

1.2010-2011

The following chronologies list the main events that unfolded in the Occupied Palestinian Territory during the years 2010 and 2011. The *Palestine* chronologies 2010 and 2011 are followed by the more specific *Jerusalem* chronologies for those two years, which list events related to or having occurred in the city.

2 0 1 0

P a l e s t i n e

JANUARY

Jan. 5: PM Salam Fayyad affirms the PA's dedication to removing Israeli settlement-produced goods from Palestinian markets in the West Bank.

Jan. 12: PM Fayyad launches the 'National Dignity Fund,' to promote Palestinian produce in local markets, strengthen their position in global markets, and to remove settlement-produced goods from the Palestinian shops.

- Hamas' Ismail Haniyeh calls on armed groups in Gaza to halt rocket attacks on Israel.

Jan. 19: UNRWA launches a 2010 emergency appeal, allocating \$73,049,589 for the West Bank and \$249,587,143 for the Gaza.

Jan. 20: Italy's Filippo Grandi is appointed Commissioner-General of UNRWA

- After meeting with Arab League Secretary-General Amr Musa in Cairo, EU Special Envoy Marc Otte says that Israel's partial settlement freeze was a first step in the right direction, but "not sufficient".

Jan. 22: US Special Envoy George Mitchell tells Palestinian leaders that they must resume talks with Israel if they wanted the US help to achieve a peace treaty that would create a Palestinian State.

- Israel has reportedly paid the UN some \$10.5 million for damage during the Gaza War.

Jan. 25: US Special Envoy Mitchell shuttles between Jerusalem and Amman for meetings with PM Netanyahu and Pres. Abbas.

Jan. 29: Israel and the PA submit reports on their implementation of UNGA resolution 64/10 on the Goldstone report.

- *Ha'aretz* reports that PM Netanyahu has agreed to release hundreds of Fateh prisoners as part of efforts backed by the US and Egypt to jump start talks between Israel and the PA.

Jan. 31: King Abdullah II of Jordan warns that the whole world would pay the price of a failed peace between Israel and the Palestinians, adding that his country would not accept any role as an occupying power in Palestine.

FEBRUARY

Feb 4: The UN Sec.-Gen. reports to the UNGA on Israeli and Palestinian responses to the Goldstone report.

- Pres. Abbas has reportedly agreed in principle to the US proposal for indirect talks but wants a number of clarifications from the US Administration and would consult with Arab leaders prior to giving Washington his final response.

- PM Netanyahu tells a Cabinet meeting: "We will conduct negotiations without preconditions. [...] It is doubtful whether any peace agreement that is unaccompanied by solid security arrangements on the ground can last".

Feb 8: The PA announces plans to hold municipal elections on 17 July; Hamas immediately rejects the idea.

- In a *CNN* interview, Jordan's King Abdullah II, warns that US credibility was at stake, saying: "We really have to be able to move the [peace] process forward in the next month or so, especially leading to the Arab Summit, so that we don't have any confusion coming out of there". The King also strongly rules out the option of the West Bank under Jordanian control.

Feb 11: *Army Radio* reports that Israel has begun to re-route a 1.7 km section of the separation barrier near Bil'in, 2 ½ years after the Supreme Court had ordered the State to return arable land to Palestinian farmers. However, about 150,000 m² of village land still remains on the Israeli side.

Feb 12-13: The UN Palestinian Rights Committee and Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean convene an International Meeting in Support of Israeli-Palestinian Peace in Malta.

Feb 15: In Riyadh, Sec. of State Clinton meets with Saudi King Abdullah to discuss international efforts to revive the peace process.

Feb. 21: In a newspaper interview FM Bernard Kouchner floats the idea that the international community recognize a Palestinian state before its borders are fixed in order to break a stalemate in Middle East peacemaking.

Feb 21: Israel announces plans to include West Bank holy sites on its national heritage list.

Feb 25: The EU High Court rules that the West Bank is not Israeli territory, and as such, Israeli goods produced there are subject to EU import duties.

- UNGA gives Israel and the Palestinians five more months to investigate the Goldstone report findings.

MARCH

March 3: The Arab League endorses Israeli-Palestinian "proximity talks" for a four-month period. Hamas condemns the move.

March 7: The PA announces measures to prevent Palestinians from working in settlements.

March 8: Saeb Erakat, Head of the PLO/PA Negotiations Affairs Department, tells *Israel Army Radio* that the US-mediated indirect talks between Israel and the Palestinians would be the last chance to keep the Middle East peace process alive, while US Middle East envoy George Mitchell issues a statement, saying: "I'm pleased that the Israeli and Palestinian leadership have accepted indirect talks... As we've said many times, we hope that these will lead to direct negotiations as soon as possible..."

March 9: As US Vice-President Biden visits the region the Israeli government approves 1,600 new housing units in the Ramat Shlomo settlement in Jerusalem, a move that is widely condemned, incl. by the US administration, the EU and the UN.

March 11: Saeb Erakat, Head of the PLO/PA Negotiations Affairs Department, says indirect talks with Israel would not continue unless Israeli plans to construct 1,600 settlement homes in East Jerusalem were rescinded.

- Arab League Sec.-Gen. Amr Musa tells reporters that "the talks have already stopped", adding "There cannot be talks, direct or indirect, if the recent Israeli [settlement] decisions are not cancelled".

March 16: General David Petraeus, Head of the US Central Command, tells a Senate committee that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict was presenting challenges to the US ability

to advance its interests in the Middle East and fomented anti-American sentiment due to a perception of US favoritism towards Israel.

March 19: After a meeting in Moscow, the Quartet issues a statement, recalling, *inter alia*, that the international community had not recognized Israel's annexation of East Jerusalem, condemning Israel's recent announcement of 1,600 new settlement units in East Jerusalem, and calling for a complete settlement freeze. The Quartet also states that proximity talks were an important step towards direct negotiations and that the negotiations should lead to a mutual agreement on a two-State solution within 24 months.

March 20: UN Sec.-Gen. Ban Ki-moon visits Israel and the OPT; in Ramallah, he reiterates his commitment to help the Israeli and Palestinian sides reach a settlement in the next 24 months, saying "Indirect talks are not the end result" and there are "no other alternatives" to direct negotiations.

March 22: EU FMs call for a total freeze on settlement building, as Israeli FM Avigdor Lieberman visits Brussels.

March 23: US Pres. Obama meets with PM Netanyahu at the White House; the fact that no press conference is held afterwards reflects strains in their relationship since the announcement of new Israeli settlements in Jerusalem.

March 24-5: A UN Seminar on Assistance to the Palestinian People in Vienna discusses "Building institutions and moving forward with establishing the State of Palestine".

March 27: At the Arab League Summit in Libya, UN Sec.-Gen. Ban Ki-moon calls on the leaders to support the Palestinian-Israeli proximity talks. Pres. Abbas tells the Summit "We cannot resume indirect negotiations as long as Israel maintains its settlement policy and the status quo," adding that "Negotiations on the borders would be absurd if Israel decides on the ground the border. [...] We have always said that Jerusalem is the jewel in the crown and the gate to peace".

March 27: Arab leaders conclude the 22nd Arab League Summit, adopting of a declaration, which mandates the establishment of a legal committee to follow up on the "Judaization" of East Jerusalem. Leaders also agree to hold an international conference on Jerusalem.

APRIL

April 4: Ten trucks of shoes and clothes for Palestinian traders are allowed into Gaza for the first time since the Hamas takeover in June 2007.

April 5: In an interview with *The Wall Street Journal*, Jordan's King Abdullah II says in light of the tension in the Middle East the US should be pressured to bring its full weight on the Israelis and the Palestinians to move the process forward. He added that PM Netanyahu's settlement policy in East Jerusalem had pushed Jordanian-Israeli relations to their lowest point since the 1994 peace treaty.

April 7: During a meeting in Paris, Turkish PM Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, while expressing support for the Goldstone Report, says that Israel was the "principal threat to peace" in the Middle East.

April 11: Jordan's Minister of State for Media Affairs and Communications Nabil Sharif, requesting clarification from Israel over a recently amended military order allowing Israel to remove Palestinians from the West Bank if it did not recognize their legal status, which could lead to the expulsion of thousands.

April 12: During a meeting with King Abdullah II of Jordan, US Pres. Obama urges Palestinians and Israel to start proximity talks.

- The PLO says in a statement that the new Israeli military order that allows it to expel thousands of Palestinians from the West Bank was "a new Nakba for Palestinian people."

April 21: A JMCC poll finds that a growing number of Palestinians - 33.8% up from 20.6% in June 2009- support the establishment of a single bi-national state in which Israelis and Palestinians would have equal rights.

April 22: PA Labor Min. Ahmad Majdalani states that 7,000 fewer Palestinians working in the settlements because of a decline in the production of settlement goods and that by the end of 2010 there will be no more Palestinians working in settlements.

April 25: US Middle East Envoy George Mitchell ends a three-day mission to Israel and the OPT with no sign of any breakthrough in efforts to revive Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations, but says talks had been "positive and productive" and he would return next week.

- The PA Cabinet gives green light to local elections in the West Bank in July, while postponing elections in Gaza.

April 26: Pres. Abbas issues a decree banning the products of settlements in Palestinian markets as well as Palestinians from working in settlements.

April 27: Stating that the division among Palestinians was harming their national project, PFLP politburo member Laila Khaled calls for dismantling the PA "if that body is the cause of Palestinian division".

MAY

May 1: At a meeting of the Arab Peace Initiative Follow-up Committee in Cairo, Arab FMs give their support for indirect talks between Israel and the Palestinians. Arab League Sec.-Gen. Amr Musa stresses that there would be no automatic transition from indirect to direct talks without a complete settlement freeze.

May 2: Israeli Dep. FM Danny Ayalon calls the Palestinian settlement boycott "part of a continuous planned and budgeted campaign of incitement," while the YESHA settler Council calls it "economic terrorism."

May 4: Settlers burn a mosque in the West Bank village of Libban Ash-Sharqiyya, near Nablus, destroying holy books and prayer carpets. The attack is widely and internationally condemned.

May 9: Chief Negotiator Saeb Erekat officially declares the start of proximity talks.

May 15: Palestinians across the OPT mark the 62nd anniversary of the *Nakba* (catastrophe) with marches and rallies.

May 16: At a bonfire of Israeli products, PM Fayyad says Palestinians are "committed to a path of nonviolent resistance and defiance in the face of the settlement enterprise, and [...] are defiantly expressing our right to boycott those products and I believe it is working."

May 18: The PA launches the 'House to House Campaign,' advising against buying settlement goods and inspecting houses across the West Bank to this end.

May 19: Palestinian university student councils express their full support for the PA boycott of settlement goods.

May 22: Pres. Abbas endorses the settlement boycott publicly for the first time, says "We are not inciting against Israel. We do not want to boycott goods coming from Israel."

May 23: In Gaza, armed, masked men attack and set fire to an UNRWA recreation facility under construction for UNRWA's annual "Summer Games" program for refugee children.

May 24: PM Netanyahu calls on the PA to stop opposing economic peace with Israel, calling the boycott of settlement goods as "a measure that will only hurt the Palestinians in the end and is another example of counter-productive Palestinian action."

May 25: Turkish FM Ahmet Davutoğlu calls on Israel to lift its blockade of Gaza and allow nine aid ships embarking from Britain, Greece, Ireland and Turkey, organized by the Free Gaza Movement, to reach Gaza.

-Israeli Vice PM Shalom threatens sanctions on the PA for its boycott of settlement products.

May 27: The PA announces a \$50 million fund to help workers quit jobs in Israeli settlements by the end of the year.

- At its two-day ministerial meeting, the OECD's accepts Israel as a member of the organization, a move strongly condemned by Palestinian civil society represented by the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions National Committee

May 29: The aid flotilla to Gaza begins its journey from international waters off the coast of Cyprus.

May 31: Israeli navy fighters intercept six ships of the Gaza aid flotilla; aboard the "Mavi Marmara", the largest ship carrying some 600 people, forces kill 9 Turkish participants and injure many others. The attack is internationally condemned.

JUNE

June 1: The UNSC condemns acts resulting in loss of life and injuries during Israel's attack on the Gaza aid flotilla a day earlier.

June 2: The UNCHR decides to dispatch fact-finding mission to probe the flotilla attack.

- UN Sec.-Gen. Ban Ki-moon demands that Israel immediately lift its blockade of the Gaza Strip and indicated he may eventually launch his own probe of the deadly commando raid on activists' aid flotilla.

- After the Israeli raid on the Gaza aid flotilla, Egypt eases restrictions at Rafah crossing.

June 5: Israeli forces intercept the "Rachel Corrie" ship with hundreds of tons of humanitarian aid and bring it to Ashdod.

June 6: UN Sec.-Gen. Ban Ki-moon proposes an international panel to investigate the Gaza aid flotilla incident.

June 8: PA Finance Min. Abu Libdeh stresses that the boycott only affects settlement products, not goods produced in Israel, and affirms the PA's desire to maintain ties with the Israeli market. He declares that the PA is "interested in peace and cooperation with [Israel], therefore we will not participate in any boycott against the Israeli economy as a whole."

June 11: The PA decides to postpone local elections that had been scheduled for 17 July in the West Bank, without giving an official reason.

- The Land of Israel right-wing parliamentary bloc submits a bill to outlaw homegrown and international boycotts against Israel.

June 13: Arab League Sec.-Gen. Amr Musa visits Gaza, calling for an end to the blockade.

June 14: Israel appoints a committee to inquire into the Gaza aid flotilla raid, headed by retired Israeli Supreme Court Judge, Jacob Turkel and including Shabtai Rosen, Professor of International Law at Bar Ilan University and retired Maj.-Gen. Amos Horev, as well as two foreign observers: David Trimble, a Northern Ireland politician and Nobel Peace Prize winner, and Canadian jurist Ken Watkin.

- The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights announces members of a panel to monitor Israeli and Palestinian follow-up to Goldstone Report.

June 20: Israel formally announces an eased blockade of Gaza that is hoped to significantly increase the flow of humanitarian aid, food and building supplies into Gaza.

June 24: The PA rejects calls by PM Netanyahu to start direct peace talks without a full freeze of settlement activities.

June 28: PM Fayyad launches the Shop-to-Shop Campaign aimed at removing all settlement products from Palestinian market shelves by the end of the year with the help of 650 volunteers and under the supervision of the Min. of Economy.

- Masked Palestinian gunmen set fire to an UNRWA children's summer camp in Gaza.

JULY

July 1: US Special Envoy George Mitchell arrives in Ramallah for ongoing talks on borders and security in a bid to convince Pres. Abbas to return to direct negotiations with Israel.

- The UN African Meeting on the Question of Palestine opens in Rabat under the auspices of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

July 5: Israel publishes a list of consumer goods allowed into Gaza under a policy to ease its blockade. Still banned are desperately needed construction materials, weapons and materials to make them, as well as travel and exports.

July 7: Pres. Abbas says he wants an Israeli "signal" on the key issues of security and borders before heeding US calls for a resumption of direct peace talks.

July 8: After meeting with Quartet envoy Tony Blair, Arab League Sec.-Gen. Amr Musa says indirect talks were failing and that he saw no chance for a shift to direct negotiations.

- Pres. Obama tells Israeli *Channel 2* TV that it may be possible to achieve a Middle East peace deal in the next few years, urging Israel to seize the chance, saying "We probably won't have a better opportunity than we have right now."

- New PCBS data estimates the number of Palestinians living in the WBSG at 4.05 million (2.51 million in the West Bank, 1.54 million in Gaza).

July 11: The Eiland Commission's report states mistakes had been committed at all levels of command during the Gaza flotilla operation.

July 18: After agreeing with the US Special Envoy Mitchell on a push for direct talks, Pres. Mubarak meets separately with PM Netanyahu and Pres. Abbas in Cairo.

- Touring Gaza, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Ashton urges Israel to open the territory's blockaded borders.

- The Israeli Cabinet approves an amendment to the Citizenship and Entry into Israel Law that would require all prospective citizens living in Israel illegally to swear allegiance to a "Jewish democratic state", a provision that makes it impossible for Palestinians to obtain Israeli citizenship.

July 19: Israel submits report on Operation Cast Lead to the UN, saying its army was taking steps to reduce civilian casualties and restrict the use of white phosphorous.

July 22: The PA Min. of Economy announces 31 July as the deadline for Palestinian merchants to clear their shops of settlement goods or to face fines and 2-5 years in prison.

- The US State Dept. announces that it would upgrade its diplomatic relations with the PA by granting the PLO mission in Washington the status of a "general delegation", like in most European countries, which would give it diplomatic immunity and allow it to fly the PLO flag.

July 23: The UN Human Rights Council names panel of three experts to investigate the Gaza aid flotilla raid: Judge Karl T. Hudson-Phillips (Trinidad and Tobago), Sir Desmond de Silva (UK), and Mary Shanthi Dairiam (Malaysia).

- The US upgrades the PA diplomatic status to that of a General Delegation. The Palestinian Representative Office in Washington DC will fly the PLO flag and diplomats will enjoy diplomatic immunity.

July 26: PM Netanyahu says the settlement construction moratorium will not be extended beyond September 2010.

July 27: France upgrades the General Delegation of Palestine in Paris to the Palestinian Mission to France, to be headed by an Ambassador-Head of Mission.

July 29: Pres. Abbas tells a meeting of the Arab Peace Initiative Follow-up Committee in Cairo "When I receive written assurances [about] accepting the 1967 border and halting the settlement [building], I will go immediately to the direct talks."

- The Arab League in Cairo endorses in principle the move to direct talks, when Pres. Abbas decided that the conditions were right to proceed. Sec.-Gen. Amr Musa says the

League's requirements for supporting direct talks are: a clear timeframe, specific terms of reference and a monitoring mechanism. Hamas rejects the Arab League's decision, with Ismail Radwan saying, "This committee is not authorized to make concessions over the rights of our people."

July 30: The UNGA adopts a resolution recognizing access to water and sanitation as a human right. Palestinian officials say the decision effectively adds another violation of human rights to the Israeli occupation of Palestine.

AUGUST

Aug. 2: Five rockets from the Sinai desert in Egypt struck Israel's and Jordan's Red Sea neighbouring port resorts of Eilat and Aqaba, killing a Jordanian and injuring three others.

- UN Sec.-Gen. Ban Ki-moon announces the establishment of a Panel of Inquiry on the flotilla incident of 31 May 2010, led by former PM of New Zealand, Geoffrey Palmer, and outgoing Pres. of Colombia, Alvaro Uribe, as Vice-Chair, and including one Israeli and one Turkish member.

Aug. 15: PFLP and DFLP join Hamas in calling on Pres. Abbas not to bow to US pressure to resume direct peace talks with Israel, which they described as dangerous.

Aug. 17: The Lebanese Parliament adopts a law lifting former restrictions on employment for Palestinian refugees, who can now work in any field open to foreigners (i.e., except as doctors, lawyers, police or in the army).

Aug. 20: The US invites Israel and the Palestinians to resume direct negotiations in Washington on 2 September. The decision to move to direct talks is internationally welcomed.

Aug. 23: WAFSA reports a major victory for the Global Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement, the Norwegian Government announced that it had divested from Israeli billionaire Lev Leviev's company, Africa Israel Investments, and its construction subsidiary, Danya Cebus, due to their construction of settlements in the OPT.

- B'Tselem warns that 95% of the water pumped into Gaza was polluted and unfit for drinking.

Aug. 24: PLC members from different factions express concern at the decision to engage in direct negotiations with Israel, with Mustafa Barghouti stating in an open letter that they "are more dangerous than the Camp David talks, since they are not based on the cessation of settlement activity, have no clear guidelines and can only lead to a dangerous failure".

Aug. 26: Over 50 Israeli actors and playwrights sign a letter addressed to the managements of six Israeli theaters protesting plans to stage productions in a new performing arts center scheduled to open in the Ariel settlement

Aug. 29: In an interview on the sidelines of a conference in Slovenia, Arab League Sec.-Gen. Musa says "We are hoping that [direct peace] talks will succeed but we are all very pessimistic about the viability of the peace process because of the past experience."

Aug. 31: Four Israeli settlers are shot dead in their car near Kiryat Arba settlement near Hebron. Hamas claims responsibility.

- Over 150 Israeli academics state in an open letter that they would no longer lecture or work in West Bank settlements.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 2: At a White House ceremony, direct talks between Palestinians and Israelis are launched by Pres. Obama, PM Netanyahu, Pres. Abbas, Pres. Mubarak and King Abdallah. Sec. of State Clinton says they should be "without preconditions." The parties start four

days of meetings to lay down a framework for discussion of final status issues (borders, settlements, Jerusalem, refugees, water and security), with a timeframe of 12 months.

Sept. 10: Spain upgrades the diplomatic status of the PA and Fateh representatives in Madrid to an official Delegation.

Sept. 14: After regional meetings between the parties, US Pres. Obama, PM Netanyahu, Pres. Abbas, Pres. Mubarak and King Abdallah meet in Sharm Esh-Sheikh to continue direct negotiations.

Sept. 16: World Bank report says the PA was well-positioned to establish a state if current economic growth is sustained, but that external financial aid remained the primary driver and that Israeli restrictions continued to undermine the viability of the economy.

Sept. 21: At its meeting in New York, the Middle East Quartet urges for the continuation of the settlement moratorium.

- During its annual meeting, the AHLC calls on donors to meet the PA's 2010 recurrent financing requirements.

Sept. 22: The UNHRC Fact-Finding Mission to investigate the 31 May incident onboard the Gaza aid flotilla issues its report, which concludes that Israeli forces violated international law, "including international humanitarian and human rights law", during and after their lethal attack. A week later, the UNCRC adopts resolutions on follow-up to the reports.

Sept. 23: Addressing the UNGA, Pres. Obama calls on Israel to extend settlement freeze.

Sept. 27: Settlement construction resumes across the West Bank as the 10-month partial freeze on settlement expansion expired the previous day. The US expresses "disappointment" at PM Netanyahu's decision not to extend the moratorium.

OCTOBER

Oct. 2: The joint meeting of the PLO Executive Committee and Fateh's Central Committee, chaired by Pres. Abbas, decides to suspend direct peace talks with Israel until the Israeli Government freezes settlement construction in the Palestinian territories.

Oct. 8: The Arab League Follow-up Committee meets in Sirte and endorses Pres. Abbas' decision to suspend peace talks until Israel freezes its settlement policies, while voicing hope that US will continue to exert pressure on Israel to implement such a freeze. Pres. Abbas calls into question the need for "the Palestinian Authority's continued existence if the efforts to establish an independent Palestinian state fail."

Oct. 10: Israel approves a law requiring non-Jews to swear loyalty to the Jewish state; Palestinians call it a declaration of apartheid, racists and an attempt at ethnic cleansing.

Oct. 11: During a Knesset session, PM Netanyahu offers an extension to a settlement construction moratorium if the Palestinians recognize Israel as a Jewish state. The Palestinian leadership rejects the proposal.

Oct. 14: Portugal upgrades Palestine's diplomatic representation from the status of office to Mission.

Oct. 23: The *Voice of Palestine* quotes Yasser Abed Rabbo as saying that the Palestinian leadership was considering the possibility of re-examining the agreements the PLO had signed with Israel, including the Oslo Accords since "the situation in which one side will be bound by the agreements forever while the other side violates them to the point of annulling them entirely cannot continue."

Oct. 29: Israeli PM Netanyahu calls a recent UNESCO decision to define Al-Ibrahimi in Hebron and Bilal bin Rabah Mosque/Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem as Palestinian "absurd." The UNESCO board had voted 44 to one, with 12 abstentions, to reaffirm the site was "an integral part of the occupied Palestinian territories and that any unilateral action by the Israeli authorities is to be considered a violation of international law."

NOVEMBER

Nov. 10: In Damascus, Fateh and Hamas agree to resume unity talks after Eid al-Adha.

Nov. 13: US offers Israel an incentive package (the supply of 20 F-35 fighter jets in a \$3 billion deal) stipulating a 90- day settlement construction moratorium, excluding Jerusalem.

Nov. 15: PLO negotiations chief Erekat says Palestinians might turn to the UN for recognition of a Palestinian State if the US does not pressure Israel on settlements

Nov. 22: EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton says that Israel has failed to live up to its commitments on easing the Gaza blockade, made in the wake of the international outcry caused by its violent attack at the flotilla trying to break the siege in late May, and that there were not enough goods flowing in to meet the humanitarian and reconstruction needs. She also urges Israel to allow exports out of Gaza and to let in construction material that the local United Nations agency (UNRWA) wants to use to rebuild schools.

- The Knesset passes a law stating that any withdrawal from "sovereign Israeli territory" must first be approved by the Knesset by a two-thirds majority, failing which a national referendum will be necessary. Saeb Erekat comments the move, saying "the Israeli leadership, yet again, is making a mockery of international law."

Nov. 30: Five months after Israel had agreed to ease the situation in Gaza, 22 international human rights and humanitarian groups state in a report that there had been no real signs of improvement. Israel had failed to accelerate the flow of construction materials.

DECEMBER

Dec. 1: Brazil recognizes the State of Palestine based on 1967 borders, in a letter sent by Pres. Lula da Silva to Mr. Abbas.

Dec. 6: Argentina and Uruguay announce their recognizing an independent Palestinian State within the borders defined in 1967.

Dec. 7: After three weeks of discussions, the Obama Administration has given up on persuading PM Netanyahu to renew the freeze on settlements construction for 90 days.
- In the 2011 Consolidated Appeal for the occupied Palestinian territory, OCHA presents a strategy budgeted at about \$576 million, supporting 213 projects.

Dec. 13: The Palestinian Supreme Court in Ramallah annulled a June decision by the PA Cabinet to postpone municipal elections. The Court ruled the 10 June decision illegal, and called on the Government to set a new date as soon as possible.

Dec. 16: Norwegian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Bjoern Svenungsen said that the Ministry would upgrade the status of the Palestinian representation in the country from "general delegation" to "diplomatic mission," in recognition of efforts to build a Palestinian State. The decision was announced during a visit by PA Prime Minister Salam Fayyad to Norway. Mr. Svenungsen said that the top Palestinian diplomat in Oslo would have the rank of an ambassador but use the title "head of the Palestinian mission". The upgrade would take effect early next year.

Dec. 19: Bolivia formally recognizes Palestine as an independent State.

Dec. 24: Ecuador formally recognizes Palestine as an independent State.

JANUARY

Jan. 1: Suriname recognizes the State of Palestine in the 1967 borders.

Jan. 3: Pres. Abbas attends the groundbreaking ceremony for Palestinian Embassy in Brazil.

Jan. 7: Chile recognizes Palestine as a free, independent and sovereign state.

Jan. 13: Guyana recognizes the State of Palestine.

Jan. 18: Russia reaffirms its commitment to an independent Palestinian state.

Jan. 19: Despite objections from the US, Arab States formally submit draft resolution to the UNSC condemning settlement activity.

Jan. 23: Confidential "Palestine Papers" - internal *documents* from the 1999-2010 Israel-Palestinian negotiations- are leaked by *Al-Jazeera*.

- The Turkel Commission (Israeli inquiry into the 31 May 2010 Gaza flotilla raid) releases its findings, acquitting the Government, the military and the soldiers involved, saying "the actions carried out by Israel... had the regrettable consequences of the loss of human life" but "were found to be legal pursuant to the rules of international law".

Jan. 24: Peru recognizes Palestine as a sovereign state.

Jan. 25: Ireland upgrades the Palestinian representation to full diplomatic mission.

Jan. 29: Paraguay recognizes Palestine as a sovereign state.

Jan. 30: Cyprus recognizes Palestine as an independent state on the lands occupied in 1967.

FEBRUARY

Feb. 5: A Quartet meeting in Munich reaffirms that negotiations should lead to an end of the occupation, resolve all permanent status issues and achieve a two-State solution. It also reiterates support for concluding the negotiations by September 2011.

Feb. 14: After PM Fayyad tenders his government's resignation, Pres. Abbas asks him to appoint a new cabinet.

Feb. 18: The UNCS votes 14:1 (US) for a resolution condemning Israeli settlements, co-sponsored by over 120 Member States.

Feb. 24: After a meeting with Luxembourg FM Jean Assleborn PM Fayyad announces that he is determined to work towards ending the split between Fateh and Hamas. Hamas, however, stresses it would not join a new Fayyad government.

MARCH

March 3: Israeli DM Ehud Barak tells *Channel 10 TV* that the current make-up of the Israeli Government was not suitable for advancing peace with the Palestinians.

March 7: British Foreign Secretary William Hague says the UK would upgrade the status of the Palestinian delegation to full diplomatic mission level.

March 9: The Danish Foreign Ministry upgrades the Palestinian delegation to Mission.

March 15: Hamas leader Haniyeh invites Pres. Abbas to Gaza to continue unity talks.

- Uruguay recognizes the State of Palestine without specifying borders.

March 20: The Palestinian leadership announces that it will ask the UN to recognize a Palestinian State within the 1967 borders and with East Jerusalem as its capital with full .

March 28: Pres. Abbas asks the PLO Constitution Committee to begin drafting amendments to the PLO Charter that would include all Palestinian factions in the organization.

March 29: The Knesset passes by 37 to 11 a law enabling the court system to revoke the citizenship of anyone convicted of spying, treason or helping the enemy during times of war.

APRIL

April 1: Judge Goldstone writes in the *Washington Post*: "I regret that our fact-finding mission did not have [Israeli] evidence explaining the circumstances in which we said civilians in Gaza were targeted, because it probably would have influenced our findings about intentionality and war crimes."

April 5: The *New York Times* publishes details of the "Peace with our enemies" initiative that calls for the 1967 lines to be the basis for a two-State solution, including a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as capital, and financial compensation for Palestine refugees as well as return to Palestine, not Israel. The plan was signed by 40 people, including former Shin Bet Chiefs Yaakov Peri and Ami Ayalon, former Mossad Chief Danny Yatom and former IDF Chief of Staff Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, General (Res.) Amram Mitzna, former Police Minister Moshe Shahal and Yuval Rabin, son of slain Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

- A new IMF report states that the PA's financial institutions ready for statehood.

April 10: The Arab League calls on the UN to impose a no-fly zone over Gaza and lift the Israeli siege.

April 12: A new UN report, entitled "Palestinian State-building: A Decisive Period," highlights the PA's progress in institution-building, while stressing the need for Israel to roll back "measures of occupation" and for an urgent resumption of negotiations.

April 13-15: The AHLC meeting convenes in Brussels, attended by Quartet envoy Tony Blair and PM Fayyad. The PA is reportedly requesting nearly \$5 billion in investment to launch a Palestinian State.

April 27: After talks with Egyptian mediation in Cairo, Fateh and Hamas initial a reconciliation agreement, which provides for the establishment of a technocrat government to prepare for parliamentary and presidential elections, for Gaza's reconstruction, for PNC elections and for a joint security committee.

MAY

May 1: After the PA-Hamas agreement, Israel suspends routine tax transfers (NIS 300 million) to the PA.

May 5: During talks with PA President Abbas in Berlin, German Chancellor Angela Merkel warns against recognition of a Palestinian State as unilateral steps are not helpful.

May 6: Cyprus upgrades the status of the Palestinian Delegation to Diplomatic Mission of Palestine.

May 15: As dozen people were when clashes erupted on Israel's borders As thousands of Palestinians attend coordinated *Nakba* Day protests by marching from the Syria, Lebanon, Gaza and the West Bank clashes erupt at Israeli borders, leaving at least 10 protestors killed and over 100 wounded.

May 18: A new World Bank report commends the PA for its work in creating strong public institutions, while recommending continued reforms to prevent corruption and ensure better public services.

May 19: In a major Middle East policy speech, Pres. Obama says borders of Israel and Palestine should be based on the 1967 lines with mutually agreed swaps.

May 23: The EU Council welcomes intra-Palestinian reconciliation and urges resumption of direct Israeli-Palestinian negotiations leading to a comprehensive solution.

May 28: After an Arab ministerial meeting in Qatar, the Arab League endorses a Palestinian bid to seek recognition at the UN of a Palestinian State within the 1967 borders

May 28: Egypt permanently opens Rafah crossing point after a four-year blockade.

May 31: Spain announces recognition of a Palestinian State before September 2011.

JUNE

June 5: Protests throughout the WBGS and the region mark the 44th anniversary of Israel's occupation.

June 6: Lesotho recognizes and Malawi reiterates recognition of a Palestinian State within 1967 borders.

June 12: Guinea-Bissau announces support for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

June 16: Turkey says it would vote for a UN resolution recognizing the Palestine State.

June 19: Fateh and Hamas delay unveiling of new government over disagreement on the Prime Minister.

June 22: Armenia announces support the Palestinians' demands for freedom, independence and statehood.

June 27: The Palestinian leadership officially decides to approach the UN in September to become a full member and attain statehood recognition.

June 29: In Brussels, the UN International Meeting in Support of the Israeli-Palestinian Peace Process calls on the EU to support Palestinian statehood at the UN in September.

JULY

July 1: After pro-Palestinian websites had called on activists to fly to Israel on 8 July to protest against Israeli policies towards Palestinians, PM Netanyahu orders authorities to block the entry of pro-Palestinian activists planning to travel to Tel Aviv over the weekend in a protest "fly-in".

July 11: The PCBS says the total Palestinian population in the territory in mid-2011 was 4.17 million - 2.58 million in the West Bank and 1.59 million in the Gaza Strip.

- The Knesset approves a law effectively banning Israelis from calling for boycotts of any part of the country or its settlements on occupied Palestinian land.

July 14: Arab League Sec.-Gen. Nabil Al-Arabi say the League will submit to the UN a request for recognition of a Palestinian state.

July 18: Norway upgrades the Palestinian diplomatic representation to Palestinian Mission.

- Syria recognizes a Palestinian state within the June 4, 1967 borders and East Jerusalem as its capital.

July 18: Norway upgrades the Palestinian diplomatic representation to Palestinian Mission.

July 27: Pres. Abbas confirms the PLO's intention to approach the UN with its statehood bid, saying "[A]fter the failure of the Quartet to lay out foundations for the negotiations, which are a halt to settlement building and using the 1967 borders as a basis for the Palestinian state, it is now too late for negotiations ... there is no time – we are going to the UN."

AUGUST

Aug. 2: The Israeli Supreme Court orders the dismantling of Migron, the largest illegal settlement outpost in the West Bank.

Aug. 15: Israeli DM Barak approves 277 new apartments in Ariel settlement.

Aug. 16: The Quartet expresses concern over Israel's announcements to advance planning for new housing units in settlements

Aug. 18: Four successive attacks by Palestinians kill 7 and injure 30 Israelis along the Israel-Egypt border north of Eilat. Israel retaliates with air strikes that kill at least 6 Palestinians in Gaza.

Aug. 24: China and India confirm support for the Palestinian bid for UN recognition.

Aug. 25/26: El Salvador and Honduras recognize Palestine as an independent State.

Aug. 30: Saint Vincent and the Grenadines announces its recognition of a Palestinian State.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 8: Palestinians launch "Palestine 194" campaign to support the bid for full UN membership.

Sept. 12: A new World Bank report ahead of the meeting of AHLC meeting in New York says that there had been substantial progress in implementing the PA's two-year institution-building program but an acute fiscal crisis, accompanied by declining economic growth, might undermine the achievements.

Sept. 18: The AHLC meeting in New York commends the PA for its implementation of the government program over the last three years.

- Shortly after, the Quartet meet in New York, reiterating appeals to the Israelis and Palestinians to resume direct bilateral negotiations without delays or preconditions.

Sept. 21: The twin-island of Antigua and Barbuda announces its recognition of the state of Palestine.

Sept. 23: Pres. Abbas presents the bid for statehood of Palestine before the UN General Assembly.

Sept. 28: The UNSC send the Palestinian application for full UN membership to the Committee on the Admission of New Members.

Sept. 29: A European Parliament resolution calls Palestine's bid for statehood "legitimate" and says that a solution should be found within a year.

OCTOBER

Oct. 3: USAID projects are put on hold after the US Congress cuts aid to PA following the Palestinian statehood bid.

Oct. 4: The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) grants the PNC "Partner for Democracy" status. This is only the second time the position, usually reserved for parliaments from regions adjacent the Council of Europe - was granted.

Oct. 5: The UNESCO Executive Board recommends submission of the Palestinian request for full membership.

Oct. 9: PM Netanyahu says he is seeking ways to legalize unauthorized settlement outposts built on Palestinian land.

Oct. 11: The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights urges Israel to stop settler attacks on Palestinian civilians in the West Bank.

- Israel and Hamas finalize the terms of a prisoner exchange deal: soldier Gilad Shalit in exchange for 1,027 Palestinian prisoners.

Oct. 18: The first 477 Palestinian prisoners out of a total 1,027 that are part of the Hamas-Israel prisoner exchange deal are freed (the second group being due for release in December). Of the 477, 217 are released without conditions, while 55 are released home with security conditions and 205 are either deported abroad (41) or transferred to Gaza.

Oct. 31: As first UN agency, UNESCO votes with 107 members in favor, 14 against (incl. US, Canada, Germany and Holland) and 52 abstentions to admit Palestine as a full member. In response, the US stops funding UNESCO.

NOVEMBER

Nov. 3: Following UNESCO's decision to accept the PA as a full member, PM Netanyahu orders the freezing of Israel's \$2 million annual contribution to UNESCO.

Nov. 4: The Israeli navy intercepts and boards two vessels— the Canadian *Tahrir* and the Irish *MV Saoirse* – bound for the Gaza Strip with aid supplies.

Nov. 7: The US has reportedly lifted a hold on nearly \$200 million in aid to the Palestinians that had been suspended in response to their bid for full UN membership.

Nov. 9: After two days of extensive talks and testimonies from expert witnesses, the Russell Tribunal on Palestine rule that Israel was guilty of apartheid and prosecution crimes.

Nov. 11: The Permanent Representative of Portugal to the UN, José Filipe Moraes Cabral, Pres. of the UNSC for November, tells the press that the Committee on the Admission of New Members had approved a report stating that its 15 members remained divided over Palestine's bid for UN membership and had sent the report to the UNSC, which would then decide what actions were to be taken. He gave no timetable.

Nov. 13: A committee of Israeli cabinet ministers vote to back two bills aimed at curtailing support of left-wing non-profit groups by foreign governments. Human rights groups denounce the vote as violation of free expression and an effort by the government to silence its critics.

Nov. 14: Israeli cabinet ministers suspend the release of about \$100 million in taxes owed to the PA as a response to the UNESCO's decision to accept the PA as a full member.

Nov. 17: The European Parliament presses the US and the EU to respond to the Palestinians' "legitimate demand" to be represented as a state at the UN.

Nov. 24: Pres. Abbas and Hamas leader Masha'al hail a new era of partnership between their movements at talks in Cairo.

Nov. 30: Iceland becomes the first western country to recognize Palestine as an independent state.

- Hamas PLC faction head Mahmoud Az-Zahar says that Pres. Abbas was not serious about reconciling with Hamas despite public statements to the contrary, allegedly because the US and Israel opposed it.

2010

Jerusalem

JANUARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FEBRUARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MARCH

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

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

March 5: After Friday prayers at Al-Aqsa Mosque, clashes between Palestinians and Israeli forces erupt, leaving dozens over 20 of Palestinians injured.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

March 24: EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton issues a declaration, saying: "The European Union condemns the recent decision of the Israeli authorities to authorize construction around the Shepherd Hotel in East Jerusalem. The international community is making every effort to facilitate the resumption of peace talks. Settlement construction in East Jerusalem is illegal and undermines these efforts. The EU calls on Israel to reverse this decision."

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

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

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

APRIL

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

April 29: At a press conference, Palestinian residents of Silwan’s Al-Bustan neighborhood present - in a bid to thwart the razing of their houses - an alternative plan to regulate illegal construction, which has already passed all technical requirements and has been issued a zoning file at the WJM three weeks ago.

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

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

MAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

May 10: At an emergency meeting on Jerusalem of the OIC’s Executive Committee of the Parliamentary Union in Istanbul, Turkish PM Recep Tayyip Erdoğan says: “Jewish settlement activities, which represent the biggest obstacle to the peace process, must be

halted”, while OIC Sec.-Gen. Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu warns: “Israel is taking advantage of the international community’s lassitude with its policies and carrying out a hideous plan aimed at depopulating the city of Al-Quds [Jerusalem] of its Palestinian citizens.”

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

JUNE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- UN Sec.-Gen. Ban Ki-moon says Israel's plan to raze 22 Arab homes to make way for an archaeological park in Silwan was "unhelpful" and against international law.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

JULY

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

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

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

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

July 11: *Reuters* quotes PLO Executive Committee member Ahmed Qrei'a as saying that "The Jerusalem situation [...] is a time bomb if it continues in this way."

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AUGUST

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Aug. 26: At an *Iftar*, Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh says "No negotiator who would give up Jerusalem has a national mandate," and that Palestinian negotiators were not mandated to surrender Jerusalem or any part of Palestine.

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

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

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

SEPTEMBER

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

OCTOBER

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- In Silwan, Palestinians clash with settlers.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NOVEMBER

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

Nov. 2: PM Fayyad cancels a planned visit to Dahiet As-Salam in Shu'fat Camp where he was to take part in an event marking the completion of several schools in the Jerusalem

area with PA money. He attends a similar event in Dahiet Al-Barid, located Palestinian side of the separation fence, where he says that Israel was the only entity holding on to the stance that the PA could not operate in East Jerusalem and that the suburbs of Jerusalem would one day be part of the eternal Palestinian capital.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DECEMBER

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

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

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

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

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

JANUARY

Jan. 1: *Yediot Aharonot* quotes an Israeli study according to which some \$559 million are needed to upgrade Palestinian districts if they are to be at par with Jewish neighborhoods.

Jan. 2: Israeli media reports that sportswear company Adidas forced the WJM to reroute a planned marathon to avoid occupied Palestinian neighborhoods.

- Israel extends for six months a ban preventing Palestinians married to Israelis from family unification.

Jan. 3: Israeli authorities demolish part of Nasser Yousef Seyam's home north of Sheikh Jarrah following a six-year legal dispute.

Jan. 4: Israeli officials demolish the house of Nayef Uweida in Beit Hanina

Jan. 5: Israeli forces demolish 11 structures in the At-Tur neighborhood for being built without permits.

Jan. 9: Under the protection of Israeli forces, bulldozers begin demolishing the Shepherd Hotel in Sheikh Jarrah to make way for a planned new 20-unit settlement. The move sparks harsh criticism from Palestinians, the EU, the UN and the US.

Jan. 10: Israeli forces demolish a horse and poultry barn in Wadi Joz and a tin and wood shed in Suwaneh.

- In an internal memo, 25 diplomatic representatives to the EU in Jerusalem tell the EU that Israel's attempts to emphasize the exclusively Jewish identity of the city had potential global repercussions, stating: "If current trends are not stopped as a matter of urgency, the prospect of East Jerusalem as the future capital of a Palestinian state becomes increasingly unlikely and unworkable."

Jan. 14: Jewish settlers have filed a planning application for 50 housing units, in addition to the 20 already approved for construction on the site of the Shepherd Hotel.

- Press reports state that Atty. Gen. Yehuda Weinstein had once again written to WJM mayor Barkat, insisting he obey previous instructions to evict the Silwan settlers and close off the building, known as Beit Yonatan.

Jan. 16: Israeli military radio reports a new construction project of at least 1,400 homes that is about to be authorized in Gilo.

Jan. 17: UN agencies and EU officials in the OPT call for the implementation of international humanitarian law to protect the Palestinian population in East Jerusalem from forced displacement.

- The WJM council approves the building of another 92 settler homes in East Talpiot, all in a 12-storey building.

Jan. 23: *Al-Jazeera* reports that Palestinian negotiators offered to cede vast swathes of annexed East Jerusalem in peace talks in 2008, incl. French Hill, Ramat Alon and Gilo, citing "secret documents," which are dismissed by Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erakat

Jan. 31: The cornerstone for a new settlement at the Beit Orot Yeshiva is laid in a ceremony attended by MKs, municipality employees, and other officials.

FEBRUARY

Feb. 6: the High Court rules that the Ministry of Education and the WJM have five years to absorb all the students from East Jerusalem within the public school system, otherwise they will have cover the tuition fees of the children who are obliged to attend private schools due to a the classroom shortage.

Feb. 7: The WJM council approves plans for construction of 16 new apartments by a Jewish settler group in Sheikh Jarrah.

Feb. 12: After Friday prayers clashes erupt between Palestinian youth and Israeli forces in Silwan, Ras Al-Amud and Wadi Ar-Rababa

Feb. 14: THE WJM Council approves construction of 120 new homes in Ramot settlement

Feb. 21: Israeli forces shoot and injure a Palestinian man during clashes in Al-Isawiya.

Feb. 22: Israeli police detain Islamic Movement leader Sheikh Raed Salah while he was visiting a sit-in protest tent in Silwan.

- The Anglican Bishop Suheil Dawani of the Jerusalem Diocese files a lawsuit against the State of Israel over the denial of his Jerusalem residency permit. The Israeli Min. of Interior told him in August 2010 that he and his family should leave Israeli-occupied Jerusalem immediately, as their A5 permit for 'temporary residency status' would not be renewed.

Feb. 24: Officials from 28 civil society groups and local councils in the Jerusalem governorate announce they would no longer accept projects with US organizations, following the country's veto of a draft resolution condemning Israeli settlement construction.

Feb. 28: Settlers protest and try to block the main entrance to Jerusalem in solidarity with West Bank settlers who clashed with police earlier the day.

MARCH

March 1: Israeli undercover forces detain five children in Silwan.

- Israeli forces shut down two events in East Jerusalem, citing "security reasons": a conference on "Defending Palestinian Rights in Jerusalem" at the Capitol Hotel on Salah Eddin St. and a conference scheduled for the following day at the Al-Bustan protest tent in Silwan.

March 7: Israeli police and WJM workers hands out 15 eviction notices to families in the Ar-Rashid building in Beit Hanina ordering them to leave within 10 days, after which the building would be demolished.

March 10: After an 11-year battle between the Hamdallah family and US-Israeli billionaire Moskowitz, an Israeli court issues a decision allowing Israeli settlers to take part of the Hamdallah family home in Ras Al-Amud.

March 18: Israel announces a 4-day "general closure" of the West Bank due to Purim.

March 21: In Sicwan, clashes erupt between settlers, Israeli police and Palestinian youth.

March 22: Israeli forces raid Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and detain five worshippers.

March 23: An Israeli woman was critically wounded when a bomb explodes near a West Jerusalem bus stop.

March 29: The WJM District Planning and Construction Committee approved the construction of 983 housing units in Har Homa

March 30: Israeli police raid the Wadi Hilweh Information Center in Silwan.

March 31: WJM mayor Barkat says that three new postal outlets would be installed in At-Tur, Ras Al-Amud, and Jabal Al-Mukabber in the coming months.

APRIL

April 1: Peace Now reports that an Israeli landowner is seeking to sell plots for 30 homes in Ras al-Amud, where 117 settler families already live.

April 4: THE WJM Council approves the construction of 942 new homes in Gilo and publishes plans for another 850-900 units (Mordot Gilo West - Plan No. 13157) for public review.

April 5: The Jerusalem District Planning and Construction Committee approves a plan to build a national park on the slopes of Mt. Scopus, close to the E-1 area, which will prevent the expansion of Issawiya and At-Tur, while linking Ma'ale Adumim to Jerusalem.

April 18: *Al-Quds* newspaper reported that the WJM had approved the plan for a new 549-unit settlement on 153 dunums near Beit Safafa (Givat Hamatos).

April 21: The PLO has denounced indications that Israel will confiscate 27 Palestinian homes and expel their residents from Sheikh Jarrah, urging the Quartet to immediately intervene in order to prevent the plan.

- Israeli Army Radio reports that the Israeli Ministry of Housing has deposited plans to build a new 800-unit neighborhood south of Givat Ze'ev in a bid to link it with Jerusalem

April 27: The Alternative Information Center (AIC) reports that the WJM District Committee for Planning and Construction had approved a plan (No. 11092A) according to which Issawiya's last remaining land reserves - the slope leading up to the Hebrew University campus - will be used as part of the national park around the Old City.

MAY

May 9: The Israeli High Court of Justice rejects a petition filed by Palestinians from Jaba', Yesh Din, and Bimkom against the planned settlement expansion and the route of the separation barrier, which would cut them off from their land.

May 13: Palestinian teenager Milad Ayyash, 16, dies of his wounds after being shot during clashes in the Ras Al-Amud area. Clashes also occur in Silwan and Shufat camp.

- Thousands of Israeli police flood the streets of Jerusalem as Palestinians begin marking the Nakba day.

May 22: Jerusalem police has closed an East Jerusalem community center, the Heritage Committee in Wadi Joz, on the pretext that it is affiliated with Hamas.

May 25: The municipal border of Jerusalem is expanded on 25 May 2011 by 243 dunums in the area of Kibbutz Ramat Rachel. Some 187 dunums (77%) is west of the Green Line, while 56 dunums (33%) is "No Man's Land" (which no side is allowed to enter or use according to the 1949 Israel-Jordan ceasefire agreement).

- Several Israeli ministers, as well as Knesset Speaker Reuven Rivlin and Mayor Barkat, participate in the inauguration of the new Ma'ale David settlement in Ras Al-Amud.

JUNE

June 5: The WJM, in cooperation with Ministry of Transportation and Morea Company, begins "development and enhancement" work on a NIS 30 million infrastructure project in Wadi Al-Joz (from the Hebrew University junction along the Wadi Joz Rd. and Al-Maqdesi St.) which will last for two years and will first and foremost serve the existing and planned settlement enclaves in the area.

June 14: The Jerusalem Sub-committee for Accelerated Construction convenes for the first time and expedites the construction of 105 units in the Mitzpeh Naftoah area of Ramot (Plan 6885).

June 15: The Jerusalem Magistrates' Court rejects the request by settlers to evict the Farhan family from its home next to the burial cave of Simon the Just in Sheikh Jarrah due to several flaws in the lawsuit.

June 19: The Israeli Ministry of Interior approves ten town plans (Nos. 14000 A-14000 I), each dealing with areas of Ramat Shlomo and cumulatively allowing each of the approx. 2,200 existing units to add a room.

June 22: In an attempted takeover, settlers attack the Zawahra family home in Beit Safafa.

June 23: Right-wing and Ultra-Orthodox Jews at the WJM announce a general recruitment of members of the Planning and Construction Committee to thwart mayor Nir Barkat's plan to construct 2,500 homes for Palestinians in Sawahreh.

- A plan (No. 12259) for a third settler complex of 30 housing units at the site of a gas station 50 meters away from Ma'ale David in Ras Al-Amud is deposited for public review.

June 28: *Ha'aretz* reports that Israeli police officials have recommended the building of a permanent bridge at the Mughrabi gate in September, anticipating that the world's attention would be focused on the Palestinian bid for statehood in the UNGS.

JULY

July 4: Plan No. 13157 for some 900 new units in Gilo is approved by the WJM and passed to the District Planning Committee for consideration.

July 15: UNESCO releases a statement confirming the occupied status of East Jerusalem: "UNESCO wishes to reiterate that, contrary to recent claims, there has been no change in UNESCO's position on Jerusalem," ..."In line with overall UN policy, East Jerusalem remains part of the occupied Palestinian territory, and the status of Jerusalem must be resolved in permanent status negotiations."

July 21: Israeli bulldozers begin to uproot olive groves in Beit Iksa, adjacent to Ramot, to make way for a wall to be erected along the village's southern and western sides.

AUGUST

Aug. 1: Settlers from Kfar Adumim, Shchunat Alon and Nofei Prat file a petition, demanding a court order for the demolition of a school constructed for the Bedouin Jahalin tribe in Khan Al-Ahmar village.

-Israel approves construction of 900 new homes in Har Homa.

Aug. 2: The High Court of Justice orders the state to evacuate the Migron outpost by 31 March 2012 and criticises it for failing to draw up a reasonable evacuation schedule and agreement with the settlers earlier.

Aug. 4: The WJM approves two plans for Har Homa: 983 units for Har Homa C (Plan No. 10310) and 50 units (including public buildings) in Har Homa B (Plan No. 12825).

Aug. 9: In a preliminary reading, the Knesset passes an initiative to allow privately owned corporations to manage sites of national importance, in a bid to legalize the operation of the "City of David National Park" by the Ir David Foundation, which works to "Judaize" East Jerusalem.

Aug. 11: Israel's Interior Minister approves construction of 1,600 new homes in Ramat Shlomo settlement and 625 units in Pisgat Ze'ev.

- Interior Minister Eli Yishai announces final approval for 2,337 new units in Givat Hamatos (Plan 5834 A)

Aug. 19: The controversial light rail system begins operation after years of delays, taking its first passengers.

Aug. 23: The Israeli Supreme Court rejects a petition by villagers from Walajah to prevent a 700 m section of the separation barrier from being erected, which will cut them off from their farmlands and leave the entire village encircled.

Aug. 28: *Maariv* reveals that the WJM attempts to confiscate four dunums – owned by Kamal Obeidat - in the Shimon HaTzadik area of Sheikh Jarrah, apparently to build a car park for settlers.

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 1: The Jerusalem District Court again rejects petitions by right-wing settlers and ordered them to immediately evacuate a seven-storey building named Beit Yonatan in the heart of Silwan, which was built illegally by Ateret Cohanim.

Sept. 6: Israeli troops block the entrance to a building being used as a school in Silwan, claiming it belonged to Hamas.

Sept. 12: In the early hours settlers in Sheikh Jarrah torch and destroy a protest tent inhabited by locals and international volunteers and observers.

- WJM council member Yair Gabai of the right-wing National Union Party suggests reviving the shelved plan for a new 10,000-unit settlement in the Atarot/Qalandia area and suggests changing the Jerusalem Master Plan by rezoning the area as a residential neighborhood.

Sept. 13: As part of its 'City of David' project, Elad - under huge military protection - officially opens its double tunnel: one stretching underneath Silwan from Wadi Hilweh to Al-Ein Mosque and the Orthodox Church, the other from beneath the Old City's Dung Gate to Al-Aqsa Mosque – both threatening the buildings above-ground.

Sept. 27: The Jerusalem District Planning Committee is set to approve 1,100 new housing units in Gilo settlement, despite past US objections.

OCTOBER

Oct. 11: Israel publishes a reparcelization plan (Plan No. 14295) for the Givat Hamatos area, now calling for the construction of 2,610 units, one third of them possibly as part of an expansion of Palestinian Beit Safafa.

Oct. 31: Israeli forces demolish five homes in the Khan al-Ahmar near Maale Adumin settlement, displacing 71 people, including 60 children.

NOVEMBER

Nov. 1: PM Netanyahu calls for accelerated construction of some 2,000 settlement units in Gush Etzion and Ma'ale Adumim.

Nov. 3: Jordan condemns an Israeli plan to demolish an the Mughrabi ramp to the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Nov. 8: Former PA Minister for Jerusalem Affairs Hatem Abdel Qader says that following admission to UNESCO, the PA plans to pursue Israel legally in international fora for stealing Palestinian antiquities and changing the Arab and Islamic character of holy sites in Jerusalem.

- Settlement expert Khalil Tufkaji warns that the Jerusalem Master Plan 2030 would make the dream of dividing Jerusalem into two virtually "impossible."

- A study commissioned by WJM Mayor Nir Barakat to address housing shortages in the city show designs for 60,718 housing units, 52,363 of them planned for East Jerusalem.

- The Gen. Director of the Arab League Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Mohammed Aziz Ben Ashour, asks UNESCO to open an office in East Jerusalem to document and protect against attacks on Arab Islamic and Christian heritage.

Nov. 15: The Israeli Housing Min. says it has published formal notice to invite tenders to build 749 housing units in Har Homa and 65 in Pisgat Ze'ev.

Nov. 22: The WJM has begun a collection campaign in Silwan of outstanding property and income taxes.

Nov. 26: Acting on the advice of Israeli officials, PM Netanyahu delays the demolition of the wooden Mughrabi Ramp to avoid enraging Muslims.