-ahead to uproot trees along the route was already given a week earlier.

**Nov. 5:** The UN General Assembly approves with 139:9 and 16 abstentions a resolution that calls East Jerusalem "occupied" and Al-Aqsa Mosque compound Al-Haram Ash-Sharif (explicitly not using the term "Temple Mount").

- About 40 Jewish extremists led by far-right Yehuda Glick and former MK Moshe Feiglin tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound provoking Muslim worshippers.

**Nov. 10:** Israel's Jerusalem municipality approves the construction of 108 housing units in the Ramat Shlomo settlement.

**Nov. 11:** Israeli forces demolish a building under construction in At-Tur.

**Nov. 12:** *Haaretz* reports that the Jerusalem municipality and the Israel Lands Authority instructed the relevant planning divisions to expedite approval of building plans of construction beyond the Green Line – including in Givat Hamatos, Har Homa, and Atarot - to prevent them from being stopped once Joe Biden enters the White House in January.

- Israel extends the period allowed for Jewish incursions into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound by 45 minutes. The Christian Islamic Organization for Support of Jerusalem and the Holy Places calls the move a provocation.

**Nov. 13:** At Hizma checkpoint, Israeli police turns away a bus carrying West Bank residents on their way to Friday prayers at Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

- Israeli forces also detain a number of women at the Damascus Gate as well as harass other worshippers on their way to prayer.

**Nov. 14:** The Mufti of Jerusalem and Palestine, Sheikh Muhammad Hussein, denounces Israel's decision to extend the period of Jewish incursions into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound for an additional 45 minutes, telling *Voice of Palestine Radio*, that this harms the religious, legal and historical *status quo*.

- The Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates condemns Israel's attempts to extend the time period for Jews to enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, calling it an escalation in the aggression aimed at Judaizing Jerusalem and dividing the Noble Sanctuary.

**Nov. 15:** After being three times postponed, a tender for the construction of 1,257 (up from the original 1,077) settlement units in Givat Hamatos is opened for bidding until 18 January 2021, two days before the inauguration of US president-elect Joe Biden.

- Dozens of Jewish extremists tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound escorted by Israeli police and some performing religious rituals.

**Nov. 16:** Heads of Mission and representatives from the EU, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Sweden, and Norway and Switzerland visit the site of the Givat Hamatos settlement in protest of Israel's approval to construct 1,257 new settlement housing units there, which the EU Representative Sven Kühn von Burgsdorff calls "a worrying trend where Israel continues its policy of advancing settlements in the occupied Palestinian territory."

- Overnight, Israeli forces conduct military exercises in Issawiya and the Old City.

**Nov. 17:** Israel's call for tenders to build 1,257 new settlement homes in Giv'at Hamatos draws worldwide criticism with Germany's Foreign Minister Heiko Maas warning against unilateral steps that could hurt Mideast peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians and the Saudi Foreign Ministry condemning and rejecting the move saying it contravened international resolutions.

- A statement by the PA Foreign Ministry says Palestine and Jordan are coordinating their efforts to protect Al-Aqsa Mosque from Israeli escalations, including the continuous daily intrusions and the performance of Jewish religious rituals at the site, and calls on the international community, the UN Security Council, and UNESCO to take the necessary measures to protect Christian and Islamic holy sites in Jerusalem against Israeli efforts to change the decades-long *status quo* in the occupied city.

**Nov. 18:** The Hebrew news website *Makor Rishon* publishes a letter signed by a number of Jewish groups and sent to UAE Crown Prince Mohammad Bin Zayed calling on him to recognize the Jewish right to pray at Al-Aqsa Mosque.

- 41 Jewish extremists provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and under police guard.

**Nov. 19:** 98 Jewish extremists provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and under police guard.

**Nov. 22:** Israeli police arrest Sheikh Najeh Bkeirat, deputy director of the Islamic Waqf Department and Aqsa Mosque Affairs from his office.

**Nov. 23:** A court has ordered the Interior Ministry to publish guidelines for a so far ignored 1968 amendment to the Citizenship Law, known as Article 4A, which fast-tracks applications Israeli citizenship for Israeli residents aged 18 to 21, including some 20,000 Palestinians, if they were born in Israel, lived there for five consecutive years/prove that it is their center of life, have no other citizenship, and have not committed a severe crime. This route also does not require a Hebrew exam or oath of loyalty to the state.

- An Israeli court rules to uphold eviction of eight Palestinian families in the Batn Al-Hawa neighborhood of Silwan (affecting 45 people) and of the Sabbagh family in Sheikh Jarrah (affecting 32 people).

- The District Planning Committee approves for deposit the detailed outline plan (TPS 285411) for 540 housing units (a slight drop from the original 570) along the northwestern edge of Har Homa E (also known as Har Homa West).

**Nov. 24:** In press remarks, Al-Aqsa Mosque manager Sheikh Omar Al-Kiswani warns of attempts by extremist Jewish groups, including right-wing Rabbi Yehuda Glick, to turn the Aqsa Mosque into a Jewish religious center through collecting donations and persisting in defiling its sanctity on a daily basis.

- Israeli undercover units arrest two Palestinians during clashes between youths and Israeli forces in At-Tur.

**Nov. 25:** At Az-Za'im checkpoint, Israeli forces shoot and kill a Nour Jamal Shuqair from Silwan while inside his car after he allegedly tried to ram his car into officers.

- An Israeli court orders the Dweik family to evict their homes in the Batn Al-Hawa neighborhood of Silwan in favor of the Ateret Cohanim settler group, claiming Jewish ownership of the land on which the building was built

**Nov. 26:** Following three court decisions in favor of the Ateret Cohanim settler organization claiming property that was owned by Jews pre-1948, 87 Palestinians face eviction from their homes, mainly in Silwan.

**Nov. 27:** Sheikh Khalid bin Khalifa, chairman of the Bahraini Hamad Global Center for Peaceful Coexistence, prays at Al-Aqsa Mosque without revealing his identity for fear of being attacked, tells *The Jerusalem Post*: “It is unacceptable to prevent anyone from any religion from praying. This is a new form of terror,” and that “No one owns the mosques.”

**Nov. 29:** Fawaz Abdu is forced to demolish his house in Jabal Al-Mukabber in order to avoid paying the municipality’s demolition fees.

- Israeli forces demolish a historic staircase at the entrance to the Yusufiya cemetery outside the Old City walls.

**Nov. 30:** 25 Jewish extremists provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and under police guard.

## December

**Dec. 1:** Israel’s High Court authorizes the seizure of 224 dunums of land belonging to Kufr Aqab (between Jerusalem and Ramallah), declaring it “state land” in what Palestinians see as a move to extend the nearby Kokhav Yaakov settlement.

- Jerusalemites stage a sit-in in the Hosh Al-Nasrat area near the Old City’s Bab Al-Silsila to protest against the actions of the Israeli municipality and the Gihon Water Company, causing damage and cracking of their buildings.

**Dec. 2:** The Higher Islamic Council in Jerusalem calls on the Israeli authorities to immediately stop their intrusions against Muslim cemeteries in the holy city. In a statement, the Council warns that Israeli measures in the city in general and in the Yusufiya and Bab Ar-Rahmeh cemeteries as well as the Umayyad palaces outside the Old City wall in particular, “are measures intended to change the facade of the city of civilizations and obliterate its Arab and Islamic landmarks while according it Jewish characters.”

- 59 Jewish extremists provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups under police guard and perform Talmudic rituals in the Bab Al-Rahmeh prayer hall.

- A Jordanian representative tells the UN General Assembly that Israel must maintain the *status quo* at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, warning that Israel is attempting to impose a *fait accompli* at the site as well as in Jerusalem, adding that Jerusalem’s holy sites will remain the focus of Jordanian guardianship.

- The Czech Republic says it would add a diplomatic presence to its Jerusalem office in 2021 (not a new embassy) to boost services for Czech citizens in Israel.

- *The Jerusalem Post* reports that the US is planning an “outreach building”, but not a consulate in East Jerusalem to improve relations with Palestinians, quoting US officials denying reports that a consulate was planned.

**Dec. 3:** 103 Jewish extremists and yeshiva students provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups and under police guard.

- At a meeting at the Allenby Bridge Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi tells his Israeli counterpart Gabi Ashkenazi that “Israel must stop all of the moves that endanger the chance of peace with the Palestinians on the basis of a two-state solution,” calling on Israel to halt its provocative actions at the Al-Aqsa Mosque and to respect the historical *status quo*.

**Dec. 4:** Israeli authorities quietly expedite plans for the new Har Homa E settlement by depositing it for public review.

**Dec. 5:** An Israeli settler sets fire to the Church of All Nations, also known as Gethsemane Church, before apprehended by church guards, and subsequently arrested by police.

**Dec. 6:** 89 Jewish extremists and yeshiva students provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups and under police guard.

**Dec. 7:** A group of Israeli settlers invade privately-owned Palestinian land in Silwan’s Wadi Ar-Rababa area and threaten the Palestinian landowners, pointing a gun in their faces. Israeli police force the landowners off of their land and allow the settlers to occupy the space with their construction equipment, including a bulldozer.

**Dec. 8:** The Foreign Affairs Committee, affiliated with the UNESCO Executive Board unanimously endorsed a resolution reaffirming demanding an end to Israel’s violations against the Old City of Jerusalem’s historical sites and to its provocative activities, which target Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and attempt to distort the Arab identity of East Jerusalem.

- A group of over 30 House Republicans sign a letter requesting that the bill funding the US State Department and other foreign affairs activities for 2021 expressly prohibit the relocation of the U.S. Embassy in Israel out of Jerusalem.

**Dec. 9:** EU diplomats visit Palestinian families in Silwan threatened with eviction from their homes by 18 December.

- 101 Jewish extremists and yeshiva students provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups and under police guard.

**Dec. 10:** The UN General Assembly passes a resolution that references the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound/Al-Haram Ash-Sharif as solely a Muslim site with 147-10 and 16 abstentions.

- Addressing the parliament, Jordan's King Abdullah II stresses that the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound does not accept sharing or division of any kind nor any attempt to change its legal and historical *status quo*, saying "We have never and will never hesitate to defend Jerusalem, its holy sites, identity and history because the Hashemite custodianship over the Islamic and Christian holy sites is a duty, commitment, and a strong faith."

**Dec. 11:** The Israeli Municipality's Planning and Building Committee presents a "New Master Plan" that would change the boundaries of the city by expanding the Talpiot Industrial Zone and building 8,300 settlement units and business towers on land extending from Beit Safafa to Al-Walaja.

- Dozens of Palestinians perform Friday prayers in a sit-in tent in the Batn Al-Hawa neighborhood of Silwan to protest Israeli plans to evict numerous families from their homes in favor of settlers.

- The EU calls on the Israel to cancel the eviction orders against Palestinian families in East Jerusalem, reiterating its strong opposition to the Israeli settlement policy and the measures taken in this context.

**Dec. 13:** 130 Jewish extremists and yeshiva students provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups and under police guard.

**Dec. 14:** Israeli bulldozers demolish the wall of the northern part of the Yusufiya cemetery, known as the "Martyrs" cemetery, near the Old City's Lion's Gate to make way for the planned "biblical garden path".

- The Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemns the continuation of Israeli violations at Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, including Jewish extremists' incursions under the protection of the Israeli police and the demolition of the Yusufiya cemetery wall.

**Dec. 15:** Presidential Spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeineh condemns Israel's settlement intensification in and around Jerusalem, naming especially the Palestinian families in Batn Al-Hawa in Silwan and Sheikh Jarrah, threatened with evacuation from their homes in favor of right-wing organizations.

- Sheikh Muhammad Hussein, Grand Mufti of Jerusalem and Palestine, condemns the intrusion of Jewish extremists into Al-Aqsa Mosque compound on the occasion of the Jewish Hannukah holidays, especially their night march at its gates, the placing of a candlestick at the doors of the mosque, and the performance of prayers. He also denounces the demolition of part of the Yusufiya cemetery's wall.

- Spokesman for the Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Dhaifallah Ali Al-Fayez, condemns Israeli ongoing incursions and provocative actions of Jewish extremists violating the existing legal and historical *status quo* and calls on Israel to end the violations.

- Israeli forces dismantle two residential structures in Az-Za'im belonging to the Za'atra family.

**Dec. 16:** Speaking to the Saudi newspaper *Asharq Al-Awsat*, Israeli Defense Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Benny Gantz says that he does not see a complete peace without resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and that "The Palestinians' right to feel independent is what it is, and their right to have a capital," adding that "Jerusalem must remain united, but there must be a place for a Palestinian capital."

- The OIC condemns Israel's approval of the construction of 8,300 new settlement units in occupied Jerusalem, calling Israel's colonial policy as illegal.

- The Israel Land Authority publishes a tender for the construction of 290 housing units in the existing built-up area of the Gilo settlement, as part of a plan (TPS 400812) approved by the District Committee in November 2019.

- 115 Jewish extremists and yeshiva students provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound under police guard.

**Dec. 17:** 107 Jewish extremists and yeshiva students provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound under police guard.

**Dec. 18:** PCHR reports that 31 human rights organizations, networks and trade unions from Palestine and Europe have submitted a report to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva demanding that the Spanish company Construcciones y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles (CAF) be included in the



UN database of businesses involved in Israel's illegal settlement enterprise for its role in expanding and operating Israel's Jerusalem Light Rail, entrenching Israel's illegal settlements in occupied and annexed Jerusalem.

**Dec. 19:** *Arab News* reports that a previously unknown agreement to turn sensitive land of the Armenian Patriarchate in the Old City into a parking lot for mainly Jewish residents will take effect on Jan. 1, 2021. While the Patriarchate insists the deal did not involve sale or lease of land but is a mere financial matter, the Higher Presidential Committee of Church Affairs in Palestine calls on it to abide by international law, reminding it that the Armenian quarter was part of the occupied Palestinian territory.

**Dec. 20:** 43 Jewish extremists, led by former right-wing MK Yehuda Glick, provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups under police protection.

**Dec. 21:** Mahmoud Omar Kmail, 17, from Qabatiya near Jenin, is shot and killed by Israeli police after opening fire on them near the Old City's Bab Al-Hutta.

**Dec. 22:** During his two-day visit, Portuguese Foreign Minister Santos Silva tells *The Jerusalem Post* that Portugal would relocate its embassy to Jerusalem only when the city is the capital of both the State of Israel and the state of Palestine.

- In Jabal Al-Mukabber, Israeli forces destroy, said that the occupation municipality in Jerusalem demolished a garage for repairing vehicles owned by Akram Fouad Shqeirat.

- 108 Jewish extremists provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups under police protection.

**Dec. 23:** Jordan condemns continued Israeli excavations at the entrance to the Al-Shuhada' cemetery, in the eastern part of the Yusufia cemetery outside the Old City, calling on Israel to respect the sanctity of graves and shrines and to stop all violations and provocations immediately.

- The Jerusalem Magistrate Court hands down a ruling in favor of the Ateret Cohanim settler organization, upholding the eviction demands against 22 individuals from the Ghaith and Abu Nab families, from Batan al-Hawa, Silwan.

**Dec. 24:** 90 Jewish extremists provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in different groups under police protection.

**Dec. 25:** Dozens of Palestinians perform Friday prayers in a sit-in tent in the Batn Al-Hawa neighborhood of Silwan to protest Israeli plans to evict numerous families from their homes in favor of settlers.

**Dec. 27:** Ir Amim, together with the community association that represents residents of the Um Haroun section of Sheikh Jarrah, file a legal petition to the Israeli High Court against the General Custodian (the Justice Ministry department that handles absentee property), asking that the Custodian for Absentees' Property be compelled to publish organized and equitable procedures for the management, sale and leasing of its properties in East Jerusalem, to recognize their rights as tenants and to end its secret cooperation with settler organizations.

- Before dawn, hundreds of Israeli settlers attack Palestinian homes, businesses and vehicles in Sheikh Jarrah near Road No. 1.

**Dec. 29:** Dozens of Jewish extremists provocatively tour Al-Aqsa Mosque compound under police protection.

- Israeli forces arrest Waqf guard Issam Najib, while on duty at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

**Dec. 30:** Israeli forces raid the house of the Deputy Waqf Director Najeh Bkeirat in Sur Baher, search it and damage some items.

- Israeli forces remove Palestinian and Fatah flags that were raised by Palestinian activists in Silwan.