

Largest Palestinian Displacement Project Since 1967 Underway in West Bank, Galilee

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New plans to ramp up the largest wave of forced displacement in Palestine since 1967 are currently underway.

In response to pressure from far-right Nahala groups, a number of Israeli senior lawmakers [agreed](#) to the terms of an early February petition pushed forth by groups rallying in support of settling two million settlers in the West Bank, or 'Judea and Samaria.'

The Nahala Movement, campaigning on an end to the two-state solution through a rapid settlement of all West Bank territory, joined the rightist factions in modeling a settlement vision pushed by former **Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir**, also an early member of the Lehi paramilitary organization.

Their statement read:

"I hereby commit to be loyal to the land of Israel, not to cede one inch of our inheritance from our forefathers. I hereby commit to act to realize the settlement plan for the settlement of 2 million Jews in Judea and Samaria in accordance with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's plan, as well as to encourage and lead the redemption of all the lands throughout Judea and Samaria. I commit to act to cancel the declaration of two states for two peoples and replace it with the stately declaration: The land of Israel: One country for one people."

The plan, upheld by New Right and Likud members, seeks to annex 61 percent of West Bank territory, threatening 297,000 Palestinians by the settlements.

In comparison, the 1967 mass exodus saw the displacement of between 280,000 and 325,000 Palestinians from their homes and lands.

The main proponents of the plan include former Jewish Home and now New Right members **Naftali Bennett**, the current Education Minister of the Zionist entity who recently accused Donald Trump of planning a "Palestinian state over our heads," and **Justice Minister Ayelet Shaked**.

While mobilization of the most recent settlement project went into full force this week, it followed a trajectory that took root far before early February.

This plan falls under the framework of last summer's Jewish nation-state law, the Section 7

of Israel's Nation-State Law, which where "developing Jewish communities" was legitimized as a "national value" and that the Zionist entity would "act to encourage, promote, and establish them."

Last October, Shaked said that she was for the [total annexation](#) of Area C, additionally recommending that 'Israel' nationalize the Palestinians living there as Israeli citizens in the process.

The right-wing faction [estimated that](#) "only 80,000" Palestinians living there would need citizenship.

In a January 2018 Knesset debate, Shaked vowed that Israel would remain in the occupied West Bank "for 5,000 years" in support of annexing the West Bank.

In January, Bennett and Shaked also supported the opening of a new 'apartheid road' connecting Jerusalem with the northern settlements was met with relative silence

Area C, under complete IOF control, faces tight restrictions on issuing Israeli approved building permits.

As a result, Palestinian homes and buildings face routine demolitions and Palestinians systematically suffer from forced evictions and homelessness.

According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in the West Bank, 73 Palestinian structures have been [demolished](#) and 119 Palestinians have been displaced in just the first two months of 2019 alone.

In the last two weeks of February, Israel demolished 26 of the total 73 Palestinian-owned structures, including seven structures, in occupied East Jerusalem.

Around 45 people were displaced by the mid-to-late February wave of demolitions.

According to Palestinian sources, Israel also [destroyed](#) parts of three donor supplied water connections, jeopardizing drinking water source of of 18,000 Palestinians in Area C.

The rapid demolitions are part of a renewed effort to spur a new wave of forced displacement of Palestinians.

According to **Hadash MK** and **Professor Yousef Jabareen**, the settlement plan would be followed by the construction of a new Arab ghetto in Galilee.

Disclosing [the plans](#) to Arabic-language radio station "Al-Shams," or the Sun, Jabareen said that the ghetto will be built on an area of 3 thousand acres, constructing about 15,500 housing units for about 72 thousand people, displaced from places in northern 'Israel' and possibly from the West Bank.

"The plan did not take into account the situation of the Arab population and their needs, and there is a period of 60 days to appeal the plan," Professor Jabareen told Al-Shams.

The documents Jabareen referenced also plan for the occupation of over 260,000 acres of

land in the Al-Naqab region and displacement of at least 26,000 Palestinians from towns and villages in area as well.

With less than six weeks left to the next Knesset elections, the new right-wing coalitions are attempting to consolidate their decision-making powers and expound upon illegal settlement expansions.

The recent indictments of **Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu** for bribery and fraud have posed a challenge to the current right wing administration and allied factions in forming a coalition.

A [recent](#) poll published on Israeli media showed a first-time reversal for the right block, with 59 seats as opposed to the center-left's 61.

Fast tracking aggressive settlement expansion comes at the presence of the instability of the current administration.

In hopes of appealing the US and fearing resistance, Netanyahu had previously [blocked](#) the advancement of a number of bills aimed at annexing Ma'aleh Adumim and other Jerusalem-area settlements in January 2018, which would bring them under jurisdiction of the Zionist-held city.

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