

Palestinians Removed from Jerusalem Home to Make Way for Israeli Settler Takeover

Israeli authorities storm the home of Sub Laban family in occupied East Jerusalem and force the family out

By [Middle East Eye](#)

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Israeli forces removed a [Palestinian](#) family from their home in [occupied](#) East Jerusalem early on Tuesday morning to make way for settler groups to take it over.

Around 20 heavily armed officers stormed the house in the Old City at dawn, forcing the current residents, the Sub Laban family, out of the building they have lived in for 70 years.

Mustafa Sub Laban, 72, was inside the house when officers arrived, while his wife, Nora Sub Laban, 68, was outside.

The house is located in Aqabat al-Khalidiya neighbourhood, near al-Aqsa Mosque.

"They [Israeli forces] don't know democracy... They are a government of criminals, thieves who have stolen everything from us," Nora told local media after returning to her home to find it seized by police.

According to local media, eyewitnesses reported that Israeli forces, who were reinforced with special units, set up military checkpoints around the neighbourhood and surrounded the family home before storming it.

Videos shared online showed members of the family pushed out into the streets, shouting and crying in distress.

"They have stolen homes, land, youth, children, women, they have stolen everything. The whole world witnessed what they did in Huwwara, Jenin, Nablus, Silwan and in Sheikh Jarrah as well as the Old City of Jerusalem and the al-Aqsa Mosque," Nora said, sitting outside her

home.

“I am surrounded by Israeli settlers, we are the only Arabs left here in this home. They hate us, you can see one of the settlers dancing around here, happy that they are taking our home from us.”

"Jerusalem remains Arab"... Jerusalemite Nora Sub Laban in front of her house in the Old City of occupied Jerusalem, after the occupation forces and settlers seized it pic.twitter.com/wBwX5zhaKm

— AlQastal News (@QastalNewsEn) [July 11, 2023](#)

Activists had come out to support the family and denounce the Israeli forces' use of violence to seize the home. They were quickly dispersed along with journalists at the scene.

Police arrested at least five people, according to media reports.

The removal of the family comes after the Israeli Supreme Court previously ruled in favour of a settler group, the Galicia Settlement Association, which claimed the house was owned by Jews before 1948.

The Sub Laban family had been renting the house from the Jordanian government since 1953, with Nora living there since she was born.

The family had been fighting the expulsion attempts in Israeli courts since 2010.

“Imagine a family where the parents are all the time going to the Israeli court, where they're putting all their money to a lawyer just to protect their property,” Ahmad Sub Laban, Mustafa and Nora's son, previously told MEE.

“I remember when I was young, my parents would always be going to the court. It was awful, all the time.”

Nearly 700,000 Israeli settlers live in more than 250 settlements and outposts across the West Bank and East Jerusalem in violation of international law.

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Featured image: Nora Sub Laban is seen outside of her home after being forcibly removed by Israeli forces (MEE/Oren Ziv)

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