Israelis seize vast Palestinian land to build cemetery for settlers

Tel Aviv, May 4 (RHC)-- Israeli authorities have confiscated a vast tract of private Palestinian land to build a cemetery for settlers in an area of the occupied West Bank, as the Tel Aviv regime presses ahead with land expropriation policies in violation of international law and UN Security Council resolutions.

The Palestine Information Center, citing local activists, reported on Sunday that the Israeli authorizes had started building the largest graveyard in Azzun Atma village, which will contain 30,000 burial spaces. Local researcher Abdul-Kareem Ayyoub stated that the cemetery land would also be seized from several nearby villages behind the separation wall in Salfit area.

The plan would lead to the destruction of vast Palestinian-owned agricultural land planted with olive and almond trees. The researcher accused the Israeli regime of exploiting the global coronavirus crisis to seize more lands across the occupied Palestinian territories.

Palestinians say the attacks, thefts and vandalism by Israeli settlers against Palestinians and their lands are coordinated ahead of time with Israeli military. Most of such attacks are met with impunity, with those guilty rarely facing any consequences.

In recent years, Israeli settlers have been frequently caught on camera vandalizing Palestinian farms in the occupied West Bank and stealing their olive harvests.

Israeli forces on Saturday evening blocked the main entrance to Kafr Malik town in the northeast of the West Bank Palestinian city of Ramallah. According to local sources, the Israeli forces set up a military checkpoint on the main road leading to the town and prevented Palestinian vehicles from entering the area.

In recent weeks, the residents of the town have frequently staged marches to protest land grab and theft of the region's water supply, which has been diverted to a newly constructed illegal Israeli settlement. According to the United Nations, all Israeli settlements are illegal under international law.

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