

RESISTING DEMOLITIONS IN PALESTINE



A BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT & SANCTIONS GUIDE

About the authors

This book is a **Corporate Occupation** project. Corporate Occupation was established in 2009. Our aim is to track corporate complicity in Israeli colonisation, militarism and apartheid, and to provide information-for-action for grassroots activists to use in their campaigns.

Corporate Occupation is run by writers from **Shoal Collective**.

Shoal is an independent co-operative of writers and researchers. We produce news articles, investigations, analysis and theory-based writing as a contribution to, and a resource for, movements that are attempting to bring about social and political change.

Underpinning our writing is the desire to foster grassroots resistance to capitalism by exposing

- The social misery caused by economic exploitation
- The ecological destruction inflicted in the interest of making profit for the few
- The distruction caused by unending wars, fought to control people and the natural world.

We explore and promote progressive, democratic alternatives to the dominant current economic and social structures. We want to work with people on the frontline of struggles around the world and amplify their stories.

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writing for social justice &
a world beyond capitalism

RESISTING DEMOLITIONS IN PALESTINE

A Boycott, Divestment & Sanctions Guide

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AJ MUSTE

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We'd also like to thank Active Stills for allowing us to use many of their photographs in this book. If you have any spare cash, you can donate to their project at <http://www.activestills.org/about.php> (click the link at the bottom of the page).

And thank you to all those who gave us hot sugary tea and Ramadan sweets while we were in Palestine.

Introduction & methodology

When we began writing this book, we set out to identify which international companies had supplied the construction equipment used in Israel's home demolitions during 2018. We did this by going through each of the demolitions reported in 2018 and trying to identify the equipment.

What sort of equipment is used

Bulldozers are used in most house demolitions carried out by the Israeli authorities. We have used the word 'bulldozer' as a generic term to describe a range of construction equipment. More specifically these machines are known as excavators, compact excavators, backhoe loaders and wheel loaders. Some of these bulldozers have been equipped with armour for military use.

The other types of equipment used includes trucks, cranes and steamrollers.

Why have we done this?

We hope that the information in this book is used by campaigners to take action against the companies responsible for providing the equipment needed for Israel's demolitions.

The Palestinian civil society call for boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) encompasses a call for taking action against companies complicit in Israeli

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colonisation and apartheid. All of the companies mentioned in this book fall within the mandate of that call.

We hope that having identified specific bulldozers used for each demolition, our work can be used for legal advocacy. We believe that the companies supplying this equipment are complicit in war crimes being carried out against the Palestinian people, and we would like to see them held accountable.

But most of all we would like to see ordinary people organising at a grassroots level, and networking internationally, to hold these companies to account. We have included some ideas for action in the Company Profiles section of this book.

What sources did we use?

We could not have carried out this project without the excellent monthly Demolition and Displacement Report provided by ICAHD.

We also referred to the Demolition Alerts provided by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Our primary means of identifying the companies has been through examining the photos and videos of the demolitions that were shared on social media. These social media reports often came from eyewitnesses.

In some instances, where photographic evidence has not been available, we have identified the bulldozers that

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were used in a particular incident by interviewing witnesses.

We also used photos and information from B'Tselem's excellent reports, from the Wadi Hilweh Information Centre in East Jerusalem, Jordan Valley Solidarity, and Operation Dove in the South Hebron Hills. News reports from Ma'an News Agency, Quds News Network, Independent Middle-East Media Centre, Land Research Centre, Mondoweiss and Palestine Monitor were also very useful.

One problem we encountered was that many news agencies use stock/archive photos of demolitions, rather than photos from the actual event. Because of this, we made sure to double-check each photo against various news reports and eye witness accounts. We only verified that a company's bulldozer was involved in a particular demolition when we could be 100% certain.

Unfortunately there were a number of instances when we were could not be 100% sure whether the photo was of the actual event. Therefore, these demolitions are not included in our figures. And sometimes there was no photo evidence whatsoever of a demolition. We managed to identify the bulldozers in 52% of the incidents mentioned in ICAHD's monthly reports for 2018. In addition, we identified a handful of demolitions that were not counted in ICAHD's reports, and identified the companies supplying the bulldozers in some of those.

In this report, we have focused on the equipment used in Israeli demolitions. However, we have also identified

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some of the bulldozers that were used for:

- Building Israel's colonies and checkpoints
- Building apartheid roads on Palestinian land
- Building and maintenance of Israel's apartheid walls
- Setting up roadblocks to restrict Palestinian movement.

We have included some of these incidents in our company timelines. But we have by no means given a comprehensive list of every date they have occurred.

Apart from our identification of the construction equipment used, we have also provided several in-depth interviews with people who have experienced home demolitions. These were carried out by Corporate Occupation in the West Bank between April and July 2018.

When gathering information on shareholders, we used Bureau Van Dyck's Orbis Database, as well as information from the NASDAQ and NYSE. Information from the Who Profits? website, a project of the Coalition of Women for Peace, was also an invaluable source of information, particularly on Israeli companies.

For our writing on the history of the BDS campaigns against construction equipment companies up til now, we often used the excellent information provided on Electronic Intifada and bdsmovement.net as a resource. We have also drawn on the archived UK Indymedia website.

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How did we compile our statistics?

We compiled our statistics by counting the numbers of demolitions for each company, the number of people displaced (where this information was available), and the numbers of homes, schools, businesses and other structures demolished. In general, the number of people displaced in each demolition is sourced from ICAHD's monthly report.

When counting the number of homes destroyed, we have counted demolitions of a section of a house (for example, a room or a floor of a house) as a 'home demolition'. Demolitions of extensions of houses, and demolitions of tents and shacks that people live in, are also counted as 'home demolitions'.

We have not included instances in our general count of 'home demolitions' where Palestinians opted to demolish their own home, rather than be forced to pay the exorbitant costs of a demolition carried out by the Israeli occupation authorities.

When counting the number of structures destroyed, we counted a broad range of different structures. These might be businesses, garages, animal shelters, recycling plants, water tanks, walls, fences or solar panels. We have not counted roads, agricultural fields or trees as structures, and they are listed separately.

To see our spreadsheet documenting each demolition and the brand of bulldozer that was used, go to our website: corporateoccupation.org

ISRAEL'S HOME DEMOLITION POLICY

Israel demolishes Palestinian structures at a rate of approximately 450-1000 per year.

These demolitions are an integral part of Israel's colonial policy in the West Bank. They are designed to push people and communities out of areas that Israel wants to colonise, to make way for settlements and settler roads. And to build industrial areas, tourist amenities and agricultural areas to benefit the colonisers.



560
in 2015

1094
in 2016

419
in 2017

461
in 2018

Number of structures demolished per year in the West Bank¹

ISRAEL'S HOME DEMOLITION POLICY

During 2018, The Israeli state made it even easier for demolitions to be carried out. A new military order, issued in May, gives the Israeli Civil Administration more powers to authorise demolitions more quickly.²

The communities under threat

Israel's demolitions are concentrated in key strategic areas of planned settlement expansion in the West Bank. Hundreds of Palestinian communities could literally be wiped off the map by these demolitions. Some of the most threatened communities in the West Bank include those in the Jordan Valley, the E1 Area (between Jerusalem and Jericho) and the South Hebron Hills.

In East Jerusalem the situation is equally dire. 57 houses were demolished during 2018 alone.³ Israel's destruction of Palestinian homes in Jerusalem is part of a policy of ethnic cleansing of the city.

Palestinian communities face home demolitions inside Israel's 1948 borders too. The Palestinian Bedouin village of Al-Araqib was demolished for the 140th time in February 2019.⁴ Israeli-Palestinian residents of Palestinian towns such as Rahat, Al-Ludd (Lod), Ramla, Qalanswe, Jaljuliya, Tayibe and Sakhnin all experienced demolitions in 2018.⁵

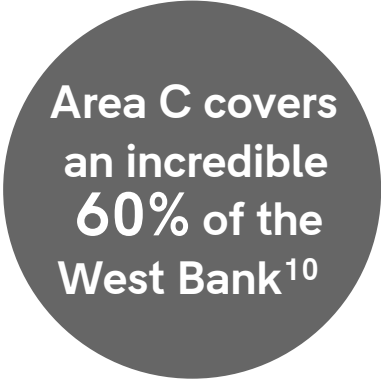
In Gaza, the Israeli military carries out demolitions of agricultural land and property in the area alongside Israel's wall, which runs along three sides of the Gaza Strip. The Israeli military has declared this area a 'buffer

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zone,⁶ and does not allow building there.

The pretexts given for demolitions vary, for example:

- The land has been declared 'state land', and thus Palestinians are forbidden to build on it, but the land is open for settlement expansion.⁷
- The land is deemed too close to one of Israel's colonial settlements.
- Collective punishment of people involved in the Palestinian resistance and their families.
- Not having 'proper' planning permission, particularly in Area C of the West Bank (see below). Planning permission is almost never granted for Palestinians. Since 2000, only 226 of 5,475 applications by Palestinians for planning permission in the West Bank have been granted.⁸
- The land that structures are built on is deemed agricultural land by the occupation authorities.
- The occupation authority deems the land a 'national park' or an area of archaeological interest.⁹
- The occupation deems the land a military area or firing zone.



**Area C covers
an incredible
60% of the
West Bank¹⁰**

ISRAEL'S HOME DEMOLITION POLICY

Areas A, B and C

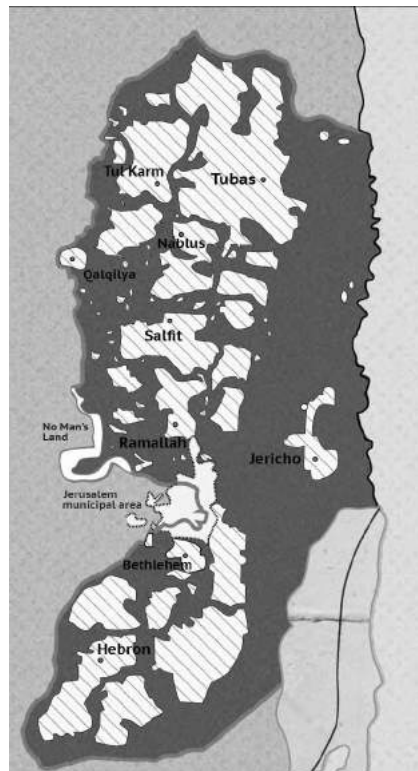
Under the Oslo agreement of 1993, the West Bank was divided into three zones of control. 'Area A' was supposed to be under Palestinian control, 'Area B' jointly controlled and 'Area C' under Israeli jurisdiction.

The agreement was supposed to be an interim measure until the creation of a Palestinian state which would take control of all three areas, save for any areas which were subject to future agreements between the parties.

Of course, the agreement never progressed to the next stage, but 25 years later the Israeli state is still twisting the interim measures to its advantage. State policy is to stamp out Palestinian livelihoods and communities in Area C, and give the land to the expanding Israeli settlements. Palestinians are barred from building any new structures, and this is enforced by demolitions.

Another key way that the Israeli occupation's Civil Administration justifies its demolitions is through

Right: Area C makes up roughly 60% of the West Bank. In this map, area C is coloured in dark grey. Map by B'Tselem



ISRAEL'S HOME DEMOLITION POLICY

denying communities 'master plans': maps of permitted construction which would allow them to build structures legally. In the West Bank's South Hebron Hills, for example, the Civil Administration claims that it is basing its demolition policy on the British mandate's 1942 'master plan' for the area, which, they argue, earmarked it as agricultural land.¹¹ The British 'master plan', of course, did not take into account population growth, or the movement of refugees who migrated to the area after the Zionist ethnic cleansing of the Naqab (Negev) desert from 1947-9.

None of the restrictions on construction apply to the hundreds of Israeli colonial settlements which have been established on Palestinian land, mostly in Area C. The expansion of these colonies is supported by the Israeli state.¹²

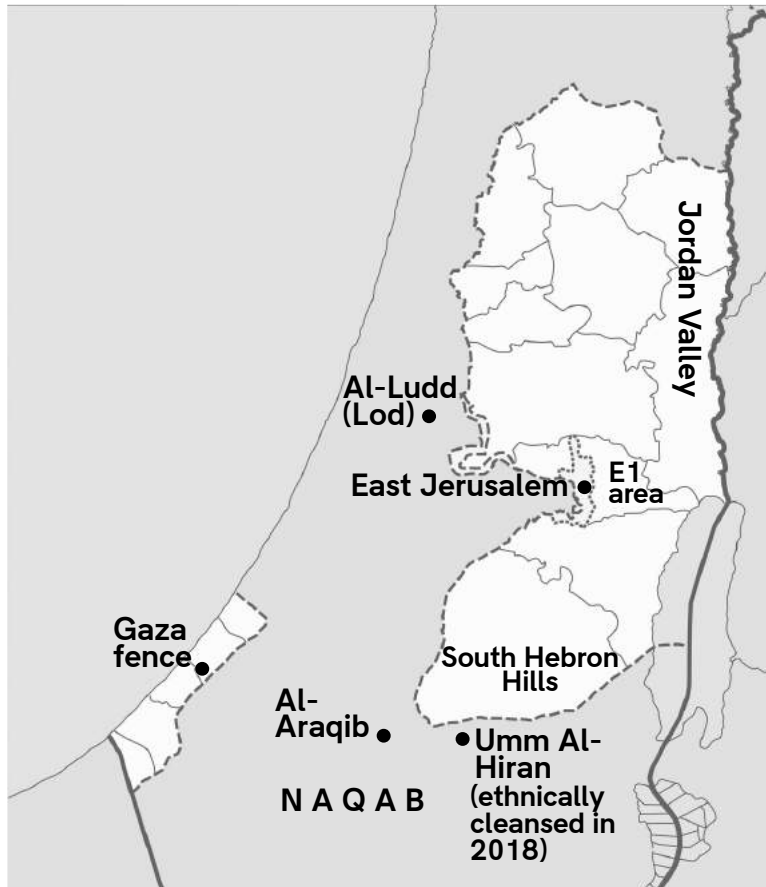
Whatever the pretext given, the overriding motive of Israel's demolition policy is always the same: the continuation of the theft and colonisation of Palestinian land, the marginalisation and wiping out of Palestinian communities, and their replacement with Zionist colonies.

In order to support the Palestinian struggle against Zionism, occupation, colonialism and ethnic cleansing, the international movement must focus on strongly resisting Israel's demolitions, as well as the international companies supplying the equipment needed to carry them out.

THREATENED COMMUNITIES

In this chapter we will briefly introduce some of the communities which are under most threat from the Israeli state's demolition policies.

Below: Locations regularly targeted by bulldozers & the communities threatened with extinction



East Jerusalem

After the initial wave of Zionist ethnic cleansing of Palestinian communities in 1948, the state of Israel was officially established. This state included the West of Jerusalem, but the East remained under Jordanian occupation. In 1967, the Israeli state launched a new colonial war in which East Jerusalem was militarily occupied by the Israeli army.

Across Palestine, 955,000 Palestinians were displaced as a result of the 1967 invasion.

In East Jerusalem, one of the occupation's first acts was to flatten the Palestinian neighbourhood of the Old City which was adjacent to the Western Wall. The destruction was deemed necessary in order to create an assembly area for Jewish worshippers. In the course of the demolition 650 or more people were made homeless, and one resident of the neighbourhood was killed.

The demolition of Palestinian homes, building of settlements and ethnic cleansing of Palestinian neighbourhoods has continued since then. East Jerusalem was formally annexed in 1980, when the Israeli parliament declared it the capital of Israel.¹

The Israeli state considers Jerusalem a part of the state of Israel. However, the Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem, who were living there when Israel occupied, are not considered citizens, but are instead treated as foreigners in their homes. There are now over 420,000

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Palestinian East Jerusalemites.² They are not full Israeli citizens, but instead carry ‘permanent residency’ ID cards as well as temporary Jordanian passports.

Permanent residency is the same status given to foreign nationals if they wish to reside in Israel.³ If Palestinian East Jerusalemites leave East Jerusalem, or cannot prove that the centre of their life is there, then their residency status is revoked. East Jerusalemites also cannot run to be mayor of the city, or vote in national elections.⁴

In June 1967, the Israeli occupiers held a census of the Palestinians living there. Those who were not present at the time of the census were not given the right to ‘permanent residency’, even if they had been displaced during Israel’s invasion. Their property was declared ‘absentee property’ and was liable to be seized by the colonisers. Seizures of so-called ‘absentee property’ are still ongoing today.⁵

East Jerusalemites have to apply for ‘family reunification’ if they marry a Palestinian living in, for example, Jordan, the West Bank or Gaza and wish to live with them in East Jerusalem. Family reunification is strictly restricted, with the intention of limiting, and decreasing, the number of Palestinians allowed to live in East Jerusalem.

Israel’s occupation of East Jerusalem, and claim to Jerusalem as the Israeli capital, is not internationally recognised as valid. However, last year President Trump’s right wing US government recognised Jerusalem as Israel’s capital, and moved the US

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embassy there.⁶

According to B'Tselem:

“Israeli policy in East Jerusalem is geared toward pressuring Palestinians to leave, thereby shaping a geographical and demographic reality that would thwart any future attempt to challenge Israeli sovereignty there.”⁷

Israel's home demolition policy in East Jerusalem is a part of this policy. After the occupation, the Jerusalem municipality became responsible for the management of land. Land in East Jerusalem was strategically reserved for ‘scenic areas’, national parks and archaeological parks. This re-zoning of land was intended to limit the possibilities for Palestinian communities to grow.

East Jerusalemites living in the resultant over-crowded communities are forced to build homes without permission. The municipality responds by demolishing homes and structures, and even charging residents the inflated costs of the destruction of their homes.

Coupled with the Jerusalem municipality's home demolition policy, the rapid construction of Israeli colonies in East Jerusalem is severely limiting the land available for Palestinian communities. Almost 210,000 Israeli colonists live in East Jerusalem.⁸

According to Israeli NGO Ir Amin, these settlements were initially created away from densely populated areas. However, since the late 80s there has been an increasing policy of establishing settler complexes

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inside Palestinian neighbourhoods, particularly in and around the Old City, in an attempt to colonise them and change their character.

West Bank

After the establishment of the Israeli state, the West Bank was under Jordanian rule until 1967. In 1967, Israel invaded and established a military occupation. Since then, over 413,000 Israeli colonists have established at least 241 settlements and outposts on Palestinian land.

The Israeli home demolition policy is intended as a continuation of the displacement of Palestinians, which began in the West Bank in 1967. It limits the growth of Palestinian communities and leaves the land free for the expansion of the settlements.

Below are some of the areas of the West Bank most affected by Israel's home demolitions:

E1 Area & beyond, Israel's plans for a 'greater Jerusalem'

The E1 Plan is a scheme to link the East Jerusalem settlements to the huge West Bank settlement of Ma'ale Adumim. Not content with this, the Israeli colonial strategy is to dominate the land to the east of Ma'ale Adumim, which is now occupied by the settlements of Kfar Adumim and Mishor Adumim. Bedouin communities, including Khan al-Ahmar and Sea Level Community, lay in their way.

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The intended effect will be to extend the Israeli state's territorial hegemony eastwards, from Jerusalem deep into the West Bank.

The Israeli state also plans to erect a section of the West Bank apartheid wall around Ma'ale Adumim and the surrounding area, separating it from the rest of the West Bank.⁹

These plans are part of a colonialist scheme for a Zionist controlled 'greater Jerusalem', connecting East Jerusalem and its colonies to Ma'ale Adumim, Kfar Adumim and beyond in the east, Gush Etzion in the south-west and Neve Yaakov and Ramot in the north and north-west. This plan was announced by the Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak in 1999.¹⁰

The communities standing in the way of these expansion plans are the communities of Bedouin, mainly from the Jahalin clan. In 1950, the Jahalin Bedouin were displaced from Al Naqab (popularly called the Negev today), within Israel's 1948 borders. They settled in the areas around Jerusalem, but were displaced a second time in the early 90s to make way for the expansion of Ma'ale Adumim,¹¹ and a third time in the late 90s when the Mishor Adumim settlement industrial zone was built.¹² Those displaced were forced to move to Al-Jabal, an area close to the Jerusalem municipal rubbish dump.

According to B'Tselem, about 3,000 Bedouin escaped relocation, and are still living in the area around Ma'ale Adumin. About 1,400 of these Bedouin live in the E1 area, the rest live nearby.¹³

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The Israeli state plans to destroy the remaining 18 Bedouin communities which lie within the E1/Ma'ale Adumim enclave and relocate their residents to Al-Jabal. The plan would leave these Bedouin herding communities without land for their animals, unable to continue their pastoral lifestyle.¹⁴

In 2012, residents of the Bedouin communities around Ma'ale Adumim petitioned the Israeli Supreme Court against the relocation plans. As a result, the state undertook to assess whether the planned relocation site was suitable. This bought the communities a limited breathing space.

Khan al-Ahmar

Khan al-Ahmar, a Bedouin community lying between

Below: Khan al-Ahmar in 2018. Photo by Active Stills



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Mishor Adumim and Kfar Adumim, just beyond the E1 area, became a centre of Palestinian resistance against demolitions during 2018. In May 2018, the Israeli Supreme Court ruled that the state could demolish the village, and relocate its residents to an area close to Al-Jabal, referred to as West Jahalin.¹⁵

Hundreds of Palestinians and their international supporters began keeping a 24-hour vigil in Khan al-Ahmar's school, which had itself been built as an act of resistance against Israeli building restrictions. Corporate Occupation activists joined the residents in preparing for the expected demolitions.

On 4 July, the preparations for the demolitions began. Protesters stood in front of Liu Gong, JCB and Caterpillar bulldozers. The Israeli Border Police responded with violence and arrests.

The resistance carried on. The army and police put more and more pressure on the protesters, not allowing people in or out of the village, and surrounding people inside the village school.

At the same time, there was a huge international outcry against the planned displacements. The Palestinian Authority (PA), which argued that the planned E1/Ma'ale Adumim expansion was a ploy intended to make the establishment of a Palestinian state impossible, were outspoken against the demolitions. Some EU politicians also spoke out against the expulsion plans.

On 5 July, a PA petition was granted by the Supreme Court for a new appeal against the demolition. The

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Court had clearly been influenced by the international media storm around the planned displacements. Again, this bought the community time, the vigil continued and the residents' protests began to reach more people.

The international attention on Khan al-Ahmar continued. Amnesty International,¹⁶ the European Parliament,¹⁷ the United Nations¹⁸ and the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court¹⁹ all declared that the demolition of the village and expulsion of its residents would constitute a war crime.²⁰ In the UK, legal advocacy group Lawyers for Palestinian Human Rights wrote to UK company JCB, warning that they should stop their bulldozers from being used in Khan al-Ahmar, or risk complicity in a war crime.²¹

In early September, activists erected several new homes during the night as an act of resistance. This new neighbourhood was known as Wadi al-Ahmar.²² Two days later, Wadi al-Ahmar was demolished by the occupation's bulldozers.²³

The bulldozers returned to Khan al-Ahmar in October, continuing the levelling of land in preparation for demolition.²⁴ However, in late October, Prime Minister Netanyahu announced another delay to the demolition plans, after the Israeli Attorney General warned about the legal implications.²⁵

The resistance to the ethnic cleansing of Khan al-Ahmar was a significant victory in resisting Israeli colonisation plans during 2018. However, the village is still under threat. Netanyahu recently said that he would like the demolitions to take place before the Israeli general

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election in April 2019.²⁶

It is of paramount importance that the international solidarity movement does everything it can to try to stop a future demolition of Khan al-Ahmar. If the demolitions go ahead, it will mean that the 170 people who live there will lose their homes and livelihoods. It will also irreversibly uproot the community from its Bedouin culture.

If the destruction of Khan al-Ahmar goes ahead, it will also give the green light for the displacement of all the Bedouin communities who live in, or close to, the E1 area. That is why those of us who stand with Palestine should see it as of the utmost importance.

One key way that we can resist the planned demolitions is to point out that if companies like JCB and Caterpillar supply equipment for the demolitions, even indirectly, they will be complicit in a war crime. We can also take direct action, to show that we will not stand by while corporations profit from ethnic cleansing and displacement in Palestine.

Jordan Valley

There are around 11,000 Israeli settlers in the Jordan Valley and 65,000 Palestinians.²⁷ The Jordan Valley, together with the Dead Sea, makes up the eastern third of the West Bank. B'Tselem states that the Israeli authorities are trying to drive out over 50 Palestinian communities from the Jordan Valley.²⁸

Almost 90 per cent of the Jordan Valley has been

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designated as Area C: West Bank land that is under full Israeli control. Virtually all Palestinian construction in Area C is banned by the Israeli authorities, for any purpose, including housing and infrastructure.

About 46 per cent of the Jordan Valley's area has been declared a 'closed military zone', used for military training. Groups of soldiers can be seen lurking in the hills as they carry out military exercises, and Palestinian homes, farms, and water supplies are regularly destroyed by the military. Villages are declared military firing zones,²⁹ with residents forced to evacuate their homes on little to no notice.

People live under constant surveillance, under the gaze of an increasing number of cameras stationed along road sides.

Palestinians in the Jordan Valley also face regular harassment from settlers and soldiers, whether it be violence, theft, abuse, or the destruction of crops.

“My family [has] goats and sheep,” Hasan, a young farmer from the Jordan Valley told Corporate Occupation in May 2018. “If we are as little as 100 metres from the settlement fence, the soldiers come and shoot to scare our sheep. Sometimes the soldiers kidnap us shepherds and the sheep escape everywhere.” He says that shepherds have been detained by soldiers and not released to retrieve their sheep for several hours.³⁰

Israeli settlement expansion in the Jordan Valley is driven by Zionist colonialism, but another motivation is

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that there is big money to be made by Israeli agricultural companies in exploiting cheap Palestinian labour on fertile land. With agricultural livelihoods under attack and freedom of movement massively restricted by the occupation, many Palestinians from across the West Bank are forced to work in the Jordan Valley's vast agricultural settlements. They are routinely paid below the Israel minimum wage, which they are legally entitled to.³¹

Plans for annexation

The Israeli state has long planned to annex the Jordan Valley to the state of Israel. In 2013, right-wing members of the Israeli parliament voted in favour of a symbolic bill calling for the Valley's annexation.³² Although the bill was not legally binding, it clearly shows the intentions of Israeli politicians.

In November 2018, grassroots group Jordan Valley Solidarity published an article detailing Israel's new plans for the northern Jordan Valley. The plan aims to link up 13 illegal colonies to form one large agricultural area and would require the expulsion of Palestinian Area C communities in the area.³³

Demolitions enabling colonial land grabs

Israel's demolition policy ensures that Palestinian communities can't expand, leaving the land empty, and ready to be grabbed by the Jordan Valley's expanding colonial settlements.

During 2018, regular home demolitions took place in the

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Jordan Valley in communities including Bardala, Ibziq, Fasayil al-Wusta, Al-Auja, Furush Beit Dajan, Al-Jiftlik and Al-Hadidya.

The struggle for water in the Jordan Valley

The Israeli Civil Administration enforces Israel's control of water in the Jordan Valley by demolishing Palestinian water pipes. The occupation authorities argue that the pipes have been set up without the proper permission.

On 5 September 2018, occupation authorities destroyed water pipes in Furush Beit Dajan with a JCB bulldozer, cutting off the water to the local school.³⁴

Over the summer, residents of the northern Jordan Valley held a series of protests, demanding the right to water. They are currently raising money to dig a Palestinian water well, in defiance of Israeli building restrictions.³⁵

Jordan Valley Solidarity is also challenging Israel's demolition policies by building new schools across the Jordan Valley (see page 56). These acts of defiance are intended to reaffirm the right of Palestinian communities to exist, in the face of Israel's bulldozers.

South Hebron Hills

Another area of the West Bank where communities are particularly threatened is the South Hebron Hills.

In May 2018, Corporate Occupation researchers visited the village of At Tuwani in the South Hebron Hills to talk

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about the resistance to home demolitions in the area. At Tuwani is the only Palestinian village in the immediate area where residents have permission to build new structures in a limited area. Over 30 nearby villages, including Khirbet al-Halaweh, Susiya, Al-Mufaqqara, Um al-Kheir, Tuba, as well as the Masafer Yatta hamlets, are subjected to constant demolitions and orders to stop work by the Israeli Civil Administration. These villages are also prevented from being connected to a water or power supply.

One key way that the Israeli authorities prevent Palestinians from building in these communities is by refusing to grant them ‘master plans’, or maps of permitted construction which would allow them to build structures legally. The Civil Administration claims that it is basing its position on the British mandate’s 1942 ‘master plan’ for the area, which, they argue, earmarked it as agricultural land.³⁶

The Civil Administration’s policies are designed to allow the expansion of Israeli colonies in the area, including the colonial outposts of north-west Susiya, Avigayil, Mitzpe Yair, Havat Ma’on, Nof Nesher, Asael and Sansana.

We spoke to activists from an anti-occupation youth group called Youth of Samud³⁷ (‘Samud’ means ‘steadfast’), as well as several other Palestinian activists and international volunteers from Operation Dove, an Italian peace group who are providing an international presence in the area at the request of local Palestinians. We were told that, even in At Tuwani where a ‘master plan’ has been granted for a small area, a kindergarten

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and water well at the edge of the permitted area have received a 'stop work' order and are threatened with demolition.

We asked about the home demolitions that have become a fact of life in the South Hebron Hills. Paula (not her real name), one of the Operation Dove volunteers, who has witnessed many demolitions firsthand, told us:

"It's not just the moment of demolition that affects the people. Demolitions affect their whole daily life. The demolitions typically happen at 2 or 3am in the morning and it's very scary for the kids."

Residents in the village of Susiya often ask Operation Dove's international volunteers to stay in the village because of the threat of demolition. We were told that the local kids don't want to put on their pyjamas at bedtime, as they want to be fully clothed in case the army arrives to carry out a home demolition.

Ali, an activist from the nearby village of Tuba, told us: "They don't make an appointment for the demolition. You never know when they're going to come."

The Israeli colonies in the South Hebron Hills are routinely violent toward local Palestinians. Operation Dove has documented constant harassment by armed settlers against Palestinian shepherds and school children. At the same time, the settlements are expanding rapidly.

We were told that local Palestinians think that Regavim,

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a far-right settler organisation, is operating drones in the area to monitor Palestinian construction, then handing information about construction to the Israeli occupation authorities so that they can carry out demolitions.

Like the Bedouin residents of Khan al-Ahmar, Palestinians in the South Hebron Hills have never stopped resisting the demolitions. The activists tell us that in the late 1990s, the Israeli military expelled over 700 South Hebron Hills residents from their homes, which the military had designated a live-fire zone, known as ‘firing zone 918’.³⁸ Palestinians had lived in the area, often making homes in caves, since before the occupation of the West Bank.

In response to the forced evictions, Palestinians began a legal battle and formed a Popular Resistance Committee, made up of representatives of all the communities in the South Hebron Hills. The Popular Committee began organising with international and Israeli activists.

As well as fighting the evictions through the courts, local residents and their Israeli and international supporters engage in civil disobedience to try to stop the demolitions.

Ali explained that:

“From 2015, the state reacted to people resisting the demolitions by beginning to close off the areas where the demolitions were taking place, and by using more violence against the people. Civilian workers have started to be employed to remove people’s things from

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the houses because the people refuse to take them out.”

The reclaiming of Sarura

In 2017, activists decided to take their resistance a step further by reoccupying one of the villages which had been forcibly evicted.

Sami Huraini, of Youth of Samud, explained:

“We decided to make a camp in 2017 in a village called Sarura, situated 2km away from At Tuwani. Surura had been evicted in 1997. The people had been forced to leave as a result of harassment by settlers from Havat Ma’on, an illegal outpost. We were worried that the land would be taken by the settlements of Ma’on and Avigail. The settlers want to connect these two settlements, but the Palestinian villages are in the way of these two settlements from being connected together.”

According to Ali: “We wanted to bring back life to the village.”

Sami continued:

“On 19th May 2017 we went with international activists and Israeli leftists to set up tents in the village. We also set up generators. There are caves in the village, and we started work inside them.

Two days later, the army raided the village and confiscated our tents. After that, we moved to the other side of the village. We stayed there and the army kept coming and confiscating everything we had. They told

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us that we could do what we wanted in the caves, but not in the firing zone.”

The military came with a JCB bulldozer and confiscated materials which the activists were using to renovate the caves and make them habitable. The activists recently installed a toilet, but they received a demolition order and are expecting the army to demolish it at any moment.

When we contacted them in August 2018, the activists were doing shifts, maintaining a 24 hour presence in Sarura. Ali explained:

“We try to support the owners of these caves to come back to their land. But the families are still a bit scared to come back because of the harassment.”

The activists have fully renovated one of the Sarura caves, and are working on a second one. They are also planting olive trees.

Israeli colonists from the settlements of Ma'on and Avigail often come to Sarura during the night to harass the activists, tear down their Palestinian flags and destroy trees. When we met with Sami, his leg was in plaster because settlers had deliberately driven into him with a quad bike.

Sami described what happened after he was attacked in March 2018:

“The police showed up at the same time that the ambulance arrived, but they did nothing at all. It's clear

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for us that they are giving the settlers all the protection they need. The settlers are allowed to move around in the middle of the village, and carry a gun if they want to. Sometimes the settlers come into the village with the protection of the army. The army throws tear gas and sound bombs at Palestinians to allow the settlers to enter.”

Sami pointed out that the Civil Administration rarely demolishes illegal buildings set up by the settlers:

“To build inside a settlement outpost is illegal, but in Havat Ma’On they’re cutting trees and building new houses. It’s very rare to find a demolition order against them. The army did demolish one settler house outside the outpost. But they’ll rebuild it for sure.

The army and Civil Administration want to keep the settlers happy. It keeps going on and on. They are pretending that there’s justice between settlers and Palestinians, but only one in a thousand illegal [settlement] outpost houses are demolished.”

Since Palestinians came back to Sarura, the army has arrested many people. According to one Operation Dove volunteer, all of the activists who have been in Sarura have been arrested. Sami told us:

“The army have raided the camp and arrested four or five people, including one who was 14. They took some to the checkpoint at Susya and some to Kiryat Arba for interrogation [both Susya and Kiryat Arba are Israeli settlements].

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They arrested me because Regavim [the Israeli settler organisation] complained about me. I spent one week in prison, then they gave me a fine. They try to make people fearful so they won't go to Sarura any more."

"These European companies are cooperating with the occupation"

The activists are determined to stay in Sarura until the occupation authorities grant the village a master plan, like in At Tuwani. According to Sami:

"People will continue to defend Sarura. Our resistance there is making big trouble for them. They're getting tired of us, and the army has stopped raiding the village so much. We need to have a lot of strength to carry on."

We asked Ali if he thought that the companies supplying the bulldozers share responsibility for the destruction of people's homes.

"For sure they are responsible," he replied. "These European companies are cooperating with the occupation."

Ar-Rakeez

Since our interview with Youth of Samud, we have heard that resistance to demolitions and displacements has continued in the South Hebron Hills. During 2019, local Palestinians secretly renovated several caves in the tiny hamlet of Ar-Rakeez.

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Most of the residents of Ar-Rakeez had moved to the nearby town of Yatta, driven out by Israel's building restrictions, demolitions and settler harrassment. Now four families plan to return to live in Ar-Rakeez again.³⁹

1948 Israel

Israel's demolitions are not confined to the territories it invaded an occupied in 1967. They are part of a process of ethnic cleansing that has been going on since the Zionist ethnic cleansing campaign of 1947-48, known as al-Nakba, or 'the catastrophe'. 750,000 Palestinians fled or were forced from their homes during the Nakba.⁴⁰

When the state of Israel was officially established in 1948, this ethnic cleansing did not stop. The Israeli military was forcing the Bedouin out of the Naqab en masse until the early 1950s.

Israel's home demolition policy is a continuation of the Nakba, an attempt to limit the expansion of, marginalise and - in some cases - erase entire communities of Palestinian citizens of Israel.

During 2018, the Israeli authorities carried out demolitions in Al-Araqib, Rahat, Al-Ludd, Ramla, Qalansawe, Hurah, Sakhnin, Umm al-Fahm, Jaljuliya and Umm Nmeila.

The Naqab region, in the south of 1948 Israel, is by far the worst affected area. In 2011, the Israeli government announced the Praver Plan, a blueprint for the expulsion of tens of thousands of Bedouin from the

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‘unrecognised’ villages of the Naqab. The plan was shelved in 2013 after intense protests.⁴¹

A further threat to the Bedouin residents of the Naqab is the Jewish National Fund’s Blueprint Negev, which intends to establish and support Jewish communities throughout the Naqab. Announced in 2003, the project is clearly aimed at the Judaisation of the Naqab. The JNF is also involved in the planting of trees in the Naqab, preventing Bedouin residents of the Naqab from herding their animals and aiming to fundamentally change the character of the Naqab, erasing all trace of Palestinian culture.⁴²

In the Naqab, the Israeli state is razing entire villages, with the intention of replacing them with new Jewish communities. In 2015, the Israeli Supreme Court gave the go-ahead for the Israeli Lands Administration to demolish the entire village of Umm al-Hiran and build a town called Hiran.⁴³ Admittance to the planned kibbutz community of Hiran will be reserved for Jewish citizens of Israel only.⁴⁴

Since 2015, residents of Umm al-Hiran have been harassed to leave their homes. In April 2018, faced with the prospect of bulldozers arriving imminently, the residents of Umm al-Hiran finally agreed to leave their homes and move to the town of Hura.⁴⁵ The villagers were justifiably afraid that violence would occur if the demolitions took place. The previous year, a man had been killed during a demolition in the village.

Adalah, the Legal Centre for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, who represented Umm al-Hiran in court, made

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the following statement:

“Adalah sees the demolition of Umm al-Hiran and forced displacement of its residents as an act of extreme racism, embodying Israel's colonialist land policies with the backing of the entire Israeli court system. Israel is moving forward with the destruction of Umm al-Hiran in a plan – reminiscent of the darkest of regimes such as apartheid-era South Africa – to build a new Jewish-only town on its ruins.”

Also in the Naqab, at the time of writing, the entire Bedouin village of Al-Araqib has been demolished a total of 140 times. In 2018 it was demolished 13 times by the Israeli police and the Israeli Lands Administration. Volvo machines were the most frequently used bulldozer in the demolitions.

The ancestors of the Bedouin residents of Al-Araqib have been there for over two centuries.⁴⁶ The land of Al-Araqib was expropriated by the Israeli state in 1953, under the Land Appropriation Law. The law effectively stole the land from beneath the feet of residents of Al-Araqib and other Bedouin communities in the Naqab.

The villagers of Al-Araqib were forced to leave in the 1950s, but have persistently returned to their lands, where their ancestors are buried in the village graveyard. In 1998, the Jewish National Fund applied to plant trees on the land of Al-Araqib. Fearing that their village would be lost, the residents of Al-Araqib decided to return for good.⁴⁷

Since then they have experienced hundreds of

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demolitions of their homes, and have even had their homes and crops sprayed with a toxic chemical by the Israeli Lands Administration. Every time the village is demolished, the villagers rebuild it again.

The Bedouin of Al-Araqib have attempted to assert their right to their land in the Supreme Court. For many years the courts would not even entertain any argument over the ownership of the land. However, in 2015 the community had a legal breakthrough when the court affirmed their right to challenge the state's ownership claims.⁴⁸ Despite this, demolitions of the village have continued and have accelerated in recent years.

At the end of 2018, Sheikh Sayeh Abu Madi'am was sentenced to ten months in an Israeli prison for 'trespassing' in his own village.⁴⁹ His imprisonment is a new step in the state's campaign to harass the villagers of Al-Araqib off their land. Abu Madi'am told Oren Ziv of 972 Magazine:

"They sprayed our crops [with pesticides] for years and did not succeed. They demolished our buildings and did not succeed, They destroyed our future and the future of our children and did not succeed. They are left with only one option: to do away with the people of Al-Araqib and send them to prison. If they think sending me to prison will act as a deterrent, they're making a big mistake. I believe justice is on my side."

Residents of Al-Araqib are currently holding regular vigils in the village against the demolitions.



Sheikh Sayeh Abu Madi'am walks into Maasiyahu prison, in the city of Ramla, to serve 10 months, after he was convicted of unlawfully entering and trespassing on public land, 25 December 2018. Photo by Active Stills

Gaza

The Gaza Strip is currently under Israeli siege, surrounded by an apartheid wall on three sides, and now even a marine barrier built at sea.⁵⁰ Along the perimeter of Israel's apartheid wall is an area which the Israeli military deems a 'buffer zone.'⁵¹ Palestinians who enter it risk being shot.

Caterpillar's D9 military bulldozers make regular incursions into this buffer zone to raze Palestinian farmland and carry out repairs on the razor wire and apartheid wall that separates Palestinians in Gaza from

the territories seized by the State of Israel in 1948. During the incursions into Gaza, Palestinians are regularly shot at.

Since 30 March 2018, people in Gaza have been carrying out regular protests at the wall, known as the Great March of Return. They have been met by deadly gunfire from Israeli snipers and volleys of tear gas. At the time of writing, at least 190 protesters had been killed since the beginning of the movement.

Caterpillar D9 bulldozers are used to flatten piles of sandbags and earth in the Gaza 'buffer zone' which protesters might use to shelter from the sniper fire.⁵² By allowing its equipment to be used in this way, Caterpillar is making itself complicit in Israel's siege of Gaza, and its murderous repression of Palestinian protesters.

Furthermore, bulldozers supplied by international companies are currently being used to strengthen the Gaza apartheid wall, tightening Israel's stranglehold on the Strip.⁵³

**IN 2018
THE ISRAELI MILITARY
USED CATERPILLAR
BULLDOZERS TO
INVADE GAZA**

**86
TIMES**

.....
**ACCOMPANIED BY DRONES,
THEY FLATTENED LANDS,
STRENGTHENED THE APARTHEID WALL
& OFTEN FIRED AT PEOPLE**

PUNITIVE DEMOLITIONS

Israel has a policy of demolishing the houses of people accused of being involved in resistance against the occupation. These demolitions are often carried out on family homes after the accused person has been arrested or killed by the Israeli occupation forces.

Punitive demolitions are collective punishments, designed as acts of vengeance against the families of those involved in armed resistance. They are designed to punish people who were not involved personally in armed resistance. The demolitions are often carried out before the accused has stood trial.

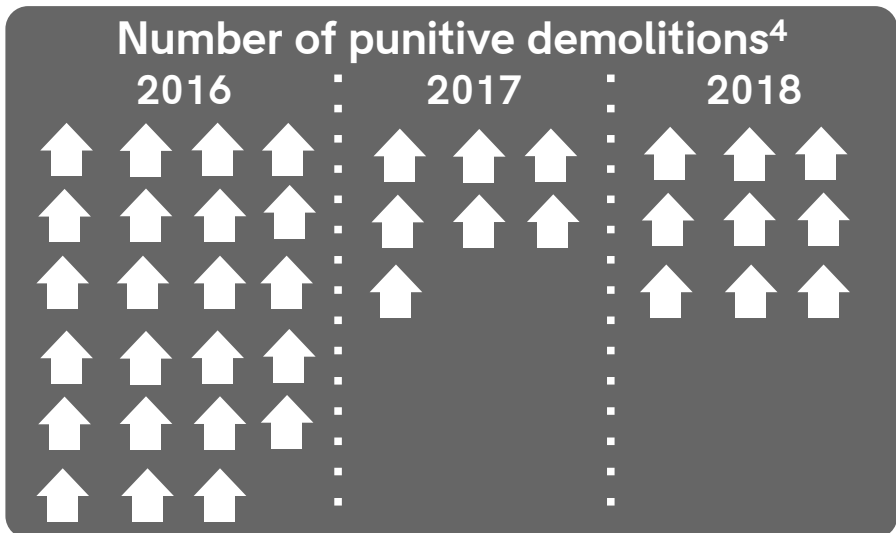
“The policy of punitive house demolition is, by definition, meant to harm people who have done nothing wrong and are suspected of no wrongdoing,” said B’Tselem, “...but are related to Palestinians who attacked or attempted to attack Israeli civilians or security forces. In almost all cases, the individual who carried out the attack or planned to do so no longer lives in the house, as they were killed by Israeli security forces during the attack or were arrested and face a long prison sentence in Israel.”¹

PUNITIVE DEMOLITIONS

According to Human Rights Watch, “Punitive home demolitions are blatantly unlawful... the international law prohibition of collective punishment, including deliberately harming the relatives of criminals, is absolute... International law applicable to occupied territory has prohibited collective punishment since at least the Hague Regulations of 1899. Courts around the world have treated the imposition of collective punishments as a war crime.”²

Palestinians technically have the right to appeal to the Supreme Court to stop punitive demolitions. But the Supreme Court has upheld the policy as “proportionate”.

From 2005 to 2014, the Israeli military stopped its home demolition policy, after an internal review found that it “pushes the limits of the law”. The policy was reinstated after the new wave of Palestinian resistance began in



PUNITIVE DEMOLITIONS

2014.³

Punitive demolitions are almost always carried out by military bulldozers purchased from Caterpillar. However, some demolitions are carried out using explosives.

In December 2018, Netanyahu's education minister, Naftali Bennet, proposed a bill that would go one step further than the current punitive demolitions legislation. According to Mondoweiss, the proposed bill would mean that "within a week of an attack or attempted attack, the Israeli army's central command will be permitted to expel the relatives of the Palestinian assailants from their home towns to other areas of the West Bank."⁵

The draft bill was passed by the Ministerial Committee, despite opposition by the Israeli Attorney General. The expulsion of suspects' families would clearly be an act of 'forcible transfer', and therefore a war crime.

The companies supplying the bulldozers used in punitive demolitions are complicit in the commission of these collective punishments, a war crime under international law.

Punitive demolitions in 2018

Jarrar family

On 17 and 18 January, four houses belonging to the Jarrar family were destroyed in Wadi Burqin in Jenin. 16 people from three households were displaced.⁶

PUNITIVE DEMOLITIONS

Ahmad Jarrar was suspected of involvement in the fatal shooting of an Israeli settler. Ahmad was assassinated by Israeli forces one month later, on 3 February.⁷ The room where he had been hiding was demolished.⁸

As the heavily armed Israeli forces entered the village with two Caterpillar military bulldozers on 17 January, they were met with huge resistance from the Palestinian community. One Palestinian man was killed. Israeli human rights group B'Tselem reported that the military began one of the demolitions when the family were still inside, without giving them any prior warning.⁹

While the military were searching for Ahmad, soldiers came to harass the family several times during the night. Dogs were unleashed on the family and women were subjected to humiliating strip searches.¹⁰

Kmail family

On 13 March, Israeli forces pumped cement into a bedroom in Qabatiya belonging to Yusif Kmail. Yusif is in prison, accused of stabbing a settler.¹¹ Yusif's father told the Land Research Centre:

“About 1am, members from the Israeli occupation forces, wearing black painting on their faces, raided our building, terrorised us and forced us using weapons to get together in one room, then pumped cement inside Yusif's room, smashed some of our furniture before they withdrew.”¹²

The Israeli military had served a demolition order on the

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family for the entire house. However, after the family submitted an appeal, the Supreme Court ruled that only Yusif's room should be filled with cement.¹³

Konba family

On 23 April Israeli forces used explosives to demolish a house in Jenin. The explosion damaged four other houses. The house belonged to members of the family of a Palestinian man, Ahmad Konba, who was accused of participating in a fatal shooting of a settler in January 2018.

All of the family's appeals against the demolition had been overruled by the Israeli courts. The family members living in the house were not suspects in the attack.¹⁴

Palestinians resisted against the demolition of the home by throwing rocks. Israeli forces also claim that shots were fired at them.¹⁵

Dar Youssef family

On 28 August a house was demolished during the night in Kobar village, north of Ramallah. Kobar teenager Tariq Mohammed Dar Youssef had lived there at the time that he carried out a stabbing attack in Adam settlement, killing one Israeli. Tariq was shot dead following the attack.

Israeli forces shot live ammunition, sound bombs and tear gas at the Palestinians who protested against the demolition.¹⁶ The bulldozer used was a Caterpillar

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military wheel loader.¹⁷

Na'alwa family

On 7 October Ashraf Na'alwa was accused of shooting dead two Israeli settlers in Barkan settlement industrial zone, where he worked. Na'alwa's name had reportedly been given to the Shin Bet intelligence services by people who were being held and tortured.¹⁸

On 15 October, while Ashraf was still alive and in hiding, his family were issued a demolition order for their home.¹⁹ The family were given three days to lodge an appeal against the order. Several members of Ashraf's family had already been arrested and held for interrogation.²⁰

Ashraf was in hiding for two months before being hunted down and shot dead by Israeli special forces on 13 December.

On 17 December, soldiers used Caterpillar military bulldozers to destroy the family home in Tulkarem. In order to do so they had to force their way into an urban neighbourhood and violently disperse the community, who had gathered to defend the property.

During the course of the demolition, six Palestinians were shot, several arrested, and the local school and kindergarten were forced to close.²¹

Abu Hmeid family

On 18th December Israeli forces destroyed the home of

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72 year old Latifa Abu Hmeid, a prominent activist, in Al Amari refugee camp in Ramallah.²² The Abu Hmeid family had received an order that they must demolish their own house after one of their sons, Islam, was accused of throwing a marble slab at an Israeli soldier during a raid of the camp. The soldier, who was raiding Islam's home at the time,²³ died in hospital from his injuries.

The family's appeal to the Supreme Court against the demolition had been rejected. The judge in the case ruled:

"I am aware of the harm the demolition will cause to the building's residents. However... given the importance of an effective deterrence in our case and in general for the physical security of Israeli citizens, I am of the opinion that none of the harm involved here, as serious as it is, would justify reducing the scope of the demolition order."²⁴

In the early hours of the morning on 16 December, before Islam had been tried, at least 500 soldiers were involved in invading Al Amari camp to carry out the demolition. Hundreds of residents were forced out of their homes at gunpoint. People were herded to the football field of a nearby school and detained there. A pregnant woman, who entered labour while detained, was initially denied medical care.

Solidarity activists were protesting against the demolition inside the Abu Hmeid house, but were violently removed. In total 66 people were injured, before the building was destroyed using explosives and

PUNITIVE DEMOLITIONS

bulldozers.

The family's home had been demolished three times before. Latifa Abu Hmeid told journalists that she was proud of her son. She said: "This is our land, and as long as there is occupation, we will resist."²⁵

Below: The ruins of the Na'alwa family house after the punitive demolition on 17 December 2018. Six people were displaced. Photo by Active Stills



FORCED TO DEMOLISH YOUR OWN HOME

Palestinians in East Jerusalem, and Israeli-Palestinian citizens living within Israel's 1948 borders, are often faced with a terrible decision.

Presented with an order by the Israeli authorities, they are forced to decide whether to demolish their own home, removing all of their things and often paying to hire a bulldozer to knock their own house down. The alternative is to wait for the occupation authorities to knock it down, and be presented with the bill for the demolition, or prison time too.¹

In Wadi Qadoun, East Jerusalem, Murad and Johar Hashimeh were forced to demolish one room of their home, after they were threatened with having to pay \$16,000 in costs if they failed to do so. They decided it would be cheaper to do it themselves.

After the demolition, the family have been forced to live in overcrowded conditions, and are worried that the bulldozer that they hired damaged the walls of their house.²

A crowdfunding campaign was set up to support the

FORCED TO DEMOLISH YOUR OWN HOME

family. One member of the campaign, Nora Lester Morad, told Al Jazeera:

"It is a whole new level of depravity when an oppressor makes their victims pay for their own oppression, which is what Israel does by sending bills to Palestinians whose homes were demolished... But self-demolition goes even further. It forces Palestinians to participate in the violation of their own rights and physically implement their own dispossession. Self-home demolition is one of the many types of injustices that Israel does that are not well-known outside of Palestine."³

According to a 2012 report by the Palestinian legal centre, Al-Haq: "Forced self-demolition is being increasingly used as a tactic by the Israeli courts to avoid international pressure to stop house demolition in East Jerusalem."

Ziad Ameira, an East Jerusalemite who was forced to demolish his own house in 2013, explains the rise of the phenomenon:

"Some years ago it was not like this: the Israelis came and demolished the house themselves. Now it's more common that the people demolish their



**"It is
a whole new
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FORCED TO DEMOLISH YOUR OWN HOME

own houses. People generally never leave Jerusalem. There are people that live here in tents now, but the Israelis don't even allow them to live in tents or containers."

However, the problem is not only confined to East Jerusalem. There are reports of people being forced to demolish their homes inside Israel's 1948 borders too.

Here is a non-exhaustive list of people forced to demolish their own properties during 2018.

Forced self-demolitions: a timeline

JANUARY

16th: A home in Umm Batin in the Naqab (Negev), inside Israel's 1948 borders. The family had received a demolition order, stating that their house had been built without a permit & that they had to demolish it, or pay the cost of the demolition. The village does not have a 'masterplan', so residents are not able to apply for building permits.

FEBRUARY

28th: A house in Al-Issawiya, East Jerusalem, affecting a family of seven. A JCB bulldozer was used. The owner of the house, Khalil Ali, reported that he had no other choice but to demolish his house to avoid paying high costs to Jerusalem municipality.

FORCED TO DEMOLISH YOUR OWN HOME

MARCH

- **17th:** Part of a house, in Silwan, East Jerusalem. A demolition order ordered Ishak Shweiki to either demolish his home within 30 days or pay costs of \$17,000. ICAHD states: "The Shewiki family, who built a second floor six years ago to meet the growing needs of the family, were left with little choice other than to self-demolish their house, in order to protect the first floor that was built almost 100 years ago from being damaged. The demolition displaced the family of five."

- **19th:** A house in Jabal al-Mukaber. Faisal Mohammed Jum'a attempted to obtain building permits, but all his requests were rejected by Jerusalem municipality.

APRIL

- **27th:** A parking lot in Silwan, East Jerusalem. Eyad Ramadan was told by the Israeli police that if he didn't demolish his structure, he would be liable to pay costs of up to 60,000 NIS.

JUNE

- **24th:** A home in Umm Nmeila in the Naqab desert. The family had been threatened with a bill amounting to tens of thousands of NIS.
- **26th:** Two families demolished their houses in Sur Bahir, East Jerusalem. According to ICAHD, the families had been threatened with an exorbitant bill if they failed to carry out the demolition.

FORCED TO DEMOLISH YOUR OWN HOME

JULY

- **19th:** Seven structures, including homes, in Beit Hanina, East Jerusalem. ICAHD reported: "Two Palestinian families self-demolished their homes, after they lost a court case that was going on for several years, in which Israeli settler Ariye King had claimed ownership on the land the houses were built on."
- The family decided to demolish the houses rather than see Israeli settlers move into them. The families set up tents next to the demolished houses and resided in them. The court fined both families for building without an Israeli-issued building permit (the houses were built 17 years ago).

SEPTEMBER

- **10th:** One home in Al-Walaja. The family received an order from Jerusalem municipality to carry out the demolition or receive an inflated bill. Part of the house was demolished the previous week by Israeli forces.
- **14th:** A family from the 'unrecognised' Bedouin village of Sa'wah in the Naqab demolished their home after receiving an order from the Israeli authorities. Sa'wah is within Israel's 1948 borders.
- **21st:** A house in Beit Hanina, East Jerusalem. 14 people were displaced. The family was also charged \$13,000 by the Jerusalem municipality for building without an Israeli-issued permit. Their home had previously been demolished in 2004.

FORCED TO DEMOLISH YOUR OWN HOME

OCTOBER

- **8th:** One house in Beit Hanina, East Jerusalem, affecting 8 people, including 6 children. The Kawasbeh family had lived in the house for 10 years prior to receiving a demolition order.

- ICAHD reported that "the Israeli authorities had warned the family that they would be liable to pay a fine of up to 40,000 NIS (\$11,000) if the authorities had to carry out the demolition. In order to avoid paying the incredibly high fine, the family were left with little choice other than demolishing the house on their own."

"We live a real-life tragedy. Winter is around the corner and we have no home, no shelter. I don't know what I will do in the upcoming days."
-Ayman Kawasbeh

DECEMBER

- **3rd:** Forced self-demolition of a staircase and garage in Silwan, East Jerusalem.
- **8th:** A 130m² house in East Jerusalem. The family were threatened with a 60,000 NIS bill and two months in jail if they didn't demolish their home.
- Two brothers were forced to demolish their homes in Ras al-Amud, East Jerusalem. The demolition displaced 14 people, including 10 children, from two households.
- **15th/16th:** One house, displacing a family of 4, and one extension of a house, in Jabal al-Mukaber, East Jerusalem.

FORCED TO DEMOLISH YOUR OWN HOME

IN EAST JERUSALEM

15

HOMES WERE SELF-
DEMOLISHED

8

STRUCTURES WERE
SELF-DEMOLISHED

IN THE NAQAB

1

ENTIRE VILLAGE
WAS FORCED INTO
'VOLUNTARY' EXILE

3

FAMILIES WERE
FORCED TO DEMOLISH
THEIR HOMES

IN 2018



SCHOOL DEMOLITIONS

Palestinians who live in Area C communities are not allowed to build any structure without applying for a permit, which is almost impossible to get. This means that communities are not able to build a school to educate their children.

In many cases, and particularly in isolated Bedouin communities, this means that children have to travel long distances in order to go to school. Even worse, it may mean that children do not have the opportunity to go to school at all, and may instead end up working as child labourers in the Israeli colonial settlements.¹

According to Human Rights Watch (HRW):

“Over a third of Palestinian communities in Area C, the 60 percent of the West Bank where the Israeli military has exclusive control over building under the 1993 Oslo accords, currently do not have primary schools, and 10,000 children attend school in tents, shacks, or other structures without heating or air-conditioning, according to the UN.

About 1,700 children had to walk five or more

SCHOOL DEMOLITIONS

kilometers to school due to road closures, lack of passable roads or transportation, or other problems, according to 2015 UN estimates. The long distances and fear of harassment by settlers or the military lead some parents to take their children out of school, with a disproportionate impact on girls.”²

Building schools as an act of resistance

Israel’s demolition policy aims to gradually destroy Palestinian communities in Area C by preventing them from providing for themselves. The act of building a school, in defiance of the occupation’s restrictions, is an act of resistance aimed at keeping the community rooted on the land.

Grassroots group Jordan Valley Solidarity (JVS) have been involved in building many schools in defiance of the occupation’s building restrictions. They say:

“By supporting communities to create their own schools, JVS are doing a lot more than providing an education for the children who attend. We are establishing the right of Palestinian communities to build their own infrastructure, and we are creating the ‘facts on the ground’ that enable families to stay on the land they’ve been living on for generations.

We are creating the conditions that make it possible for the Palestinian Authority, NGOs and international donors to provide support to these communities that are so vulnerable to brutal ethnic cleansing by the Israeli state.

SCHOOL DEMOLITIONS

We are planning for the future, to ensure that we still have a strong and healthy community in the Jordan Valley when Palestinians achieve their right to independence and self determination.”³

Khan al-Ahmar school

Residents of Khan al-Ahmar are facing demolition orders for all of the structures in their village. Khan al-Ahmar’s school has been at the centre of the long campaign to save the community, and is the only school accessible to 160 children from five villages.

Volunteers from Israel and around the world helped to build the school in 2009, and ever since then the



SCHOOL DEMOLITIONS

villagers, and their supporters, have been fighting to save it.

According to Khan al-Ahmar community leader Eid Khamees, “the school has become the lifeline for this and the five surrounding communities.”

He said that children previously had to travel 15 to 22 kilometers to school, but that now, “a child can go to school without risking accidents or dealing with [taxi drivers] and the city. Now all girls go to school.”

He said that the international community had helped build the school and added, “is the international community unable to protect it?”⁴

At least 17 schools were demolished or confiscated between 2016 and 2018

The occupation authorities regularly carry out demolitions of West Bank schools. According to HRW, at least 12 schools in Area C were demolished, or had buildings confiscated between 2016 and April 2018.⁵

Corporate Occupation documented a further five demolitions and confiscations of schools and school property in the remainder of 2018, bringing the total to at least 17 school demolitions and confiscations from 2016-2018.⁶

Previous page: A man accompanies children home from Khan al-Ahmar school, 15 October 2018. Photo by Active Stills

SCHOOL DEMOLITIONS

As of April 2018, HRW considered 44 schools “at risk” of demolition, and said that the demolitions “could amount to war crimes”.⁷ According to the UN, 36 of these schools are in Area C of the West Bank, and eight in East Jerusalem.⁸

School demolitions are always fiercely resisted by Palestinian communities. Many planned demolitions have been averted through international campaigns, as was the case in Fasayil in the Jordan Valley.⁹

This year, thousands of Palestinians and their international supporters mobilised to defend Khan al-Ahmar and its school, (see page 20). Their resistance has been successful so far.



**According to
Human Rights
Watch, 44 schools
are at risk of
demolition**

Last year, the international community’s gaze was on the US embassy’s move to Jerusalem, as well as Khan al-Ahmar and the massacre of protesters during Gaza’s Great Return March. The occupation authorities destroyed several West Bank schools during this time.

Here is a list of the demolitions documented by ICAHD that took place in 2018:

SCHOOL DEMOLITIONS

4 February: Abu Nuwar

Israeli forces demolished two classrooms of Abu Nuwar school. Abu Nuwar is an isolated Bedouin community, situated close to the settlement of Ma'ale Adumim in the E1 area.¹⁰

Shoal Collective visited Abu Nuwar in May 2018 and spoke to local residents. They were told that the demolition was carried out by a **JCB** bulldozer, but that there were no photos available because the demolition happened at night.

Abu Imad, an Abu Nuwar resident, said:

“The closest school is 2km away. There is no transportation and there is no good road. It’s very tiring for of 5 or 6 year old children to make this journey.”

The community had decided to take direct action and build a school, in defiance of the Israeli courts. They were supported by international activists, and the EU donated caravans and solar panels. The school has been demolished, and the buildings confiscated, several times before.

According to Abu Imad: “Our fight is to keep our presence on the land.”

9 April: Khirbet Zanutah, South Hebron Hills

Israeli forces demolished a primary school, consisting of six structures, in the rural herding community of Khirbet

SCHOOL DEMOLITIONS

Zanutah.

The school had only been opened a month earlier, along with six other schools in the area, as part of a campaign to provide access to education for Palestinian communities in the area. The school served 33 children.

The village of Khirbet Zanutah has been fighting a long legal battle for the right to build permanent structures. However, the right to build has so far been denied, so the villagers were forced to take direct action by building the school without permission from the occupation authorities.¹¹

15 April:

After the demolition a few days before, villagers of Khirbet Zanutah put up makeshift tents for the children to continue their studies. However, even a tent isn't tolerated by the occupation authorities. Israeli forces returned a few days later and confiscated them.¹²

During summer 2018, the school was rebuilt with funds from the surrounding communities and from the Palestine Liberation Organisation's Colonisation and Wall Resistance Commission. However, at the start of the new term in September students and teachers were given an ultimatum, to take down the school themselves, or face another demolition.¹³

23 April: Jabal al-Baba, E1 area

According to ICAHD, Israeli forces demolished a class room in Jabal al-Baba, Jerusalem Periphery, affecting

SCHOOL DEMOLITIONS

151 children. Jabal al-Baba is one of the 46 Palestinian Bedouin communities in the central West Bank at high risk of forcible transfer.¹⁴

11 July: Khirbet Khilet a-Dabe, South Hebron Hills

The army, border police and Civil Administration confiscated two classrooms and demolished a path paved by residents at a school in Khirbet Khilet a-Dabe in the South Hebron Hills.

Israeli forces used stun grenades on local residents, including a group of school children, who tried to stand in the way of the demolition.

The classrooms had been intended to increase the school's capacity, so that ten more students could attend classes. These students previously had to be driven to a school miles away in the village of At Tuwani.

The residents had successfully obtained an order from the court to stop the confiscation, but it went ahead regardless.¹⁵

A **Volvo** bulldozer was used in the demolition, as well as a **Fassi** crane on a **Volvo** truck. See pages 148 and 165 for our profiles of Volvo (Sweden) and Fassi (Italy).

Since then, communities have raised funds to rebuild the school again.¹⁶

25 July: Jabal al-Baba, E1 area

SCHOOL DEMOLITIONS

Israeli soldiers invaded Jabal al-Baba Bedouin community again, and used a **JCB** bulldozer to demolish a kindergarten, which also served as a women's health centre. Many residents were assaulted in the process.

The demolitions were part of a concerted campaign to displace the community of Jabal al-Baba as part of the E1/Ma'ale Adumim settlement expansion plan (see page 18). Also see our profile of JCB (UK) on page 71.

The school has been demolished or dismantled three times within a year.¹⁷

The United Nations Relief Works Agency (UNWRA) condemned the demolition:

“This demolition comes against a backdrop of the intensification of Israeli measures in the context of plans for the relocation of communities. There are concerns that these communities in Area C of the West Bank at the outskirts of East Jerusalem face an increasingly coercive environment. UNRWA strongly condemns the demolition and calls for an immediate halt to such demolitions in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.”¹⁸

23 October: Ibziq, Jordan Valley

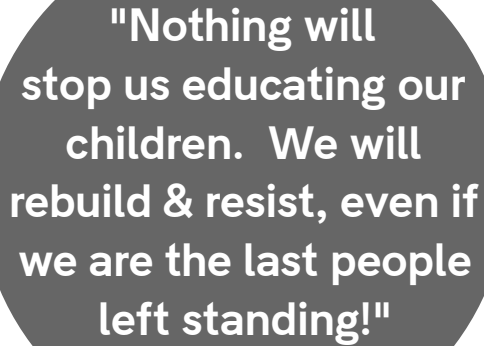
Israeli forces destroyed and confiscated two portacabins, which formed part of Ibziq school in the Jordan Valley.

Students and staff were detained while the demolition

SCHOOL DEMOLITIONS

took place, and the headmaster's phone was confiscated so that he couldn't call the Ministry of Education in Ramallah.

The teachers and staff of the school made this statement:



"Nothing will stop us educating our children. We will rebuild & resist, even if we are the last people left standing!"

“We call on international governments and their NGOs to put pressure on the Israeli Occupation Forces to stop preventing our children from receiving an education”.¹⁹

A Jordan Valley Solidarity activist spoke out, saying:

“Nothing will stop us educating our children. We will rebuild and resist, even if we are the last people left standing!”

The demolition was carried out with a **Hidromek** bulldozer, and the confiscation was done by a **Fassi** crane. See page 169 for our profile of Hidromek (Turkey).

8 November: Ibziq, Jordan Valley

Once again, the Israeli forces and the Civil Administration came to the village of Ibziq to confiscate part of the school. The cabin had been donated by Tubas council after the October demolition.

SCHOOL DEMOLITIONS

In addition, two residents' vehicles were confiscated by the military for being driven in a 'closed military zone'.

Ibziq is repeatedly targeted by the occupation. Residents are frequently evicted from the houses to make way for military training. In December 2018 alone, the village was evicted 4 times. Soldiers used tanks to flatten crops in fields.

5 December: As-Samu, South Hebron Hills

A **Volvo** wheel loader and a **Fassi** crane were used to confiscate and demolish a new school in As-Samu. Israeli forces surrounded the area and declared it a 'closed military zone', preventing anyone from coming close. The school had 7 classrooms for more than 50 children.²⁰

Below: school children attend classes after their school is demolished in the South Hebron Hills. Photo by Apa Images



9 schools were
demolished
or confiscated
in 2018

in **3** strategic
areas:

- Jordan Valley
- E1 Area
- South Hebron Hills





CALL TO ACTION

In 2018, thousands of Palestinians and their international supporters were blocking the occupation's bulldozers in Khan al-Ahmar.

The Palestinian Boycott National Committee (BNC) gave the following statement:

“Popular struggle and international solidarity have defended Khan al-Ahmar until today from expulsion, and have stopped the bulldozers manufactured by international corporations from inflicting destruction... It is the role of the BDS movement to mobilise global pressure against Israel's impunity in perpetrating war crimes and crimes against humanity and against corporate complicity in these crimes.”¹

They called on ordinary people around the world to take the following actions in solidarity with the people of Khan al-Ahmar, and all other Palestinian communities facing demolition by the Israeli state:

- **Name and shame corporations complicit in the crime:** Expose and denounce them in mainstream and social media. Their equipment and services are crucial for enabling Israel's policy of ethnic cleansing.
- **Organise protests at the offices of the JCB, Caterpillar,**

CALL TO ACTION

Volvo, Hyundai, Hitachi and LiuGong. Ask them to terminate their contracts with Israel's occupation forces, and to commit to halting the delivery of all further equipment or services that may be used by Israel in activities that violate fundamental human rights of the Palestinian people.

• **Organise divestment and exclusion-from-tender campaigns against these companies in your trade union, church, university** — or include these companies in existing campaigns — to raise the price of their complicity in egregious human rights violations.

It is in response to this call from the Palestinian BDS National Committee, that we are providing the following profiles of the companies involved in home demolitions. We hope it will serve as information-for-action, to inform and inspire a global movement against these companies.

COMPANY PROFILES:

JCB - CATERPILLAR - HYUNDAI

- VOLVO - LIU GONG - CNH -

FASSI - DOOSAN - HIDROMEK -

EFFER - BOMAG - HITACHI



JCB

HEADQUARTERED IN THE UK

\$1.59bn : **12,000**

REVENUE

EMPLOYEES

JCB IS OWNED BY THE BAMFORD FAMILY WHICH HAS
A NET FORTUNE OF

\$4.2bn

British company JCB manufactures both civil and military bulldozers, which are regularly used by the Israeli police, military and Civil Administration to demolish Palestinian property. It was JCB machines that rolled into the Bedouin village of Khan al-Ahmar last year to begin the demolition work.

JCB's bulldozers are used to build Israel's illegal settlements and to expand Israel's apartheid wall in the West Bank.¹ They are also used in the construction of checkpoints and roadblocks.

Over the last year, Israeli contractors have been strengthening the apartheid wall around Gaza.² The wall is an integral part of Israel's siege of Gaza. JCB

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

bulldozers are being used in the construction of the barrier.³

JCB 'Defence' Products

JCB is one of the two companies, alongside Caterpillar, that has also supplied Israel with military bulldozers. The company has sold its High Mobility Engineer Excavator (HMEE) to the Israeli army, and has also provided the Israeli military with its 1CX mini loader for urban warfare in occupied Palestine.⁴

JCB's HMEE military excavator was originally developed in the UK for the US army. It is an armoured bulldozer, equipped with 'blast and ballistic' protection, thermal imaging, bulletproof glass and electronic communications systems. JCB advertises that the HMEE can be tailored to fit customer requirements.⁵

The HMEE was supplied to Israel through the US Foreign Military Sales programmes. It has been in use by the Israeli army's Combat Engineers Corp and the Paratroopers division.⁶

The company manufactures four other military bulldozers: Telescopic Handlers, Military Wheel Loaders, Military Backhoe Loaders and High Mobility Fastracs.

JCB is a regular participant in London's DSEI arms exhibition.⁷ It has applied for several arms export licenses to export military equipment from the UK.⁸ The company has also attended Australia's Land Forces military exhibition.

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

JCB is one of the world's top three suppliers of construction equipment, selling its products in 150 countries, through 2000 worldwide dealerships. JCB machines are manufactured in the UK, Brazil, Germany, China, the US and India.

Dealerships

JCB products are supplied through a network of franchised dealerships. These dealerships are often JCB's exclusive representative, covering a whole country.

Israeli dealership

In Israel, JCB is represented by Comasco, which is the sole supplier of JCB products in the country.⁹ Comasco is a private company owned by Haim Danon.¹⁰

JCB's responsibility for home demolitions in Palestine

JCB has a close relationship with its dealers globally, specifying company standards to protect its brand image.¹¹ The company could cease its business relationship with Comasco, ensuring that its machines are no longer used by the Israeli military. Alternatively, JCB could instruct Comasco not to supply machinery to the Israeli Civil Administration, Israeli Lands Administration, police, border police or military. Doing nothing at all, as the company are currently doing, means that JCB is complicit in the war crimes being carried out with their machines.

JCB and the Tory party

The Bamford family is one of Britain's wealthiest. Anthony Bamford, chairman of JCB, owns a Cotswolds Estate, a mansion in Barbados, a townhouse in Chelsea and a villa in Provence.¹²

The family is also one of the largest donors to the UK Conservative Party. In the run up to the 2010 election, the family donated £2.2m to the Tory Party. This money was either channelled directly from the family, or through JC Bamford Excavators. Anthony Bamford received a lordship in 2013.

He continued his support for right-wing politics when he donated a 'six figure sum' to the Leave Campaign ahead

Below: David Cameron and Anthony Bamford. Bamford is the proud owner of a vintage car collection, as well as a private jet and a \$70,000,000 yacht.



COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

of the Brexit referendum, and donated a further £1m to the Conservatives in 2017.¹³

Anthony Bamford has attended private functions with Theresa May.¹⁴ But JCB is also cosyng up to Boris Johnson, allowing Johnson to make a Brexit speech at the company headquarters in 2019.¹⁵

JCB's hypocritical support for children's charities

JCB's corporate PR spin paints the company, and the Bamford family, as a supporter of children's charities worldwide. The company is a donor to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC).¹⁶ JCB Director Carole Bamford even received an OBE in 2006 for her work as the Vice-Chair of the NSPCC's Full Stop campaign.¹⁷

However, if the Bamford family really cared about children, it would ensure that its equipment wasn't used in the demolition of schools in the West Bank, such as the destruction of Abu Nuwar Bedouin community's school, using JCB machines, in February 2018.¹⁸ Demolitions carried out by the Israeli forces using JCB equipment have made at least 31 children homeless.

JCB's other products

You'll also find JCB-branded shoes, toys and batteries on sale at Smyths Toyshop, Hamleys, Screwfix, John Lewis, B&Q, The Early Learning Centre, Target, Argos and Halfords.

The Bamford family's spas & organic farms

Carole Bamford is the founder of Daylesford organic farm shops and the Bamford brand.¹⁹ Daylesford farm offers accommodation, a restaurant, a retreat centre and an events space in Gloucestershire. The Daylesford chain owns four farmshops and cafes in London, in Sloane Avenue, Pimlico, Marylebone and Notting Hill.

The Bamford brand sells bath and baby products. Bamford run several spas, located in London's Berkeley hotel,²⁰ as well as at Brooklyn bridge and Miami beach.²¹

Bamford and Daylesford are controlled by Carole Bamford. The rest of the family have a stake through the family company, BHoldings Ltd.²²

Carole Bamford has hosted a fundraising dinner for the Soil Association, and regularly promotes the charity through her blog.²³ It is ironic that Bamford stresses the importance of organic farming and closeness to the land. Meanwhile, in Palestine, JCB's machines are used to raze Palestinian olive groves to make way for Israeli settlements. Palestinian farmers are denied the right to be on their own land.



Above: Three JCB machines are used by Israeli forces as they replace sections of the apartheid wall at Shu'fat refugee camp on 27 April 2018, denying Palestinians access to their land. Shu'fat, the only refugee camp within Jerusalem city limits, is a target for demolitions by the Israeli state. Photo by Active Stills

JCB demolitions in 2018

JANUARY

Abu Nuwar, E1 area:
School demolition,
affecting 26 children. This
was the 6th demolition or
confiscation of the school
since February 2016. The
bulldozers came at 2am &
Israeli forces declared the
area a 'closed military
zone'.

Al-Jiftlik & Ein
Karzaliyah, Jordan
Valley: 7 structures,
including homes & a
sheep pen, were
demolished. Bulldozers
& troops arrived in the
early morning. Village's
road also dug up.

24

FEBRUARY

Jabal al-Baba, E1 area:
1 house demolished,
belonging to the Abu
'Aweidah family. 13 left
homeless, including 10
children. This was the
2nd time in 6 months
that the family's home
was demolished.

Wadi Qana, Salfit:
2 structures were
demolished. Around
30 Israeli forces
arrived. Wadi Qana
was declared a
nature reserve in
1983: a tactic used
by Israel to displace
Palestinians from
their lands.

4

12

20

21

MARCH

Al-Walaja: 4 structures,
including a house & a
cemetery of 5 graves.
Most of the village's land
has been stolen by Israel.
The apartheid wall
encircles the village. The
Israeli settlements of Gilo
and Har Gilo have stolen
much of the land.

Baq'ah valley,
Hebron: Cistern,
terraces & trees
destroyed.

Bi'er Ayoub, Jerusalem:
2 structures were
demolished.

6

28

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

Bardala, Jordan Valley:
320 olive trees cut down.
70 soldiers & border
police in 10 military
vehicles, with 3 JCB
bulldozers. Surveillance
drone used, Soldiers
pointed guns at residents.

APRIL

25

Shu'fat refugee camp:
3 JCB machines were
used to rebuild the
apartheid wall after
heavy rains. The wall in
the Shu'fat refugee
camp separates it from
the rest of east
Jerusalem.

27

Jinba, Mirkez, Halaweh,
Khirbet al-Fakheit,
South Hebron Hills: 6
homes, 9 solar panels, 3
water tanks & animal
fences were demolished.
35 people displaced,
including 14 children.
Violence from Israeli
border police. 2 arrests.

MAY

2

Beit Safafa,
Jerusalem:
5 structures were
demolished.

7

Al-Khader, Bethlehem:
Road block
constructed, preventing
locals from reaching
their agricultural land.

8

Al-Issawiya,
Jerusalem:
Petrol station
demolished. Al-
Issawiya was one of
the most targeted
areas for
demolitions in 2018.

9

18

Wadi al-Joz,
Jerusalem:
1 structure demolished.
In 2000, much of Wadi
al-Joz was designated
as National Park,
leaving residents in a
perilous situation.

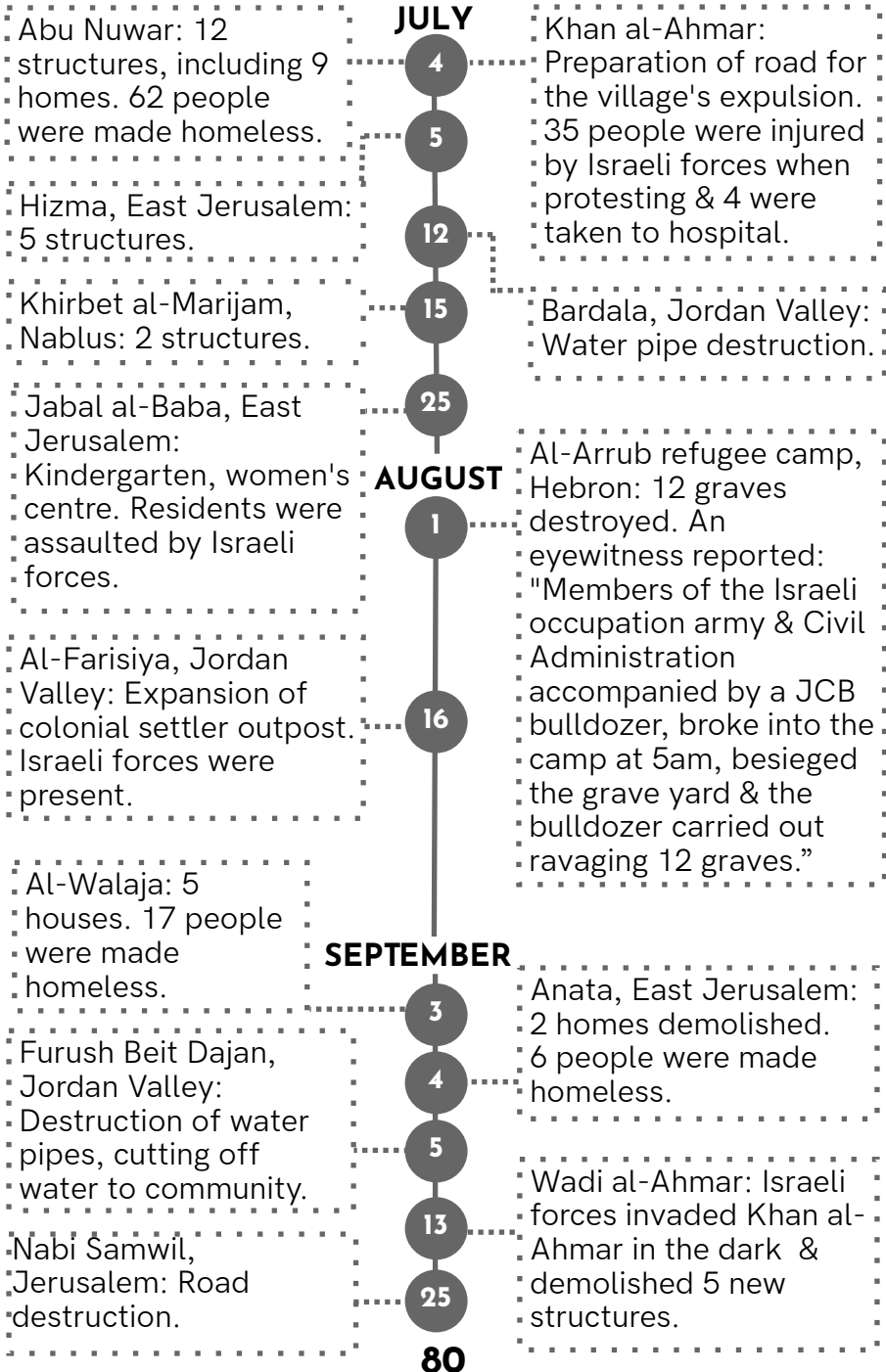
JUNE

20

Silwan, Jerusalem:
1 structure, trees
uprooted.

Duma, Nablus:
1 agricultural structure
was demolished. 2 days
after this demolition,
arsonists set a house on
fire, displacing 5. This
was the 3rd arson attack
in Duma in recent years:
in 2015 baby Ali
Dawabsheh was killed
with his parents when
settlers set fire to their
house.

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB



COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

OCTOBER

9

Shu'fat refugee camp, Jerusalem: 20 businesses demolished, including clothes shops, shoe shops, restaurants & petrol stations. Largest single demolition in Jerusalem in recent years. Soldiers fired live bullets at local youths who were protesting the demolitions. 3 children were arrested. The following day, soldiers surrounded the camp, searched houses & occupied rooftops, interrogated residents & stopped & searched school children. More bulldozers came to move the rubble.

Halaweh, South Hebron Hills: 3 homes plus solar panels were destroyed. 21 people were made homeless, including 3 children.

15

NOVEMBER

Khan al-Ahmar: Bulldozers returned to prepare for the demolition of the village. Activists were thrown to the ground as they tried to block a JCB bulldozer.

21

Nabi Younis, Hebron: A carwash was demolished.

22

Fasayil al-Wusta, Jordan Valley: 2 homes demolished, displacing 9 people, including 4 children. The village has been facing Israeli assaults on their land since the early 70s, with settlements & farmland surrounding them, less than 1 kilometre away.

DECEMBER

3

Battir, Bethlehem: Construction of a settler road. Settlers did the work, accompanied by Israeli forces & Civil Administration.

20

Ar-Rakeez & Al-Mufaqara, South Hebron Hills: Uprooting of approx 175 trees plus fencing.

31

IN 2018 JCB BULLDOZERS DEMOLISHED AT LEAST

130 STRUCTURES

INCLUDING

31
HOMES

2
SCHOOLS

22
BUSINESSES

DISPLACING AT LEAST

163 **INCLUDING** **31**
PEOPLE **CHILDREN**

JCB BULLDOZERS DESTROYED AT LEAST

17 **499**
GRAVES **TREES**

AS WELL AS AT LEAST

2 VILLAGES' WATER PIPES • 2 ROADS • 11 SOLAR PANELS

JCB BULLDOZERS ALSO

**BUILT THE APARTHEID WALL IN GAZA & WEST BANK •
RAZED LAND • BUILT A ROADBLOCK • CONSTRUCTED A
SETTLER OUTPOST • CONSTRUCTED A SETTLER ROAD**

Case studies

During 2018, Corporate Occupation researchers carried out in-depth interviews with Palestinians whose houses had been demolished using JCB equipment. These interviews show the human consequences of JCB's complicity in Israel's home demolitions.

Case study 1: Atta Jaber, Baq'ah Valley, near Hebron



COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

We meet Atta Jaber with his family on their land in the Baq'ah Valley, near Hebron. From the house we can clearly see the illegal Israeli colony of Kiryat Arba, which lies just three hundred metres away, across the highway.

When we arrive, Atta and his brother's family are working in a field below his house while F16s fly overhead. Atta confirms that this happens all day long, "24 hours a day. The Middle East is under Israeli attack. How many times this year have they attacked Syria?"

After offering us coffee, we walk through the family's land to see the most recent destruction caused by the Israeli Civil Administration's bulldozers. He explains what happened on 21st February 2018.

"Around 100-150 soldiers came. They pushed me and told me to sit in the house. When my son and daughter came home from school they were aggressive toward them. There were around 50 workers from the Civil Administration, too, with the soldiers. I just sat in the house and watched. What can you do?"

The destruction was carried out by the Israeli police, military and Israeli Civil Administration. Atta tells us, "It took them 8 hours to destroy everything. They came with two Bobcat and JCB bulldozers."

JCB is a British company, while Bobcat is an American brand owned by South Korean company Doosan.

Previous page: Atta Jaber, his wife and grandchild, May 2018.
Photo by Corporate Occupation

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

He points out the place where terraces, vines, and olive, almond and fig trees were bulldozed by the occupation forces, and shows us a line which the Israeli Civil Administration painted, demarcating the point beyond which it is illegal to build or plant crops or trees.

Atta shows us the spot where his apple tree was bulldozed.

“When it had fruit, everyone called round to take some apples. When everyone’s bellies were full, there would still be enough apples left to fill buckets and sell them at the market. It was a gift from God.”

As well as pointing out the destruction, he takes obvious pleasure in proudly showing us the plants and trees which still remain after the attack. He points to some sage plants telling us, “this is good for digestive pain: there’s no need for tablets.”

Atta shows us some trees lower down the terraces which were bulldozed in February, but survived and have been replanted. He says, “these trees are saying ‘we want to be here’. They are fighting back.”

We walk on. “This tree is very sad,” Atta says. “Look, you can see. She used to be very green and full but after the others were destroyed she was sad to lose them.” He explains to us that the family’s livelihood has been completely destroyed.

“My wife worked hard on the land and planted two or three acres. She woke every day at 5am and watered the crops. When the demolition happened she lost

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

everything. She was the one who harvested the fruit and vegetables. I just sold them in the market. It has cost her 18 years of work. We had cauliflower, zucchini and eggplants. We didn't need to buy vegetables, we grew it here. Now we have to buy them in the market.

They bulldozed the rain water cistern too. And they threw some of the trees in it so we couldn't retrieve them."

Atta tells us that the Israeli water company Mekorot has refused to connect the house to its water lines, despite the fact that they run close by. "Our water comes from rain water, most of it. The occupation's message is that we must be thirsty all our lives."

The Civil Administration says that this is Israeli state land, and that the family should not build any new structures here, or renovate any old ones. The Jaber family's land lies in 'Area C' of the West Bank. State policy is to stamp out Palestinian livelihoods and communities in Area C, and give the land to the expanding Israeli settlements.

In this latest demolition, occupation forces destroyed ancient terraces which, even under the occupation's own discriminatory regulations, should have been left alone, as they were built before the occupation of the West Bank in 1967.

Since the '90s, the Jaber family has experienced several demolitions, as well as continual harrassment by Israeli settlers. The first demolition of the Jaber home was in 1996, when Israeli forces and Civil Administration

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

bulldozed the terracing around the house and arrested Atta for ten days. They came back again in 1998 and bulldozed two houses and more land. “I was arrested again, along with my son,” Atta explains. “I was kept for 12 days and beaten. They injured my leg and look, it is still damaged.”

Atta was forced to move to the old city of Hebron. But in 2000 Israeli activists from the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (ICAHD) helped the family to obtain a permit, and raised money to rebuild their home. The family and the activists called it the ‘Peace and Love House’. He tells us that there are many Israeli activists who are supporting the family. “People are not to blame for their governments,” he says.

In June 2000, settlers attacked the house twice and in December of the same year they occupied it. Atta says, “I went to the court and got the settlers to leave the house.”

There were regular settler attacks on the family’s home right up until 2014, and even now the family is still worried about attacks. That evening the family are invited to a wedding. Atta tells us:

“One of us has to be in the house, protecting it because of the settlers. Even to go and share in people’s happiness we must do shifts staying here, because maybe the settlers or the Civil Administration will come...Every day we face harassment. The settlement is expanding: it has already taken 90% our land. This is Palestinian land but we have to face the Israeli occupation every day. But how can we fight with empty

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

hands?”

Atta talks to us about the effect of the demolitions and settler violence on his daughters and sons:

“The children grew up in this situation, watching the settlers attack. They have seen the demolitions. After our houses were demolished for the first time in 1998, we had to live in a tent for the whole summer and winter. My oldest daughter wanted to hang herself from the fig tree when she was 5 years old because she didn’t have a home.”

Atta’s family has been on this land since long before the Israeli occupation. He tells us that his is the eighth generation of his family, living and working on this land. “We’re the second biggest family in Hebron district. I’m 55 years old, and I’ve spent 18 years working on this land – me and my wife and my kids.”

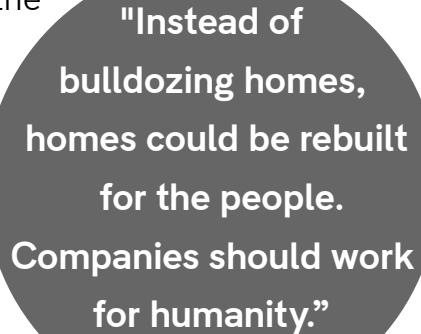
We ask him if he will continue to challenge the ongoing demolitions on his land in court. Atta tells us that he will, but is sceptical about ‘justice’ from the Israeli courts, and about the way the Israeli state uses agreements with the Palestinians. He tells us:

“How many agreements have there been from 1993 until now? The Israelis promise that they won’t demolish houses and expand the settlements. But what do we get from these promises? Nothing. We just lose more and more land. They don’t stop expanding the settlements. They don’t release our prisoners. The Civil Administration don’t want us here. It’s not just this area that they attack and destroy. They don’t want

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

Palestinians in the whole of the West Bank. That's the purpose of the occupation.

25 years of demolitions have made us feel very sick. But we have patience and we have hope and we must continue our lives. It's not just us that are affected: this is the situation for 90% of people living in Area C."



**"Instead of
bulldozing homes,
homes could be rebuilt
for the people.
Companies should work
for humanity."**

We ask Atta and the family whether they think that JCB and Bobcat, and other companies like them, share the responsibility for the demolitions. Atta replies:

"Yes, they share the responsibility. The Israeli government hires from these private companies. The army uses heavy [military] bulldozers on the borders. The Civil Administration rents smaller bulldozer from private companies too. The companies are making a lot of money from the demolitions."

Atta explains that private companies should be using their equipment to benefit the world:

"We have poor people, hungry people, sick people without homes. We can't exist here in the villages without water. Equipment from companies like JCB and Bobcat could be used for agriculture or for connecting water pipes. Instead of bulldozing homes, homes could be rebuilt for the people. Why are schools being

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

demolished in villages? Maybe one of those students would have become a doctor and discovered the cure for cancer. Why don't these companies build universities for poor students? Companies should work for humanity."

Case study 2: Rezeq Abu Nasser, Wadi Qana, Salfit



COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

Some of Rezeq Abu Nasser's most vivid memories are of Wadi Qana – the lush valley next door to his home village of Deir Istiya. Here was where he first learned to swim without help, where he and his brother almost got struck by lightning in a freak storm during an olive harvest. Rezeq spent over two years in the Wadi in the late 1980s, hiding from the Israeli authorities, one day narrowly escaping arrest by climbing a tree, within earshot of the army.

Central to all these memories is the small house passed down through his family, who have been coming to the Wadi to farm their patch of land, grow olives and raise goats for generations. That house is now a shell. The base of a few of the crumbling walls is all that remains after it was destroyed by the Israeli army.

On 12 February 2018, the soldiers arrived at around 7.00am. By chance, 58 year old Rezeq was already there. He saw around 30 border police and soldiers, as well as workers from the Civil Administration and the Nature Reserves and National Parks Unit.

Rezeq couldn't contain his anger. "The soldiers said that I was only claiming to own the land, that I was lying" he explains. "I said 'Go ahead and shoot me. This is my land, these are my goats.' I couldn't stay near the soldiers as I was too angry.

They said to me in Hebrew that I had five minutes. I lit a cigarette, but they said I would be arrested after five minutes and that I should collect my things and that this

Previous page: Rezeq Abu Nasser. Photo by Corporate Occupation

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

was not a time for smoking.

I didn't have time to collect all of my things. I would have needed at least five trips to get our mattresses and everything else. I only collected cigarettes, some lights, chargers, batteries, dishes. I was confused and just collected what I saw.

The other things that I didn't have time to collect, some got taken by the workers [from the Israeli Civil Administration], some were destroyed. I never got my things back."

Rezeq says that the machine used to destroy the house was made by the British company JCB, one of the world's top three manufacturers of construction equipment.

In November 2017, Rezeq's family had received a demolition order from the Israeli authorities. The reason? They had put a tarpaulin on the roof and some extra stones in a wall to plug the gaps. They had also put some cement on the ground to try and level out the floor.

The house is in Area C. Here Israel has full control and it is almost impossible for Palestinians to get permits to do any type of building work, including renovations.

The Wadi was declared a nature reserve in 1983 by the Nature Reserves and National Parks Unit of the Israeli Civil Administration. It had previously been declared a closed military zone in 1978. Both are recognisable tactics used by Israel to block Palestinian development

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

in Area C.

Now, Rezeq explains Palestinians in Wadi Qana cannot even plant trees. In fact, Rezeq had his trees destroyed by the Israeli authorities several times. Between 2015 and 2017 he says they uprooted more than 3,000 plants and saplings, a lot of them olive trees. “But we can still take care of what we have,” he says, showing us lemon trees that were planted in the 1960s.

The area is mostly used for leisure by Palestinians, but Rezeq says they are not allowed on the land after 8.00pm.

Wadi Qana is now overshadowed by Israeli settlements, established between 1978 and 1986, on the hills overlooking both banks: Immanuel and Karnei Shomron to the north; Yaqir and Nofim to the south. Later on, settlement outposts were established:

Alonei Shilo, El Matan, and Yair

Farm. Outposts are colonies which are not authorised

by the Israeli government, but often grow into settlements which are sanctioned by the government but illegal under international law.



“I think the BDS movement has been successful. We can clearly see this, because the Israeli government sees it as an enemy.”

The settlements have

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

brought destruction to both the Palestinian people and the natural environment. “This month the settlers stole five of our goats,” says Rezeq when we meet him in April.

Settlements and outposts have discharged their waste water into the Wadi, polluting the springs and water supply for farmers. This forced the 50 Palestinian families who were living in the Wadi to move to Deir Istiya.

According to B’Tselem, the Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories, outposts are still releasing waste water directly into the reserve and blockages in the sewage systems of Nofim and Yaqir also occasionally result in pollution of the stream.

Nature reserves in Palestine are not necessarily a positive development. In fact, they can be an important tool in imposing apartheid conditions against Palestinians. The restrictions which stop Palestinians from building in nature reserves are not enforced against the Israeli settlements. “We have to recognise that for them it is not a nature reserve,” says Rezeq. “For them they can build everywhere.”

Rezeq is hopeful that once companies like JCB know what their machinery is being used for they may be motivated to do something about it, and prevent the Israeli state from using their equipment to destroy Palestinian houses.

“As activists, it’s our role to show the company that they [The army and the Israeli Civil Administration] are using

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

the machines to demolish homes,” he says. “Then I’m sure they [the companies] will take the decision to boycott. When the company owners see what’s happening they will not co-operate with the state.”

Rezeq says that if JCB knows the truth about what its equipment is being used for, then **the company must take steps to “end its tenders and contracts, and not have any economic relations with the state.”**

For Rezeq, raising awareness of the companies which manufacture machines used in demolitions is part of the wider international Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement.

Rezeq says that he thinks BDS will have more success than “other types of activities against the occupation... Some people say that what is taken by force can be gained back by force, but I don’t believe in this way of resisting. I believe that it helps the occupation.

“When we talk about BDS we are talking about popular resistance, working in society. Campaigns against companies like Caterpillar or JCB are just a small part of this. We need strong support for BDS and for non-violence and the popular resistance. We are already working with international groups to put pressure on these companies, together we can succeed and find a solution.”.

Case study 3: Tawfiq al-Hajj Muhammad, Furush Beit Dajan

In the summer of 2018, we visited Furush Beit Dajan – a village in the central Jordan Valley. Once a town with 7,000 inhabitants, there are now only 1,200 residents due to Israel's policies of home demolitions and land grabbing. Surrounded by Israeli military bases, closed military areas, illegal settlements and bypass roads linking these settlements, 83% of the village's land (about 10,000 dunums) has been seized by Israel, while the residents live now on just 3,000 dunums of land.

The occupation uses water as a weapon to succeed in its goals of ethnically cleansing the area. In July 2018, Israeli forces, along with representatives of Israeli water company Mekorot, destroyed Furush Beit Dejan's water pipes.

Two months later, in September, residents – including school children – protested while the occupation forces once again destroyed water pipes to the community and the local school. The village's water had previously been disconnected in 2017 by the Israeli occupation.

Furush Beit Dajan's residents sustain themselves through agriculture. Without water, Israel is not only stripping them of their livelihood, but the very life source needed to survive.

Next door, the illegal colony of Hamra – which was built on the village's land – enjoys an abundance of stolen water, with settlers growing 100 acres of dates, as well as bananas and citrus fruits.

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

We interviewed the head of the village, 52 year old Tawfiq al-Hajj Muhammad. His family was made homeless twice in 2017 – first when their home was confiscated by the Israeli forces and Civil Administration, and secondly when their replacement home was demolished using a JCB bulldozer. When the Israeli authorities destroyed his home, they made Tawfiq, his wife and his seven children homeless. Their youngest child is just five years old.

“The land belongs to my family and we have documents to show that we own it,” Tawfiq told us. Despite this, his land is still designated as Area C.

Tawfiq, what happened the first time the Israeli forces came to your land?

It was March 2017 and I was sleeping in our mobile home – our family house. The Israeli military and Civil Administration came and aggressively woke me up. I couldn't really control myself – I was trying to get the soldiers out. The soldiers looked like they were going to shoot me. My son has psychological problems and has problems talking and they targeted him more. They held their guns up to both of us. They took me away from the mobile home and handcuffed me. At the time my wife was with my other children on our farmland, so it was just me and my son there.

They confiscated the home. They didn't have any official papers or orders – they just took it. They're thieves. They didn't give it back and we had to buy a new one.

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

And then they came again later in the year and destroyed your home?

Yes. The soldiers came again on the morning of 21st November 2017 and they entered the farm with bulldozers. They gave us no warning that they were coming. I was there with two of my sons.

Some of the soldiers had their faces covered, wearing masks. This time I was more quiet, sitting and having tea and smoking. I decided that it wouldn't be good to react in the same way as last time. I thought to myself, "they're not humane people and I won't give them any attention."

The soldiers wouldn't allow my sons to come close to our home. They were pushing my sons and shouting at them. My son with psychological problems was there again. I was very worried about my children.

They didn't just destroy our house. They destroyed the foundations, the water pipes, the plants and flowers around it. They destroyed some of our crops. Now we are living in my brother's house.

Do you think you were targeted because you're head of the council?

They were using me to send a message because I am mayor of the village. I have supported everyone in the village by connecting their electricity and doing things for the village.

Three years ago, it was my idea to make a water tank in

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

Area C to give people drinking water in their homes and in the school. The soldiers came and gave us an order to destroy it.

I also talk a lot to the Arabic media about the Israeli attacks and maybe this is a reason for them targeting me.

Can you talk more about the psychological effects on your son?

He doesn't want to stay in the Jordan Valley. He doesn't really trust people – he doesn't like talking to them or doing normal things. I had wished for my son to be active on the farm, to deal with the workers, to have a normal life...It was a good chance for my son to have a simple life and to be with nature.

The rest of my family doesn't feel safe. We're thinking about our future, as we have to give my brother's house back. We can buy a house in Area B which doesn't have a demolition order, or maybe a house built prior to 1967 [houses built before the Israeli occupation of the Jordan Valley in 1967 are officially meant to be safe from Israeli demolition]. We're thinking about leaving our extended family. Or we're thinking about leaving the Jordan Valley but keeping our land for farming. Maybe I'll buy another mobile home and construct it again – five times, ten times, one hundred times.

Are you worried that the soldiers will destroy your farmland?

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

I am not worried about them destroying greenhouses. If they destroy the greenhouses it'll show international people how they're attacking our resources. They kill children – so I won't be upset about a greenhouse. It's nothing.

Do you think JCB holds any responsibility for the destruction of your home?

If they don't use JCB bulldozers maybe they will get bulldozers from another country. But at the same time it's bad for a British company to have its name on the bulldozer which destroys our home, our lives. I thank you for trying to do something about this.

Do you have a message to people elsewhere in the world?

I wish for a future for the young and I wish for the international community to protect our young, to help us to give a future to our kids. I am looking to the international community to give us a future of peace. Our dream is to have safety, a nice house, to have football clubs, a health service, a nice life.

Take action against JCB

It is crucial that Palestine solidarity activists in the UK take up the challenge of confronting JCB over its complicity in demolitions.

Resistance against JCB is in its infancy compared to the much bigger campaign against fellow military bulldozer manufacturer, Caterpillar.

In 2012, UK campaigning organisation War on Want wrote to JCB demanding “that JCB seeks undertakings from Israeli customers that its bulldozers will not be used in further house demolitions, which have been ruled illegal under international law.”

War on Want pointed out that it was ironic that JCB machines were used to demolish a Palestinian playground, while the company funded charities supporting vulnerable children.

Anthony Bamford claimed to "want a better future for our children, where hard work and dedication are given their just reward".

War on Want's Greg Muttitt said at the time: "It is unacceptable that a British company like JCB should



Above: BDS activists lock themselves together using concrete arm tubes and block deliveries into a JCB factory, September 2018. Photo by activists

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

profit from human rights violations. Unless the firm takes immediate action to scrutinise Israel's use of its equipment, JCB will appear complicit in the attacks on children and communities."²⁴

In June 2012, children and parents held a protest outside Hamleys toy shop in London, calling on the store to stop selling a line of JCB toys.²⁵

Later in 2012, War on Want wrote a report condemning JCB's role in home demolitions and urging readers to write to, or telephone the company, and contact their MPs about JCB's complicity in Israel's demolition policy.

In 2017, as JCB's machines were being used to prepare the way for demolitions in Khan al-Ahmar, resistance against the company began anew. British legal advocacy group Lawyers for Palestinian Human Rights (LPHR) wrote to JCB:

"Our letter follows the publication of images of a JCB excavator assisting in the levelling of access roads to Khan al-Ahmar on 4 July, and our letter on this specific issue to the UK Government.

We raise with JCB the serious concern that the provision of its products for use by the Israel authorities in these (and other) demolitions, is in breach of JCB's human rights responsibilities under the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (OECD Guidelines)."²⁶

LPHR also wrote a letter to Alistair Burt, the Minister of

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office:²⁷

"We noted that the BBC reporter, Tom Bateman, who is in Khan al-Ahmar, yesterday published a photo of an excavator carrying the logo of the UK company, J.C. Bamford Excavators Limited (JCB). This raises our serious concern that:

a) JCB's products are contributing to human rights violations against the Palestinian residents of Khan al-Ahmar, and that the provision of JCB's construction equipment for use by the Israel authorities in these (and other) demolitions is in breach of JCB's human rights responsibilities under the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises; and

b) JCB may be in the process of committing the criminal offence of aiding and abetting the commission by another person of a grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention, namely aiding and abetting Israeli authorities in perpetrating the forcible transfer of protected persons which is prohibited by Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention. This could incur the criminal liability of individuals within the company.

...JCB should be asked to immediately take all available steps and use all available leverage to ensure that its construction equipment is not used to contribute to the demolition process in Khan al-Ahmar or the prohibited forcible transfer of its residents and that no further equipment is supplied in relation to such purpose."

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

Later in September, LPHR published a second letter to Alistair Burt. Mr Burt had replied to the initial letter claiming that the JCB bulldozers used in demolitions in Palestine were operated by private contractors. This is most likely a false argument, as the army or Israeli Civil Administration is present at almost all demolitions. However, LPHR argued that, even if this were the case, JCB was still legally required to ensure that its equipment was not used in the commission of crimes:

“We accept that there are several different relationships to consider. We would however like to supplement the analysis in your letter by clarifying that such a situation would not absolve JCB from its own business and human rights responsibilities.

Our understanding is that Comasco Ltd/Israel (Comasco) is JCB's distributor in Israel. Therefore, the contractual relationship for the supply of JCB products, such as excavators, to private contractors and / or the Israeli authorities may be between Comasco (rather than JCB) and private contractors / Israeli authorities.

Even if this is the case, however, the [United Nations Guiding Principles] UNGPs and [Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development] OECD Guidelines make clear that JCB still has a responsibility to: 'seek to prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to their operations, products or services by their business relationships, even if they have not contributed to those impacts' (UNGP 13). The term 'business relationships' is stated to include 'relationships with business partners, entities in its value chain, and any other non-State or State entity

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

directly linked to its business operations, products or services.'

On this basis, JCB clearly has a business relationship with Comasco, and apparently also the owners of the equipment, whether it be private contractors or Israeli authorities. JCB should therefore be taking steps to prevent or mitigate the use of its equipment in the demolition of Khan al-Ahmar. Failure to do so would lead to a breach of the JCB's business and human rights obligations under the UNGPs and OECD Guidelines that the UK government is committed to promoting.”

Also in September, the Palestinian Boycott Divestment and Sanctions campaign called for action against JCB and the other companies involved in providing the equipment being used in the preparations for expelling the population of Khan al-Ahmar.²⁸

Later that month, a group of BDS activists in the UK blockaded the JCB Power Systems headquarters near Derby. Deliveries were delayed for several hours until, ironically, JCB bulldozed a hedge on their property to allow vehicle access. The activists were arrested, but have never been charged. This may be because JCB does not want to have its complicity in home demolitions laid open to scrutiny in court.²⁹

Despite receiving the letter from LPHR, and despite all the negative press, JCB's bulldozers rolled into Khan al-Ahmar at least two more times in 2018 (see the JCB demolition timeline).

Ideas for taking action

JCB is a private limited company, meaning that it doesn't publicly trade its shares on stock exchanges. However, there are a number of ways you can take action.

- **Protest and take direct action outside JCB's headquarters, factories and dealerships**, calling on the company to end its relationship with Israeli company Comasco, and ensure its machinery is not supplied to any Israeli organisation which will use it in the demolition of homes and property in Palestine, or for military purposes.
- **Contact JCB**, telling them about your concerns about home demolitions in Palestine. Write to the company at JC Bamford Excavators Limited, Rocester, Staffordshire ST14 5JP. Phone them on +44 800 083 8015. Email them via <https://www.jcb.com/en-gb/about/contact-us>
- **Boycott Daylesford Farmshops** and the Bamford range of products and spas. **Organise protests** outside these shops and spas, calling on Carole Bamford to end JCB's complicity in home demolitions:

208-212 Westbourne
Grove, Notting Hill,
London W11 2RH

76-82 Sloane Avenue,
Brompton Cross, London
SW3 3DZ

6-8 Blandford Street,
Marylebone, London W1U
3DA

Daylesford Farmshop &
Café, Daylesford,
Gloucestershire GL56 0YG

44B Pimlico Road, London
SW1W 8LP

COMPANY PROFILE: JCB

- **Write to the Soil Association and the NSPCC** asking them to sever all connections to JCB and the Bamford family, and not to accept their donations.

- **Demand that Carole Bamford be stripped of her OBE.** She received her OBE for her work supporting the NSPCC, but has ignored the fact that JCB's equipment is used in the demolitions of schools in the West Bank. JCB bulldozers made at least 31 children homeless during 2018.

- **Call on Smyths Toyshop, Hamleys, Screwfix, John Lewis, B&Q, The Early Learning Centre, Target, Argos and Halfords not to stock JCB branded products.** Hold a demonstration outside these shops, calling on them not to sell JCB products unless the company stops Comasco, their Israeli representative, from supplying these machines to the Israeli state.

- **Contact your MP** and ask them to ask a parliamentary question about JCB's continued involvement in home demolitions in Palestine.

- **Contact your local council** and ask them to ensure that council contractors do not use JCB equipment, because of JCB's involvement in war crimes.

- **Ask your local councillor to propose a council motion** to require contractors not to use JCB equipment.

JCB dealerships in the UK

There are a large number of JCB dealers in the UK. The map below shows a few of the locations

1. Greenshields JCB, Unit 2,
Sheddingdean Business Centre,
Marchants Way, Burgess Hill,
RH15 8QY

2. Greenshields JCB, Unit 1,
Fresh Wharf Estate, Highbridge
Road, Barking IG11 7BG

3. Holt JCB, Third Way,
Avonmouth, Bristol BS11 9ZG

4. Holt JCB, Seaway Parade
Industrial Estate, Port Talbot,
SA12 7BR

5. Gunn JCB, Halfords Park,
Halfords Lane, Smethwick B66
1EL

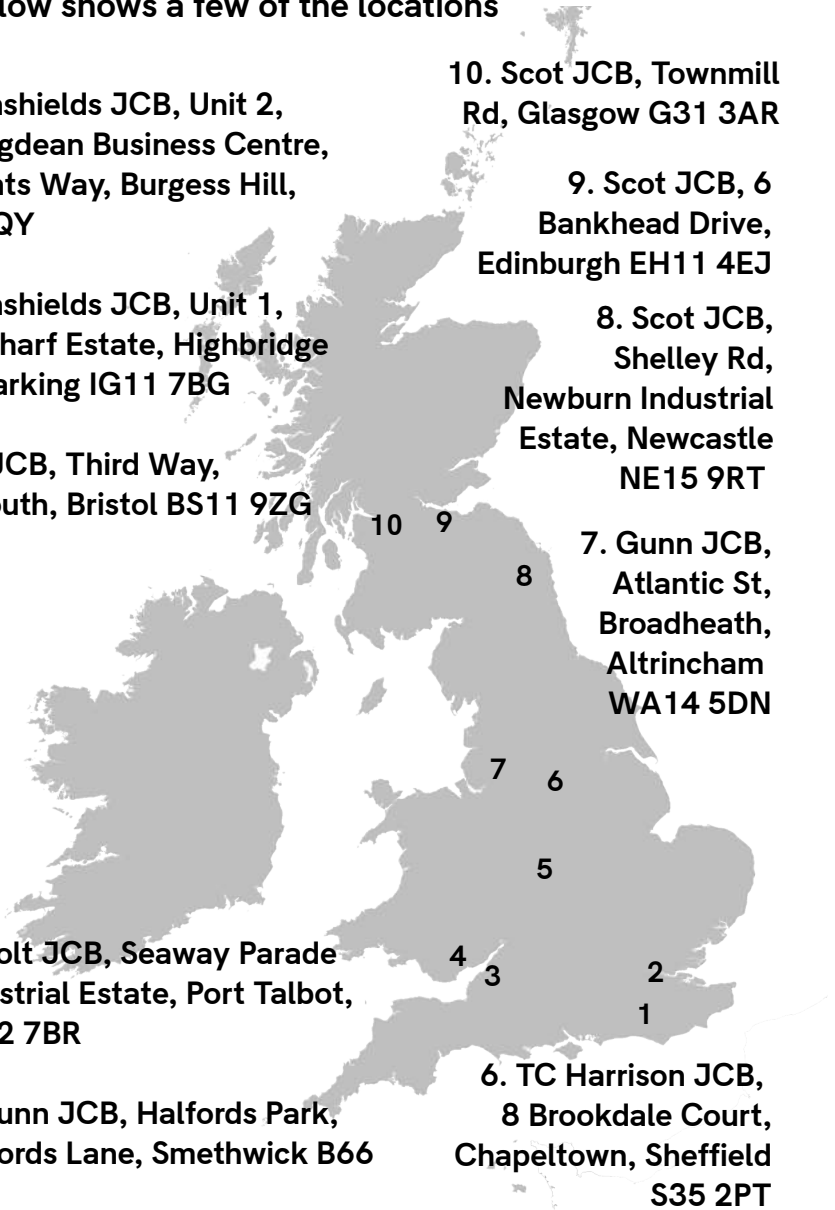
10. Scot JCB, Townmill
Rd, Glasgow G31 3AR

9. Scot JCB, 6
Bankhead Drive,
Edinburgh EH11 4EJ

8. Scot JCB,
Shelley Rd,
Newburn Industrial
Estate, Newcastle
NE15 9RT

7. Gunn JCB,
Atlantic St,
Broadheath,
Altrincham
WA14 5DN

6. TC Harrison JCB,
8 Brookdale Court,
Chapeltown, Sheffield
S35 2PT



Key JCB addresses in the UK: factories & offices

JCB World Headquarters:
Rocester, Staffordshire
ST14 5JP

JCB Training Centre:
Denstone Road, Denstone
Road, Rocester,
Staffordshire ST14 5JR

JCB Transmissions:
Wrexham Industrial Estate,
Abenbury Road, Abenbury
Road, Wrexham LL13 9UF

JCB World Parts Centre:
Waterloo Park, Beamhurst,
Beamhurst, Uttoxeter ST14
5PA

JCB Landpower: Harewood
Estate, Leek Road, Leek
Road, Stoke-on-Trent ST10
2JU

JCB Power Products:
Airfield Industrial Estate,
Hixon, Staffordshire ST18
0PF

JCB Heavy Products:
Waterloo Farm, Beamhurst,
Beamhurst, Uttoxeter,
Staffordshire ST14 7FL

JCB Power Systems: 1000
Park Avenue, Dove Valley
Park, Dove Valley Park,
Derby DE65 5BX

JCB Cab Systems:
Riverside, Rugeley,
Staffordshire WS15 2WA

JCB Earthmovers:
Harewood Estate, Leek Rd,
Leek Rd, Stoke-on-Trent,
Staffordshire, ST10 2JX

JCB Drivetrain Systems:
Wrexham Industrial Estate,
Wrexham LL13 9UF

Battery Force, 4 Beacon
Road, Trafford Park
Manchester M17 1AF
(makes JCB batteries)

Caterpillar

HEADQUARTERED IN THE UNITED STATES

.....

\$45.5 billion
REVENUE

.....

100,000
EMPLOYEES

.....

LARGEST
INVESTORS
INCLUDE

VANGUARD GROUP

STATE STREET CORP

BLACKROCK INC

STATE FARM MUTUAL
AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE
COMPANY

CAPITAL WORLD INVESTORS

BILL & MELINDA GATES
FOUNDATION

COMPANY PROFILE: CATERPILLAR

SMALLER INVESTORS INCLUDE



LEGAL & GENERAL	DEUTSCHE BANK
TEACHER'S ADVISORS LLC	NEW YORK STATE
ROYAL BANK OF CANADA	TEACHER'S RETIREMENT
TIAA CREF INVESTMENT	SYSTEM
MANAGEMENT	STATE OF NEW JERSEY
PRUDENTIAL	COMMON PENSION
BARCLAYS	FUND
HSBC	THRIVENT FINANCIAL
NEW YORK STATE	FOR LUTHERANS
COMMON RETIREMENT	STATE OF WISCONSIN
FUND	INVESTMENT BOARD
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC	RETIREMENT SYSTEMS OF
EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT	ALABAMA
SYSTEM	PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
CALIFORNIA STATE	RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF
TEACHER'S RETIREMENT	OHIO
SYSTEM	GOVERNMENT PENSION
BANK OF MONTREAL	FUND OF NORWAY
STATE BOARD OF	AXA
ADMINISTRATION OF	GOVERNMENT OF
FLORIDA RETIREMENT	CANADA
SYSTEM	VARMA MUTUAL PENSION
	INSURANCE COMPANY

Caterpillar's 60 ton D9 military bulldozer has become a symbol of Israel's oppression of the Palestinians.

It was used in the brutal occupation of the West Bank, in Gaza in 1967, and the occupation of Lebanon in 1982.

D9s tried to crush the resistance in Jenin refugee camp in 2002 and flattened over a thousand houses in Rafah in 2003-4.

Rachel Corrie, a member of the International Solidarity Movement from the US, was crushed by a D9 while trying to prevent a demolition of a Palestinian home in Gaza.

The D9 bulldozer is the Israeli military's weapon of choice when carrying out its punitive demolitions, in contravention of international law. These demolitions are acts of collective punishment, aimed at wreaking vengeance on the families of Palestinians who are suspected of resistance. To learn more about Israel's punitive demolition policy see page 40.

Caterpillar's non-military bulldozers are regularly used in Israel's home demolitions in the West Bank, in settlement building and in working on Israel's apartheid wall.¹ They are also used to build roadblocks and checkpoints.

2002: Jenin massacre

D9s played a major part in the repression of the Second

COMPANY PROFILE: CATERPILLAR

Palestinian Intifada (uprising). In 2002, D9 bulldozers were sent into Jenin refugee camp as part of the operation to crush resistance. An area the size of several football pitches was levelled by the bulldozers. At least 52 Palestinians were killed.²

One Israeli soldier became famous for his role as a D9 operator, demolishing the camp. His name was Moshe Nissim, nicknamed Kurdi Bear. This is his testimony, published in the popular Hebrew daily Yedioth Ahronoth:

“Many people were inside houses we started to demolish. They would come out of the houses we were working on. I didn’t see, with my own eyes, people dying under the blade of the D-9. And I didn’t see houses falling down on live people. But if there were any, I wouldn’t care at all. I am sure people died inside these houses, but it was difficult to see, there was lots of dust everywhere, and we worked a lot at night. I found joy with every house that came down, because I knew they didn’t mind dying, but they cared for their homes. If you knocked down a house, you buried 40 or 50 people for generations. If I am sorry for anything, it is for not tearing the whole camp down.”

Nissim was given a medal for his role in the Israeli war crimes in Jenin.³

2003: Death of Rachel Corrie

Rachel Corrie, a volunteer with the International Solidarity Movement, was crushed to death by a D9 bulldozer on 16 March 2003. She was trying to protect a

COMPANY PROFILE: CATERPILLAR

Palestinian home in Rafah, in the Gaza Strip. Rachel, who was from the US, has become an icon of international solidarity with the Palestinian struggle.

Palestinians killed during home demolitions by Caterpillar D9s

It is less easy to name all of the Palestinians who have been crushed as D9s demolish their homes. Here are some documented cases:

In April 2002, eight members of the Al Sho'bi family were killed in Nablus when their home was destroyed by a D9. The bulldozer came without warning in the middle of the night. The oldest person, Umar, was 85, while three young children, Anas, Azzam and Abdallah, were aged 4, 7, and 9 respectively.

Also in April 2002, Jamal Fayed, a severely disabled man, was crushed as a D9 destroyed his home. Members of his family informed soldiers that he was inside, but the Israeli occupation went ahead with the demolition regardless.

In 2004, 70 year old Ibrahim Mahmoud Mohammed Khalafallah was killed during a demolition in Khan Younis refugee camp, Gaza. Ibrahim was deaf and could not walk. His family were not allowed to help him as a D9 demolished his home.⁴

In November 2015, Ahmed al-Ayesh, 28, and Laith Manasra, 21, were shot dead during a protest against a punitive demolition of a Palestinian home.⁵

2003-4: Destruction in Rafah

The Israeli military sought to create a buffer zone along the ‘Philadelphi corridor’, the name it gave to the densely populated area of Rafah, Gaza, lying close to the Egyptian border. It did this by using Caterpillar’s D9 military bulldozers to brutally demolish the Palestinian houses in the area.

This assault culminated in a full-scale attack and siege on the Gaza Strip, dubbed ‘Operation Rainbow’. During ‘Operation Rainbow’ houses, roads and agricultural fields were ripped apart by D9s. 289 houses were destroyed by the Israeli military in Gaza in May 2004.

Human Rights Watch wrote:

“During the incursions into Tel al-Sultan and Brazil [in Rafah], the IDF employed armored Caterpillar D9 bulldozers in a manner that was indiscriminate and excessive, resulting in widespread destruction of homes, roads, and agriculture that could have been avoided.”

The report went on to demand that Caterpillar:

“Suspend sales of D9 bulldozers, parts, or maintenance services to the IDF” and “seek to ensure that Caterpillar’s goods and services will not be used to abuse human rights”.

Unfortunately, Caterpillar paid no attention.



Above: A soldier uses a Caterpillar military bulldozer to terrorise protesters in Kafr Qaddum, 27 June 2014. Photo by Mohamad Torokman. Below: Men protest a Caterpillar bulldozer in Khan al-Ahmar, September 2018



Repression of popular resistance in Kafr Qaddum

For several years, Caterpillar's 60 ton D9s have been used as crowd control weapons against protesters in the village of Kafr Qaddum.⁶

Strengthening the Gaza Apartheid Wall

Over the last year, Israeli contractors have been strengthening the apartheid wall around Gaza. The wall is an integral part of Israel's siege of Gaza. Caterpillar civilian and military bulldozers have been in use in strengthening the wall.⁷

2018 - present: Great March for Return

Caterpillar D9 bulldozers are regularly being used to flatten land next to the Gaza apartheid wall - the barrier separating the Gaza Strip with the land that was taken by military force by Zionist militias in 1948.⁸ 190 protesters have been killed, at the time of writing, in the year-long Great March for Return.⁹ Levelling the land gives the snipers a clear shot at people who are protesting for their freedom.

Unpiloted bulldozers

Caterpillar and Israel Tractors and Equipment produce a driverless D9, known as Thunder of Dawn. This was used in Israel's second attack on Lebanon in 2006.¹⁰

Foreign military sales

COMPANY PROFILE: CATERPILLAR

Caterpillar supplies military bulldozers to the Israeli military under the Foreign Military Sales programme.¹¹

Retrofitting of Caterpillar military bulldozers

Caterpillar's military bulldozers are kitted out with armour specially for the Israeli military by Zoko Holdings¹² along with Ramta, a division of Israel Aerospace Industries.¹³

Caterpillar's dealerships

Caterpillar distributes its products through an international network of dealerships and representatives:

Israeli representative: Caterpillar is represented in Israel by Israel Tractors and Equipment (part of Zoko Enterprises).¹⁴ Who Profits? states that:

“Haaretz reported [in 2009] about a planned contract between the army and the company, which would enable the immediate drafting of Zoko's civilian staff, in order to allow them full access to the tools on the battlefield. No information was found confirming the final signing of such a contract.”¹⁵

CP Holdings (UK) owns 83.08% of Zoko Holdings.¹⁶ It also owns several Caterpillar dealerships in Europe. CP Holdings is headquartered in London.

Caterpillar's representatives in the UK: Caterpillar are represented in the UK by Finning.

COMPANY PROFILE: CATERPILLAR

Finning's UK locations can be found here:

https://www.finning.com/en_GB/contact/all-branches.html.

Caterpillar's UK locations can be found here:

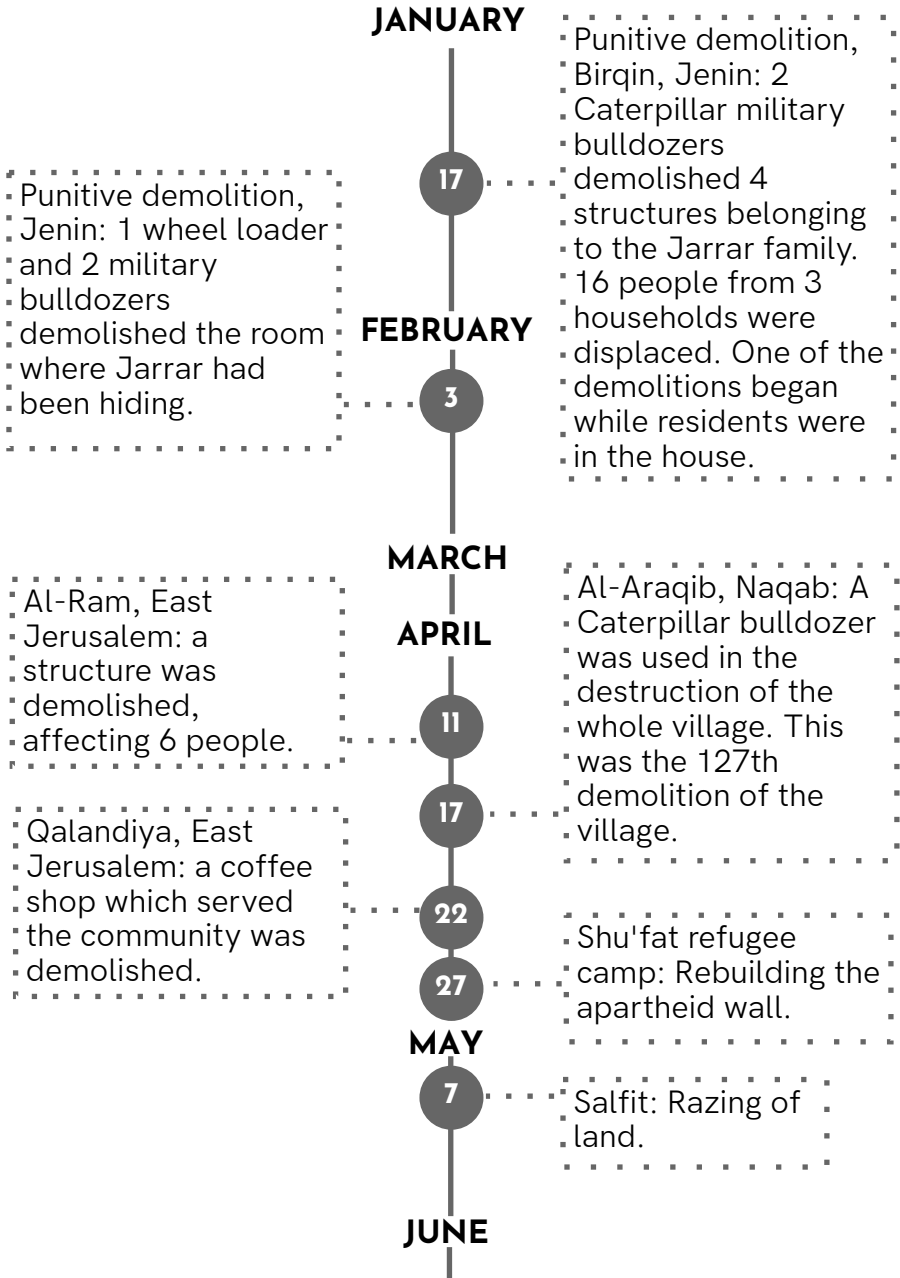
<https://www.caterpillar.com/en/company/global-footprint/eame/united-kingdom.html>

Perkins: The engines for Caterpillar equipment are built by Perkins, a wholly owned subsidiary of Caterpillar.¹⁷

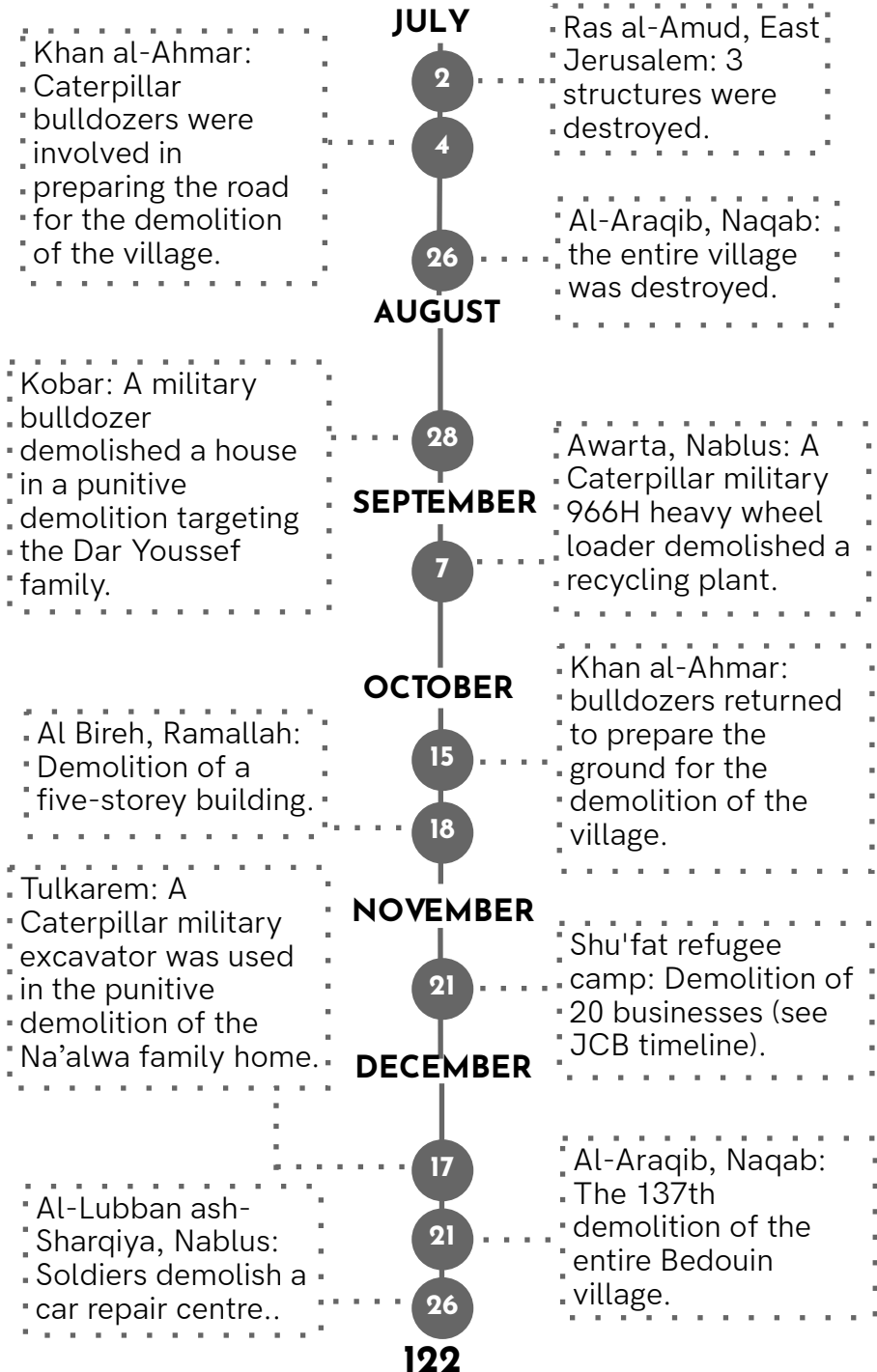
Below: A Caterpillar military bulldozer is used in Khan al-Ahmar on 14 September 2018. Two Palestinians and one French man were arrested when they tried to block the occupation's bulldozers.



Caterpillar demolitions in 2018



COMPANY PROFILE: CATERPILLAR



IN 2018 CAT D9 BULLDOZERS MADE AT LEAST

86

**INCURSIONS
INTO GAZA**

**MILITARY BULLDOZERS WERE ACCOMPANIED BY
DRONES. THE MILITARY RAZED LAND, LAID RAZOR
WIRE & SHOT AT PEOPLE**

CAT BULLDOZERS DESTROYED AT LEAST

41
STRUCTURES

INCLUDING

13
HOMES

22
BUSINESSES

**& DESTROYED THE WHOLE VILLAGE OF
AL-ARAQIB AT LEAST**

3 **TIMES**

CAT BULLDOZERS CARRIED OUT AT LEAST

7 **PUNITIVE
DEMOLITIONS**

& ALSO

**BUILT THE APARTHEID WALL IN GAZA • RAZED LAND
• DESTROYED A RECYCLING PLANT**

Resistance against Caterpillar so far

There is a long and creative history of campaigning against Caterpillar's involvement in Israel's home demolition policy.

We have included some highlights below.

UK/Europe

In 2002, during the European Social Forum, 100 'Disobedientes' occupied the Caterpillar factory in Florence in solidarity with Palestine. In the UK, activists picketed Caterpillar's premises in Desford.¹⁸

In 2004, on the anniversary of Rachel Corrie's death, activists occupied the Caterpillar Defence Industries factory in Shrewsbury, UK.¹⁹

Campaigners in the UK also occupied Caterpillar bulldozers at the Hillhead Construction industry trade fair in Derbyshire.²⁰ Later that year activists held a protest inside Caterpillar's Cannock depot.

A series of protests were held in 2004 against Caterpillar's Financial Services HQ in Solihull. Activists

COMPANY PROFILE: CATERPILLAR

tried to present company executives with a ‘Homewrecker of the year’ award.²¹

Protesters across the UK also took their message to the high streets, calling for a boycott of Caterpillar clothing and merchandise.²²

During the mobilisation against the G8 in Germany in 2007, activists held a mass protest against a Caterpillar dealership. After the protest, anonymous activists set machinery at the dealership alight.²³

In 2018, students at the University of Cambridge called on the university to end its service agreement with Caterpillar, as well as arms company BAE Systems.

Their statement read:

“As members of the University of Cambridge, students and staff alike, we are deeply ashamed that our institution maintains such large and active links with corporate entities trading in mass murder and human misery. For as long as these links continue, Cambridge cannot fulfil its pretensions to being ethically responsible, or a social leader.”

United States

In 2003, after the death of Rachel Corrie, activists from Stop US Tax-Funded Aid to Israel Now (SUSTAIN) called for action against Caterpillar, until the company stopped supplying bulldozers to Israel.²⁴

Later that year, SUSTAIN members marched into the

COMPANY PROFILE: CATERPILLAR

Caterpillar offices in Illinois and tried to make a citizen's arrest of the directors.²⁵

In 2004, Jewish peace activists in Nevada disrupted a Caterpillar sponsored safety award at Mine Expo in Las Vegas. Their banner read: 'What do Cat dozers make possible? Death and destruction for Palestinians and Israelis.'²⁶

In 2005, in the wake of Israel's 'Operation Rainbow', activists in the US bought shares in Caterpillar and proposed a Shareholder Motion calling for the company to investigate whether its sale of bulldozers to Israel violates the CAT "good global citizen" code of conduct. The motion received a 3% vote in Caterpillar's shareholder meeting. At the same time, protests were held against Caterpillar in over 30 US cities.²⁷

Activists in New York protested outside the Waldorf hotel, where a Caterpillar executive was due to speak on a panel about Corporate social responsibility.²⁸

In 2010 activists disrupted the Caterpillar shareholder meeting in Chicago. Electronic Intifada reported:

"When a reporter asked [outgoing CEO] Owens during the question and answer session whether he was personally affected by stories that mechanics are being conscripted as soldiers or that disabled people were crushed to death when bulldozers collapsed their homes around them, he said, 'Absolutely. It's tragic. But we can't manage four million pieces of equipment out there...' Owens hid behind the US Foreign Military Sales program, which handles the sales of the CAT machines

COMPANY PROFILE: CATERPILLAR

to Israel. 'We're not in the business of international relations. You need to take it up with Washington,' Owens said."

Also in 2010, students at Olympia's Evergreen State College voted to ban the use of Caterpillar equipment on campus.²⁹

Shareholder activists returned to the Caterpillar General Meeting in 2011, as usual proposing a motion that the company stop selling D9s to Israel. This time, the motion got 21% of the vote.³⁰

In 2013, students in Seattle protested John Huntsman, former US ambassador who is on the board of Caterpillar, as he spoke at the University of Washington.³¹ The protesters demanded that Huntsman meet with the Corrie family, and that Caterpillar stop supplying bulldozers to Israel.

Later in 2013, protesters unfurled a banner proclaiming "Divest from Israel's occupation: Free Palestine" at New York's Cornell University. They were protesting TIAA-CREF's investments in Caterpillar. The CEO of TIAA-CREF was participating in a panel event at the university. The investment fund had divested shares in Caterpillar from its Social Choice Fund the previous year, but still holds shares through its general fund.³²

In 2014, during Israel's murderous assault on the Gaza Strip in which over 1,400 Palestinians died, the Palestinian Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions National Committee called for action against seven companies, including Caterpillar.³³

COMPANY PROFILE: CATERPILLAR

In 2016, after a long campaign, Portland State University students voted to divest from Caterpillar and other companies complicit in Israeli state militarism. The resolution stated:

“That the Associated Students of Portland State University (ASPSU) calls on the university to put in place an internal investment screen which prohibits investment in any company that provides weapons or equipment used for violent acts that target either Israeli or Palestinian civilians; provides equipment used for the displacement of Palestinians from their homes or the construction and maintenance of illegal and unethical Israeli government authorised settlements; or supplies equipment used for the construction or maintenance of the Separation Wall in the West Bank and Jerusalem.”³⁴

Legal Action

In 2005, four Palestinian families, together with the family of Rachel Corrie, took Caterpillar to court in the US. The case, filed in Washington, accused Caterpillar of crimes under US and international law. The plaintiffs gave details of ten Palestinians who were killed and another six who were physically injured when Caterpillar bulldozers destroyed their homes.³⁵

Rachel’s mother, Cindy Corrie, said at the time: “As we approach the two-year anniversary of Rachel’s killing, my family and I are still searching for justice. The brutal death of my daughter should never have happened and our family condemns attacks on all civilians. We believe Caterpillar and the IDF must be held accountable for their role in the attack on my daughter Rachel.”

COMPANY PROFILE: CATERPILLAR

In 2007, the case was dismissed. The judge ruled that the court could not question the US government's policy of military aid to Israel.³⁶

The Corries also brought a civil case in Israel, trying to get justice for their daughter. It took over five years to be brought to trial. The Israeli judge ruled that the state bore no responsibility for Rachel's death.³⁷ As the verdict was released, a group of Palestinians in Gaza called on the international community to remember Rachel by supporting BDS.³⁸

Below: Rachel Corrie. She is remembered by Palestinians everywhere. Her photo hangs on the walls of many houses in the West Bank and Gaza



Divestment successes

Here is a list of the funds and companies which have divested from Caterpillar since the beginning of the BDS campaign:

In 2017, the city of Portland, Oregon's council voted to exclude Caterpillar from its investment, after campaigning by BDS activists.³⁹

In 2016, the Alliance of Baptists ruled out any new investments in Caterpillar.⁴⁰

In 2014, the Presbyterian Church (USA) voted to divest from Caterpillar. A member of the Presbyterian Israel/Palestine Mission Network commented:

"Because we are a historical peacemaking church, what we have done is, we have stood up for non-violent means of resistance to oppression and we have sent a clear message to a struggling society that we support their efforts to resist in a non-violent way the oppression being thrust upon them."⁴¹

In 2012, Caterpillar's sale of D9s to Israel was a contributing factor to the company being delisted from an influential investment index.⁴² This in turn led to two divestment victories: the international Quaker Friends Fiduciary Corporation announced that it would divest \$900,000 from Caterpillar.⁴³ TIAA Cref's socially responsible investment portfolio also divested \$72m,⁴⁴ but TIAA CREF's main fund still holds shares (see above).

COMPANY PROFILE: CATERPILLAR

In 2010, the New England United Methodist Church placed Caterpillar on its divestment list.⁴⁵

In 2005-6, the Anglican Consultative Council and the Anglican General Synod⁴⁶ voted to divest from Caterpillar over human rights concerns.⁴⁷ The church invested £2.5m in Caterpillar.

Below: A man tries to stop an Israeli bulldozer during a protest against the expansion of an Israeli settlement in the West Bank, 13 July 2016. Photo by Majdi Mohammed



Take action against Caterpillar

- **Protest outside Caterpillar's factories and Finning dealerships.** Call on the company to stop supplying military bulldozers to Israel. Caterpillar must also end its relationship with Zoko Holdings, and ensure that its bulldozers are no longer used in Israel's home demolition policy, settlement building and wall building.
- **Call for investors to divest from Caterpillar.** Protest outside your local HSBC and Barclays banks, calling for them to drop their shares in Caterpillar.
- **Check that your pension is not invested in a fund that invests in Caterpillar.**
- **Do a Freedom of Information (FOI) request** to find out where your local authority pension scheme is invested. Check that it is not invested in Caterpillar.
- **Persuade your local council or university** to demand that their contractors do not use Caterpillar equipment.
- **Boycott Caterpillar branded footwear, clothing and toys.** Protest outside shops that sell Caterpillar branded products.

Hyundai Heavy Industries

HEADQUARTERS IN SOUTH KOREA. EUROPEAN
HEADQUARTERS IN LONDON, ATHENS, OSLO

\$2.2 billion

PROFITS

25,000

EMPLOYEES

LARGEST INVESTORS INCLUDE

HYUNDAI HEAVY
INDUSTRIES HOLDINGS

VANGUARD

KOREA NATIONAL
PENSION SERVICE

NORWAY

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

SAMSUNG LIFE
INSURANCE

KCC CORP

BANK OF NEW YORK
MELLON

BLACKROCK

STICHTING PENSIOENFONDS ABP, THE PENSION
FUND FOR GOVERNMENT & EDUCATION WORKERS IN
THE NETHERLANDS, HAS A 6% STAKE IN HYUNDAI
HEAVY INDUSTRIES HOLDINGS.

Hyundai bulldozers were responsible for demolishing at least 48 homes in 2018. Hyundai equipment was also used in the destruction of the entire village of Al-Araqib. The company's 320 and 210 excavators have long booms which are used to demolish tall buildings in urban environments such as East Jerusalem.

Hyundai equipment has been photographed in use in the building of Israeli settlements. It has also been used in the construction of road blocks in the West Bank.

Hyundai equipment has also been used to build the Gaza apartheid wall.

Israeli distributor

Hyundai's distributor in Israel is a company called Efco.¹

Case study

Al-Jiftlik, Jordan Valley

Layla* was nine months pregnant when her home was destroyed. “I was sleeping when the bulldozers came... I was really scared,” she explains.

“When I went outside and saw the soldiers I was really shocked. At first they didn’t let us take any personal stuff like clothes from the house... Later on they allowed some neighbours helped us to take the stuff out. I was really upset...There was nothing I could do.”

Layla lives in the community of Al-Jiftlik in the Jordan Valley, West Bank. When the soldiers came her husband Akram* was at work in another village. He says:

“They came between 6.30 to 7.00am. A friend called me and said ‘the soldiers are in your house’, but he didn’t tell me why. I called my father and asked what happened. My father said that they were going to destroy the house. I was worried about Layla because she was so pregnant.”

Their daughter is four months old when we meet the family.

“The military were shouting at Layla,” explains Naima*, Akram’s mother. “I helped her to go outside. The workers started throwing the mattresses out. We tried taking them, but they didn’t want us to and they

COMPANY PROFILE: HYUNDAI

shouted at us.”

When Akram arrived back in Al-Jiftlik he found the area around his house had been closed off by the authorities.

“I was 200 metres from the house and they wouldn’t let me enter. I told them, ‘I have to go to my house’, they said, ‘there’s no house’.”

The family shows us photos of the Hyundai vehicle that was used to carry out the demolition. Equipment manufactured by Hyundai is used in many of Israel’s demolitions. Palestinians have made calls to boycott and divest from the company until it ends its involvement in Israel’s violations of human rights.

There had been ten people living in the house at the time. It was actually the house of Akram’s parents and both he and Layla had been staying with them since their own family home had been destroyed by the Israeli occupation authorities in November 2017. They had only been living in that house for a year and a half before it was demolished. It had taken them two years to build.

Naima tells us:

“We don’t feel safe here any more. Yesterday the Israeli Civil Administration came in a car and stopped next to the house where we are living now. They were looking for any new structures that we were building.”

The family have been given two shipping containers by NGOs and the European Union – they aren’t yet suitable

COMPANY PROFILE: HYUNDAI

to live in and the family has been making alterations to them, with the help of local solidarity activists.

“The Israelis don’t want us to be in this country,” says Akram. “We asked for permission to build the house but they never give it. They would like to kick all the Palestinians out.”

Al-Jiftlik is 33 kilometres north of Jericho. It is in Area C, like almost 90% of the Jordan Valley. Being designated as Area C means that Al-Jiftlik is under full Israeli control. Palestinians who have lived in the Jordan Valley for generations have to apply for permission from the Israelis for any building work, which is almost never granted.

Isa*, Akram’s 84 year old grandfather, tells Corporate Occupation about the struggles he has had against the occupation over the decades. His family has lived and farmed in the Jordan Valley for generations – since before Israel occupied.

“After [the military occupation of the Jordan Valley in] 1967 the Israeli soldiers shot our sheep in the animal house. Later on they even started to use a helicopter and wherever they saw our sheep they would shoot at them. I spent four years protecting my goats and sheep. I had to take the sheep out to the mountain to eat at night: the opposite of what’s natural for them.

I was allowed to go to the farm from 6.00am-6.00pm. When it was 6pm the soldiers would shout, telling me to go back home. When I was walking back they would shoot next to me to scare me.

COMPANY PROFILE: HYUNDAI

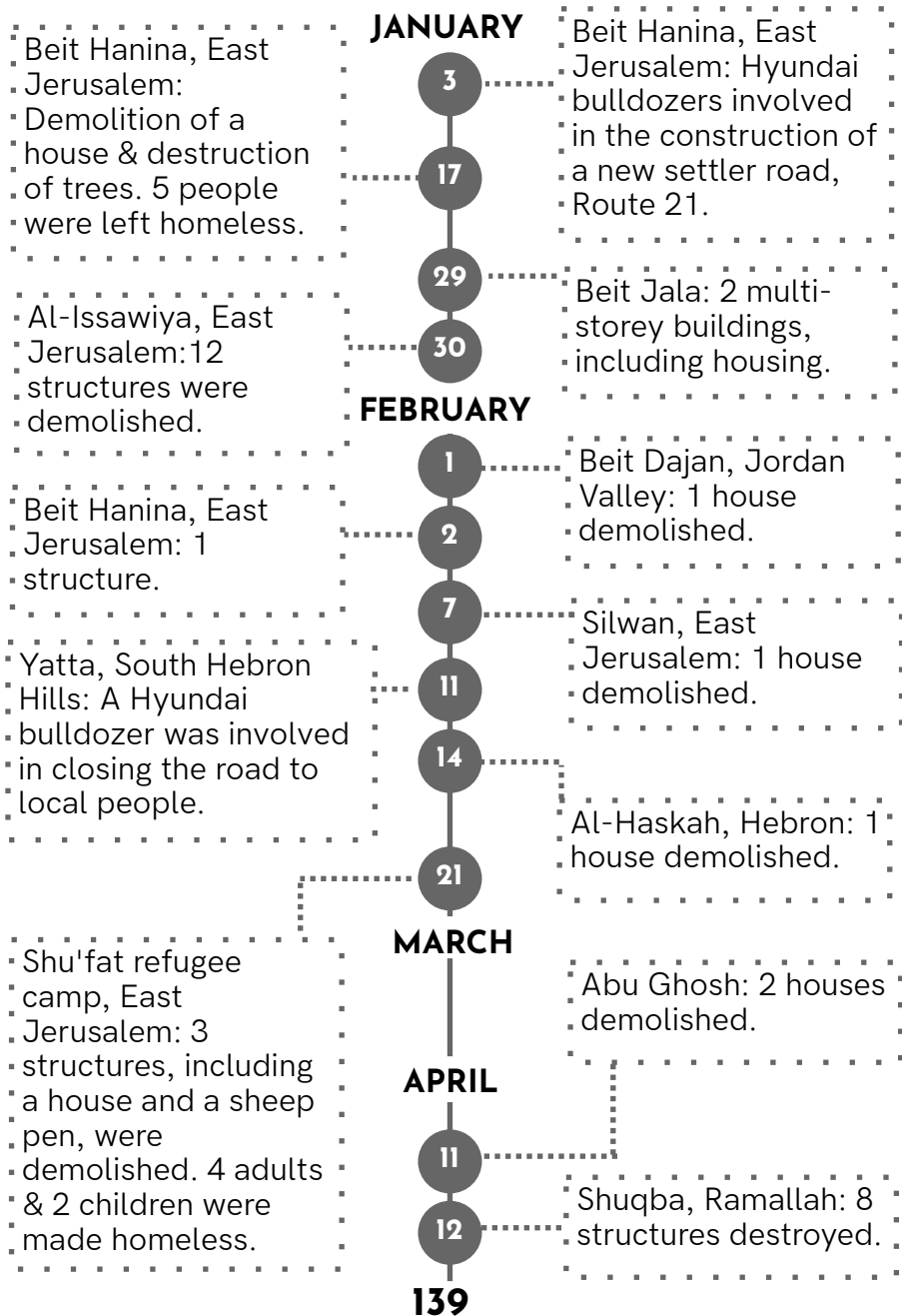
Now we see the military twice a week, mostly if there is some problem, an army exercise or if they're going to destroy houses. If they leave us alone here it's good."

*** We have not used the family's real names or any photos from the day because of safety concerns. This interview was carried out by Corporate Occupation in April 2018.**

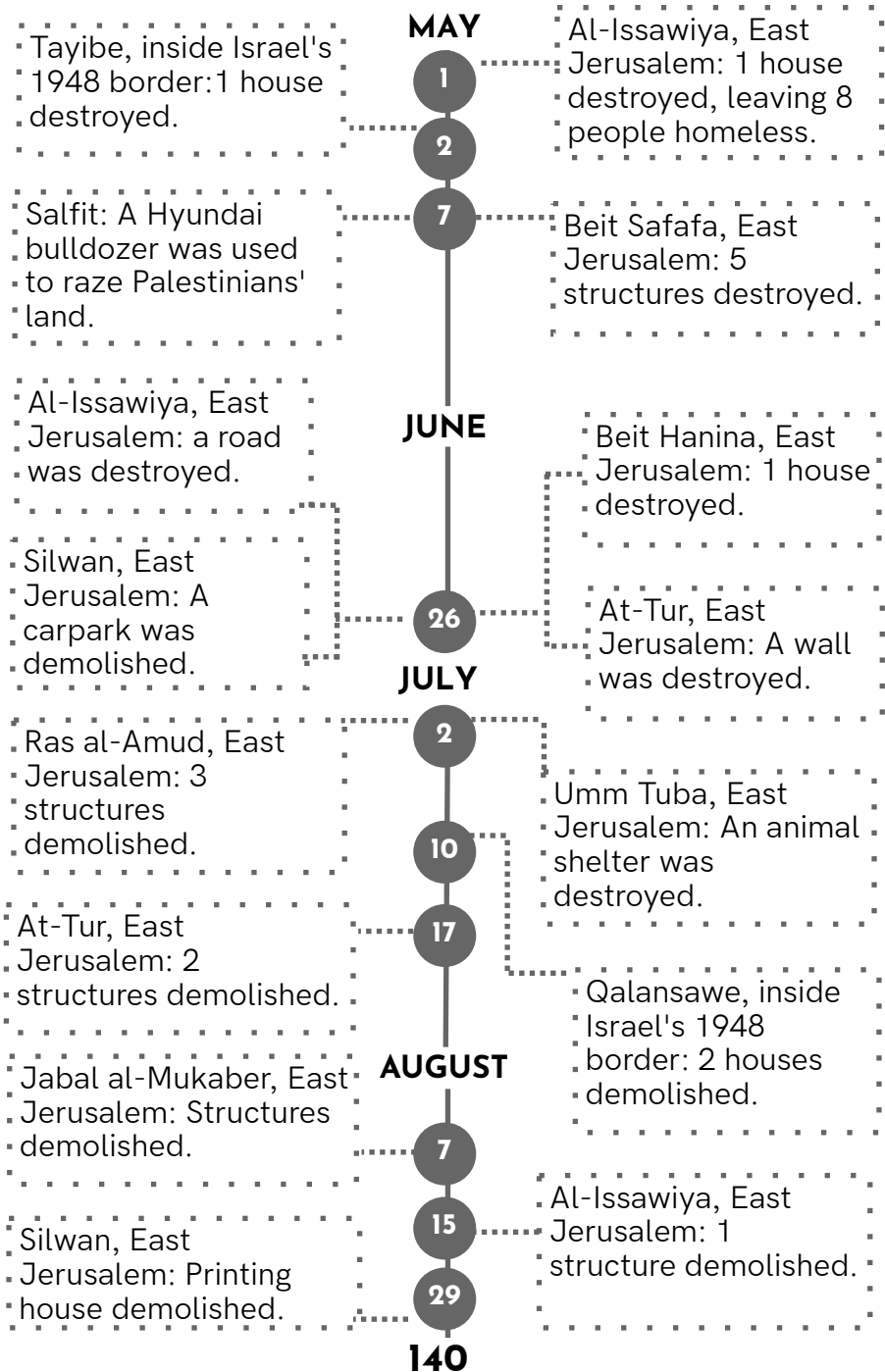
Below: A Hyundai excavator demolishes a home in the West Bank, December 2017. Photo by Nedal Eshtayah



Hyundai demolitions in 2018



COMPANY PROFILE: HYUNDAI



COMPANY PROFILE: HYUNDAI

SEPTEMBER

Al-Fheidat, East Jerusalem: 1 home was demolished. 2 adults & 3 children made homeless.

3

Al-Walaja: 5 houses, making 17 people homeless. People were injured trying to protect their houses.

4

5

Wadi Qadoun, East Jerusalem: 1 house demolished.

16

Beit Hanina, East Jerusalem: 1 house demolished.

Khallet al-Mayeh, South Hebron Hills: 1 house demolished.

OCTOBER

Ramla, inside Israel's 1948 border: 1 house demolished.

17

Al Bireh, Ramallah: A 5-storey was demolished close to the illegal Israeli colony of Psagot.

18

Jabal al-Mukaber, East Jerusalem: 1 house demolished.

28

Al-Araqib, Naqab: The 135th demolition of the entire Bedouin village.

Silwan, East Jerusalem: 1 structure demolished.

NOVEMBER

6

Beit Hanina, East Jerusalem: 2 houses demolished, displacing 11 people, including 5 children.

7

Shu'fat refugee camp, East Jerusalem: 1 building containing 12 apartments. 12 made homeless.

Az-Za'ayyem, East Jerusalem: 3 structures were demolished.

COMPANY PROFILE: HYUNDAI

NOVEMBER

Shu'fat refugee camp, East Jerusalem: 20 businesses demolished. (See JCB profile).

Imreiha, Jenin: 1 house demolished, displacing 5 people.

Jabal al-Mukaber, East Jerusalem: 1 house & commercial structure. 5 people were displaced. The family were marched out of their house at gunpoint & were not allowed to take their belongings with them.

Jabal al-Mukaber, East Jerusalem: 2 homes demolished. 2 people were displaced.

19

21

22

26

28

Jabal al-Mukaber, East Jerusalem: Warehouses, carwashes & offices were demolished.

Al-Ludd, inside Israel's 1948 border. A 3-storey house was demolished. Locals held protests after this demolition.

DECEMBER

11

12

18

Al Jiftlik-Al Mussafah, Jordan Valley: 1 home demolished. Omar Rahaila rushed to his home, & upon arrival Israeli soldiers fired live ammunition on his car, dragged him out, beat him & arrested him. The incident was reported in the Israeli media as a car-ramming attack by Rahaila.

Beit Hanina, East Jerusalem: 1 garage demolished.

**IN 2018 HYUNDAI BULLDOZERS DEMOLISHED
AT LEAST**

109 STRUCTURES

INCLUDING

48
HOMES

1
**WHOLE
VILLAGE**

28
BUSINESSES

DISPLACING AT LEAST

71
PEOPLE

INCLUDING

10
CHILDREN

HYUNDAI BULLDOZERS ALSO

**DESTROYED TREES •
DESTROYED A VILLAGE'S ROAD •
CONSTRUCTED A ROADBLOCK •
CONSTRUCTED A SETTLER ROAD**

Calls for action

All of the companies that share the Hyundai brand are controlled by a few members of the Chung family in South Korea, and are closely intertwined.² Therefore the BDS National Committee calls for a boycott of all Hyundai branded products.³ According to the BNC, the Hyundai brand “risks being tarnished by association with Israel’s crimes”.

In 2013, after Hyundai’s excavators were photographed demolishing houses in Beit Hanina and Silwan, East Jerusalem, Palestine Peace and Solidarity in South Korea contacted the company to enquire about its relationship with AEG, which had been importing Hyundai diggers to Israel.

Hyundai Heavy Industries responded to say that it had “stopped the deal with [Israeli company] Automotive Equipment Group and already sent an official notification letter.”⁴

However, since then, Hyundai excavators continue to be used in Israel’s home demolitions. They are now imported through Israeli company Efco.

In February 2017, the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions Committee of Palestinian Citizens of Israel

COMPANY PROFILE: HYUNDAI

(BDS48) called for a boycott of Hyundai until it “ends its involvement in Israeli crimes committed against the Palestinian people, particularly in Jerusalem and the Naqab (Negev).”

The call came in response to the use of Hyundai equipment in the demolition of homes in Umm al-Hiran and Qalansawe. BDS48 said that the aims of the campaign were “to cut Hyundai’s sales, induce divestment and tender exclusions” and to urge “Korean labour unions to pressure Hyundai to end its complicity in human rights violations”.

Mohammed Barakeh, the President of the High Follow-Up Committee for Arab Citizens of Israel, stated:

“Hyundai equipment is used by the Israeli government to demolish Palestinian homes on both sides of the Green Line, in what we see as an assault on our lives and our homes. Hyundai is actively complicit in these crimes. We call on Hyundai to stop doing business with any perpetrators of crimes against humans; otherwise, the company will be increasingly recognised as a partner in crime.”

As Palestinians were resisting the demolitions in Khan al-Ahmar in September 2018, the BNC made a renewed call for action against Hyundai and five other companies supplying the equipment used in Israel’s home demolitions.⁵

Take action against Hyundai

- **Boycott Hyundai products.**
- Campaign for companies and pension funds to **divest from Hyundai.**
- **Ask your local council or university** to ensure that their contractors do not use Hyundai equipment.
- **Protest** at Hyundai Heavy Industries premises in London, Athens and Oslo.
- **Protest against Blackrock**, demand that it divests from Hyundai Heavy Industries. Blackrock has offices close to London Bridge.
- If you are in the Netherlands, **campaign for Stichting Pensioenfondsen ABP, the pension fund for government and education workers, to divest** from Hyundai Heavy Industries.
- If you are in Korea, **campaign for the state of Korea and the Korean Pension Fund to divest** from Hyundai Heavy Industries.
- If you are in Norway, **campaign for the Norwegian state to divest** from Hyundai Heavy Industries.

COMPANY PROFILE: HYUNDAI

- If you are a UK higher education or university teacher, **call on the University Superannuation Scheme to divest** from the Hyundai Motor Company.
- **Check that your pension is not invested** in a fund that invests in Hyundai.
- **Do a Freedom of Information (FOI) request** to find out where your local authority pension scheme is invested. Check that it is not invested in Hyundai.



COMPANY PROFILE: VOLVO

Volvo Group

(AB Volvo)

HEADQUARTERED IN GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN
OWNER OF VOLVO CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

.....

\$40 billion

REVENUE

.....

95,000

EMPLOYEES

.....

LARGEST INVESTORS INCLUDE

ZHEJIANG GEELY
HOLDING GROUP

INDUSTRIVARDEN AB

NORGES BANK

SHB

ALECTA AB

BLACKROCK

SWEDBANK

NORWAY

AMF FONDER

SVENSKA
HANDELSBANKEN

GOVERNMENT OF
CANADA

TIAA BOARD OF
OVERSEERS

PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL

Volvo's bulldozers have been used again and again to demolish the entire village of Al-Araqib in the Naqab (Negev). The whole village was razed by Volvo machines at least eight times in 2018.

They are also regularly used in the slow ethnic cleansing taking place in the West Bank's South Hebron Hills.

Volvo equipment has been regularly documented being used to build settlements, settlement infrastructure, checkpoints and roadblocks in the West Bank.¹

Volvo's complicity in demolitions and confiscations of Palestinian schools

A Volvo bulldozer was used in December 2018 to demolish a school in As-Samu, in the South Hebron Hills. In July, a crane-mounted on a Volvo truck was used to confiscate a school building in Khirbet Kilet a-Dabe, also in the South Hebron Hills.

Volvo brand

The Volvo brand includes Volvo Cars (Volvo Car AB). However, in 2010 Volvo Cars was sold to Chinese company Geely, controlled by Shufu Li.² Geely also owns a 15.6% stake in Volvo Group,³ so the companies remain closely intertwined. Volvo Group and Volvo Cars have established Volvo Trademark Holding AB to manage the Volvo Brand.

COMPANY PROFILE: VOLVO

Marten Wikforss of Volvo Group has tried to distance Volvo Cars from the crimes committed by Volvo bulldozers by saying that the two companies are separate.⁴ However, they remain linked by the shared brand: a brand that is deeply tarnished by the use of Volvo's bulldozers in Israel's home demolitions. If Volvo Cars wants to distance itself from these crimes, it should stop using the Volvo brand.

Israeli representative

Volvo's representative in Israel is Mayer Cars and Trucks.⁵

Prison transport & settler buses

Volvo Buses owns a 26.5% stake in Israeli company Merkavim. Merkavim supplies armoured buses for use by Israeli bus company Egged, providing transport to Israel's colonies in the West Bank.⁶ Volvo Group vehicles are also used as local transport for several settlements.

According to Who Profits?, Volvo Group and Merkavim provide prison transport buses to the Israeli prison service.

Volvo's complicity in war crimes

Richard Falk, UN Special Rapporteur for the West Bank and Gaza, said that Volvo and other companies must

“avoid infringing on the human rights of those living

COMPANY PROFILE: VOLVO

under occupation and address adverse human rights impacts with which they are involved.”

In a report given to the UN General Assembly in 2012, Falk used Volvo as a case study, and said that Volvo must abide by the principles of the UN Global Compact.⁷

If Volvo is serious about not wanting its products to be used for destructive purposes, Volvo Group could end its relationship with Israeli company Mayer Cars and Trucks. At the very least it could obtain assurances from Mayer Cars and Trucks that Volvo equipment will not be sold or leased to the Israeli army, police, Israeli Civil Administration or Israeli Lands Administration.

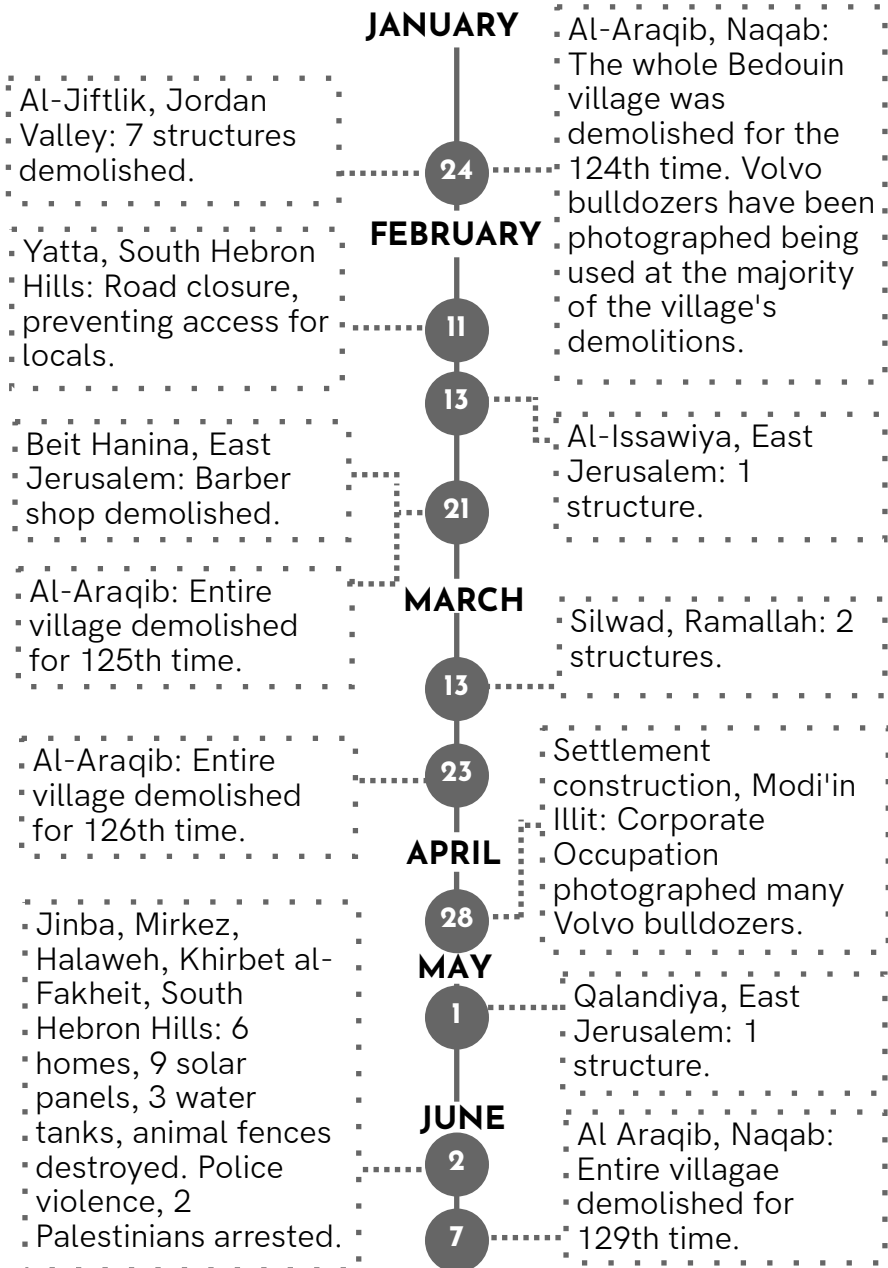
Doing any less than this means that Volvo is knowingly complicit in war crimes being carried out with its equipment.

Responses from the company

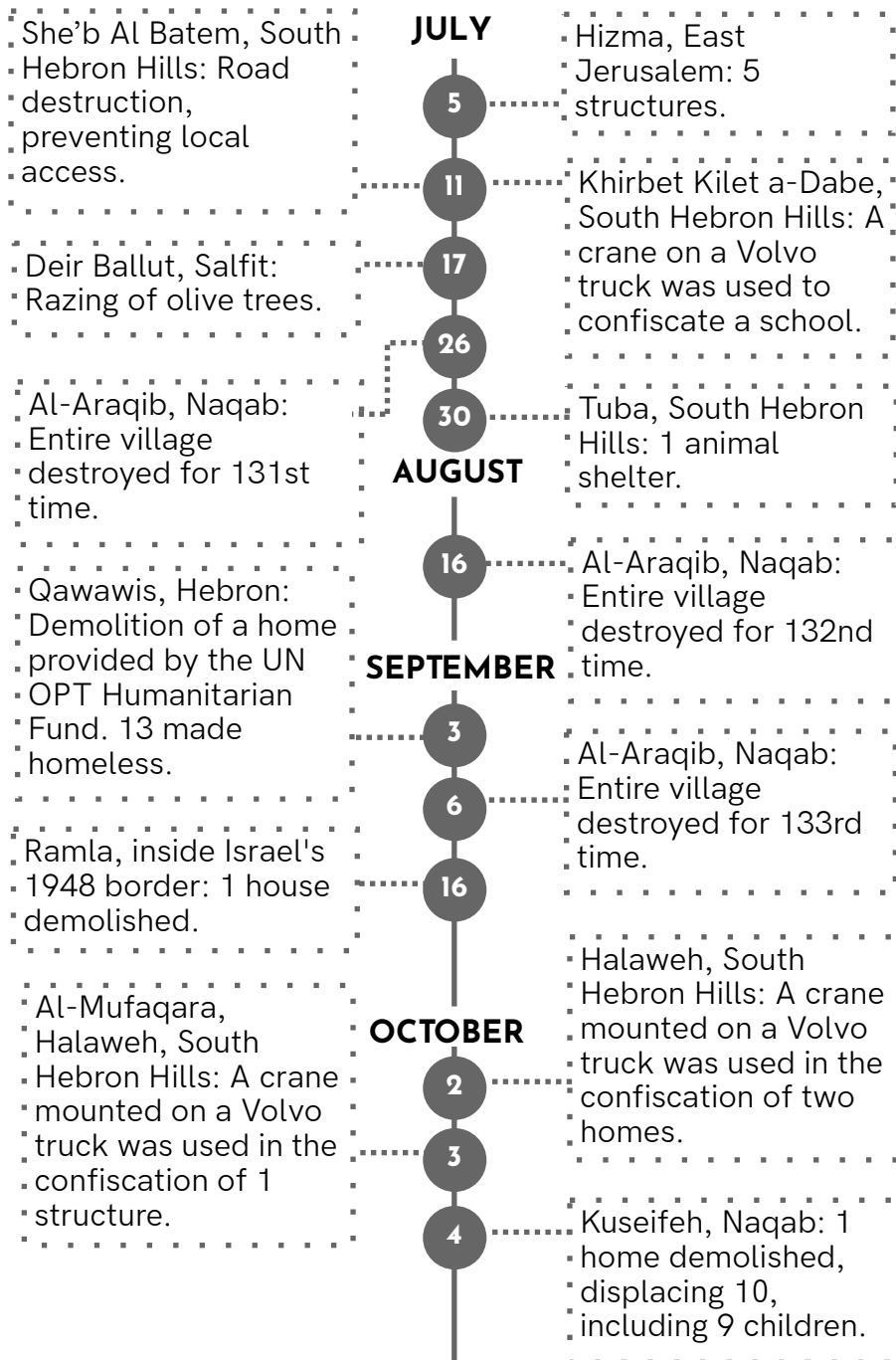
In 2007, Volvo’s machines were used in an Israeli demolition in Beit Hanina. When activists contacted the company, Marten Wikforss, Volvo vice president for Media Relations and Corporate News, stated:

“It is, of course, regrettable and sad if our products are used for destructive purposes. We do not condone such actions, but we do not have any control over the use of our products, other than to affirm in our business activities a Code of Conduct that decries unethical behaviour... there is no way Volvo ultimately can control the use of its products.”

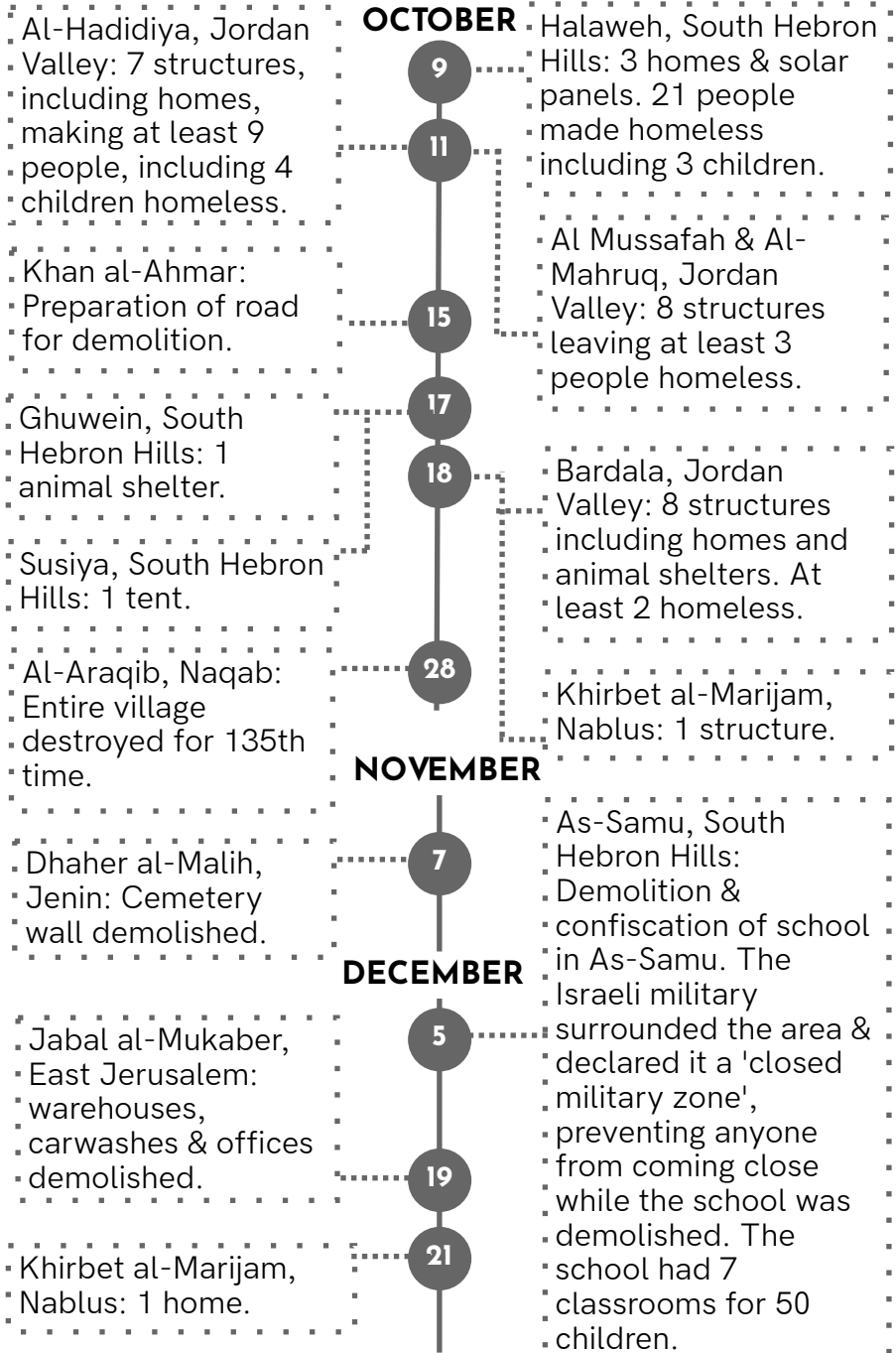
Volvo demolitions in 2018



COMPANY PROFILE: VOLVO



COMPANY PROFILE: VOLVO



**IN 2018 VOLVO EQUIPMENT DEMOLISHED OR
CONFISCATED AT LEAST**

102 STRUCTURES

INCLUDING

37
HOMES

2
SCHOOLS

7
BUSINESSES

DISPLACING AT LEAST

58
PEOPLE

INCLUDING

16
CHILDREN

**HYUNDAI BULLDOZERS DESTROYED THE
ENTIRE VILLAGE OF AL-ARAQIB AT LEAST**

8 TIMES

VOLVO BULLDOZERS ALSO

**DESTROYED TREES • DESTROYED A VILLAGE'S
ROAD • DESTROYED 11 SOLAR PANELS •
CONSTRUCTED A ROADBLOCK • CONSTRUCTED A
SETTLER ROAD • CONSTRUCTED SETTLEMENTS •
DESTROYED A CEMETERY WALL**

Take action against Volvo

- **Boycott Volvo products.**
- **Campaign for companies and pension funds** to divest from Volvo.
- **Ask your local council or university** to ensure that their contractors do not use Volvo equipment.
- **Protest against Blackrock** and demand that it divests from Volvo Group. Blackrock has offices close to London Bridge.i
- If you're in Canada, **call on the Government of Canada to divest** from Volvo Group.
- Activists in the US, **campaign for TIAA-Board Of Overseers to divest** from Volvo Group.

Campaign for the Norwegian state to divest from Volvo Group.

- **Check** that your pension is not invested in a fund that invests in Volvo.
- **Do a Freedom of Information (FOI) request** to find out where your local authority pension scheme is invested. Check that it is not invested in Volvo.

COMPANY PROFILE: CNH

CNH INDUSTRIAL

HEADQUARTERED IN LONDON & AMSTERDAM

BRANDS

CASE & New Holland

\$27.4 billion

REVENUE

LARGEST INVESTORS INCLUDE

EXOR

GIOVANNI AGNELLI

HARRIS ASSOCIATES

SOUTHEASTERN ASSET
MANAGEMENT

FIAT CHRYSLER

NORWAY

AXA

TIAA BOARD OF
OVERSEERS

DEUTSCHE BANK

ITALY

BARCLAYS

Founded seven years ago, CNH Industrial owns the CASE and New Holland bulldozer brands.

CASE and New Holland bulldozers have been used in several demolitions in the West Bank.

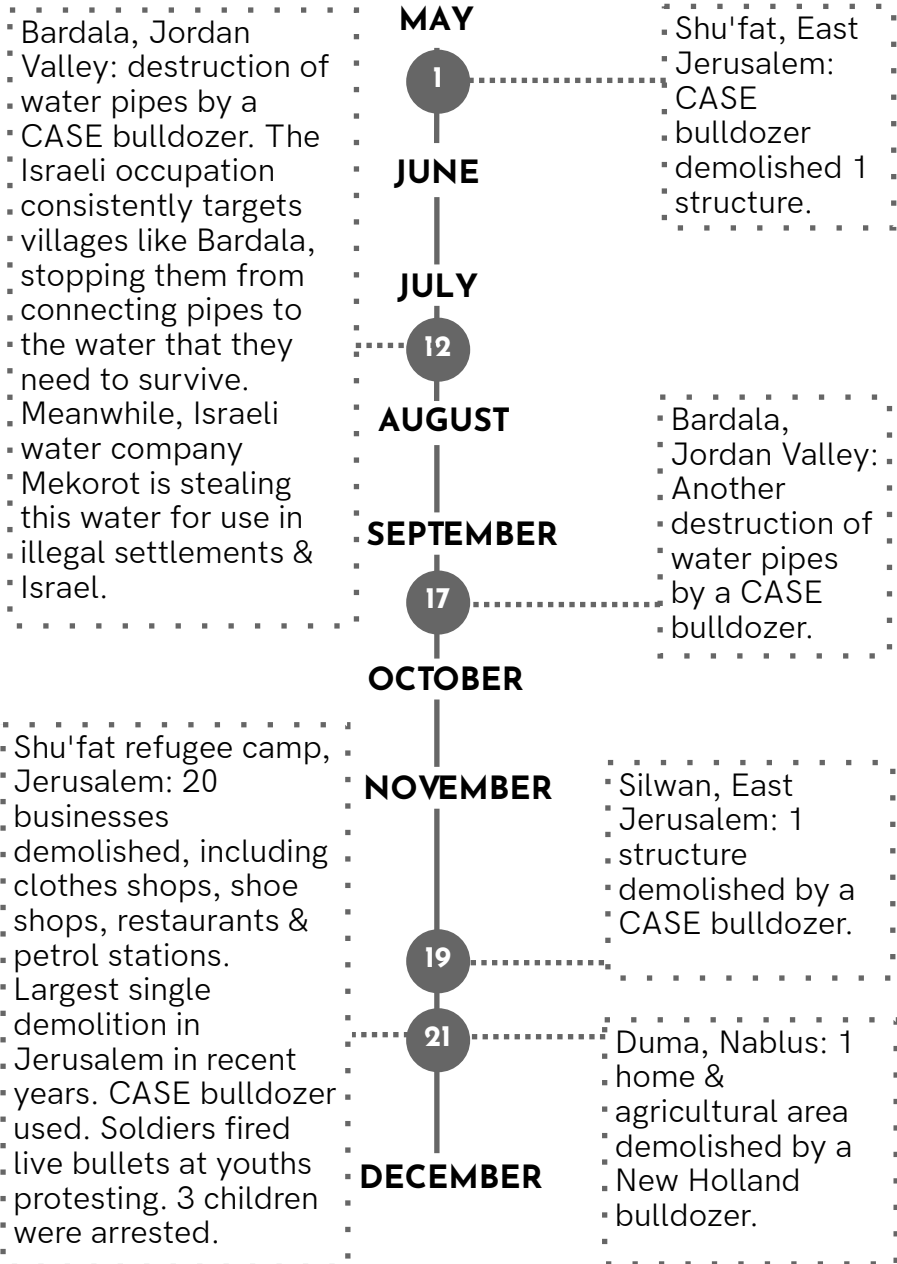
Israeli importer

Carasso Motors imports CASE and New Holland construction equipment to Israel.

Partnership with Hyundai

Hyundai has signed a ten year agreement to provide CNH Industrial with Compact Excavators.¹

CNH demolitions in 2018



Take action against CNH

- **Demonstrate outside CNH Industrial's offices in London**, demanding that the company takes steps to ensure that CASE and New Holland bulldozers are not used in Israel's home demolitions.
- Activists in the UK could **pressure Barclays PLC to divest** from CNH Industrial.
- Activists in Italy could **pressure the Italian state and Fiat Chrysler to divest**.
- Norwegian activists could **campaign for the Norwegian state to drop its shares**.
- US activists could **pressure TIAA-Board Of Overseers to divest**.
- Activists in France could **pressure AXA to divest**.

COMPANY PROFILE: LIU GONG

Liu Gong

HEADQUARTERS IN LIUZHOU, CHINA

\$49.5 million

PROFITS

8,400

EMPLOYEES

LARGEST
INVESTORS
INCLUDE

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

CENTRAL HUIJIN ASSET
MANAGEMENT

HONG KONG SECURITIES
CLEARING COMPANY

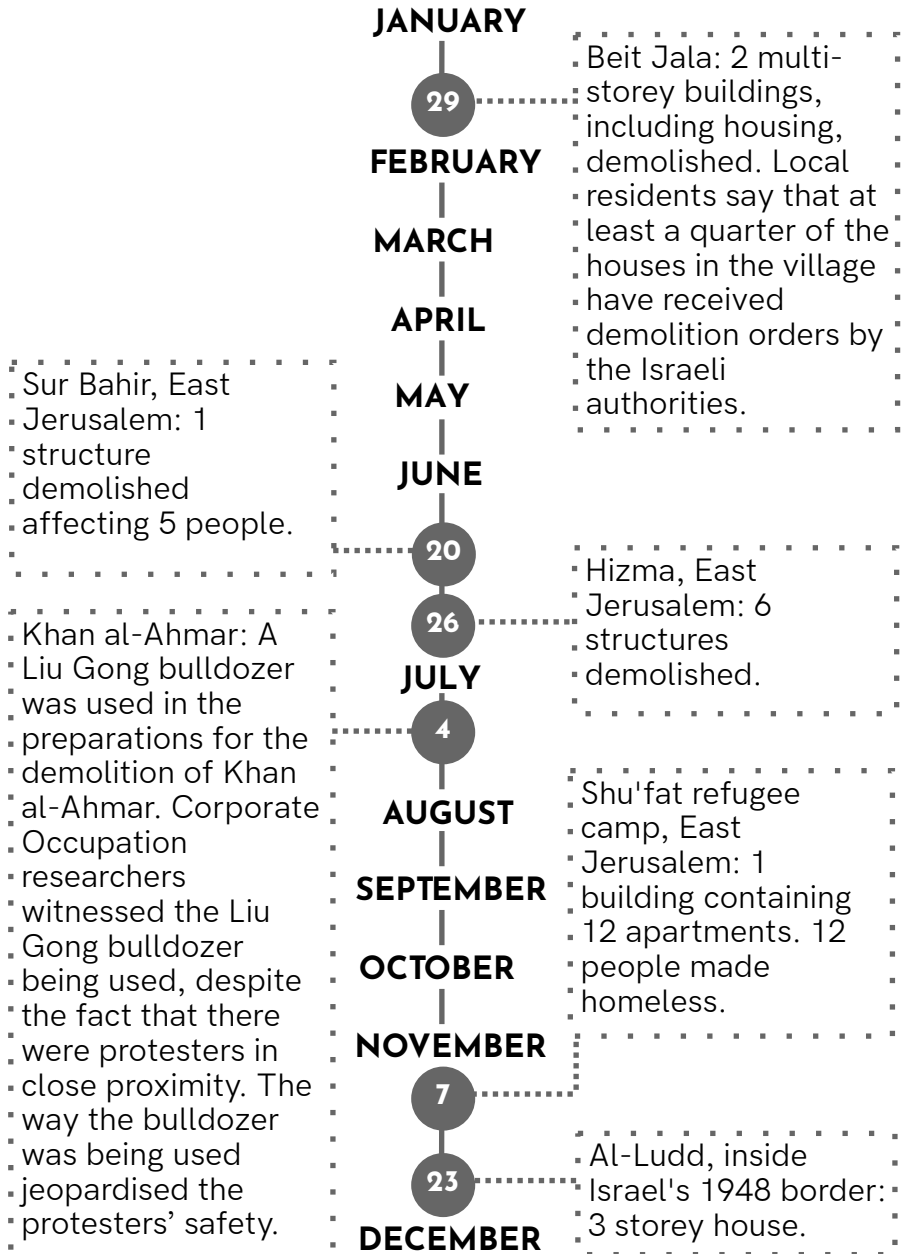
HUAAN FUND MANAGEMENT

Liu Gong boasts that it is the 10th biggest construction equipment manufacturer in the world.¹ Its large excavators are used by the Israeli occupation to destroy bigger buildings, usually in the East Jerusalem area. Its bulldozers were also used in Khan al-Ahmar last year.



Above: Activists block a Liu Gong bulldozer in Khan al-Ahmar, 4 July 2018. Police used violence and made arrests shortly afterwards. Hundreds of protesters camped in Khan al-Ahmar to prevent its imminent demolition. Photo by Active Stills

Liu Gong demolitions in 2018



Take action against Liu Gong

- **Contact Liu Gong** and demand that it prevents its equipment being used in Israel's home demolitions.
- Activists could call on the Chinese state and other shareholders to **divest from Liu Gong**.

Activists occupied a Liu Gong bulldozer in Khan al-Ahmar, 4 July 2018. Israeli police used violence to remove protesters shortly afterwards. Photo by Active Stills



COMPANY PROFILE: FASSI

Fassi

HEADQUARTERED IN ALBINO, ITALY

.....

\$21.4 million

PROFITS

.....

OWNED BY GARMAND SA & THE FASSI FAMILY

.....

**OTHER COMPANIES IN FASSI GROUP:
CRANAB (SWEDEN), SLAGKRAFT (SWEDEN),
VIMEK (SWEDEN), BRACKE FOREST (SWEDEN),
MARREL (FRANCE), JEKKO (ITALY)**

.....

**Fassi's cranes are used in confiscations of
Palestinian homes, tents and even schools.**

Its equipment is most often used in Bedouin areas, such as the South Hebron Hills and Jordan Valley. Fassi cranes are often mounted on Volvo trucks.

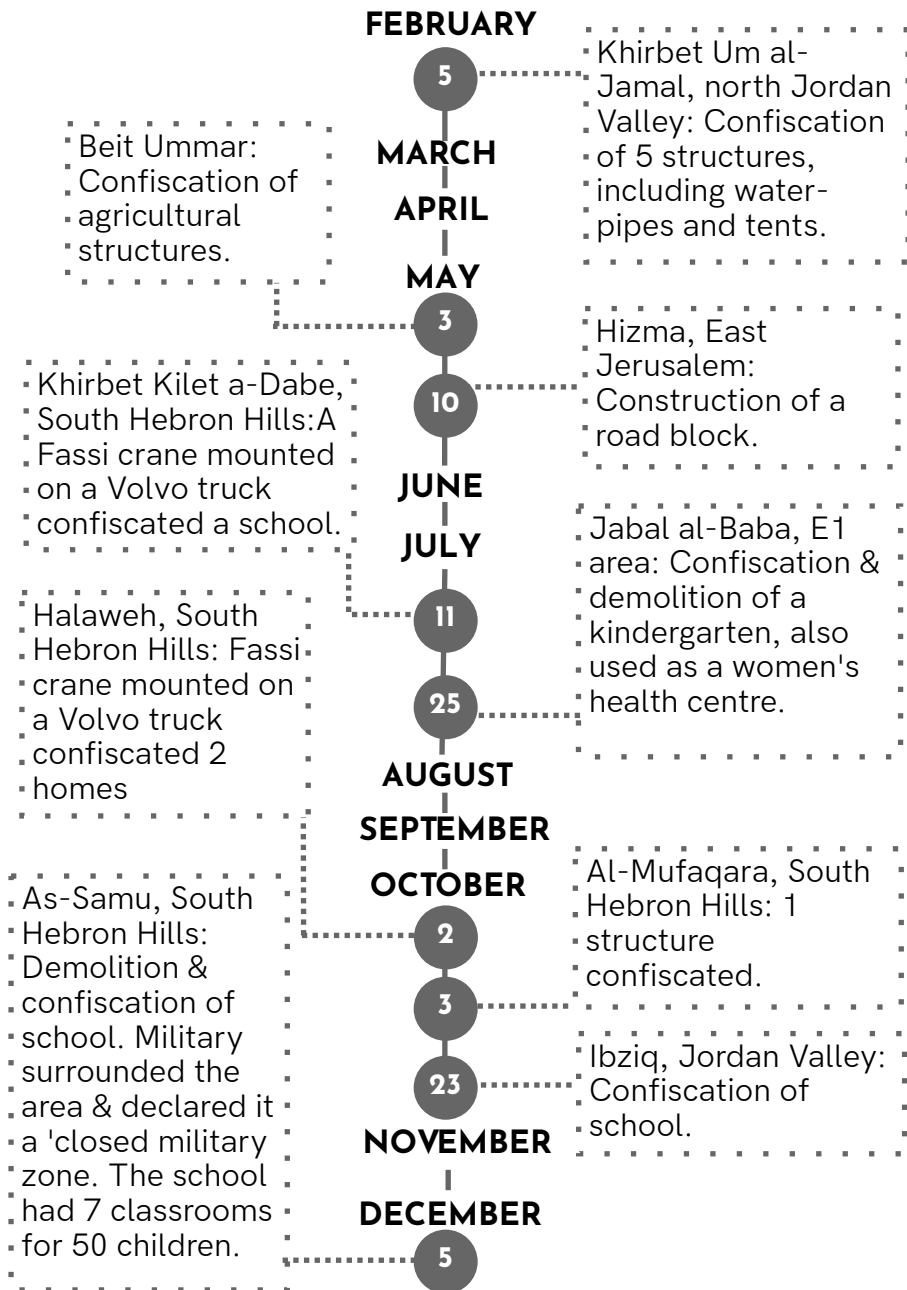
Israeli distributor

The company's exclusive distributor in Israel is KDM Engineering & Cranes Ltd.¹

Take action against Fassi

BDS activists in Italy could demonstrate outside Fassi's headquarters.

Fassi demolitions in 2018



Doosan

HEADQUARTERED IN SOUTH KOREA

\$37.9 million

PROFITS

LARGEST INVESTORS INCLUDE

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

VANGUARD GROUP

THE KOREAN NATIONAL
PENSION SERVICE

AXA

JP MORGAN

THE BANK OF NEW YORK
MELLON

DIMENSIONAL
HOLDINGS

THE GOVERNMENT OF
CANADA

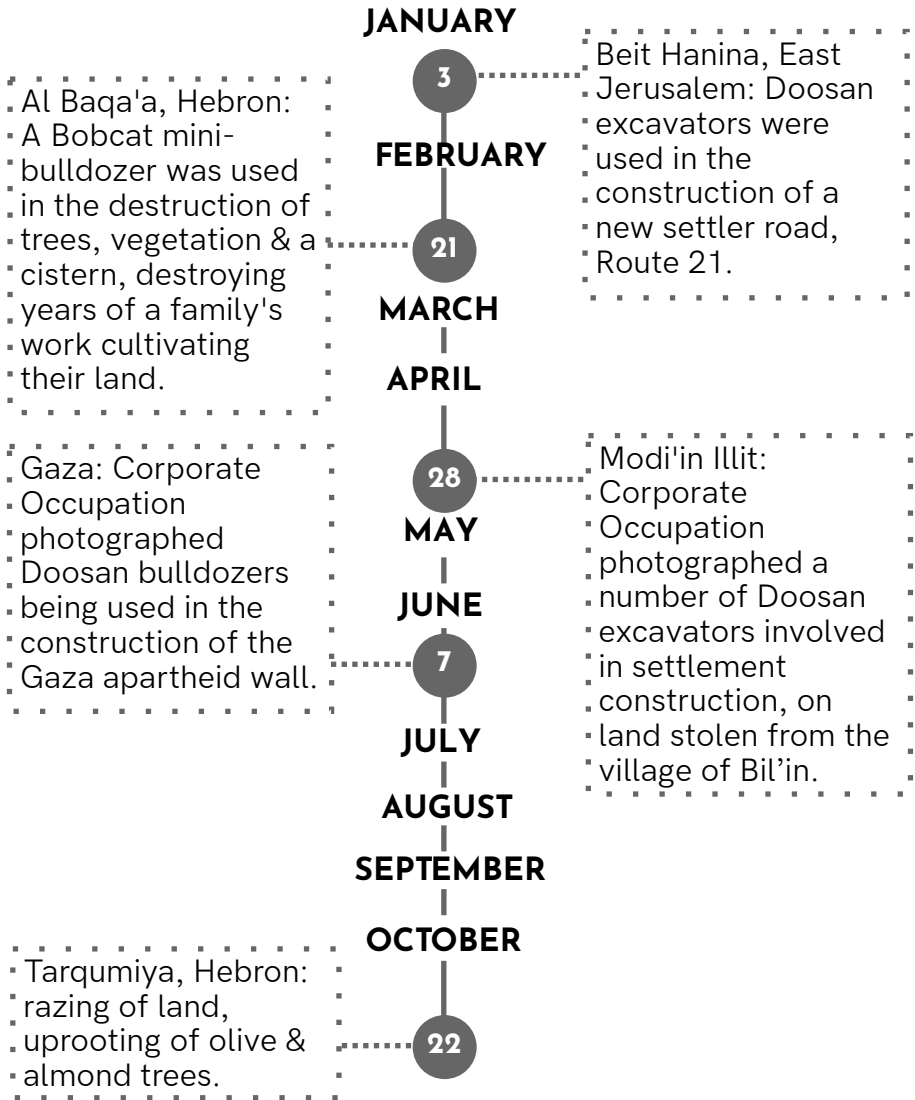
Doosan's construction equipment is used in settlement construction and home demolitions.

Doosan's subsidiary, Bobcat, also supplies equipment used in demolitions. Doosan's distributor in Israel is Emcol.¹

Ideas for action

- **Contact Doosan** and demand that it prevents its equipment from being used in Israel's home demolitions.
- Activists could call on the South Korean state and other shareholders to **divest from Doosan**.

Doosan demolitions in 2018



Other companies

Hidromek

A Turkish company owned by the Bozkurt family, Hidromek reported 2017 profits of \$86.9m.¹

Hidromek equipment was photographed being used in the West Bank in 2018. On 29 August, a Hidromek bulldozer was used to demolish a printing house in Silwan, East Jerusalem.

On 23 October, a Hidromek machine was again photographed in the demolition and confiscation of a school structure in Ibziq, Jordan Valley.

Effer

Effer is an Italian company, based in Minervio in the province of Bologna.² It reported \$4.5m profits in 2017. Effer is owned by Finnish company Cargotec.³

An Effer crane was used by settlers to build a new outpost in Beit Einun village in the Hebron region. The settlers were protected by the military during the construction of the outpost.⁴ Israeli settlements and outposts are illegal under international law.

An Effer crane was also photographed being used by Israeli soldiers on the newly built route 4370 apartheid

OTHER COMPANY PROFILES

road in Jerusalem this year.⁵

Hydco Givati is the sole Israeli distributor of Effer machinery.⁶

BOMAG

German multinational company BOMAG manufactures steamrollers. Corporate Occupation researchers witnessed a BOMAG steamroller being used on 4 July in the preparations for the demolition of the village of Khan al-Ahmar and the expulsion of its residents. Israeli Border Police confined villagers and protesters inside Khan al-Ahmar's school while the BOMAG machine was at work. The driver of the machine was given a police escort.

According to Who Profits?, BOMAG equipment has also been involved in the construction of several settler roads and apartheid roads in the West Bank.

The company's exclusive Israeli representative is Efco Equipment.⁷

Hitachi

Japanese multinational company Hitachi's machinery has been used in the past during home demolitions and in settlement construction.

However, Corporate Occupation did not find any photographic evidence of Hitachi machinery's use in home demolitions during 2018. We did, however, photograph Hitachi equipment involved in the

OTHER COMPANY PROFILES

construction of the apartheid wall around Gaza on 7 June.

Hitachi's Israeli exclusive representative is CMD Engineering Equipment Supplies Co.⁸

Corporate Occupation photographed the following companies' equipment involved in the construction of the new apartheid wall around Gaza on 7 June 2018:⁹

Terex

A US construction equipment supplier and manufacturer. Its equipment has been used in the past in house demolitions and apartheid wall construction.¹⁰

Soilmec

An Italian company specialising in construction equipment. It is headquartered in Cesena and is part of the Trevi Group.

Bauer

A multinational German construction and engineering company, with 11,000 employees. It specialises in mining and construction equipment.

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Israel's home demolition policy

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Cover photos

Outside front: Palestinian activists protest the bulldozers in the Bedouin village of Khan al-Ahmar, 4 July 2018.

Inside back: soldiers invade Khan al-Ahmar. Photos by Active Stills

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Israel carries out demolitions of Palestinian homes and property on an almost daily basis. These demolitions are intended to literally wipe Palestinian communities off the map.

Ordinary Palestinians are resisting by placing themselves in front of the occupation's bulldozers and by steadfastly refusing to leave their land.

As people in the West Bank face the guns of the Israeli military to resist the demolitions of their homes, international solidarity movements can take action against the companies manufacturing the bulldozers.

This guide contains information-for-action for activists who want to stand with the Palestinian communities resisting demolitions.



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