

THE JORDAN VALLEY

POLICY OF PALESTINIAN DISPOSESSION IN THE JORDAN VALLEY & NORTH DEAD SEA AREA

The Jordan Valley (and North Dead Sea) constitutes about 30% of the West Bank on its eastern side, covering 400,000 acres.

Only 3% of the Palestinian inhabitants of the West Bank reside in the region, primarily.

More than one-third of Palestinian structures demolished by Israel in 2016 were in the Valley. As part of the Israeli policy to take over all of area C,

Israel pushes Palestinians out of the Valley or to restricted areas within it.

Remote and largely hidden from public view, the Jordan Valley is home to some of the most disadvantaged communities in the West Bank. Despite ongoing displacement and settlement efforts, about 90% of the Jordan Valley's inhabitants are Palestinian.

Methods of Dispossession:

- Strict limitations on Palestinian presence
- Minimal water granted for Palestinian use
- Declarations on state lands, closed firing zones and nature reserves
- Establishment of settlements encompassing most land in the Jordan valley
- Widespread discrimination in natural resource allocation, especially water
- Repeated demolition of houses and agricultural structures
- Confiscation of tents and agricultural tools
- Military exercises in areas of Palestinian residence, and evacuation of communities
- Harassment and prevention of access to agricultural and grazing lands by settlers and their private security forces

The Jordan Valley is the largest land reserve in the West Bank. **Any future political agreement depends on the development of a Palestinian state.**

Only a total shift regarding Palestinians' ability to live, build and work on the Jordan Valley land will make this development possible.



THE JORDAN VALLEY

DATA ON THE INTENSITY OF OCCUPATION IN THE JORDAN VALLEY AND NORTH DEAD SEA AREA

Land of the Jordan Valley

30% of West Bank

The Jordan Valley spans almost a third of the West Bank
87% defined as Area C
56% is closed military zone, most of it is "firing zone"
54% is state land, 4 times more state lands than prior to 1967
27% designated for nature reserves

As a result:

94% is restricted for Palestinian construction

Palestinians, who comprise 90% of the area's population, are allowed to build on only 6% of the land, but most of it is already built-up

Residents & Community

80,000 Palestinians

24,000 in Jericho

41,000 in 28 villages and refugee camps

15,000 (according to estimations) in small herding and Bedouin communities

Less than a quarter of the Palestinian residents of the Jordan Valley live in Area C

About **3,500** of them reside in a firing zone, and **in permanent danger of expulsion**

Settlers & Settlements

10,000 Settlers

30 Settlements

7 outposts

At the end of 2016 two new outposts were established in the northern Jordan Valley which brought about a rise in violence against Palestinians by the settlers

Water

Settlers in the Jordan Valley receive 18 times more water on average than Palestinian residents of the West Bank, and 2.5 times more than consumers in Israeli municipalities. 45 million cubic meters allocated annually for 10,000 settlers in the Jordan Valley, equal to about 30% of total consumption by millions of Palestinians in the West Bank

Per Capita Daily Allocation and Consumption (in liters):

727 Allocation to settlers in North Dead Sea area

487 Allocation to settlers in the Jordan Valley

161 Consumption of Palestinians in the Jericho area

100 Recommendation of the WHO

61 Consumption of Palestinians in central-north Jordan Valley

20 Consumption of Palestinians off-water grid

Most Palestinian shepherds are not connected to the water grid; 1/2 of their expenditures are dedicated to buying water from tankers

Demolition & Evacuation

Between 2009 - 2016:

About 40% of Palestinian structures demolished by Israel in the West Bank were in the Jordan Valley:

2,077 structures demolished

3,270 people lost their homes

6,850 were impacted by demolitions, mostly from damage to water infrastructure

Number of demolitions by year:

