



# KNOW THE FACTS...ABOUT THE WALL!

Produced by the Palestinian Environmental NGOs Network  
(PENGON)/Apartheid Wall Campaign

## The Wall

- Israel plans to build the Wall in the entire West Bank: from the northwest to the southwest inside the 1967 Green Line as well as from the northeast to the southeast west of the Jordan Valley
- Currently, the Wall is being built in the Qalqiliya, Tulkarem, Jenin, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem areas.
- The Wall is **not** being built **on**, **or** in most cases even **near** the Green Line.
- It is expected to be **at least** 360 kms long, and a total of 700 kms if it completely surrounds West Bank.
- Estimated to be at least three times as long and twice as high as the Berlin Wall.
- The Wall will be composed of various sections, of which the Wall will be either concrete and/or barbed wire.
- The concrete Wall will average 8 meters (25 feet) high, with tens of armed concrete watchtowers, and a buffer zone of 30-100 meters wide to make way for electric fences, trenches, cameras, sensors, and security patrols.
- The Wall's buffer zone has been deemed by the military a no-man's land, paving the way for large-scale demolitions.
- The Wall is located in many places just meters away from homes, shops, and schools.



## Land Confiscation and Razing

- 10% of the West Bank will be confiscated by and for Israel because of the route of the Wall!
- Some 150,000 dunums—2% of the West Bank--are to be confiscated in the northern or "first phase" of the Wall, under the Israeli self-declared "security zone".
- At some points the Wall is being built 6 kms inside the Green Line.
- The path of the Wall's first phase, which has been modified various times in favor of confiscating more lands and annexing additional settlements, takes a route that annexes 10 settlements and the most fertile lands of 30 villages in the northern West Bank.
- The Yesha Council of settlers proposed alteration for the Wall, from Qalqiliya to northern Jerusalem, will bring the total number of settlers annexed to Israel to 343,000.
- As of December 2002, some 11,500 dunums of land have been razed for the footprint of the Wall, including the uprooting of 83,000 trees.



## Water

- Over 31 groundwater wells will be in the confiscated areas of the Wall's first phase.
- These wells' total discharge is equal to some 4 million cubic meters (MCM), which are either to be totally lost or extremely difficult to access and control.
- The Wall is separating water sources and networks from agricultural lands.
- Upon laying the groundwork for the Wall, Israeli bulldozers have destroyed some 35,000 meters of water pipes used for both agricultural and domestic use.
- A number of villages are to lose their **only** source of water.



## People and Livelihoods

- Some 35,000 people live in the areas around the Wall in the northern West Bank.
- Some 14,000 of these individuals, from some 17 communities, will be trapped between the Wall and the Green Line.
- Another approximately 20,000 individuals in the north, in some 3175 families, will be located east of the Wall but with their agricultural lands to the West, losing their livelihoods, sustenance, and heritage.

- The land confiscation, destruction, and severe restriction of movement will translate into the loss of 6,500 jobs.
- The olive oil production of the villages west of the wall, some 2200 tons of olive oil per season, will be destroyed.
- So will the production of 50 tons of fruits and over 100,000 tons of vegetables.
- Some 10,000 grazing animals will not have access to their grazing lands.
- To date some 100 buildings have been demolished, the majority of which have been stores and have been an important source of income and survival for a number of communities.
- Additional stores and homes have already received demolition orders which are expected to take place in the very near future.
- A number of small villages, or hamlets, which are only meters away from the Wall have been told by the military that their proximity to the Wall will deem most of their community demolished.
- Case Study: Jayous, in the Qalqiliya District, has already had 72% of its lands confiscated, some 8,600 dunums and 7 groundwater wells. At least 300 families are losing their only source of income.
- If completed as planned: 95,000 Palestinians will be isolated, or 4.5% of West Bank population. In addition 200,000 in East Jerusalem will be totally isolated from the rest of the West Bank.
- The settlers' proposal to modify the Wall will isolate another 110,000 Palestinians for a total of 400,000 isolated behind the Wall, including East Jerusalem.



## **The Israeli Position**

- Both Labor and Likud are consistently and strongly in favor of the Wall.
- A June 24, 2002 poll in *Ma'ariv* showed that 69% of Israelis support the Wall.
- The settler movement and other ultra-rightwing groups have only recently begun to publicly support the Wall following the publication of the Yesha Council expansion map. The settlers' council worked on the map—its path and lobbying for its support--together with the Ministry of Defense.
- An estimated 25 Israeli companies have been contracted to work on the Wall.
- Some 250 bulldozers are working to lay the groundwork for the Wall.
- An illegal tree-selling industry has been established, whereas the bulldozer drivers and construction companies are collaborating in uprooting trees in order to sell them.



## **Timeline**

- In April 2002, an order by the Israeli gov't steering committee for the Wall called for the immediate commencement of the Wall in the northern West Bank and the Jerusalem area.
- Construction of the Wall, including land confiscation and the uprooting of trees, began in June 2002, near the village Salem, west of Jenin.
- In September 2002, the first public map of the Wall—a portion of the northern part of the Wall—was made available to the public.
- In September 2002, the steering committee approved including Rachel's Tomb, in Bethlehem, within the borders of the Wall.
- On January 1, 2003, Israel officially celebrated the completion of the first 4 kms of the Wall.
- In mid-March 2003 the Israeli government announced that the Wall's path will be altered to include Ariel and Immanuel settlements as a part of the settlers' council proposal.
- The following week and in an Israeli government meeting to discuss the Wall, Israeli Prime Minister Sharon declared the building of another wall that will bring the settlements near the Jordan Valley under total Israeli control and dislocated from the rest of the West Bank. In this case the Wall's length will reach some 700 km.
- Israel has declared that the Wall will be completed by the end of 2003.

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