

Press Release by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics on the Occasion of Land Day, March 30, 2012

Around One Million Palestinians Affected by the Annexation Wall which Isolates 13% of West Bank Land

On 30th March 1976, a demonstration took place on territory taken by Israel in 1948 to protest against the confiscation of 21 thousand dunums of land in the Galilee, Al-Muthalath, and Negev. The Israeli response resulted in the deaths of six young demonstrators.

Jewish Control More than 85% of Land of Historical Palestine

At the end of 2011, there were 11.7 million people living in the historical land of Palestine with a land area of 27,000 km². Jews constitute around 52% of the total population and utilize more than 85% of the total area of land. Arabs comprise 48% of the total population and utilize less than 15% of the land. A Palestinian therefore has less than a quarter of the area available to an Israeli.

Land Confiscation in Jordan Valley

The Jordan Valley makes up 29% of the West Bank. Israel controls approximately 90% of the Jordan Valley. Fewer than 65,000 Palestinians remain there today compared to 9,500 settlers.

Annexation Wall Isolated Over 250,000 Palestinians in Jerusalem

Based on data from the Ministry of State, the Annexation Wall has a total length of about 757 kilometers, of which 92% are inside the West Bank. According to this route, 733 km² of Palestinian land were isolated between the Wall and the Green Line in 2010. This comprises approximately 13.0% of the West Bank, of which about 348 km² were agricultural

land, 110 km² were confiscated for Israeli settlements and military bases, 250 km² were forest and open areas, and 25 km² Palestinian built-up land. The Wall isolated 53 localities and affected over three hundred thousand people, particularly communities in Jerusalem where 27 localities affected are home to a quarter of a million people. Moreover, the Wall besieges 165 localities with a population of more than half a million inhabitant, and Qalqilya city is one of the witnesses on that.

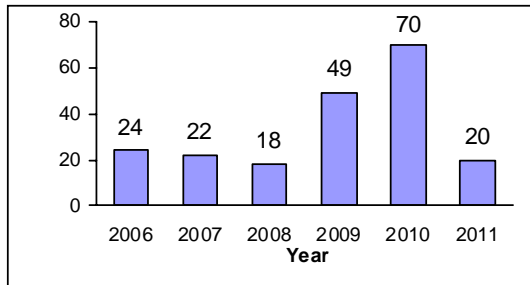
Judaization of Jerusalem: House Demolitions and Restrictions on Construction

The Israeli occupation authorities demolish Palestinian homes and create obstacles and constraints to the issuance of building permits for Palestinians. According to the Al-Maqdisi Institute, between 2000 and 2011, 1,059 buildings were demolished in East Jerusalem (the areas annexed by Israel in 1967). This has resulted in the displacement of 4,865 people, including 2,537 children. Data from Israeli human rights organizations indicate that about 25 thousand homes have been demolished in the occupied Palestinian Territory since 1967.

The data indicate an increase in demolitions where residents have to demolish their own homes, 289 residents were forced to demolish their own homes since 2000, on the other hand the year 2010 had the highest rate of self-demolition with 70 demolitions compared to 49 in 2009. In 2011, 20 self-demolitions took place. In many cases, residents do not inform the media and human rights organizations of the demolition.

While Palestinians represent 30% of the population of Jerusalem, they pay 40% of the value of the taxes collected by the municipality. Yet, the Jerusalem municipality only spends 8% on providing services to Palestinians.

Self Demolition 2006-2010



50.6% Of the Settlers live in Jerusalem Governorate

There were 474 Israeli locations in the West Bank (Israeli settlements, outposts and military bases) at the end of 2011. During 2010, settlers established 11 new outposts. Data indicate that the number of settlers in the West Bank totaled 518,974 at the end of 2010: 262,493 settlers live in Jerusalem governorate and constitute 50.6% of all West Bank settlers. Of these,

196,178 live in areas of Jerusalem annexed by Israel in 1967. In demographic terms, the proportion of settlers to the Palestinian population in the West Bank was about 20 settlers per 100 Palestinians compared with 68 settlers per 100 Palestinians in Jerusalem governorate.

Israel Arrests More than 14 Citizens Per Day during Last Five Years

In March 2012, there were 4033 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails, including 178 administrative prisoners and 8 female prisoners. Of these, 49 prisoners have spent more than 20 years in captivity and 15 prisoners have spent more than 27 years in captivity.

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