



**MA'AN Development Center**

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# **Anata: Confinement to a Semi Enclave**



## **MA'AN Development Center**

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*First Israeli settlements separated Anata from its land, and then interim peace agreements split it into separate, unequal authorities that spurred a population boom in urban areas. Now the Apartheid Wall is encircling the town.*

Prior to 1967, the village of Anata was vast, its 35,000 dunams stretching from the outskirts of Jerusalem down into the valleys near Jericho. Anata was a major thoroughfare, and its wheat fields and olive trees an agricultural heartland.

What has happened to Anata since illustrates how the Occupation has used periods of war and peace to consolidate Palestinians in closed areas and then confiscate outlying blocs of open land. Key to this effort is economic control, settlement expansion, and disenfranchisement.

Today Anata's estimated 15,000 residents are being surrounded by the Apartheid Wall, cut off from the economic center of Jerusalem and the lands they once planted with grain and mined for stone. Anata's town center is enclosed on three sides by the Wall. To the east, natural expansion is prevented by a highway bounded by the major Israeli military base, Anatot.

#### **Anata in Crisis**

- Unemployment due to loss of agricultural land and markets in Jerusalem
- Loss of a major Palestinian bread basket area to Israel's settlement demands
- Overcrowding & inability to expand
- Inaccessibility of health care, security, other

## *Anata: a timeline of loss*

- Pre-1967: Jordanian authorities recorded Anata as reaching for 35,000 dunams or 35 km<sup>2</sup>
- Post-1967: Illegal Israeli settlements established on 19,000 dunams of Anata land
  - Kfar Adumim, est. 1979
  - Almon/Anatot military camp, est. 1982
  - Alon, est. 1990
  - Nofei Prat, est. 1992

Israel also unilaterally expanded the municipal boundaries of Jerusalem, incorporating half of Anata and creating a separate authority there.

- 1993: The Oslo accords between Israelis and Palestinians divided the town between Area B (under Palestinian civil control and Israeli security control) and Area C (under complete Israeli control). Because building was allowed in the areas under partial Palestinian control, these regions experienced a population boom and other regions were vacated. Unlike other towns, Anata was never allowed to have a Palestinian police force.
- 2000: Anata developed a planning scheme to build in the town's sole remaining open areas, presenting it to the occupying power. The plan was rejected. 2001: the occupation began constructing the Apartheid Wall around Palestinian population areas in Jerusalem, surrounding those areas that grew in population after the Oslo accords.
- October 2007: Israel revised the Wall route to include Road 70 (the Eastern Ring Road), which encircles Anata, and puts 2,230 dunams of its land on the "Israeli" side of the Wall.
- Pending: Israel has created a planning scheme, the E-1 plan, to settle the regions east of Anata, closing them off to Palestinian development and separating the northern and southern West Bank. The plan is to build homes for 14,500 settlers, as well as a tourist area and man-made lake.



*Looking east from Anata, the Apartheid Wall snakes around the town and cuts off villagers' access to their lands*

The area inside this limited region is approximately 1,400 dunams, but not even all of this land is open for development; swathes of land are controlled by the occupation forces, who restrict Palestinian building. Any homes constructed are threatened with demolition, and dozens have been demolished. Most of the remaining areas – 1,274.8 dunams, according to the local council – are already built-up.

“Israel’s politics before the Wall allowed people to enter and build houses” in certain areas of Anata, says local Land Defense Committee spokesperson Hussein Rifaai.

Development funding was poured into areas that peace agreements had placed under Palestinian control; other regions were neglected. “This pushed people out of Jerusalem” where Palestinian building is restricted, he goes on. Now the path of the Wall encircles this population cluster, severing it from Jerusalem’s economic center.

The Shufat refugee camp adjoins Anata in this enclave. Currently, the camp is home to 20,000-30,000 people, among them some 11,000 United Nations Relief Works Agency-registered refugees who generally hold Jerusalem ID cards (meaning they can move and work in Jerusalem, and have access to Israeli health and other services). The camp and its environs also accommodate 10,000-20,000 additional people who moved to the area in the 1990s because they could not find housing in the city of Jerusalem and/or wanted to preserve their Jerusalem residency status (which the occupation forces were stripping from Palestinians living outside the city limits). Although the camp is located within the Israeli-defined municipal boundaries, it receives only minimal Israeli services.

The four Israeli settlements on Anata land have been strategically established over the Eastern Aquifer Basin, drawing water from two springs, Ein Al Fawwar and Ein Fara, which once fed the Anata fields, but are now off-limits to Palestinians. Other possibly well-sites have been

found nearby the Palestinian town, but all are located in areas under Israeli control. According to the Palestinian Water Authority, the average water supply rate for Anata in 2005 was at 140 liters per capita per day, below the World Health Organization's standard of approximately 150 liters per capita per day.

Residents also cite concern over two high voltage electricity networks cutting across Anata lands, one serving Anata and Jericho, and another serving the Israeli settlements.

At the sole entrance to Anata, a new highway, Road 70, is being constructed. It has two sides separated by a tall cement wall. One side is being built for Jews living in the settlements, allowing them to drive into Jerusalem.

The other side is intended for Palestinians, actually preventing them from entering the city where they once worked, worshipped and visited family.

In effect, the previously separate and distinct communities of Anata, Ras Khamis, Dahiyat as-Salaam (part of the Jerusalem municipality), and Shufat refugee camp - an estimated 70,000 people combined - are enclosed in an area less than three kilometers square. UNRWA, the Palestinian Authority and Israeli Jerusalem authorities each provide different but very limited services to this crowded enclave. Security is a major concern for residents, as Palestinian police are not permitted to patrol here and Israeli police are absent.

In contrast, Israeli settlements nearby have access to state-of-the-art roads built to fast-track their residents into Jerusalem's markets. Settlements are constructed as large developments, their homes sold at low prices with state-offered tax cuts.



*The Israeli settlement of Nof Almon, on Anata's lands, is built by a developer, which allows for low prices and comprehensive planning.*

For Israeli settlers seeking a better standard of living, these quarters are very attractive compared to cramped, expensive housing in Jerusalem. A large sign just outside crowded Anata advertises four, five and six bedroom homes with a garden in the settlement of Almon, which houses only Israeli Jews.

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*The entrance to Anata is unmarked; only the settlements of Almon and Anatot are indicated in this sign. Beyond this intersection, a billboard advertises "4,5, and 6 room homes with a garden" for sale to Israelis in the settlement of Nof Almon.*



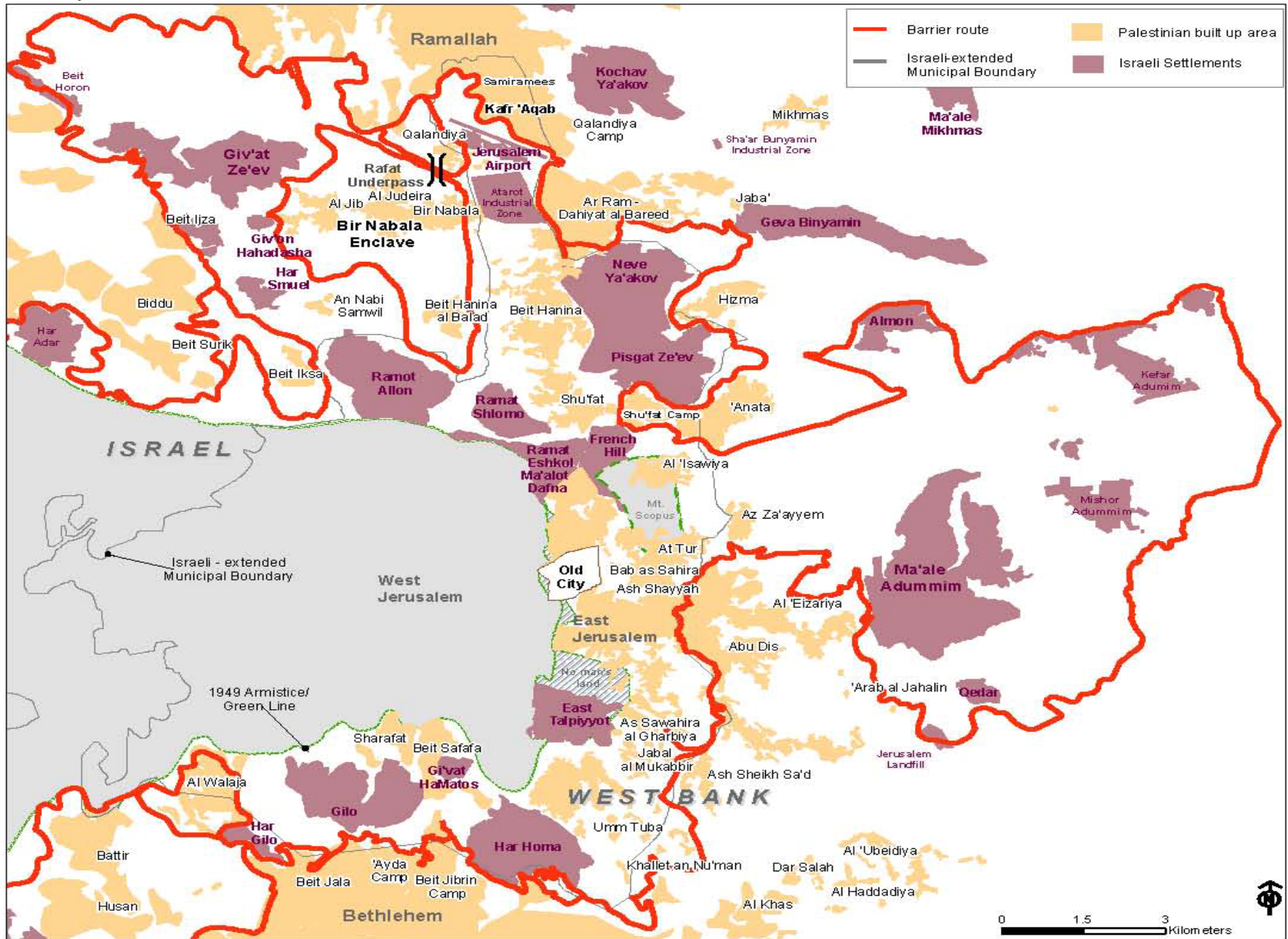
## **The Apartheid Wall in Jerusalem**

- The Apartheid Wall is a series of high cement walls, barbed wire “smart” fences, patrol roads, guard towers and gates that Israel is building around Palestinian West Bank communities. In November 2007, it was planned as 724.5 km. long.
- The Wall in the Jerusalem area de facto annexes 230 km<sup>2</sup>, or 4.0% of the occupied West Bank, thereby isolating some 255,000 Palestinian Jerusalemites from the rest of the West Bank, and severing another 2.2 million Palestinians living on the “eastern” side of the Wall from East Jerusalem.
- Palestinians from the West Bank require Israeli-issued permits to visit the six Jerusalem hospitals. The time and difficulty this entails has resulted in an up to 50% drop in the number of patients visiting these hospitals.
- Entire families have been divided by the Wall. Husbands and wives are separated from each other, their children and other relatives.
- Palestinian Muslims and Christians can no longer freely visit religious sites in Jerusalem. Israeli permits are needed and are rarely granted for worship.
- School and university students struggle each day through checkpoints to reach institutions that are located on the other side of the Wall.
- Whole communities, like Anata, are surrounded by the Wall.

– From *The Humanitarian Impact of the West Bank Barrier on Palestinian Communities: Jerusalem, Update 7, June 2007* & *The Barrier Gate and Permit Regime Four Years On: Humanitarian Impact on the Northern West Bank, November 2007*, both produced by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs



# East Jerusalem Wall



Source: OCHA – East Jerusalem Wall map 2007

The results of a 2006 PCBS survey showed that 80.0% of Jerusalem governorate households with students in higher education used alternative roads to reach university/college. About 75.2% of households with students enrolled in basic/secondary education reported using alternative roads to reach schools. In addition, 72.1% of households with students in higher education were forced to be sometimes absent from university, compared with 69.4% for households with students enrolled in basic/secondary education.

- About 21.4% of Palestinian households reported having at least one member who was separated from relatives (15.5% inside of the wall and 32.6% outside of the wall). In addition, 18.0% of Palestinian households in Jerusalem governorate were separated from the family's father (14.3% inside of the wall and 26.2% outside of the wall), whereas 12.7% of the households were separated from the family's mother (12.9% inside of the wall and 12.3% outside of the wall).

- The results of the survey showed that access to health centers in Jerusalem was a difficulty for 34.5% of the households in Jerusalem governorate (5.8% inside of the wall and 88.3% outside of the wall). The inability of medical staff to reach health centers was an obstacle for 31.3% of households (4.4% inside of the wall and 81.8% outside of the wall).

- The survey showed that the time spent passing checkpoints was an obstacle for 94.7% of the households (94.5% inside of the wall and 95.0% outside of the wall), whereas timing of passage was considered an obstacle for 92.7% of households (93.4% inside of the wall and 91.2% outside of the wall).

- The results revealed that the ability to visit family and relatives of 84.6% of Jerusalem households was affected by the wall (84.3% inside of the wall and 85.2% outside of the wall). About 56.3% of households were affected in their ability to practice cultural and social activities and entertainment (48.5% inside of the wall and 70.5% outside of the wall). The wall has also affected the ability of 40.0% of the households to visit religious and holy sites. The survey results indicated also that the percentage of households facing obstacles in marrying a partner living on the other side of the wall has increased from 31.6% before the construction of the wall to 69.4% after construction of the wall.

*Impact of the Wall and its Associated Regime on the Forced Displacement of the Palestinians in Jerusalem, July 2007 press release, Palestinian Central Bureau for Statistics*

## **Stymieing Statehood: Israel's E-1 Plan and Anata**

Israel's Apartheid Wall near Anata was constructed some 15 km into the West Bank in order to include the entire Adumim settlement bloc (approx. 47 km<sup>2</sup>), where Israel is pursuing plans to nearly triple the current size of Ma'ale Adumim by developing the area to its east through what is called the "E-1 Plan". This will make it practically impossible to establish a Palestinian state, as the West Bank will be cut into two.

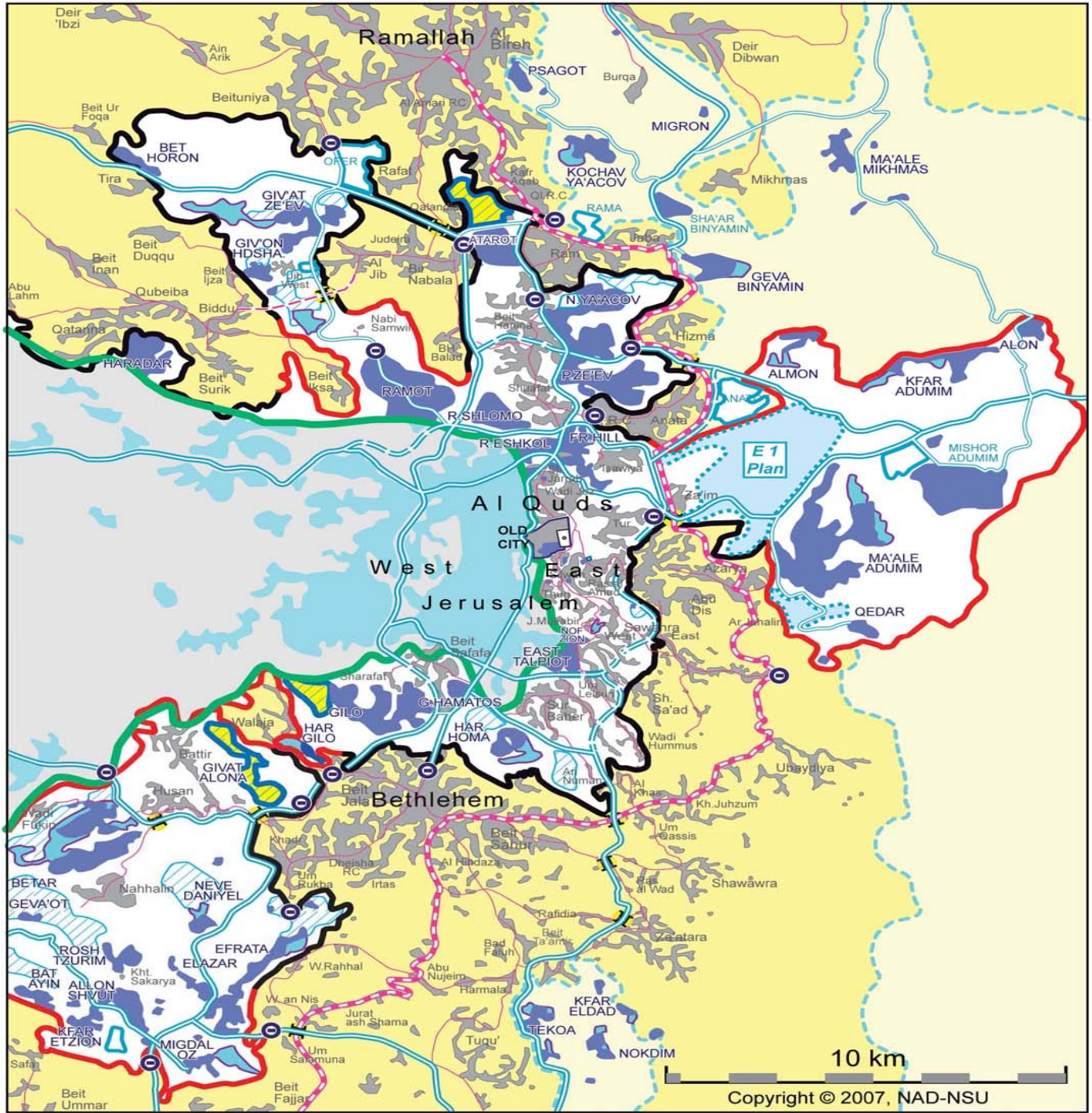
The E-1 plan, conceived in 1994, aims to link Ma'ale Adumim to Jerusalem. It is comprised of about 12,000 dunams (12 km<sup>2</sup>) of land, a significant part of which is privately-owned Palestinian land. Most of the area was declared state land by Israel in the 1980s (this means the owners were stripped of their ownership and the state given control of the property for the express purpose of settling Jews). In 1994, the borders of the settlement of Ma'ale Adumim were changed to include the E-1 area. Actual construction was frozen, however, in accordance with US-Israel understandings that the fate of the area would be determined within the framework of the newly-inaugurated peace process.

In 2002, the E-1 Master Plan was signed into law. In mid-2004, Israeli forces began clearing roads despite the fact that no specific town plan existed. In April 2005, authorities advertised plans to build Mevo Adumim, a settlement that is part of E-1, which will house 20,000 settlers, hotels, an industrial park, and commercial and entertainment buildings. In August that year, Israeli authorities confiscated more than 1,585 dunams of Palestinian land to facilitate the continued construction of Israel's Apartheid Wall around Ma'ale Adumim, thereby significantly expanding the settlement and incorporating it into the municipal boundaries of Jerusalem. (Historically, the E-1 scheme was Israel's first plan to integrate a settlement built in the occupied West Bank with land inside its 1948 boundaries; today these infrastructure links are common.)

The Israeli occupation has completed work on two police stations, the first between Az-Zaim and Anata and the second on the eastern edge of the E-1 corridor that connects E-1 with Ma'ale Adumim. In effect, the Wall around Ma'ale Adumim will stretch 14 km deep into the West Bank; annexing a total area larger than Tel Aviv itself (61 km<sup>2</sup> of Palestinian land) and allowing Israel to add another 25,000 people to the settlement's population. The E-1 plan's final contours include construction of 3,500 housing units (approximately 14,500 settlers), ten hotels, an industrial estate, entertainment facilities, and a regional cemetery on 12,442 dunams of Palestinian lands belonging to Anata, El-Eizariya, Az-Zaim, At-Tor and Issawiya.

All Israeli settlement activity in the occupied Palestinian territory is illegal and violates Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, the prohibition against acquiring territory by force, the Palestinian right of self-determination, as well as UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

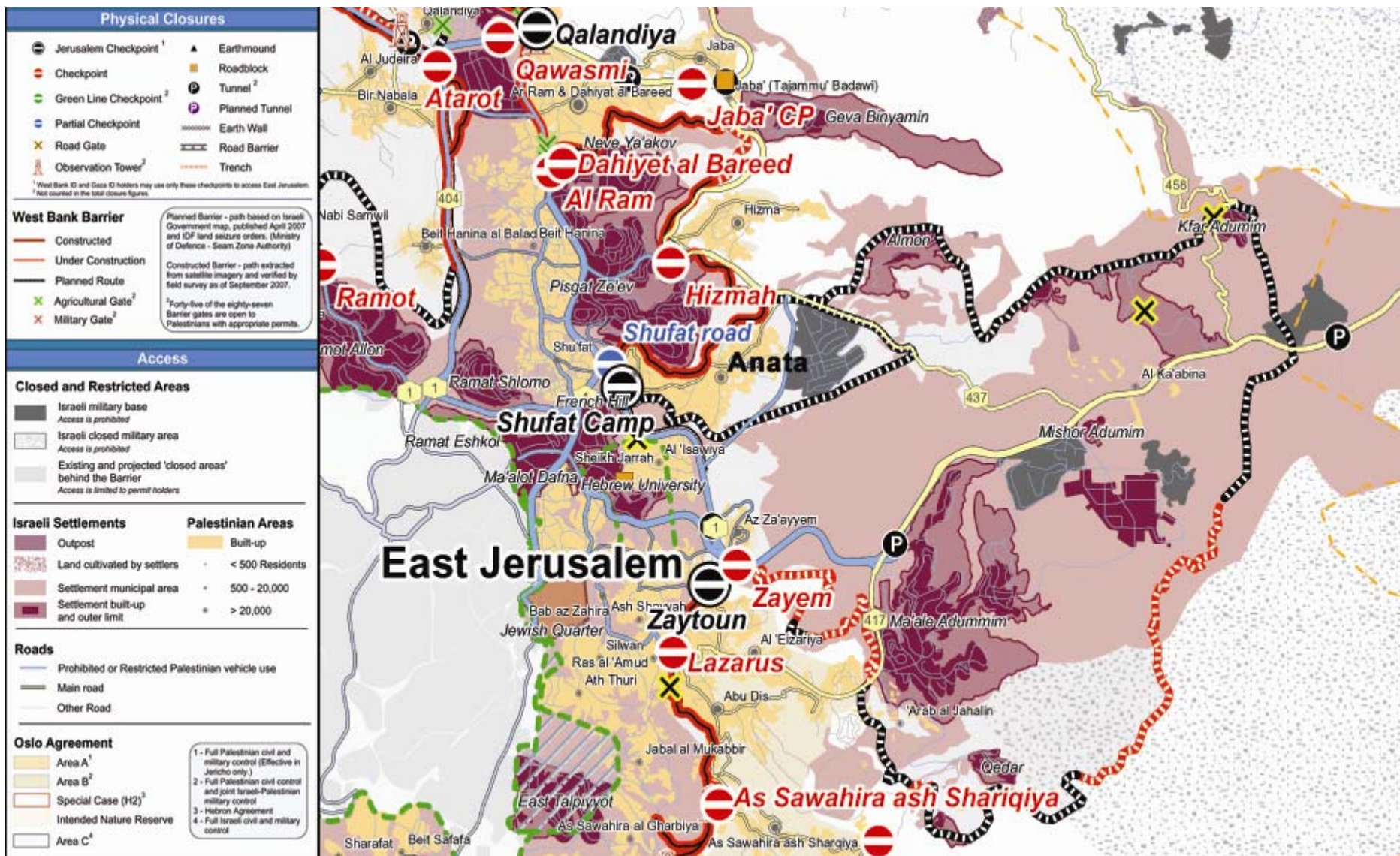
# Israeli Wall and Settlements around East Jerusalem ( May 2007)



- |   |  |                              |   |
|---|--|------------------------------|---|
| 1967 Boundary ("Green Line")                    | Israeli settlement built-up area           | Proposed new settlement area | Israeli-controlled tunnel or underpass for Palestinians |
| Palestinian city, town, village or neighborhood | Israeli settlement area under construction | Israeli military base        | Local Palestinian road                                  |
| Projected area of future Palestinian control    | Planned settlement expansion area          | The Wall                     | Israeli-proposed "alternative" Palestinian road link    |
| Area of Israeli control                         | - constructed or under construction        | - approved or planned        | Israeli checkpoint                                      |
|   | Israeli settler / bypass road              | - existing                   |   |
|   | - planned or under construction            |                              |   |

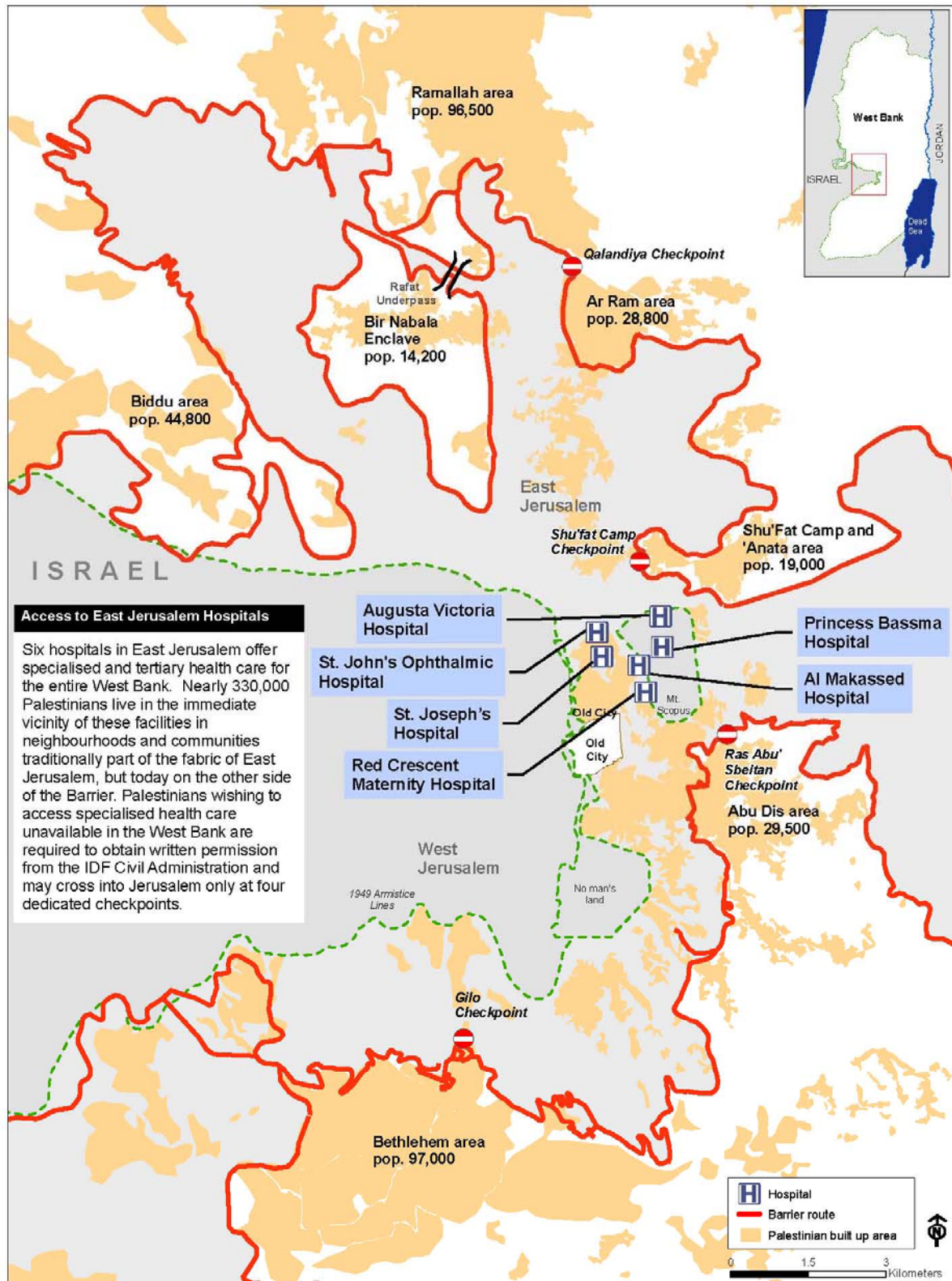
Map: Negotiations Support Unit

# Anata Cutout 2007



Source: OCHA – Anata cutout map 2007

## East Jerusalem – Access to Specialized Health Care Facilities



Source: OCHA – East Jerusalem hospital 2007

## A Glimpse at Anata's Next Generation

A staggering 49% of Anata's population is under the age of 15. In order to meet the demands of its population boom, Anata must build three to five classrooms a year. Students who once traveled to Jerusalem schools (bearers of Israeli-issued Jerusalem ID cards) are now studying in the town schools because getting to Jerusalem has become so difficult. Classrooms currently have as many as 50 students each.

Moreover, the Apartheid Wall runs between Anata and the settlement of Pisgat Zeev, just behind the boy's secondary school. Beyond its cement barrier – but unreachable – pine trees stretch to the sky.

"In the West Bank, closure is implemented through an agglomeration of policies, practices and physical impediments which have fragmented the territory into ever smaller and more disconnected cantons. While physical impediments are the visible manifestations of closure, the means of curtailing Palestinian movement and access are actually far more complex and are based on a set of administrative practices and permit policies which limit the freedom of Palestinians to move home, obtain work, invest in businesses or construction and move about outside of their municipal jurisdiction. These administrative restrictions, rooted in military orders associated with the occupation of West Bank and Gaza (WB&G), are used to restrict Palestinian access to large segments of the West Bank including all areas within the municipal boundaries of settlements, the 'seam zone', the Jordan Valley, East Jerusalem, restricted roads and other 'closed' areas. Estimates of the total restricted area are difficult to come by, but it appears to be in excess of 50% of the land of the West Bank."

*-Movement and Access Restrictions in the West Bank, World Bank Technical Team, May 9, 2007*



*The Apartheid Wall runs just behind the playground of the Anata Bous Secondary School.*



“As a boy, at recess, we used to go down to the valley and change the scenery for a few minutes before going back to class,” remembers Rifaai, 42, whose children attend the same school. “Now they are all packed into the yard together.”



Hussein Rifaai, 42, looks east from Anata at the Apartheid Wall that snakes around the town and cuts off villagers' access to their lands

Frequent confrontations occur between the children and the occupation forces that patrol the Wall. Schoolboy Yusuf is cheery as he talks about his school. But he also recalls one day when soldiers threw a tear gas canister into the schoolyard. In January 2007, 10-year-old Abir Aramin was killed by a rubber-coated bullet fired by the occupation forces during confrontations.

The future for these students looks bleak. The town's major industry remains stonecutting, but its growth is limited and already the stone works are a source of pollution for the crowded area. While agriculture was once an important sector here, today Anata's authorities say only

An August 2006 study of several Jerusalem communities, including Anata, showed that the Apartheid Wall and its regime are generating forced displacement in East Jerusalem: 17.3% of all Palestinians in Jerusalem who have changed their previous place of residence (32.9%) did so as a direct result of the construction of the Wall. Further, it showed that the number of those currently considering changing their place of residence is increasing (63.8% compared to 52.2% in the past).

- *Displaced by the Wall*, Badil Resource Center for Palestinian Residency and Refugee Rights and The Norwegian Refugee Council/Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, September 2006

one greenhouse and a few small farms remain. Most arable lands are located in areas under Israeli control.

In 2006, 45% of Anata's laborers worked in Israeli markets, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Labor. But construction of the Wall has stymied workers who previously snuck into Jerusalem illegally because they were not able to get Israeli-issued labor permits (men must be married with children, above a certain age, and with a clean security file). Between 2005 and 2006, there was a 12% overall decline in Palestinians working in Israel and Israeli settlements in the West Bank, reports the World Bank, with the decline most marked among illegal workers. Now Anata's unemployment rate is climbing.

## The Jahalin Bedouin:

### One Family of Dozens Is Pushed Off the Land

The Jahalin Bedouin were originally displaced from the Negev in 1948. They moved to the hills between Jerusalem and the Dead Sea to three main locations: an area south/ southeast of Abu Dis and al-Eizariya, on land between Ma'ale Adumim and Kedar settlement, and to the north of Ma'ale Adumim on land running parallel to Road 1. There were close to 500 Bedouin families living in this area (more than 3,500 people). In 1998, the occupation forces moved many out of the area of Ma'ale Adumim due to the settlement's ongoing expansion.

Now, once again, the occupation is forcing the Jahalin to settle closer to Anata inside the enclave made by the Wall. Accustomed to herding livestock for a living, the Jahalin have been forced to sell off most of their sheep and goats, which have no place to graze in the urban areas around Anata. The Jahalin in this area now number over 1,000 people, some 10-15 families.

"Two years ago, they demolished our home," says Abu Ahmad, 75. "Then we came here, but they gave us another warning [that the home would be demolished], and a second warning. We just don't want them to destroy the house on our heads." The ailing man has 12 children, some of them married and living in makeshift homes nearby.

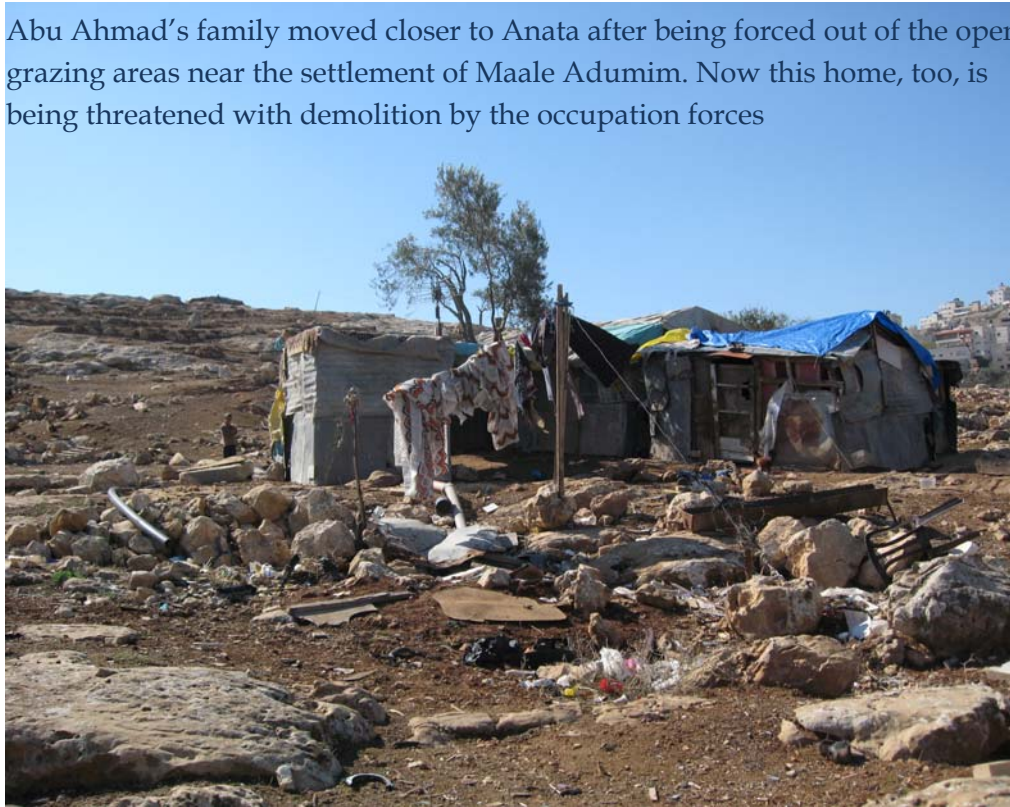
Today, he and his son are home alone because Abu Ahmad is not feeling well. Six years ago, he had a stroke and his left arm, left leg and parts of his back are paralyzed as a result.



**"We just don't want them to destroy the house on our heads."**

The elderly man must apply for an Israeli permit to see a doctor in Jerusalem every two weeks or as needed. Abu Ahmad relies on humanitarian aid to get the 14 medications he requires.

Abu Ahmad's family moved closer to Anata after being forced out of the open grazing areas near the settlement of Maale Adumim. Now this home, too, is being threatened with demolition by the occupation forces



Even if they weren't trying to preserve their ancient nomadic life, the Jahalin do not have the economic resources to adopt an urban life. "We don't have the money to rent the apartments or buy the land," he says. "We came here to open land, and now there is no land, no space. Anata's land has disappeared. No one has room."



This new structure has been built without difficult-to-attain permits and will likely also be ordered demolished by Israeli occupation