

## **Urgent**

At this time, land title settlement and registration procedures in East Jerusalem are being completed in the name of Jewish owners. Accordingly, your attention to and assessment of the situation are requested.

Last May, Ir Amim and Bimkom – Planners for Planning Rights petitioned the High Court of Justice against the land title settlement and registration procedures that were being carried out in the East Jerusalem neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah (Umm Haroun, Registration bloc 30821). **With unusual haste, without the knowledge of the residents, and contrary to the requirements laid out in the Land Settlement Ordinance, plots in this Registration Bloc were registered to Jewish owners who held title to the land prior to 1948.**

The petition was recently rejected on the grounds of alternative available legal remedies. The court ruled that those objecting to the settlement and/or registration procedures should go through the District Court using civil proceedings.

**The registration that was discovered in Sheikh Jarrah and the rejection of the consequent petition emphasizes the necessity for diligent vigilance and close monitoring regarding the settlement and registration procedures** – specifically in identifying these processes which would allow for a significant expansion of actions that could be taken against such plans. Since the State has abdicated its responsibility to inform the residents, this is the only way to prevent a repeated occurrence taking place.

**Below is a table of preliminary findings of an examination we conducted into the publications of the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Jerusalem and Heritage regarding the settlement proceedings that are taking place.** It is permitted and advisable to pass on the below information to any additional, relevant individuals – including residents, community leaders, professionals, etc. Among the neighborhoods where land settlement procedures are already in an advanced stage: Sheikh Jarrah, Har HaZeitim (Mount of Olives), Beit Hanina, Sur Baher, and Beit Safafa. **Attached to the letter is the full table with additional information regarding the blocs presented below.**

<b>Neighborhood</b>	<b>Registration Bloc Number</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Neighborhood</b>	<b>Registration Bloc Number</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Sharafat</b>	30928	In Settlement Procedures	<b>Har HaZeitim (Mount of Olives)</b>	31484	Rights table displayed
<b>Sheikh Jarrah</b>	31558	In Settlement Procedures	<b>French Hill/Shuafat</b>	30652-3	-
<b>Sheikh Jarrah</b>	30821	Settlement and Registration Completed	<b>Givat Hamatos</b>	31656	In Settlement Procedures
<b>Shuafat</b>	30653, 30652	In Settlement Procedures	<b>Jabal Mukaber</b>	31557	In Settlement Procedures

<b>Sur Baher</b>	30786	In Settlement Procedures	<b>Beit Safafa</b>	31443, 30275, 30507	-
<b>Sur Baher</b>	31466-31469	-	<b>Beit Hanina</b>	30605, 30606	In Settlement Procedures
<b>Issawiya</b>	31556	In Settlement Procedures	<b>Between Ramat Shlomo &amp; Ramat Eshkol</b>	31427	Rights table displayed
<b>Atarot – North Airport</b>	31254-5	-	<b>A-shayyach</b>	31740	In Settlement Procedures
<b>Ramot Slopes</b>	31425	In Settlement Procedures	<b>“The Franciscan”</b>	“The King’s Valley” (number not specified)	-
<b>Musrara</b>	31734	In Settlement Procedures	<b>“The Franciscan” Church</b>	Gethsemane (number not specified)	-
<b>Tabliyah</b>	30995-6	In Settlement Procedures	<b>“The Latin” Church</b>	Beit Faji (number not specified)	-

Land registration procedures are largely taking place under the auspices of Government Decision 3790 for the Reduction of Socio-economic Gaps and for Economic Development in East Jerusalem. The Decision provides for an investment of approximately NIS 50 million for the promotion of land title settlement procedures in East Jerusalem and sets a target for the settlement and registration process of “at least 50% of land in East Jerusalem by the end of 2021 and 100% of the land by the end of 2025.” The procedures set forth in the Government Decision constitute a significant policy change – from a freeze on land title settlement in East Jerusalem that lasted many years, to the establishment of target dates for the complete settlement of land rights.

**As proven by the ruling with regard to Umm Haroun in Sheikh Jarrah, monitoring these settlement procedures is essential and timing is critical. Both have far-reaching implications for the rights of East Jerusalem residents to their lands.**

We would be pleased to be of service regarding further clarification and examination of potential courses of action against these procedures, as well as to provide updates with additional information on the topic.

Regards,

Noa Dagoni