

The
Apartheid Wall
Campaign
Stop Israel's Stranglehold of Palestine!



Report #1
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Table of Contents

Preface to Report #1	3
The Apartheid Wall	
Background	4
Political Context	9
Economic Impact	16
Social Impact	18
Impact on Water and the Environment	19
Legal Implications	22
The Campaign	
Campaign History and Scope	24
Campaign Organizers	25
Campaign Emergency Centers	25
Information Collection and Research	26
International Advocacy, Media and the Campaign Website	27
Life amidst the Apartheid Wall: Case Studies	
The Village of Jayous	28
Hafez Ahmad Khaled, Jayous	28
Abdellatif Hamdan, Far'un	29
Rachel's Tomb, Bethlehem	30
Photographs	31
References and Wall-Related Links	37
Maps and Tables	
Map 1: Apartheid Wall, First Phase	6
Map 2: Israeli Military Map for Apartheid Wall, First Phase	7
Map 3: Apartheid Wall, Bethlehem Area	8
Map 4: United Nations Partition Plan, 1947	12
Map 5: Palestinian Expulsion, 1948	13
Map 6: 1967 Borders: West Bank and Gaza Strip	14
Map 7: West Bank 2002, including Israeli "Security" Zones	15
Table 1: Wells to be Lost in the Wall's First Phase	21

Preface

Report #1 for the Apartheid Wall Campaign is a general look—an introduction—to the Apartheid Wall itself and the Apartheid Wall Campaign, and includes information on the context in which the Apartheid Wall is taking place, as it is not without precedent that Israel will unilaterally confiscate lands and destroy the lives and livelihoods of Palestinians under the usual pretenses in order to achieve long-standing goals. And, though the Apartheid Wall is an indivisible part of the closure and siege policy of the Occupation, and is a continuation or “advancement” of these policies; it is also unique in that it is a clear, widely-supported (both in its Israeli domestic approval and international complicity) mechanism (a Wall) used by Israel to confiscate and destroy massive amounts of land (some 10% of the West Bank) and devastate the lives of hundreds of thousands of people.

Israel’s plan to build the Apartheid Wall was first noted on the ground in the northern West Bank, where preparations for the construction of the Apartheid Wall began in June 2002, near the village Salem, west of Jenin. But, in fact, Israel has been laying the groundwork for the Wall in Jerusalem even earlier and has been working in the past months in the Bethlehem area as well.

Since June, the military and its contracted companies have been working non-stop on the lands of thousands of Palestinians, uprooting trees, confiscating lands, and handing devastated farmers military orders, declaring their lands the property of the State of Israel. Now, in November, Israel’s efforts to destroy Palestinian lands and bring them into its control, in order to annex hundreds of thousands of dunums and tens of settlements, continue. Meanwhile, Israeli government officials state that the Apartheid Wall will be completed from between six months to one year of the starting date.

According to currently available information, the first phase of the building of the Apartheid Wall, which is presently taking place in the northern West Bank, will deem at least fifteen villages trapped between the Apartheid Wall and Israel, isolated from the rest of the West Bank. An additional fifteen villages will be east of the Apartheid Wall, but their lands will be west, isolating them from their agricultural lands, their livelihoods, and way of life. This first phase of the Apartheid Wall, in the north, will be 115 kilometers (70 miles) long, and will include fences, trenches and security patrols. The Apartheid Wall in its entirety is meant to extend the full 350 kilometers (220 miles) length of the West Bank. In our next report, we hope to look more closely at the route of the Apartheid Wall—most notably in its first phase--and produce more detailed figures on the consequences to the villages around it, notwithstanding the continued challenge to such information collection in light of the continued “modifications” to the Apartheid Wall that the Israeli government and military put into place regularly.

A Campaign has been initiated by Palestinian NGOs and grassroots organizations with the encouragement of international organizations and solidarity groups in an attempt to ensure that this latest assault by the Occupation will not take place without an outcry in Palestine and worldwide. The Campaign is working closely with the communities affected by the Apartheid Wall, providing various forms of support, and collecting information and focusing attention on media and international advocacy. This is the first of what will be a series of reports that will highlight the various concerns around the Apartheid Wall and efforts by the Campaign. The information in this report is preliminary and the Campaign, to ensure its own effectiveness, plans to further collect information for greater accuracy and detail.

And, what does it mean that the Apartheid Wall is a part of its larger context? It is our concern that the inhabitants of these villages, deprived of their land, water resources and source of living, will be forced to leave their homes, bringing about a population expulsion, also known as transfer.

We call on everyone concerned for the fate of those affected by the Apartheid Wall, and all the barriers of the Occupation, to support our efforts.

Jamal Juma’
Campaign/PENGON Coordinator
November 2002

The Apartheid Wall

Background

Contrary to worldwide news reports, the Apartheid Wall (also referred to as the “fence” or “security fence”) which Israel is currently building in the northeast of the West Bank will *not* mark the 1967 border, also known as the “Green Line”. Rather, amidst some of the most fertile land in Palestine, this latest unilateral offensive will be a further exercise in Israel’s annexation of lands, destruction of agriculture and property, and violation of human rights.

In the northern West Bank, the first phase of the Apartheid Wall is to be approximately 115km long and is to include electric fences, trenches, cameras, sensors, and security patrols, at a cost tens of millions of dollars. The height of the Apartheid Wall will average 8 meters (25 feet) and in its entirety is to cover at least 350km, somewhat encircling the West Bank. In this first phase, which will see the confiscation of close to 2% of the West Bank, while at least 30 villages will lose parts or all of their lands. In an area 40 kilometers north of Qalqiliya, approximately 90,000 dunums (90 km square) will be lost as a consequence of about 12% of the length of the Apartheid Wall. The first phase in its entirety is expected to see the confiscation of between 160,000-180,000 dunums. The built-up (residential) areas of at least 15 villages will be east of the Apartheid Wall, while a significant portion of their lands will be either between the Apartheid Wall or on the other side. In addition, the city of Qalqiliya, which is the urban center for the entire area, will almost be completely encircled by the Apartheid Wall.

According to the Campaign map (Map 1), the following 15 villages will be trapped between the Apartheid Wall and the Green Line, in closed military areas: Khirbet Um Al Rihan, Barta’a Al Sharqiya, Dhaher Al Malih, Khirbet Abdallah Al Younis, Khirbet Al Sheikh Sa’eed, Khirbet Al Muntar Al Gharbiya, Nazlat ‘Isa, Nazlat Abu Nar, Baqa Al Sharqiya, Khirbet Jubara, ‘Arab Al Ramadin Al Shamali, ‘Izbat Jal’ud, Al Dab’a, ‘Arab Al Ramadin Al Janubi, and ‘Arab Abu Farda. It is expected that Rummana, Ta’anak, Khirbet Al Tayba, Al Sa’ida, and Anin will eventually be included between the Wall and the Green Line in the first phase as well. The fact that Israel has repeatedly changed the route of the Wall is a major factor in the changing estimates and reality.

During the Intifada, various Israeli governmental discussion around the building of the Apartheid Wall took place, perhaps somewhat casually, amidst the various other unilateral decisions taking place by Israel on behalf of the Palestinians. In April, 2002, an order by the steering committee/cabinet dealing with the Apartheid Wall called for the immediate commencement of the Apartheid Wall in the northern West Bank and the Jerusalem area. In a further institutionalization of the Apartheid Wall, the committee created a “Seam Area Administration” that would implement the decision, according to a report produced by B’tselem, an Israeli human rights organization. Only days later, and before any publication of a map determining the route of the Apartheid Wall, the Israeli military confiscated land in the northern West Bank and began to uproot trees.

Governmental-ministerial meetings concerning the Apartheid Wall continued, when in August, following objections within the Israeli security establishment to the first maps of the Apartheid Wall, changes were made but were never published. For months following the commencement of the Apartheid Wall, the government and military never made available to the public its plans, and only after continued demands by Palestinian human rights organizations to produce the map, was the first phase made available. Changes to the map, and the complete map of the Apartheid Wall, existed without any outside knowledge. According to the Palestinian human rights organization LAW, the map presented by the military to the Israeli High Court in September differed than the maps they presented in October, specifically for the area of Qalqiliya, noting that an additional 1,000 individuals would be in the area between the Apartheid Wall and Israel. The changes to the map were done without public knowledge and without warning. Nevertheless, military orders for land confiscation continue unabated.

B'tselem concurs in a September, 2002, report on the Apartheid Wall, that the map they produced for the first phase of the Apartheid Wall was based *not* on an Israeli, official military map. Rather, they based their map on the military orders of land confiscation (which they could infer from where the Apartheid Wall would be located) as well as a list of Israeli settlements to be situated west of the Apartheid Wall, as published by the Israeli media. The settlements B'tselem refers to are Shaqed, Hinanit, Tal-Menashe, Rehan, Sal'it, Tzufim, Alfe Menashe, Oranit, Sha'are Tiqwa, and Elqana, all of which will be annexed to Israel, enjoying the full rights of Israeli citizens, unlike those Palestinians in the same annexed areas.

In the beginning of September, the cabinet also approved including Rachel's Tomb within the Apartheid Wall's borders, which is located inside Bethlehem. Land confiscation and tree uprooting has commenced for the Apartheid Wall in the Bethlehem area as well.

It cannot be emphasized enough the fertility of the land that has been confiscated in the north and is being destroyed, also taking into consideration the continued poverty due to forcible closure by Israel on the Palestinians, translating into the fact that people's sustenance and survival depends on these lands. Approximately 30 groundwater wells in the first phase of the Apartheid Wall will be out of bounds, having been separated by the Apartheid Wall from the villages depending on them, meaning even further Israeli control over Palestinian water resources. For a number of villages, they will lose their *only* source of water.

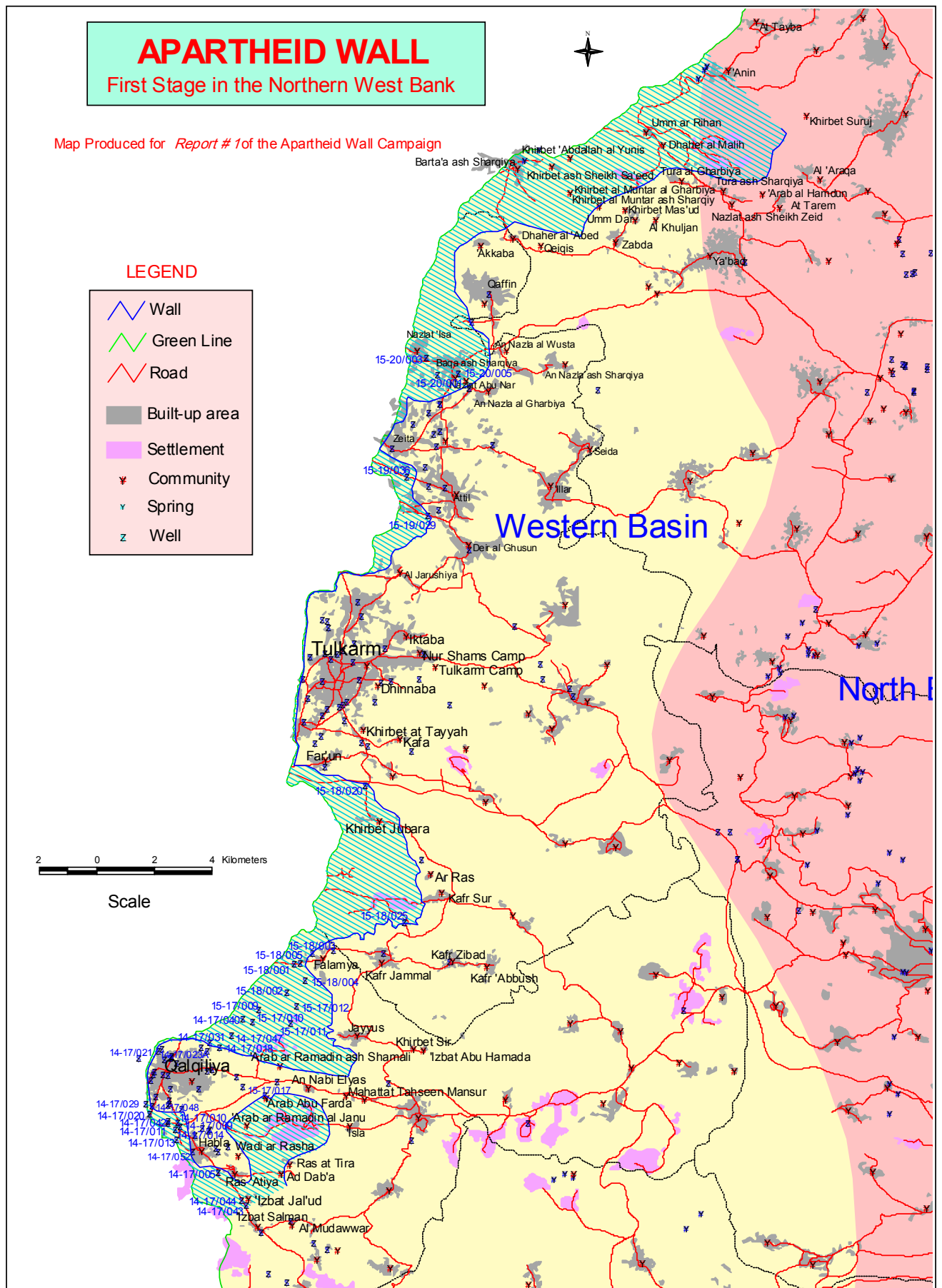
As the southern portion of the Apartheid Wall is as of yet unclear, so is the central or Jerusalem portion of the Apartheid Wall. What is known is that the Apartheid Wall will allow for a furthering of Israel's establishing facts on the ground in the Jerusalem area. Repeated public confirmations by numerous Israeli government officials confirms that the Apartheid Wall will in no way mark the 1967 border and will not threaten Israel's control over the occupied city. Taking into consideration that approximately 50% of the Israeli-Jewish settlers in the West Bank are East Jerusalem settlers, including the settlements built in the outskirts of Jerusalem, it is expected that the Jerusalem portion of the Apartheid Wall will represent a large portion of the lands confiscated for the Apartheid Wall, including the annexation of at least 15 settlements. In addition, Israel's continued pursuit to ensure a Jewish majority means that a number of Palestinian neighborhoods in the outskirt of Jerusalem, which it continues to deny the right of territorial continuity with the West Bank through the establishment of checkpoints, will be placed in a limbo like the other areas between the Apartheid Wall and Israel in the north.

The reference in the international media to a "fence" being placed to separate the "two sides" should be seen more as a cynical, unrepresentative use of terms than any real reflection of the Apartheid Wall itself, both its massive physical structure (8 meters high) and its implications on the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. The separation rhetoric, which should remind everyone of the Afrikaans word for separation—"Apartheid"—is not a reflection of real geographic or a historic physical divide between two peoples, but rather is reference to Israel's continued campaign of forcible, unilateral separation and expulsion plans that disregard national or economic sovereignty for Palestinians. The Apartheid Wall just furthers the "bantustanization" of the West Bank into hundreds of small, dependent entities that cannot sustain themselves and that are more akin to small, disconnected open-air prisons surrounded by Israeli military checkpoints and settlements, than anything else.

In order to pinpoint the start of the building of the Apartheid Wall, one must have an understanding of the Occupation itself, within which the Apartheid Wall is a means, and an acceleration of long-established trends. The "idea" of a Apartheid Wall—of separation—is historic, while segregation and rights violation began most recently in 1967, with the most recent wave of closure and restriction can be seen with the commencement of the closure policy in the mid-90s. Israel's security rhetoric that revolved around closure and severe restriction to movement is some ten years old and is part of the justification it uses to erect the Apartheid Wall. Unilateral barriers are not new, but their size and magnitude grow.

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Map 1: Apartheid Wall, First Phase



Map 2: Israeli Military Map for Apartheid Wall, First Phase (pre-September map)



Map 3: Apartheid Wall, Bethlehem Area



Political Context

Palestine: Mandate, 1948-1993

During the British Mandate, which began in 1920, Palestine's borders were defined to include an area of 27,000 km². In 1947, the United Nations proposed a partition plan to divide Palestine into a Jewish and an Arab state (Map 4), but because of the unfairness of the plan to the Palestinians, based on the fact that the Palestinian people would be denied their right to self-determination and be controlled by a colonial, minority population, it was naturally rejected. In 1948, the Zionist/Jewish colonial population unilaterally declared Israel an independent state that would end-up including over 78% of mandatory Palestine, while Jordan and Egypt would administer the remaining lands—the West Bank and Gaza Strip (Map 6). It was during the establishment of the State of Israel that some 400 Palestinian villages would be completely eradicated by Israel, while others villages and major cities would be taken over and replaced by Jewish inhabitants, thus, forming a refugee population numbering in 2002 some 5,000,000 refugees spread across the West Bank and Gaza Strip, inside Israel, the Arab World and worldwide (Map 5).

It was in 1967 that another war broke out in which Israel would occupy the remaining 22% percent of historic Palestine, which comprised of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, with a land area of 6000 km². By 1967, all of historic Palestine would be in the hands of the Jewish colonial project that began some 100 years ago.

Following the 1967 Occupation, Israel immediately began an intense campaign to colonize vacant Palestinian lands and to segregate Palestinian built-up areas in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. This was part of a long-term vision of incorporating as much Palestinian land as possible into Israel. During the period 1967 to 1986 Israel implemented a series of plans, such as the Alon and Gush Emunim Plans (named after Israel's Labor Minister at the time and the ultra-nationalist/fascist settler movement founded in 1974 respectively) with the aim of constructing colonies and segregating the West Bank and Gaza Strip from Egypt and Jordan, whereby it annexed and confiscated over 50% of the West Bank. During this same period, Minister of Agriculture Ariel Sharon (present-day Prime Minister of Israel) spearheaded the colonial philosophy called "Fighting Terrorism," meant to suppress any form of Palestinian resistance to occupation. Not surprisingly, Sharon's strategy to "fight terrorism" came hand-in-hand with an intensification of colonial construction by Israel along the Green Line in order to erase the borders between the West Bank and Israel, paving the way for the annexation of all of historic Palestine. Therefore, Sharon's plan also indicated that there should be corridors of colonies and a network of bypass roads spread all across the West Bank, connecting the Green Line with the Jordan Valley, in the eastern part of the West Bank. The remaining Palestinian lands, which would not be annexed and posed a demographic "concern," would be unilaterally placed under Israel's administration. Today's map of the West Bank, therefore, comes as no surprise (Map 7).

The Oslo 'Peace' Process

In 1993, the Declaration of Principles (DoP), as a guide for peace negotiations based on the principles of "Land for Peace and United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338", was signed between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). During the 1990s, a series of peace negotiations and interim agreements took place without reaching a final status agreement to end the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian Occupied Territories. On the contrary, this period was marked by the classification of the West Bank into six parts (Areas A, B, C, H1, H2 and nature reserves) (Map 7) that formed countless disconnected enclaves encircled by settlements and bypass roads. In fact, before the suspension of negotiations, the most recent offer to Palestinians by Israel was 18.2% of area A (full Palestinian controlled enclave) and 21.8% of area B (Palestinian civil control, Israeli security control). Since the DoP, the gap between peaceful negotiations in rhetoric and what was taking place on the ground was immense. In fact, since 1993, the number of settlers and settlements (new and expanded) have more than doubled, enjoying their largest growth and expansion under the Labor governments. The colonial policies that began in 1967 were seeing some of their greatest achievements during the peace process.

The Second Intifada, 2000

On the 28th of September, 2000, under the Prime Ministership of the Labor Party's Ehud Barak, and with his consent, a planned, provocative visit by General Ariel Sharon to the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, in which he was accompanied by thousands of soldiers, took place. The following day, Friday, amidst the regularly large crowd of worshipers on the holy day of the week, thousands of well-armed soldiers returned to the Mosque and shot-to-kill several Palestinians from the West Bank and inside Israel and injuring tens. It was then that the Intifada, or Uprising, broke-out. Among Palestinians, it is unanimous that though the Thursday visit of Sharon and the Friday killings were in it of themselves a provocation, it was one incident among years of Israeli repression and the eruption of the Intifada reflects the collective suffering of Palestinians amidst long-standing policies and rights violations by the State of Israel in relation to the Palestinian people.

Following the massacre in Al Aqsa, the Israeli military confronted hundreds of unarmed protestors across the West Bank, Gaza Strip, as well as inside Israel among its Palestinian citizens. Scores were killed daily during many of the so-called "clashes," which were during or following funeral processions of those killed by the military just the day prior. Pain-struck, rage-filled, stone-clenching, and unarmed, these youth were met, at the countless checkpoints, by Israeli snipers who shot from a distance to the upper bodies of these demonstrators, killing or seriously injuring on site. The shoot-to-kill policy was clear and consistent throughout. According to the Health, Development, Information and Policy Institute, the numbers from the first year of the Intifada show that 99.4% of those killed by live ammunition were shot in the upper body (shoot to kill policy), 30% of those killed were children, while 60% of all of those killed were not involved in any clashes, but rather were going about their daily routines at home, on the streets, in schools, and in their cars. The first six months of the Intifada were much the same like its first days, where Palestinians, unarmed civilians were killed by the military.

For the last two years, the Israeli military has invaded the Palestinian Territories repeatedly, encircled the cities and villages with checkpoints, and imposed round-the-clock curfews, all the while speeding-up the implementation of its old plan of unilateral separation, based on land confiscation, annexation, and the segregation of Palestinian areas into disconnected entities. Part and parcel to this long-standing policy is the Apartheid Wall which Israel started constructing in June, 2002, on the Palestinian lands to the east of and parallel to the 1948 Green Line.

The Apartheid Wall in its Context

The location of the Apartheid Wall is designed to incorporate all Israeli colonies that have been built on Palestinian territories to the eastern side of the Green Line into Israel. The Green Line itself measures at least 350 km in length. Through constructing the Apartheid Wall, Israel is annexing, confiscating, and bulldozing thousands of dunums of Palestinian lands, uprooting thousands of fruit trees, cutting off Palestinian towns and villages from their countryside, and fragmenting Palestinian built-up areas in segregated pockets on both sides of the Apartheid Wall. Thus, the Apartheid Wall idea did not start from scratch, but is a result of long-term planning and policy of unilateral segregation.

Considering United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338, which declare the West Bank and Gaza Strip as Occupied Palestinian Territories, Israel's latest, initiative to build the Apartheid Wall is in fact a systematized, internationally illegal land theft under the name of security. The building of the Apartheid Wall is based on the violation of environmental and human rights, as Israel continues, on a daily basis, to construct new colonies/settlements and outposts, bypass roads, military checkpoints, and closed military zones. The over 2,000,000 Palestinian in the West Bank are at the mercy of 400,000 illegal settlers (200,000 of which are in East Jerusalem), and one of the most powerful militaries in the world.

In a confirmation that the Apartheid Wall is not intended to demarcate the 1967 border and that the route of the Apartheid Wall answers to Israeli needs—those of the settlers, the Israeli right *and* left—Israeli politicians have repeatedly confirmed in public that the Apartheid Wall has nothing to do with a solution based on the 1967 borders, but is a security concern and a politico-tactical move that can benefit Israel. The support within Israel for the Apartheid Wall is unanimous, including the Israeli Labor Party. Haim Ramon and Binyamin Ben Eliezer, both of Labor, are some of the most outspoken proponents of the

Apartheid Wall, calling it not only a security measure, but a tactical one that will be part of a “peace plan” that they, if given the chance in power, would put into effect. Ben Eliezer, Defense Minister during much of the Intifada under Sharon, has given repeated orders to pursue the Apartheid Wall, and has gone even further to instruct the Israeli Airports Authority to construct five crossing points along the seam line, based on the assumption that the Apartheid Wall will be built. In fact, the Airport Authority concurs that it first started plans for the unilateral border crossings prior to the Intifada. (*Ha'aretz*, October 29, 2002) This only strengthens the claim that the Apartheid Wall is a part of a larger, tactical pursuit that has its roots prior to the Intifada.

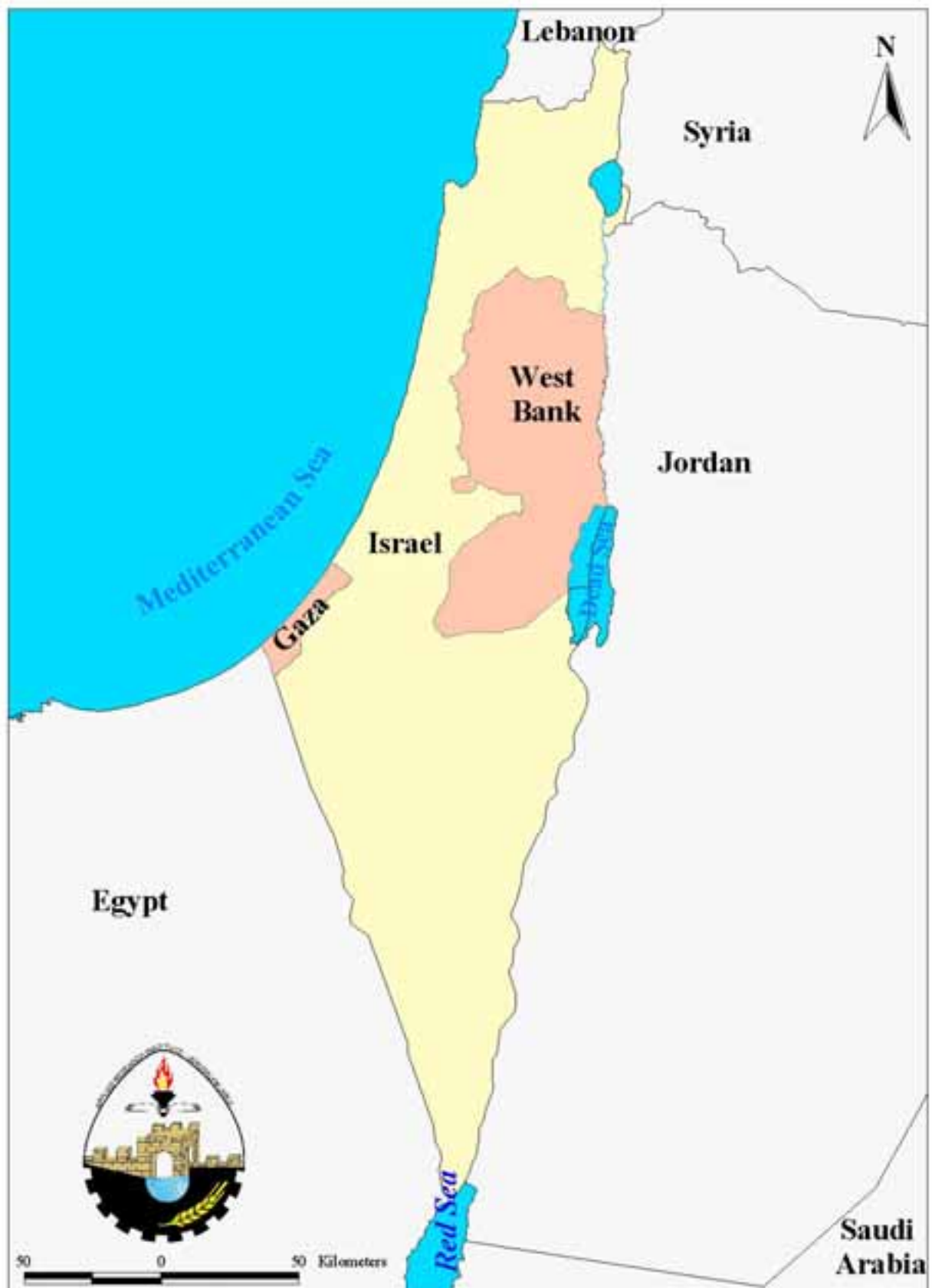
Map 4: United Nations Partition Plan, 1947



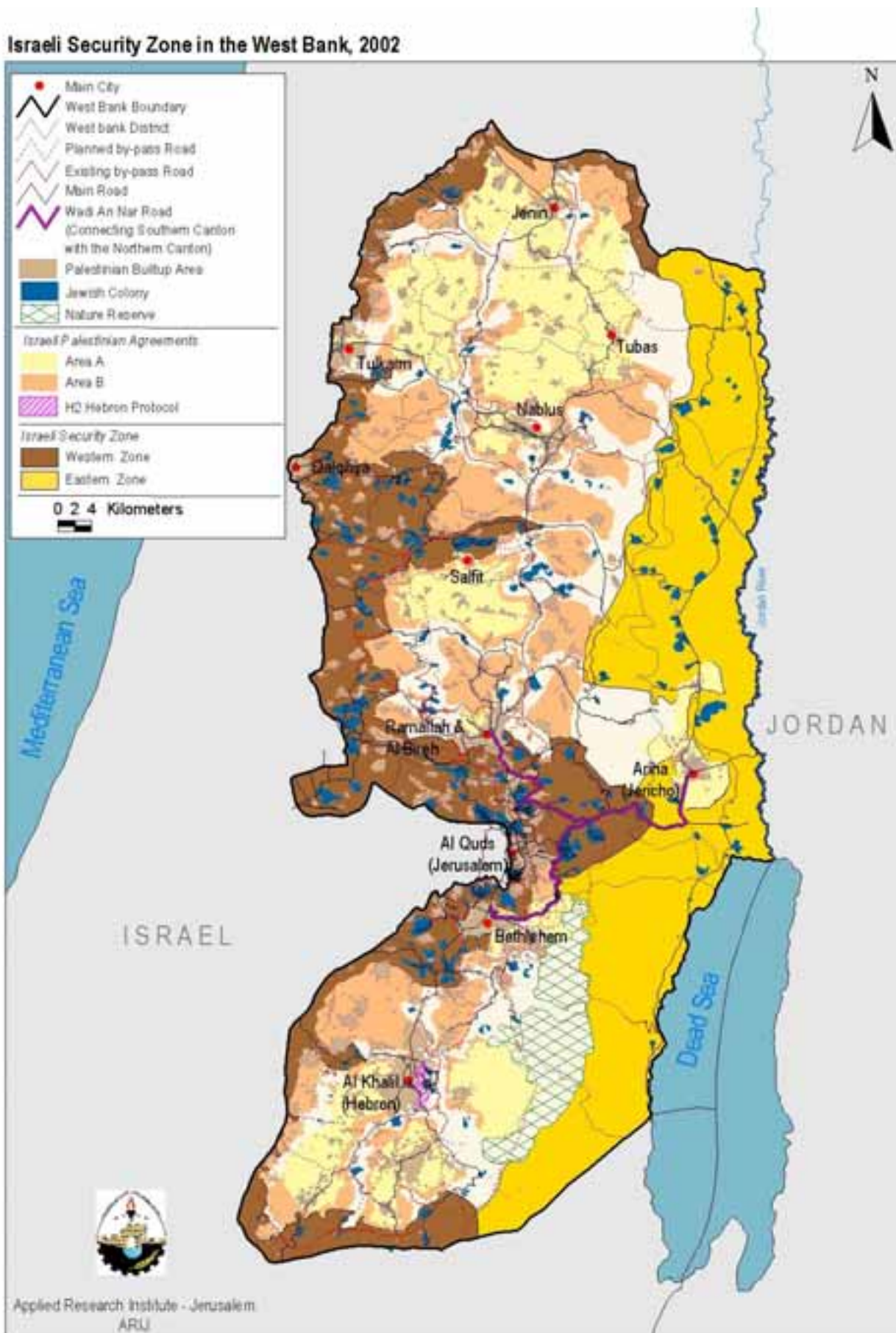
Map 5: Palestinian Expulsion, 1948



Map 6: 1967 Borders: West Bank and Gaza Strip



Map 7: West Bank 2002, including Israeli "Security" Zones and Settlements



Economic Impact

The current state of the Palestinian economy is nothing less than disastrous. Thirty-five years of a brutal Occupation which imposed a tax collection system on the Occupied population that subsidized the military and its actions has resulted in little to no public services such as medical services and education, roads or any other infrastructure. In fact, Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip enforced and maintained cheap labor for Israel. Though the years of Oslo saw some investment and growth that benefited the few, the overall state of the economy did not improve. Unemployment only increased as Israel initiated its closure policy of the West Bank and Gaza in the beginning of the Oslo "Peace Process," rendering tens of thousands jobless, unable to reach their jobs in Israel but living in non-contiguous territories that had no economy of their own. Palestinian lack of autonomy, such as that on its borders, translated into severe restriction of movement on people and goods and meant that Palestinians were forced to continue their dependence on the Israeli economy. The process that on the surface declared greater autonomy for Palestinians was a ten-year period of greater misery, hopelessness and poverty. During Oslo, Palestinians continued to find themselves dependent on outside support which has only increased in the past two years.

The past two years of the Intifada has seen an acceleration of the frightening trends of the years prior, while the destruction to infrastructure has been taking place in unprecedented rates. Air raids, tank fire, shelling, missiles, and shooting at houses, workplaces, public buildings and health facilities has left Palestinian cities and villages as scenes of war-torn areas facing complete demolition. The resulting losses are estimated at hundreds of millions of dollars, not to mention their impact on lives. The military attacks have also affected the water systems and networks, many of which were built through the donations of international organizations during the past ten years, and are now partially or totally destroyed. Palestinian and international organizations alike have stated repeatedly in the past year that the affect on the water and sanitation due to the destruction of the water infrastructure and systems is placing the Occupied Territories on the brink of a health crisis.

The razing of tens of thousands of dunums of agricultural lands, including the uprooting of close to one million trees in the past two years, much of which are deemed centuries old and carry deep cultural and historic significance, continues to affect the thousands of people depending on them for work and income. And while closure and siege has meant further, severe restriction of movement and inability to reach any work that might exist, people have become more dependent upon their lands both for their livelihoods as well as for survival.

The Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees (PARC) estimates the total losses incurred by the uprooting of trees during the Intifada at \$US 150,000,000, while the general losses to the entire agricultural sector, as estimated by the Palestinian Ministry of Agriculture, between September 29, 2000, and June 30, 2002, is over \$US 700,000,000.

The land confiscation for the first phase of the Apartheid Wall will exceed 160,000 dunums (as opposed to the often cited 90,000 dunums for the first phase, which only reflects one part of the first phase, where the Wall is currently being built) and is to include the uprooting of tens of thousands of trees. Much of the lands that will be saved from being razed by the military bulldozers will be inaccessible to their owners by their being on the "wrong" side of the Apartheid Wall. Many villages will be disconnected from the nearest city, which is where they have access to markets to get various goods and production materials and to sell their goods. Areas in between the Apartheid Wall and Israel will be closed off to both areas. Qalqiliya itself, which will be encircled by the Apartheid Wall and will have much of its lands confiscated, is a major producer of fruits and vegetables for the entire West Bank, and a large percentage of the city's population depends on agriculture. According to the Palestinian Central Bureau Statistics, prior to the year 2000, the unemployment rate in Qalqiliya District was 16%. According to the Qalqiliya Workers' Union, the unemployment rate during the year 2002 has reached 70%. The consequences for the entire District are immense.

The repercussions to the entire Palestinian economy should not be underrated. According to the Palestinian Academic Society for the Study of International Affairs (PASSIA) 2002 Diary, as of mid-year 2001, it was estimated that agriculture contributed to around 7% of Palestinian GDP, with a sector dominated by small, family-based farms. Some 90% of the total cultivated area is located in the West Bank. Prior to this past year, when incursions, sieges and closures severely escalated, some 20% of the Palestinian labor force was engaged in agriculture, 75% of which are female.

In one example of the repercussions of the Apartheid Wall's first phase on other areas in the West Bank, the main fruit and vegetable market that the village of Jayous sells its produce, located in Nablus, will lose a substantial portion of its business. The market, run by the Nablus Municipality, will lose the fees it gets from these farmers to sell at the market, some 750,000 New Israeli Shequel, or over \$US 150,000. Truck drivers, loaders and other workers related to the market will also feel substantial losses.

During the Oslo period, and increasingly so today, Israeli goods enter and travel in the West Bank freely, using new settler roads prohibited for use by Palestinians. Closure, curfew, and siege and an Apartheid reality on the ground has meant that moving goods, even from one village to the next, is extremely difficult. Palestinians most often must use agricultural, unpaved roads, while hoping not to encounter one of the hundreds of make-shift military checkpoints or large mounds of debris, dirt and rubble the military places in order to prevent passage. During the Oslo period, Israel was notorious in stopping the export of fruit and vegetable produce along the West Bank's border with Jordan. The produce would be held for days, for "security" reasons, and spoil before it could leave the West Bank. Today, farmers and drivers are usually held up by various military barriers just kilometers away from their point of departure. The stranglehold is in affect.

Section contributors: PARC

Social Impact

The social impact of the Apartheid Wall is, of course, closely integrated to the political, economic, and environmental, as in fact, they are all intertwined. A cursory look at the social consequences of the Apartheid Wall finds that for the communities most directly affected by it, a severe worsening of life under closure and siege will take place. Restrictions of movement under the policy of closure and siege imposed by Israel will manifest itself in increased unemployment and poverty, destruction of property, increase in injury and health problems, as well as dangerous psychological impacts on the Palestinian individual, family, and community.

The effect of living under the constant threat of hunger, in a life best described as an open-air prison, cannot be underrated, nor can the psychological effects of being under constant surveillance by well-armed soldiers who have carte blanche for killing Palestinians. Military patrols and cameras are a large part of life near the Wall, as is looking outside your home, or school window, and seeing an 8-foot structure surrounded by trenches and barbed wires. The feeling of living in a prison is, then, no loner a feeling but a reality.

Social ties between people living in the various localities around the Apartheid Wall will be severely hindered. Family members will be unable to move freely in their visits and exchanges with each other, and in many instances, families will be totally separated by the Apartheid Wall itself, with extreme difficulty, or inability to meet. The deep social relations between Palestinians on each side of the Green Line, including family ties, will also be divided by the Apartheid Wall.

The rural lifestyle of these agricultural villages, strongly integrated with the land and resources, is under the threat of losing its very character. In relation, the continued forcible change to a cheap, dependent labor force only intensifies Palestinian dependence on Israel.

Restriction on movement and disconnect between various areas, including villages with their nearest cities, has grave effects on the availability of all kinds of health services. In addition, various health problems are expected to escalate, such as malnutrition, especially among children. The cutting of areas' water supplies is expected to play a large part of the spread of disease and malnutrition.

The right to an education, from grade school to university, is directly threatened by the restriction of movement. The educational resources available to children will be severely hindered by teachers unable to reach schools and students unable to reach the classroom. It is expected that the already overcrowded school system will be worsened. The already severe restrictions upon students' attempts to reach universities will be heightened.

The right to worship is another aspect of the lives of Palestinians that will be affected. The sieges of the past two years, coupled by the closure policy of the past 10 years, have made places of worship inaccessible to all Palestinians, Christian and Muslim. In the case of the Apartheid Wall in Jerusalem, for the minority that has been able to access the Jerusalem holy sites in the past years, such as the Al Aqsa Mosque, the Apartheid Wall in Jerusalem will make it inaccessible, placing the occupied city further out of bounds for even more Palestinians and continuing to deny all Palestinians the right to their city.

In general, the past two years has seen the movement between the northern and southern West Bank extremely difficult, for many impossible. For most, movement outside of their district has been a rarity. The Wall only furthers this trend.

Ultimately, the fear is of forced migration, either directly forced or due to the unbearable situation.

Impact on Water and the Environment

The natural resources of the West Bank continue to be a major casualty of the Occupation. The systemic uprooting of trees, destruction of agricultural land, and confiscation and destruction of the water supply is devastating. The building of the Apartheid Wall intensifies these problems in the surrounding areas and poses immediate and long-term destruction and degradation to the Palestinian environment and natural resources.

The impact on the water supplies to the areas around the Apartheid Wall is a serious concern. A number of water wells will be lost to communities near the Apartheid Wall. In villages around Qalqiliya and Tulkarem the Palestinian Hydrology Group (PHG) has listed 30 wells that will be lost in the first phase of the Apartheid Wall. These 30 wells have a total discharge of 4 MCM/year. These groundwater wells are located in the Western Groundwater Basin and were drilled prior to 1967. As a result, Palestinians will lose nearly 18% of their share of the Western Groundwater Basin. Table 1 details the 30 wells to be lost in the Apartheid Wall's first phase.

The annual recharge of the Western Groundwater Basin is 362 MCM/year. More than 95% of this recharge occurs in the mountains of the West Bank and yet Palestinians have not been allowed to drill new wells in this basin since 1967. The total Palestinian groundwater withdrawal of nearly 22 MCM/year comes from these wells which were drilled prior to the 1967 Occupation.

This amount of groundwater withdrawal constitutes only 6% of the annual recharge capacity of the basin which mostly originates in the West Bank. This unequal allocation is being maintained by the Israeli Authorities since the Occupation of 1967. Such unequal allocation is a serious obstacle for development in the West Bank. The number of people now living in the West Bank are allocated the same quantity of groundwater as the number of people that lived there in 1967. This implies that Palestine has had no population growth, no additional development needs and no increased social or hygiene requirements for those born during the last 35 years of the Occupation. Given that under the Geneva Convention it is the responsibility of the occupying force to supply people under occupation with their needs, Israel fails again to meet its obligations. As growth and water needs continue in Palestine, water supplies should be substantially increased to meet the Palestinian demand of the past years of the Occupation and now.

The uprooting of trees is also an environmental concern. As stated previously, the first phase of the Apartheid Wall will place between 160,000-180,000 dunums on the Israeli side of the Apartheid Wall. Construction of the Apartheid Wall will uproot and shave tens of thousands of trees. Trees play a major role in preserving the environment and ecological balance of the area. The various kinds of trees, most notably the olive tree, are also a basic part of the Palestinian landscape, culture and heritage. The role of trees could be summarized as follows:

- Improve air quality by trapping and holding harmful dust particles. Leaves absorb carbon dioxide and other poisonous gases and, in turn, replenish the atmosphere with oxygen and utilize carbon dioxide.
- Have a cooling effect on the climate in the hotter months and reduce noise pollution by absorbing sounds.
- Improve water quality by reducing the impact of rainfall — directly resulting in less runoff and erosion. This enhances groundwater recharge and increases the ability of soils to retain moisture. As a result, soil fertility and productivity is increased.
- Stabilize soils and prevent the movement of sediment and chemicals into streams. The roots of trees trap pollutants that would contaminate groundwater.
- Sustain and promote wildlife diversity by providing structure for the local ecosystem and make a suitable habitat for many animals and birds that otherwise would be absent.

Although an environmental impact assessment of the Apartheid Wall has yet to be performed, the trees that have been uprooted will have an impact on the environment as a whole. In addition, the Apartheid Wall itself is a physical barrier to the terrestrial ecosystem.

The footprint (the area of the Apartheid Wall and the associated land mass on either side) will be enormous. In the first phase of construction the area lost as a direct result of the Apartheid Wall could be as much as 11,500 dunums. The footprint of the entire Apartheid wall as proposed could be as much as 35,000 dunums. Construction of such a massive structure and the disturbance of such a large land mass will have significant impact on the ecology of the area.

The associated environmental effects of construction of the Apartheid Wall will be extensive to both the hydrologic system and the flora and fauna of the region. Animals respond to noise pollution caused by construction. They alter their activity patterns and heart rates and production of stress hormones increases. Birds and other animals that communicate by auditory signals may be affected by construction noise. Some species of animals show abnormal reproductive behavior in response to noise. Construction activities kill animals and plants directly and may limit long-term sight productivity for species by exposing low nutrient subsoils, reducing soil water holding capacity and compacting surface materials.

Construction activities will affect the hydrology of the watersheds causing changes in water quantity and quality, stream channel morphology and groundwater well levels. Surface water flow will be altered and there will be an increase in erosion and sedimentation. Evapotranspiration rates will be impacted and thus groundwater levels may be lowered in the vicinity of the Apartheid Wall.

There will be severe long-term environmental effects due to the presence of the Apartheid Wall. As a result of the habitat loss, the microecology of the area is impacted and weeds, pests and pathogens which are often exotic (alien) will possibly invade and thrive in the disturbed areas. These species then spread to adjacent areas becoming a problem for native species and as a result diminish the native diversity of the ecosystem. The Apartheid Wall will create displacement factors that will affect animal distribution and movement patterns and some populations will be fragmented. Habitat fragmentation of both flora and fauna reduce genetic diversity. The remaining small populations are then vulnerable to all the problems associated with rarity: genetic deterioration from inbreeding and random drift in gene frequencies, and environmental catastrophes.

The Apartheid Wall will also cause changes in the microclimate which will also have an affect on the flora and fauna in the area. Migratory patterns of some species will be interrupted and certain bird species may avoid the area thus interrupting their flight patterns. Even pollen dispersal will be interrupted. As with construction activities related to the Apartheid Wall surface water patterns will be interrupted and will have continued affects on the surface water quantity and quality of the area as well as groundwater levels.

As a result of both construction activities and the long-term existence of the wall populations of resident species and groundwater will be impacted. Groundwater and surface water quality and quantity will be reduced. Native flora and fauna populations will be reduced and some species may disappear completely from the area of the Apartheid Wall.

Table 1: Wells to be Lost in the Wall's First Phase

Well No.	Location	Discharge
		(m3/year)
15-20/003	Nazlat 'Isa: Tulkarem	237000
15-20/005	Baqa Al Sharqiya:Tulkarem	194000
15-20/001	Baqa Al Sharqiya:Tulkarem	244000
15-19/036	Attil: Tulkarem	299000
15-19/029	Deir Al Ghusun: Tulkarem	352000
15-18/020	Far'un: Tulkarem	193000
15/18/025	Kafr Sur: Tulkarem	
15-18/005	Falamya: Qalqiliya	175000
15-18/001	Falamya: Qalqiliya	135000
15-18/002	Jayous: Qalqiliya	114000
15-18/004	Falamya: Qalqiliya	130000
15-17/009	Qalqiliya	131000
15-17/012	Jayous: Qalqiliya	124000
14-17//040	Qalqiliya	95000
15-17/010	Qalqiliya	82000
15-17/011	Jayous: Qalqiliya	87000
14-17/031	Qalqiliya	102000
14-17/047	Qalqiliya	151000
14-17/018	Qalqiliya	157000
14-17/029	Qalqiliya	62000
14-17/020	Qalqiliya	17000
14-17/042	Qalqiliya	136000
14-17/010	Habla: Qalqiliya	99000
14-17/011	Qalqiliya	89000
14-17/009	Habla: Qalqiliya	94000
14-17/014	Habla: Qalqiliya	84000
14-17/013	Habla: Qalqiliya	87000
14-17/005	Habla: Qalqiliya	108000
14-17/044	Izbat Salman: Qalqiliya	102000
Total		3880000

Legal Implications

International law prohibits the annexation of land, the incorporation of land under a state's territory by means of conquest or acquisition of territory by force.

Military orders to “seize” Palestinian-owned land in the West Bank have been consistently premised on the basis of an overall strategy of strengthening the Occupation, rather than administering in Occupied Territories. In ensuring Israel can illegally annex as much Palestinian land as possible, and in taking away the livelihoods of Palestinians, whether through curfew, prevention of goods, or land confiscation – the effects are the same. The confiscation of land for the purposes of building the Apartheid Wall can be considered to amount to illegal annexation as Israel is seeking to acquire this part of the territory to incorporate it into its own territory. The land and property confiscated from the Occupied Territories for the purposes of building the Wall is being treated as lying within Israel’s borders.

The military orders and the construction of the Apartheid Wall violate basic principles of international human rights and humanitarian law. Israel has exceeded any legitimate powers of an occupying power under international humanitarian law by exercising more than a temporary, administrative role in its permanent confiscation of land and annexation of property within occupied territories for construction of the wall.

Under the Fourth Geneva Convention, to which Israel is a signatory, the destruction or seizure of property in Occupied Territories is forbidden, as is collective punishment. Article 47 outlines that Occupying Powers must not make changes to property in occupied territories. Requisition of land in occupied territories is prohibited under Article 52 of the Hague Regulations of 1907, which is a part of customary international law. Occupiers cannot make any changes in status of occupied territories. Israel's Apartheid Wall seizes, destroys and permanently changes the status of Occupied Territories.

The Fourth Geneva Convention states in article 47 that “protected persons who are in occupied territory shall not be deprived, in any case or in any manner whatsoever, of the benefits of the present Convention by any change introduced, as the result of the occupation of a territory, into the institutions or government of the said territory, nor by any agreement concluded between the authorities of the occupied territories and the Occupying Power, nor by any annexation by the latter of the whole or part of the occupied territory.”

Moreover, such extensive destruction of the private property carried out wantonly and without genuine military necessity amounts to a grave breach under article 147 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, namely a war crime. Illegal confiscation and annexation of land also violates the general principle under international law of inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, as reaffirmed by UN Security Council Resolution 242.

Both the confiscation and destruction of land and the building of the Apartheid Wall violate the Palestinian people’s Right to Property, Right to Work, Right to an Adequate Standard of Living, and Right to Freedom of Movement, as guaranteed by international law.

Israeli sources say that Israel's Apartheid Wall is being built for “security purposes,” however, the destruction and confiscation of land effectively punishes the entire population, in particular those whose homes and land have been destroyed and land permanently confiscated. International humanitarian law prohibits collective penalties.

While closure (and its accompanying measure, curfew) have been repeatedly and consistently denounced as a form of collective punishment, leading to widespread unemployment, poverty and hunger; denying access to education, health services and religious worship; Israel’s Apartheid Wall promises more of the same and worse. Palestinians between the Apartheid Wall and Israel or the West Bank, shall be denied the

remaining freedom of movement they have left, or shall have to work through an arbitrary, unwieldy Israeli administration.

The deliberate policies implemented under the Israeli occupation have all worked to impoverish the population as a whole.

Apartheid

The form of apartheid Israel applies against Palestinians fulfills all elements of the crime of apartheid as defined under the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid (1976), which expressly states that the crime of apartheid “shall include similar policies and practices of racial segregation and discrimination as practiced in southern Africa.”(art.2).

As stated in a report on the Apartheid Wall by the Palestinian human rights organization LAW:

“The Apartheid Convention declares the 'crime of apartheid' to be a crime against humanity and punishable by State Parties to the Convention, or by an international penal tribunal having jurisdiction over state parties that accept its jurisdiction. It sets out the elements that comprise the crime of apartheid and the liabilities for perpetrating the crime.... 'Apartheid' has been legally defined by a number of international treaties as a war crime and crime against humanity, with a broader meaning and applicability, including under Protocol 1 to the Geneva Conventions; the International Criminal Court Statute 1998, and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid 1973.

“These treaties legally define ‘apartheid’ as ‘a system of institutionalised racial segregation and discrimination for the purpose of establishing and maintaining domination by one racial group ... over another ... and systematically oppressing them’. The Apartheid Convention comprehensively lists examples of inhuman acts designed to establish and maintain domination and systematic oppression.

“Israeli actions/policies fulfil these elements including: Denial of the right to life and liberty of person; Murder; Infliction of serious bodily or mental harm, by infringement of their freedom or dignity, or by subjecting them to torture, or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; By arbitrary arrest and illegal imprisonment; Deliberate imposition of living conditions calculated to cause a group their physical destruction in whole or in part; Legislative or other measures calculated to prevent a group from participation in the political, social, economic and cultural life of the country and the deliberate creation of conditions preventing the full development of such a group denying their basic human rights and freedoms (including Right to work; Right to form recognised trade unions; Right to education; Right to leave and to return to their country; Right to nationality; Right to freedom of movement and residence; Right to freedom of opinion and expression; Right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association); Measures (including legislative) designed to divide the population along racial lines by: Creation of separate reserves and ghettos for the members of a racial group, Prohibition of mixed marriages, and Expropriation of landed property; Exploitation of labour; Persecution of organisations and persons by depriving them of fundamental rights and freedoms because they oppose apartheid.”

The Apartheid Wall is designed to divide the population along racial lines by creation of separate reserves and ghettos for the members of a racial group; separation of Palestinian families/communities; controls on freedom of movement through the system of ID cards, curfews and closures; and the expropriation of landed property.

Section contributor: LAW

The Campaign

Campaign History and Scope

The Apartheid Wall Campaign was born out of an October 2, 2002, meeting of the Palestinian Environmental NGOs Network (PENGON) General Assembly, where it was decided that the Network and its members must make the Apartheid Wall a priority in its work, and stating clearly that successful efforts on behalf of the Apartheid Wall must be joint and widespread, both in local efforts, and international advocacy.

The Campaign itself sees its aim as two fold: on the one hand, to work and mobilize against the Apartheid Wall and its immediate and expected consequences to environmental and human rights; and on the other hand, to shed light on the expanding stranglehold of the Occupation, marked by checkpoints, closures, siege, settlements, and the Apartheid Wall. The larger context is the underlying motivation behind the Campaign.

Amidst the tragedy, the Campaign is an important sign and direction of coordination among NGOs and between the NGOs sector and other local and national actors. The Campaign looks to integrate local needs and efforts with information collection and international advocacy.

Campaign Organizers

The Campaign is run by a volunteer Coordinating Committee (CC) composed of the Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees (PARC), the Palestinian Hydrology Group (PHG), the Applied Research Institute—Jerusalem (ARIJ), LAW-The Palestinian Society for the Protection of Human Rights and the Environment, the Land Research Center (LRC), the Union of Palestinian Medical Relief Committees (UPMRC), and the Society for the Development and Protection of the Environment all of whom are PENGON members. The CC is headed by PENGON, which is the Campaign Coordinator and heads the Campaign Center.

Following the first two CC meetings, subcommittees for the Campaign have been formed. The three subcommittees are: International Advocacy and Media, Research and Information Collection, and Social Mobilization.

Several public meetings have also been held in areas in the northern areas affected by the Apartheid Wall, and consequently local councils, farmers unions, and other grassroots organizations have formally joined the Campaign. The first two Emergency Centers for the Campaign have been established in where information collection, meetings, and public and legal services can be provided to those affected by the Apartheid Wall.

The CC members have volunteered staff and other resources to the Campaign, including the funding of the Emergency Centers and providing field officers and researchers. The Campaign is overwhelmingly a volunteer effort.

The Campaign is open to any organizations or individuals who would like to join and supports the Campaign efforts.

Campaign Emergency Centers

At present, there are being set up three Emergency Centers in the Jenin, Tulkarem, and Qalqiliya, two of which have already begun working. The Emergency Centers look to answer to local needs, provide legal and other forms of support and training, and to collect information. They are also important places where meetings among the communities and with local and international solidarity groups and the media can take place, and where projects and social mobilization coordination begins. They are the bridge between the efforts of the NGOs and the local, grassroots mobilization and needs. These Centers are deeply rooted in the needs of these communities.

The CC members have volunteered staff and other resources to the Campaign, including partial funding of the Emergency Centers.

Other Emergency Centers will be established if needed.

Information Collection and Research

The Campaign has noted from its inception that the information that currently exists regarding the Apartheid Wall and its immediate and long-term consequences is scattered. It is therefore no surprise that the Campaign itself is the coordinated efforts of those NGOs that have been most active in various efforts surrounding the Apartheid Wall. For this report, the Coordinating Committee members, who have all individually been working on particular aspects of the Apartheid Wall, have brought their information together. This report therefore was an important, initial exercise in bridging information and, consequently, of discovering where there is a need for further information collection.

The role of information collection has direct bearing on the ability to campaign successfully against the Apartheid Wall and on behalf of the families, landowners, and villages affected by it. The inability to access basic information from Israel and the military surrounding the Apartheid Wall only increases the need to be prepared and aware, in order to know what to expect. In order to answer to various local needs, the Campaign, through direct contact, must have knowledge of what those needs are and what present and future problems the Apartheid Wall will produce. Generally stated, information has direct bearing on the Campaign strategy.

Currently, a questionnaire is being circulated to the inhabitants of the areas affected by the Apartheid Wall to assess the actual losses in terms of water resources and land.

On the level of international advocacy, there is a fundamental need to provide people with updated information on what is taking place on the ground, to ensure their appreciation for what is actually taking place. Ultimately, the facts are so disturbing that they play an important role in emphasizing the urgency of the Campaign.

The Campaign's Research and Information subcommittee is responsible for overseeing the efforts of Campaign researchers and field officers, most of which are employees of the participating organizations. The subcommittee outlines a work plan and time table for information collection, provides guidance and support for the methodology and questionnaires, and ensures that the information is accurate and comprehensive. This report, and any following reports, are the overriding responsibility of the subcommittee.

The Emergency Centers are also filling an important role in information collection.

International Advocacy, Media and the Campaign Website

As is the case with all Palestine solidarity, the Campaign looks to international support and mobilization in the attempt to stop the Apartheid Wall, and the Occupation. The Campaign is looking to create greater awareness around the Apartheid Wall and its repercussions on people and the environment. The Campaign hopes to mobilize supporters to make the issue heard in their own countries and areas, to pressure governments and other decision makers and actors through popular, grassroots pressure which is to include the targeting of various publics' opinions on the Apartheid Wall and the Occupation. The Campaign looks strongly at the various Palestine solidarity groups worldwide to support its efforts.

A large, varied group that has extensive ties worldwide is the international organization, including the international NGOs (humanitarian, legal, and solidarity groups), as well as international governmental organizations such as humanitarian/donor organizations, many of whom have offices in Palestine. The Campaign looks to these organizations to support the Campaign efforts in various ways, including vocalizing and acting in opposition to the destruction caused by the Wall and disseminating Campaign-related information. In addition, international donor organizations ought to speak-out against the destruction of development and other projects funded by them that have been destroyed or deterred by the Apartheid Wall.

Part of the international advocacy efforts entails meeting with international delegations visiting Palestine, as well as mobilizing interest among people to come, see, and show their solidarity and outrage against the Apartheid Wall. The Campaign also seeks volunteers to support its work in Palestine, in their home towns, cities, and countries, and with translation work to ensure that information is readily available to all interested. To date there have been a number of demonstrations, initiated by international solidarity groups, at the site of the Wall.

Another important target of the international advocacy is the international media. To date, there has been quite a bit of media coverage on the Apartheid Wall, both internationally and locally, which seems to have hit its peak in June 2002. A brief survey by the Campaign of American and English-language media in Europe demonstrates that most of the better known media have "covered" the Apartheid Wall in some way. The overall coverage has been superficial and, though acknowledging the land confiscation around the Apartheid Wall, downplays the consequences of the Apartheid Wall and the immense violations of international laws by Israel by taking this unilateral step. Most of the coverage is misrepresentative about the nature/role of the Apartheid Wall, representing the Apartheid Wall as a border.

The ElectronicIntifada, a website that could be said to be based out of the US, that works to counter the spin of the "Israeli machine," has had a series of articles and posted a number of weblogs on the Apartheid Wall which were one of the few critical, persistent attempts to shed light on the actual implications of the Apartheid Wall.

The Campaign plans to spend more energy looking to see how to present information internationally in order to counter the spin and shed light on the Apartheid Wall. Yet, the fact that the media has been interested may be an important opening for the Campaign to address the media and encourage follow-up, which may give exposure to the Campaign and may translate into the Campaign having the mainstream media as a resource. This will also be an important form of support for those working on and mobilizing on behalf of the Campaign.

The Campaign Website will be an important tool in which information dissemination internationally will take place, and where the Campaign will be in contact with and provide resources for solidarity groups and individuals. The website will also encompass particular campaigns and calls revolving around the Apartheid Wall. The information presented on the site is to be thorough and regular, and is to closely integrate the repercussions of the Apartheid Wall and its cause, the Occupation. Fact sheets, reports, photos, presentations, and maps are just some of the resources that will be available on the site.

The Campaign Website is expected to be up by the end of November, and will be found at www.stopthewall.org

Life amidst the Apartheid Wall: Case Studies

The Village of Jayous

Considering that the actual groundwork and building of the Wall has already begun in the northern area of and around Qalqiliya, much of the detailed information that exists to date is for the Qalqiliya District in general and the village of Jayous in particular.

Jayous village is situated east of Qalqiliya city and has around 3,000 inhabitants. Up to present, 8,600 dunums, or some 72% of Jayous's lands, have been confiscated and will fall behind the Apartheid Wall, separating the residential area from its lands. Of the 3,000 inhabitants of Jayous, 70% are totally dependent on agriculture, while the other 30% are partially dependent. At least 300 families in Jayous will lose their only source of living and are hence subject to poverty, deprivation and famine.

Estimates produced by the Apartheid Wall Campaign Emergency Center in the Qalqiliya area break down the types of trees and agriculture that is to be confiscated within the 8,600 dunums as follows: 3,000 dunums of olive trees; 2,000 dunums of wheat, barley, and other grains; 1,200 dunums of citrus; 1,500 dunums of carob, avocado, almonds, and other trees; 500 dunums of open fields of vegetable; and 100 dunums of greenhouses.

The total loss per annum of produce of the abovementioned land is 250,000 boxes of citrus, 200,000 boxes of vegetables, and over 70 tons of olive oil. The repercussion to the unemployment of the village is such that 65,000 workdays per year will be lost.

In addition, of the 7 wells to be confiscated and to be behind the Wall in the Jayous area, 3 of them are the complete property and used solely for Jayous, 2 are used jointly with the adjacent village of Falameya, and 2 with the town of Qalqiliya.

By the 31st of October 2002, 750 olive trees had been uprooted in Jayous. It is expected that the total number of trees to be uprooted in lands belonging to Jayous and the adjacent Falameya to be around 20,000.

Measuring from the built-up area (residential) area of Jayous until the Green Line is 6 kilometers, all of which is land that is to be confiscated. The 6 kilometers is also significant in that it is the same width of the Gaza Strip.

To further put things in perspective, the catastrophic losses that Jayous is and will face, as described above, represents only 5% of all the losses for the first phase of the Apartheid Wall. Therefore, Jayous' losses in land and agriculture represent less than 2% of all the losses that will be incurred due to the entire Apartheid Wall.

The Story of Hafez Ahmad Khaled from Jayous

Hafez Ahmad Khaled (Abu Mohamed) from Jayous, 54, married, with 4 children ages 25-13 is one of the many tragic stories of the village of Jayous, near Qalqiliya.

Infected with polio at the age of three, Abu Mohamed lost his right leg. From his father, he inherited 11 centuries-old olive trees in the eastern part of the village, and two dunums of citrus trees on the western part, bordering the Green Line and the settlement Tzur Ygal, established in 1991.

Abu Mohamed left his village in 1980, 13 years into the Israeli Occupation, for Kuwait. After 15 years in Kuwait, and upon being expelled along with thousands of Palestinians without any of their belongings, following the Gulf War, he returned to Palestine in 1995. Abu Mohamed left Kuwait with the shirt on his back, and lost everything, returning to Palestine the same way he left. During these 15 years in Kuwait, Abu Mohamed proudly recounts that his children would come home to Palestine each year, staying with family in their village.

In 1998, in a moment that Abu Mohamed calls the greatest in his life, he was given by his uncle 9.5 dunums (2 acres) of unreclaimed land close to the neighboring village of Falameya. He then decided to dedicate himself to reclaiming the land, and he and his children went to their land everyday for an entire year, where he would teach them how to build terraces and prepare the land for cultivation. Because of his handicap, Abu Mohamed would work the land sitting down, sliding across the fields, having along with his children, cultivated the entire 9.5 dunums with their own hands. With the partial support of the Palestinian Agricultural Relief Committees (PARC), he purchased large-size seedlings of olive trees which he and his family planted, while for irrigation he built a cistern to collect water. This 70 cubic meter cistern was partially-funded by the Palestinian Hydrology Group (PHG).

This year, 2002, was to be the first in many years of fruit production by the trees he had planted himself. This would never happen as the Israeli military confiscated most of his lands before the harvest season began, in order to build the Apartheid Wall right on his land. His well was also confiscated and, to date, the military has already uprooted a large portion of his trees, while the ones that have not been destroyed will either eventually be destroyed or be situated behind the Wall, where he will not be able to reach them.

Six months ago, in the early morning hours, the Israeli military arrived for the first time on his land in order to demarcate where the Apartheid Wall would be located. At that time, there was a confrontation between the farmers and the military, and his son 'Amr, age 19, was shot several times by the military in the upper parts of both his legs, which would cause irreversible nerve damage. For the past six months, and until now, he is in a rehabilitation center in Ramallah. Though it is certain that he will never return to his previous state, the doctors have warned the family that 'Amr, like his father, will probably lose one of his legs.

The only land that is to remain with Abu Mohamed are the eleven ancient trees he inherited from his father that are located in the eastern part of the village. All the other lands have already been destroyed or are soon to be confiscated for the Apartheid Wall.

The Story of Abdellatif Hamdan from Far'un

The situation of Abdellatif Fares Ali Hamdan, aged 53 years and a father of ten school-aged children, is not worse than that of his neighbors who woke up one day to the noise of the bulldozers that were leveling their lands and uprooting their trees.

Abdellatif owns 80 dunums of agricultural land that is grown with thyme, guava, lemon and olive trees. Abdellatif says, "I saw the bulldozers working and I thought they were opening a small road near Al-Taybeh checkpoint, but then I saw that they were leveling a land grown with wheat and are close to reaching my land. They kept going and started uprooting the trees in my land. I could not believe my eyes and yet they kept working until they leveled some 20 meters of my land."

Abdellatif then added, "I could not stay at home, watching from the window how the bulldozers are destroying one tree after the other. I could not stop myself from running towards the soldiers when I saw them moving towards a fig tree that is as old as my eldest son. I imagined that they would spare it if I told him how dear this tree is to me. Of course the story did not make any difference to them and in two minutes I saw the fig tree lying on the ground." Abdellatif continues, "After leveling the land they dug a

ditch 3 meters deep along the road they opened on my land so that nobody can pass. I asked the soldiers why they are doing this and they explained that they are executing the Israeli Supreme Court orders to level his land in addition to thousands of other dunums to build the so-called defense wall”.

Abdellatif is one of the farmers from Far'un village, near Tulkarem, who depends fully on agriculture for his living. Today, not only is a substantial part of his land destroyed but he is also unable to reach the rest of his land that now lies on the other side of the wall as it has been declared a military zone.

Case study of Abdellatif Hamdan provided by PARC

Rachel's Tomb—Bethlehem

Rachel's Tomb is considered to be one of the historical monumental sites in the city of Bethlehem and a part of its heritage. In addition, the people of Bethlehem and tourists of all around the world of different religions traditionally visited the Tomb. In the past two years, the Israeli occupying forces prevented Christians and Moslems from visiting the Tomb, denying Palestinians the right to worship, Moslems the right to bury their dead people in their nearby cemetery freely, and limiting this shrine to Jewish groups in a primary action to annex the Tomb to the city of Jerusalem.

In 1996, Israel's Ministry of Religion renovated the site adding a new building to the eastern side of the Tomb, which is not mentioned in the Oslo agreement. The new Rachel's Tomb consists of the previous structure housed within the expanded and reinforced edifice in addition to 2 military guard towers. As a result, the religious site became an Israeli military camp that is used as a firing position, as has been the case against Palestinian demonstrators during the Al Aqsa Intifada.

Since the start of the Al Aqsa Intifada in September, 2000, and in order to prevent any Palestinian movement beside the entrance of the Tomb, Israeli Occupying forces have closed the main road between Bethlehem and Jerusalem and have occupied several Palestinian residential buildings around the Tomb and transformed them into military posts.

On the 11th of September, 2002, the Israeli security cabinet approved keeping Rachel's Tomb under Israeli control by including the Tomb within the Separation Zone. According to the primary information obtained from the Israeli media, the municipality of Jerusalem and the Israeli occupying forces are going to pave a new road in order to allow free access to the Tomb for all Israeli citizens. The path of this new road was never published officially. The road is apparently connecting the Tomb with 'Road 60' and is going to be 1 km in length, with a 10 meter-high wall—the Apartheid Wall-- on both sides of the road (according to Israeli media). The exact path of the road is still not clear, but the borders of the Apartheid Wall are already dug and iron razor wire has been put in its trenches.

About twelve to fifteen Palestinian residential buildings near this new road are under threat of evacuation or demolition, in addition to the Armenian Church property and an Islamic cemetery.

A small industrial complex that consists of about 10 car-repairing garages and a furniture factory are also under the threat of demolition. This road is passing mainly through agricultural lands planted with olive trees, and as a result about 400 olive trees are going to be uprooted and lands on both sides of the road will be confiscated or shaved for “security” reasons.

Rachel's Tomb was always a part of Bethlehem city, and a pilgrimage place for people of the three monotheistic religions. Today the Tomb is becoming a military camp and open only for Jews. As planned by the Israeli government, it is going to be annexed to Jerusalem.

Rachel's Tomb case study provided by ARIJ

Photographs



Photo 1: The Apartheid Wall with Watchtower, Qalqiliya, October 2002



Photo 2: Future Location of the Wall, as Marked by the Israeli Military, Water Cistern near Jayous, October 2002



Photo 3: Land, Olive Trees, Cistern and Greenhouses to be Confiscated for the Wall. In the back, Israeli settlement to be Annexed into Israel with the Wall's Creation, Jayous, November 2002



Photo 4: Centuries-old Olive Trees to be Uprooted. Center, Tree Shaved by the Military, Jayous, November 2002



Photo 5: Israeli Bulldozer Uprooting Olive Trees in Jayous, November 2002



Photo 5: Palestinians and Internationals Demonstrate against the Wall, Jayous, Novmeber 2002

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