

Semi Annual Report: Israeli Violations against the Palestinian Farmers- 2014

The Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC) followed up intensely the Israeli violations against the Palestinian farmers to expose the brutality of the occupation to the local and international world. In addition, UAWC supported the Palestinian farmers to strengthen their land – the land of the parents and grandparents.

The violations mentioned in the report are just a part of the Israeli violations against the Palestinian agricultural sector for not all of the violations are reported and documented.

The report is divided into three sections: trees uprooting especially the olive trees for their cultural and economic importance in the lives of the Palestinian farmers, human rights and farmers' rights violations, and violations against the fishermen.



First Section: Trees Uprooting

During the first six months of 2014 the Israeli army and Israeli settlers uprooted **more than 8480 trees** most of them were olive trees. The uprooting was as follows:

January

- Israeli settlers from Esh Kodesh settlement uprooted 27 olive seedlings belonging to three Palestinian families from village of Qusra (Nablus)¹.
- Israeli settlers cut down, or otherwise damaged, 106 Palestinian-owned olive trees. Two thirds of the trees were damaged in Jabal Jales area in Hebron Old City, by Israeli settlers from Havat Gal settlement outpost. The rest of the trees were damaged in the village of Huwwara (Nablus), and on land close to the Israeli settlement of Bracha².
- Israeli forces uprooted and seized 1,000 olive-tree saplings planted the day before in Wadi Qana (Salfit), in Area C³.
- Israeli settlers from Rehelim settlement damaged 20 olive seedlings - Nablus⁴.



¹ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_01_16_english.pdf

² http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_01_23_english.pdf

³ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_01_30_english.pdf

⁴ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_01_30_english.pdf

February

- Israeli settlers from Giv'at Hara'el settlement outpost uprooted and vandalized 800 olive saplings in Sinjil village –Ramallah⁵.
- Israeli settlers from the Giv'at Hara'el settlement uprooted or otherwise damaged 800 olive saplings, which were recently planted in Sinjil village (Ramallah) through a donor-funded project.⁶
- Israeli settlers uprooted 80 olive trees near Aqraba village (Nablus) on land adjacent to Itamar settlement⁷
- Israeli settlers from Susiya settlement uprooted 200 olive saplings owned by a Palestinian family from the village of Susiya (Hebron)⁸
- Israeli bulldozers uprooted around 300 olive saplings in Wadi Foukin village (Bethlehem)⁹
- Israeli settlers uprooted 700 olive saplings in an area names Al Zahrat near the village of Turmsa'ia (Ramallah)¹⁰
- Israeli settlers uprooted 700 olive saplings near the village of Al-Khader (Bethlehem)¹¹



⁵ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_01_30_english.pdf

⁶ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_02_13_english.pdf

⁷ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_02_13_english.pdf

⁸ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_02_21_english.pdf

⁹ <http://www.maannews.net/eng/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=671358>

¹⁰ <http://www.wafa.ps/arabic/index.php?action=detail&id=168750>

¹¹ <http://www.maannews.net/ARB/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=675771>

March

- Israeli settlers from Qedumim settlement uprooted 155 olive saplings from Kafr Qaddum village – Qalqilya¹².
- Israeli settlers uprooted 40 olive trees south east Yata- Hebron¹³.
- Israeli settlers sprayed 55 olive trees with chemicals and damaged them in Jalud village- Nablus¹⁴.
- Israeli settlers vandalized 85 olive trees in villages adjacent to Nablus¹⁵.
- Israeli settlers uprooted around 400 olive trees in Turms Aya village- Ramallah¹⁶.
- Israeli settlers from Adei Ad settlement outpost uprooted 1,200 olive seedlings on land owned by a family from Turmus'aya village- Ramallah¹⁷.
- Israeli settlers from S'de Bo'az outpost uprooted 60 olive saplings owned by five farmers from Husan (Bethlehem)¹⁸.
- Settlers from Yitzhar uprooted 50 olive trees owned by two farmers from Huwwara village (Nablus)¹⁹.
- Settlers from Migron settlement outpost cut down 60 olive trees that belong to a family from Mikhmas village (Ramallah)²⁰.

April

- The Israeli settlers from the Neve Daniel North settlement uprooted around 600 olive trees and stole some of them from the northern land of Bethlahem governorate²¹.
- The settlers uprooted 150 olive trees from Sousia village – Hebron²².
- The settlers damaged 35 olive trees in the land near Qedumim settlement – Qalqilya²³.
- The settlers from Yitzhar settlement uprooted around 50 olive saplings from the land of Nablus Governorate²⁴.
- Israeli forces bulldozed about 12 dunums of land in Khalet al Nahla area in Bethlahem Governorate which caused the uprooting of 300 olive saplings and damaged retaining walls and fences²⁵.

¹² http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_3_7_english.pdf

¹³ <http://www.wafa.ps/arabic/index.php?action=detail&id=170202>

¹⁴ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_3_20_english.pdf

¹⁵ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_3_28_english.pdf

¹⁶ <http://www.nbprs.ps/news.php?action=show&id=18655>

¹⁷ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_03_english.pdf

¹⁸ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_03_english.pdf

¹⁹ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_03_english.pdf

²⁰ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_03_english.pdf

²¹ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_10_english.pdf

²² http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_10_english.pdf

²³ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_10_english.pdf

²⁴ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_10_english.pdf

²⁵ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_16_english.pdf

- Settlers from Betar Illit settlement threw a Molotov cocktail on Palestinian-owned olive trees in Nahalen village in Hebron which damaged 25 olive trees²⁶.
- Israeli settlers damaged 220 olive trees in Howara village – Nablus²⁷.
- Israeli settlers uprooted 80 olive trees in Ras Karkar village – Ramallah²⁸.
- Israeli settlers uprooted 30 olive trees in Bani Hussein village – Silfeet²⁹.



May

- Settlers from Sde Bo'az settlement outpost in Bethlehem damaged 100 grape vines and almond tree³⁰.
- Israeli settlers set fire to 22 trees near Revava settlement - Salfit³¹.
- Israeli settlers set fire to 20 sacks of harvested wheat near Mitzpe Yatir outpost – Hebron³².
- Settlers of Kokhav Hashahar settlement burn two dunums of land planted with wheat – Ramallah³³.

²⁶ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_16_english.pdf

²⁷ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_17_english.pdf

²⁸ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_17_english.pdf

²⁹ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_4_17_english.pdf

³⁰ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_30_english.pdf

³¹ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_30_english.pdf

³² http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_30_english.pdf

³³ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_22_english.pdf

- Settlers from Betar Illit settlement damaged 48 Palestinian owned olive trees – Bethlehem³⁴.
- The Israeli military bulldozed around eight dunums of land next to Nahhalin village in Bethlahem’s Governorate and uprooted 600 almond trees aged over ten years³⁵.
- The Israeli military damaged approximately 50 dunums of land planted with wheat near Jinba village in the Masafer Yatta area – Hebron³⁶.
- The Israeli settlers cut down 50 grape vines belonging to farmers from Beit Ummar village – Hebron³⁷.
- The Israeli settlers uprooted five olive trees belonging to farmers from Beit Ummar village – Hebron³⁸.
- The Israeli settlers uprooted at least 80 Palestinian olive seedlings were uprooted near Qadumim settlement in the governorate of Qalqilya³⁹.
- The Israeli settlers uprooted 54 Palestinian olive seedlings were uprooted near Bat’Ayin settlement in the governorate of Bethlehem⁴⁰.
- The Israeli settlers uprooted 46 Palestinian olive seedlings were uprooted near Talmon settlement in the governorate of Ramallah⁴¹.
- Israeli settlers cut down 25 olive and almond trees near Eli settlement – Nablus⁴².

³⁴ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_22_english.pdf

³⁵ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_22_english.pdf

³⁶ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_15_english.pdf

³⁷ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_15_english.pdf

³⁸ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_15_english.pdf

³⁹ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_08_english.pdf

⁴⁰ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_08_english.pdf

⁴¹ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_08_english.pdf

⁴² http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_6_06_english.pdf



June

- Israeli settlers from the Kokhav Hashahar settlement (Ramallah) set fire to and damaged a six dunum plot of land, belonging to a farmer from the adjacent village of Deir Jarir, planted with wheat⁴³.
- Israeli settlers set fire and damaged Palestinian agricultural property, including ten dunums of land planted with wheat near Giv'at Zeev settlement (Jerusalem); and an agricultural room and 50 olive trees in Husan village, in two separate incidents⁴⁴.



⁴³ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_6_13_english.pdf

⁴⁴ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_6_19_english.pdf

Second Section: Human rights and farmers' rights violations

During the reports' period, a number of farmers' homes, green houses and sheep shelters were demolished by the Israeli occupation. Moreover, the Israeli army and settlers directly physically assaulted the Palestinian farmers in their land. The violations were as follows:

January

- A Palestinian man from the herding community of Bir al 'Idd in south Hebron, was beaten and hit with an iron stick by a group of Israeli settlers from the Mitzpe Ya'ir settlement outpost, during clashes that erupted when the man was working with his family on land in the vicinity of the settlement⁴⁵.
- A group of Israeli settlers from Yizhar settlement raided the village of Urif (Nablus), where they damaged a water reservoir funded by an international donor, currently under construction⁴⁶.
- A 60-year-old Palestinian herder from Um al Kheir (Hebron) lost conscious after being attacked by settlers from Karmel settlement, while grazing his sheep in the area⁴⁷.
- According to the weekly reports of United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the Israeli military demolished 89 Palestinian buildings and structures in areas C in the Governorates of Jericho and Nablus and Jerusalem. The demolitions resulted in the replacement of 276 individuals half of them are children.



⁴⁵http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_01_10_english.pdf

⁴⁶http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_01_10_english.pdf

⁴⁷http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_01_30_english.pdf

February

- The Israeli authorities demolished eight residential and animal structures belonging to three herding families from the communities of Al Jiftlik (Jericho) and Khirbet Yarza (Tubas) in the Jordan Valley, in areas designated as “closed military zones” for training purposes.⁴⁸
- The Israeli authorities demolished another nine animal and commercial structures in the Area C parts of Deir Dibwan (Ramallah) and Al ‘Ezariya (Jerusalem) villages.⁴⁹
- over 30 Palestinian families (230 people, including 90 children) from four herding communities in the northern Jordan Valley (Tubas) were forcibly evacuated from their homes, for periods ranging from four to 14 hours, to make way for Israeli military training in the area.⁵⁰



⁴⁸http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_02_21_english.pdf

⁴⁹

http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_02_21_english.pdf

⁵⁰

http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_02_13_english.pdf

March

March/2014 recorded at least 17 Israeli violations against the Palestinian farmers in their land. The most important violation took place on the 6th of March against a member of UAWC's agricultural committee Haytham Ghaleb Al- Haj Ahmad (37 years) in Al- Mughayer village east Ramallah. The settlers assaulted him in the agricultural land of Al-Mughayer which led to his transfer to the hospital⁵¹.



April

During April/2014 66 Palestinian homes and structures were demolished in many Palestinian communities which caused in the replacement of more than 130 Palestinians nearly half of them are children according to the weekly reports to United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

⁵¹ <http://dl.alquds.com:8080/pdf/b8689424ab0c742107e0d8729649af39/533ba5ca/pdf-docs/2014/3/7/page1.pdf>



May

May/2014 recorded numerous Israeli violations against the Palestinian farmers in their land. One of the violations took place on May 13th when seven settlers from Kokhav Hashahar settlement in the Governorate of Ramallah physically assaulted a shepherd when he was grazing his sheep and injured him⁵². Also on 29 May, Israeli settlers stoned, without injuring, a shepherd while he was herding his sheep near Bracha settlement⁵³.

According to the weekly reports to United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), In the Gaza strip a 16-year-old boy collecting hay for animals approximately 400 meters from the fence was shot in the back resulting in a permanent disability, and another boy (17 years old) collecting hay for animals approximately 600 meters from the fence was injured.

Another farmer was shot and injured on 21 May during a land leveling operation carried out by Israeli forces inside Gaza while reportedly working his land approximately 400 meters from the fence.

⁵² http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_5_30_english.pdf

⁵³ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_weekly_report_2014_6_06_english.pdf

During May/2014 85 Palestinian homes and structures were demolished in many Palestinian communities which caused in the replacement of more than 170 Palestinians according to the weekly reports to United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).



June

According to the weekly reports to United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), 19 Palestinian structures in Area C in the West Bank were demolished. The structures included vegetable booths and an animal shelters.

Third Section: Fishermen

The first half of 2014 recorded at least 96 accidents where the Israeli naval forces opened fire at the fishermen approaching the Israeli-imposed six-nautical-mile fishing limits for Palestinians, forcing them to the shore, according to the weekly reports to United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Some incidents resulted in the injury fishermen, the seizure of fishing equipment and the detention of fishermen.

