

## CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS – 2007

### JANUARY

- Jan. 13:** Jewish settlers wreck the tires of more than 20 cars belonging to Palestinian residents of Ras Al-Amud.
- Jan. 15:** The Israeli Housing Min. announces bids for construction of 44 new Jewish settlements in Ma'ale Adumim.
- Jan. 17:** The Al-Aqsa Institution for the Reconstruction of the Islamic Sanctities reports a wide Israeli excavation campaign on the outer perimeter of the Haram Ash-Sharif.
- Jan. 22:** Israeli border guards break into Al-Maqassed Hospital during a Fateh celebration and arrest five men.
- Jan. 30:** Israeli bulldozers demolish a house in Issawiya and another in Al-Izzariyya, located near the area where a wall is due to be built around Ma'ale Adumim settlement.
- Israeli forces demolish six buildings, one each in At-Tur and Beit Hanina, and four in Al-Izzariyya, for being built without a permit.

### FEBRUARY

- Feb. 4:** Israeli forces break into the Bir Nabala local council and seize council belongings.
- Feb. 5:** The Israeli govt. begins excavations on the Mughrabi Gate entrance to the Haram Ash-Sharif, leading to demonstrations in the Palestinian Territories and in the wider Muslim world.
- Feb. 8:** Taysir Al-Tamimi, Supreme Judge in Palestine, calls for a 'day of outrage' across the Muslim world on Friday in protest against the excavations carried out by the Israeli authorities near Al-Aqsa Mosque.
- Feb. 9:** Clashes break out in the Old City of Jerusalem as Palestinian worshippers arrive for Friday prayers and protest against Israel's ongoing excavations in the environs of Al-Aqsa Mosque. Israeli forces impose a curfew on Palestinian neighborhoods as a precautionary measure.
- Feb. 11:** The Israeli Cabinet votes unanimously with 3 abstentions to proceed with the Mughrabi Gate construction. Later the day, however, WJM Mayor Uri Lupolianski announces his decision to halt the project "due to the sensitivity of the plan" until after approval of a zoning plan, subject to transparency and public review
- Israeli police forces arrest at least four Palestinian praying at the Mughrabi Gate near the Al-Aqsa Mosque.
- Feb. 12:** Jerusalem following an outcry from the Muslim community.
- Feb. 13:** Israel's Atty. Gen. announces that since the WJM is voluntarily stopping the construction project on the Mughrabi Gate, he does not need to intervene and rule on the legality of the building permit.
- The Corporation for the Development of the Jewish Quarter – which has title to the land in question in the Mughrabi Gate area - announces that it would not pursue the building permit for this project any further and would instead explore other options, but retracts its pronouncement soon after under massive pressure from the PM's office and the Min. of Construction.
  - After WJM mayor Uri Lupolianski announces the postponement of construction of the Mughrabi Gate, the Jewish Quarter Development Company abandons the project.
- Feb. 16:** Thousands of Israeli forces are deployed around the entrances to the Haram Ash-Sharif, preventing worshippers from entering Al-Aqsa Mosque.
- Feb. 18:** The Jerusalem Court of Municipal Affairs rules that eight Jewish families living in a seven-story building in Silwan must evacuate within two months and that the building should be sealed with concrete blocks.
- Feb. 21:** Israeli police announce that the Haram Ash-Sharif is once again open for worshippers and tourists.
- Feb. 23:** Israeli authorities issue an order prohibiting Palestinian men under 45 years from entering Al-Aqsa Mosque for Friday prayers.
- Feb. 28:** Israeli press reports on plans to build a new ultra-Orthodox neighborhood of 11,000 units at the site of the closed East Jerusalem airport at Atarot.

### MARCH

- March 10:** Israeli forces kill a Palestinian man on Salah Eddin Street, claiming he had failed to stop when ordered to do so.
- March 14:** The Israeli forces demolish a three-storey building inhabited by six families as well as another house in the area of Sur Bahir southeast of Jerusalem.
- March 20:** Israeli bulldozers demolish a Palestinian house in Jerusalem, claiming it was built without licenses.

### APRIL

- April 2:** Israeli authorities issue 150 evacuation orders to Palestinian families in the As-Salam neighborhood.
- April 3:** Israeli authorities announce a plan to close the old Jerusalem-Jericho road to Palestinians near Al-Izzariyya.
- April 9:** A guard at Al-Aqsa Mosque is injured in a clash with Israeli policemen.
- April 15:** The guards of Al-Aqsa Mosque stop an attempt by Israeli extremists to hang the Ten Commandments on Al-Mughrabi Gate entrance to the Haram Ash-Sharif.
- April 21:** The Al-Aqsa Association for the Protection of Islamic Endowments accuses Jewish organizations of forging documents to illegally purchase Arab properties in the Old City of Jerusalem.
- April 23:** An Israeli and a Palestinian are injured after a shooting incident near Hizma checkpoint.

### MAY

- May 1:** Fateh wins the Al-Quds University's student council election in Abu Dis, east of Jerusalem.



**May 8:** Israeli forces demolish a center for disabled children in east Jerusalem for being built without a license.  
**May 11:** Dr. Saeb Erekat, the PLO's head of negotiation affairs, urges the international community to intervene in the Israeli government's decision to build three new settlements in Jerusalem.  
**May 13:** Israeli authorities issue an evacuation order to the owner of the Al-Ansari Library on Saint George St., West Jerusalem, which is to be demolished to allow for enlargement of the street and the construction of a train station.  
 -The US and the EU decline an invitation to attend the Israeli celebrations to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the unification of East and West Jerusalem.  
**May 15:** The Arab League condemns an Israeli plan to expand settlements by building 20,000 residential units in the Jerusalem area.  
**May 26:** Three Palestinians are killed and five Israeli soldiers injured in an armed clash in the Sheikh Sa'ad neighborhood.

## JUNE

**June 5:** The Israeli Interior Min. issues an order banning a conference on the subject of Jerusalem 40 years after its occupation by Israeli forces, saying such a meeting is not to take place anywhere in the state of Israel.  
**June 11:** Dozens of Roman Orthodox Christians participate in a sit-in demonstration calling for the dismissal of Greek Patriarch Theofilos III for selling church properties to Israel.  
 - ICAHD announces the launch of a campaign to rebuild the home of every Palestinian family whose house is demolished over the coming year.

## JULY

**July 2:** Shin Bet and the Israeli police apprehend 11 Hamas members in East Jerusalem, 10 of which hold Israeli ID cards, alleging that they were recruited to carry out military operations.  
**July 5:** The US signs an agreement to finance the reconstruction of 1.5 km of road between Jerusalem and Ramallah.  
**July 8:** PM Salam Fayyad meets Israeli FM Livni in Jerusalem for the first time since he took office.  
**July 16:** Israeli PM Olmert meets Pres. Abbas in his official residence in Jerusalem, informing Abbas that Israel will take steps towards bolstering the PA presidency.  
**July 26:** A controversial plan to build a bridge near the Western Wall, to the Mughrabi Gate near Al-Aqsa Mosque is approved. The Grand Mufti of Jerusalem and Palestine Mohammad Hussein condemns what he calls an Israeli plot against Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa Mosque.

## AUGUST

**Aug. 1:** Israeli settlers attack a family home in Beit Safafa, injuring five family members and a number of elderly relatives.  
**Aug. 10:** A Palestinian is killed by Israeli security forces after attacking an Israeli guard in the Old City of Jerusalem. In a joint statement the armed wings of the PFLP, of the Islamic Jihad and of Fateh claim responsibility for the attack.  
**Aug. 13:** Israeli police seize weapons dealers and Hamas members in the Jabal Mukabber area, alleging that they had relations with two Hamas activists responsible for an operation in Sheikh Sa'ad.

## SEPTEMBER

**Sept. 7:** A Palestinian woman gives birth at an Israeli checkpoint in Abu Dis after being denied entry to Jerusalem.  
**Sept. 9:** Israeli forces storm the Bir Nabala local council building for a second time, confiscating documents and computers.  
**Sept. 10:** Pres. Abbas meets Israeli PM Olmert in Jerusalem to discuss the release of Palestinian prisoners, removal of Israeli checkpoints, and the right of repatriation for Palestinian refugees.  
**Sept. 11:** Israeli authorities deny the Director of Gaza's Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Raji Sourani, entry into Jerusalem, where he was scheduled to meet Quartet envoy Tony Blair.  
**Sept. 14:** Tens of thousands of worshippers head for Al-Aqsa Mosque for the first Friday prayer of Ramadan amid heightened Israeli security measures around the city.  
**Sept. 18:** Israeli forces impose further regulations on the entry of Palestinian worshippers to Jerusalem for Friday prayer at Al-Aqsa Mosque: men from 16 to 50 and women from 16 to 45 must get prior permission from the Israeli authorities. Children under 16 can only enter Jerusalem with their parents, if their parents have permission.  
**Sept. 27:** The Grand Mufti of Jerusalem warns of dangerous intentions behind a move by Israelis to reopen a synagogue near the Al-Aqsa Mosque City, noting that the synagogue is located near Silsila Gate, 100 meters away from the Dome of the Rock.  
**Sept. 28:** Israel deploys 4,000 police officers around the walls of Al-Aqsa Mosque during the third Friday prayer of Ramadan. Crowds of worshippers, after being denied entrance to Jerusalem, attend prayers at Qalandia checkpoint.

## OCTOBER

**Oct. 4:** The Israeli army issues a new military order (No. 07/19/T) for the confiscation of 1,129 dunums of Palestinian land in Abu Dis, Arab As-Sawahreh, Nabi Musa and Al-Khan Al-Ahmar under the pretext of 'military purposes.' The real purpose is a road to link the Palestinian governorates at the southern part of the West Bank with Jericho.  
**Oct. 5:** Israeli authorities deploy thousands of police in Jerusalem while continuing restrictions on Palestinian worshippers' access to the city for Friday prayers.  
**Oct. 9:** The Israeli Army issues a military order holding number (35/07/T), declaring the confiscation of 386 dunums of land from At-Tur, Al-Izzariyya and Abu Dis to construct new routes for Palestinians.  
**Oct. 14:** The Israeli Antiquities Authority announces its archaeological excavations at Mughrabi Gate as a part of a



controversial plan to build a bridge from the gate to Dung Gate, near the Western Wall.

**Oct. 26:** Pres. Abbas and PM Olmert meet at Olmert's home in Jerusalem in an attempt to work towards a compromise on a joint document for the Annapolis peace conference.

**Oct. 19:** Some 61 Israeli MKs sign a petition against giving up any part of Jerusalem to the Palestinians.

#### **NOVEMBER**

**Nov. 5:** Israeli authorities bar the Sec.-Gen. of Al-Mubadara (Palestinian National Initiative), Mustafa Barghouthi, from entering Jerusalem where he is scheduled to participate in a televised debate with Israeli officials.

**Nov. 10:** Pres. Abbas, speaking at the inauguration of the Arafat mausoleum in Ramallah, pledges to continue to work for the transfer of the body of the late President Yasser Arafat to Jerusalem.

**Nov. 11:** Israeli authorities refuse permission for Ahmad Qrei'a, the head of the Palestinian negotiating team for the Annapolis conference, to enter Jerusalem to take part in a scheduled meeting between the Israeli and Palestinian negotiating teams.

**Nov. 14:** The Knesset gives initial approval to draft a legislation which would require a two-thirds majority for any amendments to a law which claims all of Jerusalem as Israeli territory. This legislation, if passed, would make it harder to change Jerusalem's status in any peace deal with Palestinians.

