



## Yesh Din

Volunteers for Human Rights

### Ministry of Defense and GOI are Pursuing Retroactive Legalization of Two of the Most Violent Outposts in the West Bank

The MOD is advancing the authorization of Tapuach Ma'arav [Tapuach West], located on the lands of the village Yasuf, and Adei Ad, located on the lands of Turmusayya, Jalud and Qaryut. **Adei Ad and Tapuach West, two of the most violent outposts in the West Bank, are both being fast-tracked for retroactive 'legalization', rewarding the acts of violent settlers and nullifying the rights of Palestinian landowners.**

**On Monday, May 9, a hearing will be held in the Planning Committee of the Civil Administration in Beit El in objections to the proposed plan to 'regularize' the illegal outpost Tapuach West.** The objections were filed by Yesh Din and Bimkom on behalf of residents of the village of Yasuf. Implementation of this plan will result in the de facto establishment of a new settlement in violation of international law and at the expense of the rights to property and freedom of movement of the residents of Yasuf.

**This hearing comes mere weeks after the Civil Administration rejected an objection to the expansion of the jurisdiction of the new settlement Amichai to include the illegal outpost Adei Ad.** The objection was filed by Yesh Din on behalf of residents from the villages Turmusaya, Qaryut and Jalud.

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#### Promoting the blueprint of Tapuach West

Tapuach West is situated 1.2 km from the settlement Tapuach, and yet constitutes an independent outpost with infrastructure separate from the settlement. It was constructed in contravention to Israeli law and contrary to planning guidelines.

**The current plan being advanced for ‘regularization’ includes 118 dunams** of land, with the area devoted for building 133 housing units is a mere 25 dunams – comprising only 20% of the land that will be allocated to this new settlement, if approved. This leaves over 50%, or about 65 dunams, of the remaining land to be dedicated to building roads and ‘open spaces’. If implemented, **the plan will create huge enclaves of private Palestinian land, without ensuring that the rightful landowners retain access to their lands.** Specifically, it will block the road leading from the Palestinian village of Yasuf to agricultural lands owned by the residents, severely infringing of their rights to property, right to secure livelihood and freedom of movement.

This is the first hearing in the objection to the Plan for Tapuach Ma’arav (Tapuach West) Judea and Samaria Plan 131/3/1, filed in December 2021 by Yesh Din, Bimkom and residents of Yasuf. Yesh Din has represented residents of Yasuf in efforts to evacuate the outpost in three successive [High Court petitions filed since 2010](#).

Background:

**For two decades the outpost Tapuach West has been infamous as one of the most violent outposts in the West Bank.** The outposts’ residents are comprised mainly of Kahanist hilltop youth, who commit frequent and severe attacks against Palestinian residents of Yasuf and other nearby villages. Yesh Din has documented dozens of incidents in which settlers from Tapuach West violently attacked residents of Yasuf, destroyed trees and other crops, burned a mosque in Yasuf, and regularly trespass on the villagers’ private lands.

**Now, rather than enforcing the law on the illegal outpost, the settlers from Tapuach West are being rewarded for their violent tactics, as Israeli authorities actively promote the retroactive ‘regularization’ of the outpost as a new settlement.**

**Please reply to this message or contact Chanah Dulin (details below) if you would like to join us at the hearing.**

**Expanding the jurisdiction of Amichai to include the outpost of Adei Ad**

Another clear example of the GOI rewarding violent settlers is the MOD's decision to expand the jurisdiction of the new settlement Amihai, established in 2017 as 'compensation' for the evacuation of Amona. The expanded jurisdiction will include hundreds of dunams east of Amihai, including the location of the illegal and violent outpost of Adei Ad. Yesh Din has represented residents of Turmusayya, Jalud and Qaryut in efforts to evacuate this outpost since 2014 when we filed [High Court petition 8395/14](#). The petition was deleted in 2021 in a judgement which opened the door for retroactive authorization of the outpost, which is now being pursued with the expansion of the jurisdiction of Amihai.

In [The Road to Dispossession](#) - a Case Study of the Outpost of Adei Ad, a comprehensive report published by Yesh Din, we demonstrate how violence is used as a tool to take over Palestinian land leading to dispossession and violation of their right to property, and how lack of law enforcement on illegal construction as well as on violent and property offences is in fact indirect support of the Israeli authorities to such acts.

Yesh Din urges the international community to vocalize its opposition to the retroactive authorization and 'legalization' of these two outposts. The State of Israel's retroactive 'legalization' of Israeli construction in occupied territory, together with tacit support for violent settlers and the dispossession of Palestinians, clearly demonstrate the intent to perpetuate the reality of discrimination, dispossession and apartheid in the West Bank.

**For more information contact:**

Chanah Dulin; [chanah@yesh-din.org](mailto:chanah@yesh-din.org); +972 (0)58.416.4797

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