

واقع ومستقبل "منطقة ج" والأغوار

يومي ٢ و ٣ تشرين الثاني/نوفمبر ٢٠١٨، في جامعة بيرزيت
ويوم ٤ تشرين الثاني/نوفمبر ٢٠١٨، في جمعية الشبان
المسيحية في أريحا، مع جولة منظمة في الأغوار

The Situation and Future of Area C and the Jordan Valley

2 & 3 November 2018, at Birzeit University
4 November 2018, at YMCA Jericho, with a
guided tour in the Jordan Valley

Large scale annexation of Palestinian land has gained attention recently. More specifically, there is considerable discussion among Israeli parties about the necessity of Area C annexation and all of the Jordan Valley. Still others have suggested annexation of all of the West Bank. This discussion emerges from a context of many years of deepening settler-colonization of the West Bank, Jerusalem, as well as the distortion of the natural and human landscape. This colonization is taking place in the context of the obstruction of the Oslo process and its transformation into a sustainable structure of Israeli hegemony, in addition to the inability of the Palestinian leadership and Palestinian political and civil society to create viable alternatives that challenge this reality. Perhaps, what is happening in the Jordan Valley and Area C is as important as the question of the Palestinian struggle itself and the situation in Jerusalem. For Palestinians, the Jordan Valley and Area C means geographic contiguity, sovereignty, and control over any future border as well as for Palestinian national security. The natural resources of these two regions provide the breadbasket of Palestinian society and the future Palestinian state. Despite that fact, the subject of the Jordan Valley and Area C has not garnered the attention that it deserves from community activists, media outlets, or development organizations.

In 2012, the Institute for Palestine Studies brought the situation of the Jordan Valley and Area C to light with its annual conference on the situation of the Jordan Valley and contributed to the increased attention of this central part of the Palestinian struggle. The conference papers covered various dimensions of the situation including its related demographic, geographic, economic, security and ideological struggles. Papers also highlighted various modes of popular steadfastness, the positions of international state actors, and the possibilities of national development. However, the reality of colonization, dangerous political developments and the regional, national, and local struggles, have only bolstered the Israeli extreme right wing in their demands for annexation. This situation is exacerbated by the distorted and divisive Palestinian positions that have weakened the visions for the future.

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Program

Friday, 2 November 2018

Birzeit University

10:00-10:30 AM Registration

10:30-11:00 AM Opening Session

11:00-12:30 Session 1: The Situation of Area C and Jordan Valley: Present and Future (Session chair: Ala Jaradat)

Abd Al-Rahman Al-Tamimi: "Future Directions of the Demographic Struggle in the Jordan Valley"

Rassem Khamaisi: "Against the Tide: The Problematics and Challenges of Territorial Planning in Jordan Valley as Model"

12:30-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-16:00 Session 2: Area C and Jordan Valley Demographic Background (Session chair: Rita Giacaman)

Aysar Tu`meh, Nafir Massad: "The Demographic, Economic, and Environmental Situation in Area C"

Rawiya Alawneh: "The Current Situation in the Jordan Valley 2017"

Salwa Massad, Hadil Daloul, Asad Ramlawi, Danya Qato: "Prevalence and Determinants of Malnutrition and Intestinal Infections Among Children and their Mothers in the Jordan Valley, occupied Palestinian Territories"

Ahmad Huneiti: "Models of Existence and Steadfastness in the Jordan Valley"

Saturday, 3 November 2018

9:00-9:30 Registration

9:30-11:30 Session 3: Israeli Policies: Recent Developments (Session chair: Ghada Madbouh)

Ahmed Ezz Eddin As`ad: "Israeli Strategies to Control Space: Area C as Model"

Khalil Toufakji: "The Jordan Valley in the Israeli Security Ideology"

Mohanad Mustafa: "The Annexation Project in Current Israeli Debates"

Walid Salem: "Israeli Control Infrastructure in Area C and How to Confront It"

11:30-11:45 Coffee Break

11:45-12:45 Session 4: Israeli Policies: Recent Developments (Main lecture)

Stephen P. Gasteyer: "Settler Colonial Socio-Technical Savior: Dead Red Canal, the Jordan Valley, and its Discontents"

12:45-13:45 Lunch Break

13:45-15:15 Session 5: Economic Exploitation and International Accountability (Session chair: Halla Shoaibi)

Zeina Kilani Abu-Meita: "Psagot Winery and CIFTA (Canadian Israeli Free Trade Agreement)"

Moayyad Bsharat: "The Role of International Organizations in the Making Changes to Daily Life"

Marya Farah, Aseil Abu-Baker: "Pouring Salt on to Wounds: Israel's Exploitation of the Dead Sea"

15:15-15:30 Coffee Break

15:30-16:45 Session 6: Exploitation of Palestinian Labor in Israeli Settlements (Session chair: Munir Fakher Eldin)

Ethan Morton-Jerome: "Palestinian Labor in Israeli Settlements"

Manar Younis: "The Determining Psychological and Social Motives for Palestinian Women's labor in Israeli colonies: A baseline survey in Jordan Valley"

Sunday, 4 November 2018

Location: YMCA Jericho

7:30 AM Bus Departs Qasr al-Hamra, Ramallah

9:30-10:00 Registration, YMCA Jericho

10:00-11:30 Session 7: Palestinian Resilience (Session chair: Hadeel Qazzaz)

Runa Johannessen: "Time Matters: Practices of Resistance to Home Demolitions"

Fayruz Salem: "Palestinian Daily Sumud to Confront Israeli Settler Violence in Area C: Al-Qasra village as case study"

Ihab Maharmeh: Israeli Policy Toward the Jordan Valley: How do Palestinians Resist?

11:30-12:00 Session 8: Concluding remarks

Munir Fakher Eldin: "Concluding remarks"

12:00 to 13:00 Lunch Break

13:00-15:00 Bus Tour in the Jordan Valley, with stops

18:00 Arrive in Ramallah