

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS – 2010

JANUARY:

Jan. 1: *Ha'aretz* reports that Israeli Atty. Gen. Menachem Mazuz has instructed the police commissioner to evacuate immediately seven-story Beit Yonatan in Silwan, whose evacuation was ordered in July 2009 for being built illegally.

Jan. 2: The WJM approves construction of a NIS 250,000 purification pool for 140 settler families in the heart of Ras Al-Amud.

Jan. 4: The WJM Local Planning and Building Subcommittee approves a request by Irving Moskowitz and issues permits for the construction of four buildings to house 24 Jewish families near the Beit Orot Yeshiva on the Mt. of Olives and decides to reclassify the area as a residential neighborhood. It further considers a pending request for construction at Kidmat Zion.

Jan. 6: The WJM Planning and Construction Committee approves plans for the construction of three five-story buildings in a new settlement in Shu'fat to house some 50 Jewish families.

Jan. 8: *Ha'aretz* quotes WJM council member Yakir Segev as declaring the Palestinian neighborhoods in Jerusalem east of the separation fence "no longer part of the city," saying that they are "outside the jurisdiction of the state, and certainly the municipality. For all practical purposes, they are Ramallah."

Jan. 10: The WJM Planning and Construction Committee will review blueprints for a new 100-housing unit settlement - Ma'alot David - on 11 dunums of land on and around the site of the former Israeli police HQ in Ras Al-Amud.

- Forced by the Israeli Min. of Interior, the Abu Shawash family destroys their house in At-Tur to avoid the expenses incurring for demolition by the WJM.

Jan. 14: The WJM forces Harun Burqan to destroy his own house and barn under threats of destroying it on his expense.

Jan. 19: Israeli forces destroy three houses in Jaba', belonging to the K'abna family for being built without permit.

Jan. 20: Israeli forces distribute stop-work and six demolition orders in the Bustan neighborhood in Silwan.

Jan. 26: The WJM re-opens the cases of 26 previously issued demolition orders against illegally built houses in Al-Issawiyya.

Jan. 27: The WJM forces Faruq Al-Mamluk to destroy a small room in the Old City and hand him a NIS 6,000 fine for building without permission.

Jan. 28: PA President Abbas tells Russian TV that Palestinians would not accept any alternative to Jerusalem as the capital of a future State, that the city should not be divided and that there should be free passage for people of various faiths.

- Israel's State Prosecutor Moshe Lador has reportedly sent a letter to WJM Mayor Nir Barkat, instructing him to comply immediately with the evacuation order for Beit Yonatan in Silwan.

FEBRUARY

Feb. 8: Dozens of Palestinians, including journalists, are injured as fierce clashes broke out in the Shu'fat RC after Israeli police stormed the camp to arrest tax evaders.

Feb. 9: The Israeli Central Court issues a demolition order against the 6-storey Mahfouz Building in Beit Hanina, giving the 195 residents 10 days to evict their homes.

Feb. 10: The Israeli Land Authority publishes a tender to build 117 new housing units in Har Homa.

- WJM officials hand Mohammed Abu Al-Dab'at a demolition order for five shops in the Old City on the grounds that the 230 m² was needed to develop the infrastructure, though the move is obviously part of Israeli attempts to take further control of the Old City and Al-Aqsa Mosque.

- The Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) in New York files on behalf of descendants of individuals buried in the 12th Century Muslim Mamilla Cemetery a petition demanding to halt the planned disinterment to build the Tolerance Museum on the site.

Feb. 11: Jerusalem residents and PA Minister of Jerusalem Affairs Hatem Abdel Qader clash with settlers from "Beit Orot", as they attempted to work on land owned by Palestinians on the Mt. of Olives. The action followed the government's 4 Jan. decision to allow the expansion of the settlement.

Feb. 14: The Israeli Court of Internal Affairs issues an eviction and demolition order against the Pearl Building in Beit Hanina, home to 64 people living in its 10 apartments.

Feb. 16: The WJM issues administrative demolition orders for four buildings of 40 apartments in Beit Hanina, all under the pretext of lacking building permits.

- WJM inspectors hand five owners of commercial stores in the Damascus Gate area administrative orders to evacuate their stores in order to demolish them for lacking a license.

Feb. 17: The WJM intends to confiscate Palestinian land in Sheikh Jarrah owned by Kamel 'Ubeidat to construct a public parking for settlers and visitors of the "Shim'on HaZadik" shrine.

Feb. 18: The Al-Aqsa Foundation for Waqf and Heritage reports that the Israeli authorities have started new excavations under the Old City of Jerusalem.

Feb. 21: A street collapses near the entrance of the Khan Az-Zeit market in the Old City due to Israeli excavations in the area.

Feb. 22: The WJM Planning and Construction Committee ratifies plans for a new 549-unit settlement on 153 dunums of land in Beit Safafa.

Feb. 24: Israeli forces distribute 11 demolition orders in the Wadi Hilweh and Al-'Abbasiyya neighborhoods in Silwan.

Feb. 26: Israel's district planning commission approves the construction of 600 new settlement units near Pisgat Ze'ev and Shu'fat.

Feb.: Israeli Internal Security Min. Yitzhak Aharonovich renews the closure of all 10 Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem that were closed in August 2001, incl. Orient House.

MARCH

March 1: US officials criticize Israel's plan to build 600 new housing units in Pisgat Ze'ev.

March 3: Israeli authorities reportedly plan the construction of 30,000 housing units for religious settlers in the industrial area of Atarot and Qalandia, after excavating the site.

March 5: After Friday prayers at Al-Aqsa Mosque, clashes between Palestinians and Israeli forces erupt, soon spreading beyond the Old City walls, leaving dozens over 20 of Palestinians injured.

- In Sheikh Jarrah, some 3,000 Palestinians and Israeli activists march to protest the ongoing encroachment of settlers in Arab neighborhoods.

March 9: The WJM District Committee for Planning and Construction approves the construction of 1,600 new housing units on an area of some 580 dunums in Ramat Shlomo.

March 11: The Israeli Land Authority publishes a tender to build 309 new housing units in Neve Ya'acov.

- *Ha'aretz* reveals plans in various stages of planning and approval for some 50,000 new housing units in settlements in Jerusalem. Some 20,000 of those units are already in advanced stages of approval/implementation, incl. Gilo (3,000 housing units), Har Homa (1,500), Pisgat Ze'ev (1,500), Givat Hamatos (3,500), Ramot (1,200), Armon Hanetziv (600) and Neve Ya'akov (450).

March 14: Right-wing Jews hand out fliers in Arabic in the streets of Jerusalem calling on "non-Jews to leave the land of Israel".

- Jerusalem police deploys 2,500 policemen in East Jerusalem ahead of the dedication of the Hurva Synagogue, 330 m away from the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound. Palestinian officials call on Muslims to protect the Mosque from alleged Israeli attempts to replace it with a Jewish temple.

March 15: Israeli forces hand demolition orders to two houses owned by the brothers Ala'a and Mohammed Siyam in Al-Walajeh for being built without a permit.

- The Israeli High Court of Justice issues its final ruling - accepting the Israeli army's position - and approves the original route of the separation barrier between Sheikh Sa'ed and Jabal Al-Mukabber.

March 16: Clashes between Palestinian protesters and Israeli forces erupt across the OPT, but particularly in East Jerusalem, after Hamas had declared a "day of rage" in connection with the consecration of a synagogue in Jerusalem. Dozens of Palestinians and two Israeli officers are injured and many others detained.

March 17: Israeli *TV Channel 10* reports that the Israeli government has approved the construction of additional housing units in East Jerusalem settlements: 309 units in Neve Yaakov and 117 units in Har Homa.

- The Jerusalem Congress, an independent international Islamic body established in 1953 in Amman, calls on Arab and international Islamic organizations to push for enforcing international legitimacy resolutions that deem Jerusalem occupied Arab land, to put an end to Israeli violations against religious sites in the Holy City.

March 18: The WJM gives final approval for construction of 20 housing units on the Shepherd Hotel site in Sheikh Jarrah.

March 19: *Yediot Yerushalaim* reports that a construction company has purchased 58 dunums of land in Givat Ze'ev for US\$ 31 million to build 400 units.

- Israeli forces storm Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and raid several homes in the Old City, arresting dozens of Palestinians.

March 23: The Israeli Interior Min. approves plans for 200 houses in a new settlement near the site of Simon the Just in Sheikh Jarrah, bordering the Shepherd's Hotel area.

March 24: EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton issues a

declaration, saying: “The European Union condemns the recent decision of the Israeli authorities to authorize construction around the Shepherd Hotel in East Jerusalem. The international community is making every effort to facilitate the resumption of peace talks. Settlement construction in East Jerusalem is illegal and undermines these efforts. The EU calls on Israel to reverse this decision.”

March 25: *Arutz 7* quotes WJM mayor Nir Barkat as saying, “[I want to] make clear to our important ally, the United States, that construction in Jerusalem will continue. There is no freeze in Jerusalem. Jerusalem is a developing city, it has needs and we will continue to build in its eastern and western sides, for all its inhabitants, Jews and Arabs.”

March 26: Israeli MK Benny Elon calls the planned settlement in the Shepherd Hotel area in Sheikh Jarrah as “critical for Israeli interests” saying it “will form a Jewish contiguity very close to the city’s Highway 1, which otherwise would divide the city into Jewish and Arab sections.”

- *Yediot Yerushalim* reports on the presentation of the latest component of a master plan by the WJM to develop Palestinian East Jerusalem, including establishing a business center outside Damascus Gate.

APRIL

April 1: *Al-Quds* reports that the WJM is planning to demolish 312 buildings in Silwan, Ras Al-Amud and Ath-Thori.

- Israeli police raid the Wadi Hilweh Media Center in Silwan.

- In an interview with the Lebanese *Al-Manar* TV, Hizbullah Sec.-Gen. Hassan Nasrallah says that Israel planned to raze Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque and to “turn Jerusalem into a Jewish city”.

April 5: The settler companies Nihlat Sham'on and Zafardim hand the Al-Dajani and Al-Daoudi families in Sheikh Jarrah letters demanding immediate evacuation of their houses, which they inhabit since 1956, claiming ownership of the land they are built. Settlers attack a group of protesters, injuring five people.

- A press release by the PA Min. of Information condemns the Israeli plan to build a new synagogue 200 m from Al-Aqsa Mosque, stating: “We affirm that Jerusalem is an Arab, Palestinian, and Islamic and Christian City that will remain the capital of Palestine, and the Israeli occupation attempts do not negate its existence or history” and calling on the international community to interfere to stop the Israeli occupation policy against Jerusalem and the holy sites.

April 6: *Al-Quds* quotes Israeli Min. Gideon Saar as stating that Ma’ale Adumim settlement will remain part of Israel under any political settlement.

April 7: Egypt asks the UNESCO to set up a permanent mission in Jerusalem to monitor Israeli violations in the Holy City.

April 14: The Israeli authorities hand Hussein Al-Kiswani a demolition order for his 400 m² house in Beit Hanina under the pretext that it was built without a license.

- WJM Mayor Nir Barkat issues orders instructing municipality engineers to demolish more Palestinian homes in Silwan.

April 15: Tens of residents of Anata receive notes signed by the state representative of the Absentee Properties, informing them that the Israeli Army has taken over their lands to be used for public good and military purposes.

April 19: Israeli PM Netanyahu tells ABC’s “Good Morning America,” that he will not accept Palestinian demands that Israel stop its construction in East Jerusalem.

April 20: Israeli High court forces the Salah family of Beit Safafa – an elderly couple of 63 and 99 years of age - to evacuate their house which was built in 1966 claiming that it was bought by settlers from its original owners.

April 21: The WJM approves three plans to build 321 settlement units in Sheikh Jarrah.

April 22: Israeli forces uproot tens of olive and almond trees in Walajeh to make way for construction of the separation barrier.

- Israeli Interior Min. Eli Yishai issues a decree preventing Sheikh Ekrima Sabri, Imam of Al-Aqsa Mosque, from leaving the city, accusing him of incitement and claiming that his travel harmed the security of Israel.

April 25: About 50 settlers and supporters, headed by extreme rightists Itamar Ben Gvir and Baruch Marzel, march from the Old City to Silwan, protesting what they term ‘illegal construction’ in the area. At least five Palestinians, incl. a medic, are wounded by Israeli forces during clashes between protestors and the army.

April 26: *MEMC* quotes the Islamic-Christian Commission in Support of Jerusalem and Holy Sites as saying that Israel plans to build 321 new settler homes in East Jerusalem.

April 28: Israeli settlers take over the house of the Salah family in Beit Safafa.

April 29: At a press conference, Palestinian residents of Silwan’s Al-Bustan neighborhood present - in a bid to thwart the razing of their houses - an alternative plan to regulate illegal construction, which has already passed

all technical requirements and has been issued a zoning file at the WJM three weeks ago.

- The Israeli State Prosecutor's Office orders the immediate closure of the settler-occupied 'Beit Yonatan' in Silwan as it was built in 2004 without a permit.

April 30: *Ha'aretz* reports that after a meeting with Republican congressmen in Washington, WJM Mayor Nir Barkat states "There's no freeze", adding "The strategy remains the same... We're going to build, and we're not going to stop it... It's illegal to stop it, and we're going to keep doing what's right and what's best for the city of Jerusalem."

May

May 2: Israeli forces destroy a wastewater network near the entrance of Shu'fat RC, turning the street into a swamp.

- Settlers and Israeli forces break into the Salah family compound in Beit Safafa, forcibly evicting them from their home.

May 3: Israel Land Fund founder Aryeh King presents a plan to use privately owned land and Jewish National Fund property to provide some 187,000 new homes in East Jerusalem, incl. 12,000 units north of Pisgat Ze'ev, 60,000 units around southern Gilo, and 100,000 units in the E-1 area.

May 4: Settlers moved into the home of the evicted Salah family in Beit Safafa.

May 5: Nine Palestinians are injured in clashes with Israeli forces in Silwan.

May 7: *The Montreal Gazette* reports that after seven years of research and planning a Canadian-led initiative to resolve the future of Jerusalem's Old City had been formally unveiled at a conference in Washington. The proposed "special regime", to be created only after the adoption of a two-state solution, would be managed by a joint Israeli-Palestinian body headed by "an effective and empowered third-party" commissioner appointed by the two countries.

May 9: A new ACRI report states that most Palestinians in East Jerusalem live below the poverty line, incl. 75% of Palestinian children (compared with 45% of the city's Jewish children), but only 10% of East Jerusalem's 300,000 Palestinians have access to social services.

May 10: At an emergency meeting on Jerusalem of the OIC's Executive Committee of the Parliamentary Union in Istanbul, Turkish PM Recep Tayyip Erdoğan says: "Jewish settlement activities, which represent the biggest obstacle to the peace process, must be halted", while OIC Sec.-Gen. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu warns: "Israel is taking advantage of the international community's lassitude with its policies and carrying out a hideous plan aimed at depopulating the city of Al-Quds [Jerusalem] of its Palestinian citizens."

May 11: Israel is reportedly planning to build a shopping mall on three dunums of land owned by the Waqf, located behind the US Consulate. The building plan has already been ratified by all required departments and is prepared for implementation.

- Construction has begun on 14 out of the planned 104 housing units inside the Ma'ale David settler complex in Ras Al-Amud.

- A group of right-wing Israeli MKs tours Silwan.

May 12: Israeli Public Security Min. Yitzhak Aharonovitch tells the Knesset that Israel would demolish Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem in the coming days.

- Sec.-Gen. of the Islamic-Christian Commission for Support of Jerusalem and the Holy Places, Hassan Khatir, says at a news conference that Israel's expansion of Jerusalem's borders included a 12,000 unit settlement – "Givat Ya'el" - on Al-Walaja land, which would "foster the enclosure of Jerusalem from the south."

- Israeli FM Lieberman says that Israel had not agreed to freeze construction in East Jerusalem, adding that "Jerusalem is a united city, which is open to everyone, Jews, Christians and Muslims, and so it will be in the future as well".

- A Palestinian woman, 32, from Sheikh Jarrah is hospitalized with a broken nose after being hit by a settler.

- During celebrations to commemorate Israel's 43rd anniversary of "Jerusalem's reunification" after the 1967 War, WJM Mayor, Nir Barkat, pledges to keep the city undivided and stresses that the city's boundaries were "non-negotiable".

May 13: Settlers destroy 11 dunums of olive trees owned by the Shadi Awad family in Silwan's Wadi Ar-Rababa area.

- Israeli forces demolish the protest tent erected by the Salah family after they were evicted from their home by settlers.

May 17: *Al-Quds* reports that the Israeli High Court rejected a petition filed by the Meretz party to close Beit Yonathan in Silwan.

- Israel's Interior Min. renews a military order banning Fateh Jerusalem Affairs official Hatem Abdel Qader from entering Al-Aqsa Mosque compound for a further six months.

May 19: Israeli authorities ban Jamlat Al-Mughrabi from Jabel Mukkaber from entering the Sheikh Jarrah for one month and fine her NIS 800 for assaulting an Israeli citizen, who had beaten her sister Maysoun Al-Ghawi some two weeks earlier.

May 21: Israeli excavations in preparation for the separation barrier lead to the destruction of water pipes and disruptions of about 1,500 telephone lines in the Shu'fat area.

May 24: Israeli forces impose a curfew and raid Al-Issawiya.

- Israeli forces start razing 80 dunums of lands owned by the Barghout family in Walajah, uprooting over 80 olive and 40 fruit trees.

May 27: Ten Silwan, East Jerusalem, residents, including a pregnant woman, were injured following violent confrontations with Israeli settlers who had moved into the area, local officials reported. The clashes were subdued by Israeli forces using tear gas and sound bombs.

May 29: The families of Nazira Siyam and Wael Al-Quneibi in Sheikh Jarrah receive evacuation orders, giving them 45 days to leave their properties or pay a NIS 350,000 fine. The two houses are home to 29 people.

JUNE

June 3: Jerusalem police confiscates the ID cards of four Hamas members, Mohammed Abu Ter, Mohammed Totah, Khaled Abu Arafah and Ahmed Atoun, who had refused to give up their duties as PLC members, and tells them to leave the city until July.

June 8: Israeli bulldozers uproot over 80 olive trees and cypress trees over 700 years old, in Al-Walaja in preparation for the future construction of the separation wall.

June 11: Israeli border guards shoot and kill Ziad Al-Joulani, 38, a tradesman and father of four, after he reportedly fails to stop at a checkpoint in Wadi Joz. Following the shooting, clashes erupt in the area, leaving two women, a man, a senior citizen and a child in a nearby car injured.

June 14: Parties defending a 12th Century Muslim cemetery and holy site in Jerusalem from disinterment submit new evidence to various UN bodies as Israel pushes for the construction of a Tolerance Museum on the site. The latest evidence will be added to the original petition for urgent action filed on 10 February 2010 in Geneva.

June 15: A joint Bimkom and Ir Amim report says that 80% of land for development in what was called "Jewish neighborhoods" of Jerusalem could not be purchased by Palestinians.

- Israeli bulldozers demolish a warehouse in Abu Tor and a stable in Silwan.

June 16: Israeli forces destroy three animal sheds and a nursery owned by Nidal Siyam in Silwan's Abbasiyya neighborhood for lacking building permits. Horses, sheep and poultry are confiscated under the pretext of constituting a threat to public health.

- In Ath-Thori, Israeli bulldozers demolish a garage owned by Kamal Shweiki under the pretext of lacking proper authorization.

- The District Committee for Planning and Construction ratifies the construction of 1,600 new housing units in Ramat Shlomo.

June 19: Israeli authorities hand the Salah family in Beit Safafa, the Al-Ramahi and Khamis families in Wadi Al-Joz, and the Zayed family in Al-Issawiya military orders to demolish their properties for being built without proper authorization.

June 21: Residents and Israeli activists protest as the WJM meets to authorize a plan for mass demolitions of 22 Palestinian houses in the Bustan neighborhood in Silwan to realize a plan to create a national park and archaeological sites. US State Dept. Spokesman P. J. Crowley expresses concern about the approval, saying it was the kind of action that undermined trust and increased the risk of violence.

- In talks, Pres. Abbas and King Abdullah II of Jordan condemn Israel's decisions to deport four PLC members from Jerusalem as well as to demolish 22 Palestinian homes to make way for an archaeological park in Silwan.

- Israeli construction vehicles and bulldozers begin digging near Pisgat Ze'ev settlement in what is believed to be ground work for the building of some 600 new settlement units.

June 22: Pres. Abbas urges the US to intervene to block the planned house demolitions in East Jerusalem.

- In Washington, Israeli DM Barak criticizes the WJM for approving a plan to raze 22 homes as "bad timing" and poor "common sense". WJM Mayor Nir Barkat's office rejects the comments, saying the plan would rehabilitate a neglected section of the city.

- The District Planning Committee re-approves TPS 4711 – a plan to build about 1,000 hotel rooms on 70 dunums of land held by the Israel Lands Authority in Jabal Mukabber.

June 23: Israeli settlers threaten to evict four Palestinian families in Silwan, claiming they are living on property belonging to Jews.

UN Sec.-Gen. Ban Ki-moon voices concern that an Israeli plan to raze 22 Arab homes to make way for an

archaeological park in Silwan was “unhelpful” and against international law.

June 24: Pres. Abbas denounces Israel’s plan to expel four Hamas PLC members from Jerusalem, fearing it would set a dangerous precedent, marking the first time Israel had expelled Arab residents of the city solely on grounds of political affiliation.

June 25: Morocco strongly criticizes the Israeli plan to demolish 22 Palestinian homes in East Jerusalem as a step towards altering the Islamic nature of the city.

- Israeli bulldozers raze land belonging to Beit Hanina, Hizma and Shu’fat in preparation of construction of 600 new housing units in Pisgat Ze’ev.

June 27: Construction at Shepherd's Hotel in Sheikh Jarrah begins, just a few days before Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is to meet US Pres. Obama.

- Israeli forces and Palestinian residents clash in several East Jerusalem locations over Israeli plans to demolish 22 homes in Silwan. At least 20 Palestinians are injured.

June 28: The Jerusalem District Planning and Building Committee approves an unprecedented Master Plan to raze Palestinian homes for the expansion of settlements in East Jerusalem. Essentially, the plan will uniformly apply Israeli zoning and construction procedures to both halves of the city.

June 29: Richard Falk, UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, urges Israel to prevent further violations of international law in East Jerusalem, especially in relation to the situation of four PLC members threatened with expulsion and the plan to demolish 22 buildings.

June 30: Israeli police arrests PLC member from Hamas Mohammed Abu Ter, facing expulsion from East Jerusalem, after he refuses to leave his home.

- In a statement, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton says settlements and home demolitions are illegal under international law, calling the planned demolition of 22 Palestinian homes in Silwan “an obstacle to peace”.

July

July 1: With regard to the four PLC members threatened with forcible transfer from East Jerusalem by the Israeli authorities, UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process Robert Serry expresses concern about all measures which may heighten tension in the city and calls on Israel to respect its obligations under international law.

- Al-Quds reports that construction of 20 housing units has begun at the site of the Shepherd Hotel in Sheikh Jarrah.

July 5: The WJM forces Nayef Kastero to demolish part of his house in the Old City for being built illegally.

July 8: Israeli settlers set fire to 60 Roman-era olive trees in Beit Hanina.

July 11: *Reuters* quotes PLO Executive Committee member Ahmed Qre’ia as saying that “The Jerusalem situation [...] is a time bomb if it continues in this way.”

July 12: The WJM’s District Planning Committee approves construction of 32 new housing units in Pisgat Ze’ev with another 48 units are expected to be approved soon.

- Israel has started construction on a new section of its separation barrier near Walaja.

July 13: For the first time in eight months, Israeli bulldozers demolish six Palestinian structures, incl. one inhabited home in Beit Hanina and two in Jabal Al-Mukabber and two unfinished houses as well as an agricultural room in Al-Issawiyya, all for being built without license. The demolition is widely condemned as an obstacle to peace.

- The Israeli police refuses to carry out a court order to evict Jewish settlers from ‘Beit Yonatan’ in Silwan.

July 14: In a statement, OIC Sec.-Gen. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu condemns Israel's construction of 32 settlement units in East Jerusalem and its demolition of six Palestinian houses.

July 15: Representatives of parliaments from around the world criticize Israel for its decision to deport four Hamas PLC members from East Jerusalem.

July 16: Representatives of Christian communities in Jerusalem visit a sit-in tent outside the ICRC HQ, erected by three Hamas PLC members facing expulsion from the city.

July 18: Hamas PLC member Mohammed Abu Ter rejects Israel’s offer to be released on bail on condition never to return to Jerusalem.

July 19: Israeli Atty-Gen. Yehuda Weinstein informs the Supreme Court that the State planned to apply the Absentee Property Law to East Jerusalem, which would permit Israel to assume control over thousands of acres of properties “owned by people who moved to enemy States during the 1948 war”, [refugees] as well as structures in East Jerusalem that belonged to Palestinians now residing in the [West Bank and Gaza].

- During a hearing in the Knesset Committee for the Rights of the Child, Palestinians from Silwan describe arrests of children in the middle of the night and events of settler violence, and complain of discrimination in the provision of services for children.

July 20: A Palestinian delegation has asked the EU to appoint a special commissioner for Jerusalem affairs and provide protection for the Palestinian citizens in the city until it was transferred into Palestinian hands in an eventual peace agreement.

July 26: Jordanian Minister of Media and Communication Nabil Al-Sharif says Jordan condemns Israel's intention to apply the Absentee Property Law in East Jerusalem, saying such measures are violating international law.

- Israeli forces raze a flower shop and a tile store belonging to Abdel Aziz At-Tayeb in Hizma.

July 27: The Jerusalem Center for Social and Economic Rights issues a report saying the number of Palestinians who had their residency rights revoked since Israel's occupation of the city in 1967 until mid June 2010 had reached 86,226 (14,371 families).

- In Hizma, Israeli forces demolish a car wash owned by Mohammed Al-Khatib and another one together with an equipment store owned by Ghaleb Salaheddin, as well as a greenhouse and a garden shop owned by Jamal Salaheddin, a greenhouse and construction materials shop owned by Mohammed Subeih, and a greenhouse and a shed belonging to Afif Askar.

July 28: Ir Amim reveals that the WJM has plans for the demolition of 35 houses in Al-Issawiyya for being built without license.

July 29: Protected by Israeli police, settlers from the Ateret Cohanim group take over a building in the Muslim Quarter of the Old City and evict nine Palestinian families, some of whom living there since 60 years. The lawyer of one family, Samer Zuabi, says the settlers bought the building in 1987, and went to court repeatedly to get the Quirresh family evicted but courts ruled each time in favor of the tenants. UN envoy Robert Serry deplores "today's unacceptable action by armed Israeli settlers."

AUGUST

Aug. 1: Israeli forces attack street vendors inside and outside the Old City, damaging their stands, confiscating some of their goods, and arresting some of them.

Aug. 2: The WJM approves the construction of 40 additional housing units in Pisgat Ze'ev.

Aug. 4: The Israeli Min. of Housing issues a tender for opening the northern road of Ma'ale Adumim for transportation, apparently in order to connect it with the controversial E-1 plan.

- The Al-Aqsa Foundation for Waqf and Heritage says that Israeli bulldozers have begun razing 15 graves in the Muslim Mamilla cemetery in West Jerusalem.

Aug. 6: Over 1,000 people protest across Israel marking one year since settlers evacuated Palestinian families from their homes in Sheikh Jarrah.

Aug. 7: The Al-Bashiti family has proven, with all required documents, its ownership to the location of the Hurva Synagogue and another property, also adjacent to Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Aug. 8: *Wafa* reports that the WJM has approved the construction of 20 housing units at the Shepherd Hotel site in Sheikh Jarrah.

Aug. 9: In an interview with the London-based daily *Asharq Al-Awsat*, Egyptian Min. of Religious Endowments, Mahmoud Hamdi Zaqzouq, attacks the Arab tourism boycott against Israel and calls on Muslims worldwide to visit Jerusalem to assert the city's Islamic identity.

Aug. 10: The Al-Aqsa Foundation for Waqf and Heritage says the WJM has destroyed over 200 recently renovated Muslim graves in the centuries-old Mamilla cemetery near the site of a planned Museum of Tolerance.

Aug. 16: *Al-Quds* reports that the WJM intends to demolish 30 Palestinian houses in Kufr Aqab for lacking valid licenses.

Aug. 17: Israel is reportedly planning to construct a new pedestrian tunnel and an elevator leading to the Western Wall.

Aug. 19: A group of officials, incl. Government Legal Advisor Yehuda Weinstein, State Prosecutor Moshe Lador and WJM Police Chief Aharon Franco, tour Silwan, escorted by settlers, led by David Beerli, the founder and manager of Elad settler organization.

Aug. 24: A joint ACRI and Ir Amim report says the education of Palestinian children in East Jerusalem was subject to "ongoing neglect" and faces a shortage of 1,000 classrooms.

- Omar Ahmad Dabash and Eman Rajab Damash from Sur Baher are ordered to demolish their homes by 14 September for being built illegally.

Aug. 26: At an *Iftar*, Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh says "No negotiator who would give up Jerusalem has a

national mandate," and that Palestinian negotiators were not mandated to surrender Jerusalem or any part of Palestine.

- In Silwan, clashes erupted between Palestinians and Israeli settlers, who try to enter Al-Ein Mosque.

Aug. 30: Following an arrest wave in Silwan, clashes erupt between Israeli forces and Palestinian residents.

- The WJM orders Nasri Abu Rajab from the Old City to demolish his own house for lacking valid building permits or face demolition by the WJM.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 16: Settlers enter a wing of the Qirish family home in the As-Sa'diyah quarter in the Old City and begin removing furniture in an attempt to take over the house.

Sept. 21: The Israeli "Environment Protection Authority" under the protection of Israeli forces invade the Ghurs Ghraisan area in At-Tur, declaring it a "closed military zone" and ploughing a large area of lands, thereby demolishing a house owned by Wa'el Darwish Dana as well as two animal shelters and over 50 trees. The lands ploughed – apparently in preparation of a park - are owned by over 50 persons.

Sept. 22: An Israeli settler guard opens fire at four men driving through Silwan, killing one of them, Samer Sarhan, 28, and injuring the other three. Over 1,000 people gather for the funeral, which prompts police to enter the Al-Aqsa compound, triggering clashes in the Old City that soon spread around East Jerusalem.

Sept. 26: Supreme Court judges Yoram Danziger, Esther Hayut and Miriam Naor reject an appeal by Palestinians claiming ownership of Al-Sa'adi family of a large plot in Sheikh Jarrah, paving the way for the eviction of dozens of Arab families and the settlers' plan to build in the area.

Sept. 27: The Al-Aqsa Foundation for Waqf and Heritage says Israel is expanding the tunnel network under Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, digging on the northern and southern sides of the mosque, and extending digs to the west of the compound for more than 600 meters.

Sept. 28: Clashes between settlers and Palestinians erupt in Silwan after a settler assaults a man on his way to work.

Sept. 29: Dozens of Israeli settlers, escorted by Israeli forces, enter Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, as Jews mark the end of the Sukkot holiday.

OCTOBER

Oct. 1: An Israeli court bans 12 Palestinian residents of Israel from the Al-Aqsa Mosque on suspicion that they were planning to carry out riots.

Oct. 3: A Palestinian worker from Hebron, Izzeddin Al-Kawazba, 38, is shot at close range and killed by Israeli border guards while trying to enter Jerusalem near Al-Issawiya.

Oct. 4: The Jerusalem Planning and Building Committee meets to discuss a master plan - prepared by the Western Wall Foundation, the WJM and the Jerusalem Development Authority - for expanding the Western Wall Plaza, incl. construction of a new underground passageway that would become the main entryway to the plaza.

Oct. 6: Speaking at the Washington Institute for Near East Studies, WJM mayor Nir Barkat denounces the idea of splitting Jerusalem as part of a peace deal, saying a divided capital could never function and that "Israel took a risk in Gaza... We thought we were doing business with the PLO, but we got Hamas. Doing the same thing in Jerusalem would be like having a Trojan horse in the heart of the city." He further states: "I will be happy for every country to have an embassy in Jerusalem, including the US - it's long due. I'll be happy to welcome Palestinian embassy there, but they do not rule the city, as Mexicans don't rule Texas."

Oct. 8: Silwan settler leader David Be'eri hits two Arab children with his car after they allegedly threw stones at it.

Oct. 11: During clashes in Silwan that erupted after Israeli undercover forces raid the Beir Yacoub neighborhood, a Palestinian boy, Suleiman Siyam, 12, is shot and injured while others suffer from tear gas inhalation.

Oct. 12: *Ha'aretz* reports that the Knesset's State Control Committee is planning to use the illegally built seven-storey Beit Yonatan in the heart of Silwan – currently occupied by settlers and ordered to be evacuated since July 2009 - as a monitoring station of illegal construction in the Arab sector.

- Clashes erupt as members of the State Control committee visit a Jewish-occupied building in the heart of Silwan to assess the residents' claim that they were being unfairly targeted by police monitoring illegal construction.

Oct. 13: Israel forces remove a sit-in tent in Sheikh Jarrah erected in solidarity with 28 Palestinian families threatened with expulsion in the area.

Oct. 14: At a press conference right-wing activist Aryeh King announces that 10 new Jewish families will soon settle in Sheikh Jarrah, offering compensation to the Palestinian families who will subsequently be evicted.

Oct. 15: PM Netanyahu has approved tenders for the construction of nearly 238 new housing units in East Jerusalem, incl. 150 units in Ramot and 80 in Pisgat Ze'ev.

- In Silwan, Palestinians clash with settlers.

- The Arab League says it may ask the UN to recognize a Palestinian state if Israel goes ahead with building settlements.

Oct. 16: Egypt warns that Israel's building permits for 238 new housing units in East Jerusalem are a sign that direct peace talks could collapse.

- Israeli plans to resume settlement construction in Jerusalem triggers widespread international condemnation.

- The OIC condemns Israel for renewing settlement construction in East Jerusalem and urges the international community to put an end to what it called "Israeli arrogance."

- Settlers protected by police break into the Qirrish family home in the Old City and throw furniture into the street in an attempt to evacuate the home.

Oct. 17: An Israeli court places 12-year-old Omran Mansour, who was identified in news footage being run over by local settler leader David Be'eri in Silwan, under house arrest after his family paid NIS 2,000 bail and signed a further NIS 10,000 bail.

- Jamal Mohammed Bukeirat from Sur Baher is forced to demolish his 14 m² car park.

Oct. 19: *Ha'aretz* reports about a bill sponsored by MK Gideon Ezra (Kadima) and seven other MKs proposing to ban East Jerusalem residents from serving as tour guides in the city, "because they did not represent Israel's national interest well enough "and in an appropriate manner." The bill – currently suspended out of concern for the negotiations with the PA - proposes that a guide leading a group of over 11 people, or traveling in more than one vehicle, must be a citizen of Israel.

Oct. 20: Israeli forces carry out an arrest and tax raid in Silwan.

- The 86th Session of the Tourism Committee of the OECD opens in Jerusalem, hosted by Israel's Min. of Tourism. After attempts by Israel to use the conference to further its territorial claims on Jerusalem, Norway, Canada, Ireland, the UK, Sweden, Iceland, Turkey and South Africa cancelled their participation in the conference, which is only for the second time in its history held outside of Paris.

- The Elders, a group of eminent global leaders incl. former US Pres. Jimmy Carter, former Irish Pres. Mary Robinson and Indian women's rights campaigner Ela Bhatt, visit Silwan. Carter calls Israel's treatment of its Arab citizens and other minorities was "very disturbing," adding that Israel was in danger of damaging its credibility as a democracy, while Robinson shock "at the practices the Jerusalem authorities are being allowed to get away with. All kinds of clever methods are being used to surround and squeeze the Palestinian population – tunnels, settler houses, new roads, and now tourist attractions."

Oct. 21: At the end of their week-long visit The Elders say that settlement expansion, home demolitions and deportations were eroding chances for a two-state solution.

Oct. 22: UN envoy Richard Falk says that "the extension of the Jewish presence in East Jerusalem by way of unlawful settlements, house demolitions, revocations of Palestinian residence rights, makes it increasingly difficult to envisage a Palestinian capital in East Jerusalem."

- Speaking at a weekly demonstration in Sheikh Jarrah, former US Pres. Carter says the eviction of Palestinians from their homes is against international law and that he hopes the protesters achieve their goals for the sake of Israelis and Palestinians

Oct. 24: Israel's Ministerial Committee on Legislation backs a bill to define Jerusalem as a national priority area, giving priority to construction in the city, which is widely consider an attempt to change the demographic balance in favor of the Jews.

- Clashes erupt in Silwan as Israeli forces hand several demolition notices to Palestinian families in the Al-Bustan neighborhood.

Oct. 26: The PA condemns Israeli decision to approve a draft law classifying Jerusalem as a national priority area.

Oct. 27: Israeli forces raze a Jahalin Bedouin encampment in Issawiya while bulldozing some 50 dunums of land in the E-1 area.

Oct. 29: In a recent meeting, the UNESCO executive board has expressed "deep concern" over "ongoing Israeli excavations and archaeological works" at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the Old City.

- Settlers set fire to an old church on Hanev'im Street.

Oct. 29: The WJM's District Planning and Construction Committee ratifies the Western Wall Plan for the construction of an underground passageway to the plaza.

NOVEMBER

Nov. 1: After Israel's Security Minister Yitzhak Aharonovitch signs a warrant banning all PA events inside Israel, PM Netanyahu orders security forces to prevent Palestinian PM Salam Fayyad from attending a ceremony to celebrate the PA-sponsored rebuilding of several schools in occupied East Jerusalem

Nov. 2: PM Fayyad cancels a planned visit to Dahiet As-Salam in Shu'fat Camp where he was to take part in an event marking the completion of several schools in the Jerusalem area with PA money. He attends a similar event in Dahiet Al-Barid, located Palestinian side of the separation fence, where he says that Israel was the only entity holding on to the stance that the PA could not operate in East Jerusalem and that the suburbs of Jerusalem would one day be part of the eternal Palestinian capital.

- WJM forces demolish a car wash belonging to Majdi Yasser Salhab in Beit Hanina for having been erected without a permit.

- *Ma'ariv* reports that Jerusalem police imposes high fines (up to NIS 5,000) and house arrest on Palestinian children in the city to prevent stone-throwing at Israeli vehicles.

Nov. 5: *Ha'aretz* reports that the ILA is transferring properties in Silwan and the Old City to right-wing groups Elad and Ateret Cohanim for low prices, without issuing a tender as required by law. The first of the 11 documented deals of this kind dates back to the 1980s.

Nov. 8: Israel approves over 1,300 new homes, incl. 1,025 units in Har Homa and 320 in Ramot, sparking fury from Palestinians and US disappointment, with State Dept. spokesman PJ Crowley calling the move "counterproductive to our efforts to resume direct negotiations between the parties."

- *Ir Amim* reports that Israel has also approved plans for 32 more homes in Pisgat Ze'ev.

Nov. 9: US Pres. Obama calls Israel's latest settlement plans "never helpful". Following the US criticism, PM Netanyahu's office issues a statement, insisting that "Jerusalem is not a settlement. Jerusalem is the capital of the State of Israel," that "Israel has never accepted upon itself restrictions of any kind on construction in Jerusalem," and that there was "no connection" between the peace process and Israel's "planning and building policy in Jerusalem, which has not changed in 40 years."

- Confrontations erupt between Israeli soldiers and hundreds of Palestinian school children in Al-Issawiya as WJM workers erect road blocks and perform car safety checks for a third day in a row.

- The Israeli GLZ radio reports that City Plan no. 12472 (construction of the Mughrabi Ramp leading to the Al-Aqsa compound from the Wailing Wall Plaza has been finally approved, though in a limited version allowing the construction of a new bridge on pillars, with minimum amount of diggings and change of the ground surface.

Nov. 10: Following a recent period of unrest in Issawiya, Israeli police raids the area, arresting seven people, issuing 170 tickets and taking 36 cars off the road.

- Pres. Abbas wants the UNSC to meet over Israel's newest plans for 1,300 new apartments in East Jerusalem.

- Israeli Cabinet Secretary Zvi He says "There was no freeze in Jerusalem. There will be no freeze in Jerusalem. This has been the policy of all Israeli governments for 40 years," adding that Israeli settlement construction in the city "never hindered the negotiations with Egypt, Jordan or the Palestinians in previous years."

Nov. 13: *Kol Hair* quotes WJM engineer Shlomo Eshkol as saying that Israel plans to put up for sale 3,000 new Jewish homes in Jerusalem in 2011, incl. in Givat Hamatos and Har Homa, as part of a long-term project to build 50,000 homes in Jerusalem during the next decade.

Nov. 16: WJM Mayor Nir Barkat presents a controversial new city planning policy for East Jerusalem – yet to be approved by the government - which would take into account the "current unsatisfactory situation" and call for a freeze on all current demolition orders until the re-zoning plan can go forward. At the heart of the plan is the King's Garden project, in which 22 homes would be razed, while another 66 would be legalized in Silwan's Al-Bustan neighborhood.

Nov. 22: The Knesset passes with 65:33 a Likud-initiated law calling for a national referendum ahead of any withdrawal from annexed territories, i.e., occupied East Jerusalem or the Golan Heights.

- Israeli bulldozers demolish retaining walls and a fence surrounding an agricultural field in Issawiya.

Nov. 23: Israel forces evacuate the Qara'in family from their home in Jabel Mukabber, after right-wing activists – from the Wohl Investments group close to the Elad settler association - claimed to have purchased the building. The 16 residents of the home say that the sale was illicit as the landlord whose name is written on the deal had died and left the house to the family in his will.

Nov. 24: A group of settlers from Elad take over a disputed (empty) apartment on the second floor of a building in At-Tur, which was in 2005 purchased by Lowell Investment, a company set up to buy Palestinian assets on behalf of right-wing groups. The Jerusalem Magistrate's Court had finally declared Lowell the legal owner a week ago, listing Elad director David Be'eri as the person who signed the purchase agreement on behalf of Lowell.

- Israeli forces demolish a home in At-Tur, just before the owner, Abed Zablah, arrived with a court order halting the demolition.

Nov. 25: A PA Information Ministry document, authored by Al-Mutawakel Taha, says the Western Wall is not a surviving remnant of the Jewish Temple, but an integral part of the Al-Aqsa Mosque. PM calls the "Ministry's denial of the link between the Jewish people" and the wall "reprehensible and scandalous."

Nov. 28: Fatah official Adnan Gheith receives a military order to leave Jerusalem for four months. He has two weeks to appeal the decision.

Nov. 29: Israeli authorities approve a request to rezone an area in Gilo to allow construction for 130 new homes on a plot of land originally designated for a hotel.

Nov. 30: The WJM demolishes a home and a small room housing a printing press belonging to Attiyah Imteir in Issawiya, a rooftop home belonging to Mahdi Sublaban in Sheikh Jarrah, and a home in Shu'fat refugee camp, sparking Palestinian protests.

DECEMBER

Dec. 1: The Jerusalem District Planning and Building Committee announces its plan – approved in 2008 but put on hold due to faults - to build 625 new housing units in Pisgat Ze'ev.

The Palestinian Authority (PA) removed a report about the Western Wall [as not a surviving remnant of the Jewish Temple, but an integral part of the Al-Aqsa Mosque] from an official website. Palestinian officials would not comment on the report, but its author, Al-Mutawakil Taha, a civil servant in the Information Ministry, said that he stood by it. (AP)

Dec. 2: Israeli forces close all but two doors of Al-Aqsa Mosque and forbid entry to people under 40 years, while dozens of settlers invade the compound for Hanukkah rituals, causing high tension.

Israeli forces closed most gates leading into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, leaving only two open. All worshipers under 40 years old were barred by Israeli police from entering the compound. The action came followed the entry of an estimated 55 religious Jews into the mosque compound, accompanied by Israeli guards. (Ma'an News Agency)

Dec. 7: The EU 'Jerusalem Report 2010,' put together by the EU heads of local missions, warns that "If current trends are not stopped as a matter of urgency, the prospect of east Jerusalem as the future capital of a Palestinian state becomes increasingly unlikely and unworkable," which "in turn seriously endangers the chances of a sustainable peace on the basis of two states, with Jerusalem as their future capital."

Dec. 8: Israel frees Mohammed Abu Teir - one of four Hamas PLC members from Jerusalem - after five months in prison and expels him to the West Bank, after an Israeli court ruled that he was not permitted to continue living in Jerusalem. UN officials express concern about the "potential precedent" that the trial set. The others three MPs - Khaled Abu Arafah, Ahmed Attoun and Mohammed Totah - are staging a sit-in at the ICRC offices in Sheikh Jarrah since June 2010.

Dec. 10: In sharp contrast with PM Netanyahu's views, Israeli DM Barak tells a Washington audience that "Jerusalem will be discussed at the end with ... western Jerusalem and the Jewish [areas] for us, the refugee-populated Arab [Palestinian] neighborhoods for them and an agreed upon solution in the holy places."