



Yesh Din

Volunteers for Human Rights

Civil Administration Advancing Retroactive 'Legalization' of Shepherding Outposts

Yesterday, [Haaretz reported](#) that the Israeli Civil Administration is advancing a regulation that will allow for the retroactive authorization of 30-35 illegal shepherding outposts located in the West Bank on 'State Land'. The new regulation is being spearheaded by the Yesha Council and Amana settlement movement, who are also behind the establishment of these outposts, including government support for them. The regulation being advanced will both 'legalize' existing outposts which were established illegally, as well as set criteria for new outposts to be established throughout State land in Area C.

Israeli shepherding outposts began rapidly spreading across the West Bank in 2017. In May, Yesh Din released [Plundered Pastures](#), a report which reveals that **between 2017-2021, 35 such outposts were established on land which the State has declared 'State land' and with direct State support, including exclusive allocations of pastureland, financial grants and access to infrastructure.** Shepherding outposts exploit the known tactics of settler violence, complicity of the Israeli military and failure of Israeli law enforcement to promote Israeli territorial domination of the West Bank.

Ze'ev Hever, Amana's executive director, has publicly expounded upon the effectiveness of shepherding outposts for implementing massive land-grab: According to Hever, approximately **35 shepherding outposts that physically**

occupy an area of several dozens of dunams of land and are populated by 100-200 settlers now control an area of approximately 200,000 dunams, while settlements themselves occupy a mere 100 square kilometers.

The State of Israel is now unabashedly promoting the establishment and legalization of Israeli settlement in the West Bank, in a manner designed to create substantial and long-term change to the map of Israeli settlement in the oPt. This is quickly leading to diminished living areas for Palestinians in the West Bank and results in severe and extensive infringement on their human rights. Additionally, **Israel uses land declared “state land” almost exclusively for the benefit of the Israeli settlement enterprise:** of all “state land” in the West Bank the Civil Administration ever allocated for any type of use since 1967, Palestinians were allocated a mere 0.24%.

Yesterday, September 5, Yesh Din supported MKs Mossi Raz, Michal Rozin, and Gabi Lasky in an urgent letter they sent to the Attorney General, unequivocally opposing the legalization of shepherding outposts and calling for the regulation to be quashed.

Yesh Din calls on the international community to oppose this regulation and denounce the establishment and legalization of shepherding outposts, directly to COGAT, the Minister of Defense and Ministry of Justice, who have the authority to approve this regulation. Yesh Din asserts that this new regulation will inevitably lead to forcible transfer on the basis of ethnicity, and the international community must guarantee Israel fulfils its obligation to protect the Palestinian population in the territories under its military occupation as required by Israeli and international law.

[Click for Yesh Din's recent report on shepherding outposts](#)

[Click for op-ed by author of Yesh Din's report today in Haaretz \(Hebrew\)](#)

Central District Prosecution Announced Intention to Close Case Concerning the Killing of Ali Harb

On August 25, Israel's Central District Prosecutor notified Yesh Din of its [intention to close the investigation](#) into the killing of Ali Harb without filing an indictment against the settler who stabbed him. Ali Harb was stabbed to death on his own lands by a settler who, together with a group of settlers, had invaded them with the intention of scouting land for the establishment of a new outpost. Although Israeli security forces were present at the incident according to Palestinian eyewitnesses, and footage from moments before the stabbing does not indicate that a physical altercation took place, the State Prosecutor claims that there is not sufficient evidence to prove that the settler was not acting in self-defense to save his own life.

Yesh Din represents Harb's family in the case and will be appealing to reopen the investigation and file an indictment against the settler who killed Harb.

[Click for op-ed published by Yesh Din Executive Director, Ziv Stahl, on the case.](#)

Israeli Military Will Not Open Investigation Into Killing of Journalist Shireen Abu Akleh

On September 5, the [Israeli military announced that](#), although it is likely that an Israeli soldier shot Abu Akleh based on mistaken identity, it will not be opening an investigation into her killing. While the military is required to open investigations into incidents in which civilians are killed, there exists a broadly-applied exception for when the killing occurs in a 'combat-like scenario'.

Yesh Din responded: The inquiry conducted by the military has not provided answers regarding the shooting that resulted in the death of Shireen abu Akleh. In the last few months, the military has shown that it is incapable of investigating this incident, evidenced by erroneous declarations as well as concerted efforts to conceal the truth. This inquiry cannot replace a criminal investigation in the incident.

The failure of the military to open an investigation into this case is in line with a trend of military investigative failure monitored by Yesh Din. According to [data provided by the army to Yesh Din](#), in 2019-2020, the Military Advocate General Corps received a total of 273 complaints regarding soldier's offences against Palestinians. Of all complaints made in this period, only 56 led to criminal investigations were launched. 72% of the complaints for which a decision was made were closed without criminal investigation. Some were closed following a "factual inquiry" ordered by the MAGC, as in the case of Abu Akleh.

[Click for Yesh Din's recent data on lack of accountability of Israeli security forces in suspected offenses committed against Palestinians](#)

For more information contact:

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

Yesh Din is required by law to make the following statement:

Yesh Din is mostly funded by foreign governmental entities - through grants devoted to the provision of humanitarian assistance and the promotion of human rights. A list of our donors is available on the Israeli Associations Register's website and on Yesh Din's website.

Yesh Din is proud to be funded by States that are committed to the rule of law, that believe the occupation is not an internal Israeli matter, and that support the defense of international humanitarian law and human rights.



Copyright © 2022 Yesh Din, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you signed up through our website

Our mailing address is:

Yesh Din
PO Box 50304
Tel Aviv 6150201
Israel

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)