



KNOW THE FACTS...ABOUT THE WALL!

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

The Wall

- Israel is building the Wall from the northwest to the southwest of the West Bank, in most cases deep inside the 1967 Green Line; the Wall is **not** being built **on, or** in most cases even **near** the Green Line.
- A new map for the Wall is close to approval, further expanding the Wall's control over the West Bank.
- In addition, the Israeli government has proposed a second Wall from the northeast to the southeast west of the Jordan Valley.
- Currently, the Wall is being built in the Qalqiliya, Tulkarem, Jenin, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem areas.
- If remaining as is, the Wall is expected to be **at least** 360 kms long, while expansions and the second wall can reach a total of 700 kms.
- Without extensions, the Wall is estimated to be at least three times as long and twice as high as the Berlin Wall.
- The Wall will be composed of various sections, of which the Wall will be either concrete and/or barbed wire.
- The concrete Wall will average 8 meters (25 feet) high, with tens of armed concrete watchtowers, and a buffer zone of 30-100 meters wide to make way for electric fences, trenches, cameras, sensors, and security patrols.
- The Wall's buffer zone has been deemed by the military a no-man's land, paving the way for large-scale demolitions.
- The Wall is located in many places just meters away from homes, shops, and schools.
- If completed without the expansions: 95,000 Palestinians will be isolated, or 4.5% of West Bank population. In addition 200,000 in East Jerusalem will be totally isolated from the rest of the West Bank.
- The government/settlers' proposal to modify the Wall will isolate another 110,000 Palestinians for a total of 400,000 isolated behind the Wall, including East Jerusalem.



Land Confiscation and Razing

- At least 10% of the West Bank will be confiscated by and for Israel because of the route of the Wall!
- Over 120,000 dunums—2% of the West Bank—are to be confiscated in the northern or "first phase" of the Wall, under the Israeli self-declared "security zone".
- At some points the Wall is being built 6 kms inside the Green Line.
- The path of the Wall's first phase has been strategically modified various times; as of now, 10 settlements and the most fertile lands of 50 villages will be annexed in the northern West Bank.
- The Yesha Council of settlers proposed alteration for the Wall, from Qalqiliya to northern Jerusalem, will bring the total number of settlers annexed to Israel to 343,000.
- As of April 2003, some 14,680 dunums of land have been razed for the footprint of the Wall, including the uprooting of over 102,000 trees.



Water

- Approximately 36 groundwater wells will be in the confiscated areas of the Wall's first phase with another 14 threatened for demolition in the Wall's "buffer zone."
- These wells' total discharge is equal to more than 6.7 cubic meters (MCM), which are either to be totally lost or extremely difficult to access and control.
- The Wall is separating water sources and networks from agricultural lands.
- Upon laying the groundwork for the Wall, Israeli bulldozers have destroyed some 35,000 meters of water pipes used for both agricultural and domestic use.
- A number of villages are to lose their **only** source of water.



People and Livelihoods: The Wall in the North

- The Wall's "first phase" is currently taking place in Qalqiliya, Tulkarem, and Jenin Districts in the northern West Bank and is where the Wall and destruction for the Wall has reached its most "advanced" stage.
- Some 200,000 people live in the areas around the Wall in the northern West Bank.
- Some 11,550, from 16 villages will be trapped between the Wall and the Green Line.
- Another approximately 20,000 individuals in the north, in some 3175 families, will be located east of the Wall but with their agricultural lands to the West, losing their livelihoods, sustenance, and heritage.
- The land confiscation, destruction, and severe restriction of movement will mean the loss of 6,500 jobs.
- The olive oil production of villages west of the wall, 2,200 tons of olive oil per season, will be destroyed.
- So will the production of 50 tons of fruits and over 100,000 tons of vegetables.
- Some 10,000 grazing animals will not have access to their grazing lands.
- To date some 100 buildings have been demolished, the majority of which have been stores and have been an important source of income and survival for a number of communities.
- An additional 174 stores, 20 factories, 16 homes, and 1 primary school have demolition orders and are expected to take place in the very near future.
- A number of small villages, or hamlets, are only meters away from the Wall, having been told by the military that proximity to the Wall will deem most of their community demolished.
- Case Study: Jayous, in the Qalqiliya District, has already had 72% of its lands confiscated, some 8,600 dunums and 7 groundwater wells. At least 300 families are losing their only source of income.



The Israeli Position

- Both Labor and Likud are consistently and strongly in favor of the Wall.
- A June 24, 2002 poll in *Ma'ariv* showed that 69% of Israelis support the Wall. Many of those against the Wall at the time were ultra-right wing and settlers groups.
- Recently, the settler movement and other ultra-rightwing groups have begun to publicly support the Wall following the publication of the Yesha Council expansion map in March 2003. The settlers' council worked on the map—its path and lobbying for its support—in coordination with the Israeli Ministry of Defense.
- An estimated 25 Israeli companies have been contracted to work on the Wall.
- Some 250 bulldozers are working to lay the groundwork for the Wall.
- An illegal tree-selling industry has been established, whereas the bulldozer drivers and construction companies are collaborating in uprooting trees in order to sell them.



Timeline

- In April 2002, an order by the Israeli gov't steering committee for the Wall called for the immediate commencement of the Wall in the northern West Bank and the Jerusalem area.
- Construction of the Wall, including land confiscation and the uprooting of trees, began in June 2002, near the village Salem, west of Jenin.
- In September 2002, the first public map of the Wall—a portion of the northern part of the Wall—was made available to the public.
- In September 2002, the steering committee approved including Rachel's Tomb, in Bethlehem, within the borders of the Wall.
- In mid-March 2003 the Israeli government announced that the Wall's path will be altered to include Ariel and Immanuel settlements as a part of the settlers' council proposal.
- The following week and in an Israeli government meeting to discuss the Wall, Israeli Prime Minister Sharon declared the building of another wall that will bring the settlements near the Jordan Valley under total Israeli control and dislocated from the rest of the West Bank. In this case the Wall's length will reach some 700 km.
- In April 2003, Israel announced the completion of 27 km of the Wall.
- Israel has declared that the Wall will be completed by the end of 2003.

Contact PENGON at +972-2-6565890/87, 052-285610. Email: outreach@pengon.org, Website: www.pengon.org. **May 2003.**