

Archive: NCF in the Media in 2011

Israeli tree campaign “Judaizes” expropriated land, *The Real News*, 26/12/11

The Jewish National Fund's practice of selling and leasing land exclusively to Jewish owners is met with growing opposition. The short film includes an interview with NCF Director, Haia Noach.

Film documents Bedouin struggle for al-Araqib, *The Palestine Monitor*, 8/12/11

The first screening of the newly released documentary *Sumoud* took place yesterday at the Negev Coexistence Forum's headquarters in Beersheba, Naqab.

'JNF attempting to Judaize Negev at Bedouin expense', *Jerusalem Post*, 5/12/11

The NCF responds to the JNF's 5-year plan for the Negev. “The JNF's plan reveals that it is continuing to not only ignore the reality of the Negev's diverse population but inflame the relationship between the Jewish and Beduin communities,” Haia Noach said. “It is clear that the mission of the JNF is to Judaize the Negev at the expense of Israel's Beduin citizens.”

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights holds discussion with non-governmental organisations, UNOG, 14/11/11

This report includes a summary of NGO presentations to the Committee including that by Khalil Al-Amour for the NCF.

Bedouin face bulldozers as Israel reshapes the desert, *The Age (Australia)*, 5/11/11

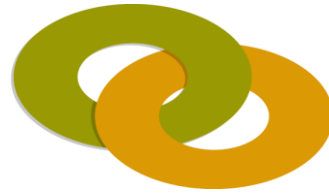
Khalil al-Amour, a school teacher, law student, father of seven, leader of the village of al-Sira and board member of the NCF, talks about the implications of the Praver Plan. His house, along with the rest of the village of 47 homes and 500 people, is the subject of a demolition order.

Bedouin's plight: 'We want to maintain our traditions. But its a dream here, *The Guardian (UK)* 3/11/11

Khalil al-Amour, board member of the NCF, describes how his community of 70 families in Alsira lives “under constant fear”. “The children ask, ‘Are they really coming to destroy our homes?’ I say, ‘Not this week. But one day they will come,’” he says.

Israel plans to displace 30,000 Bedouin Israeli citizens, *WBEZ Radio 91.5 (US)*, 26/10/2011

Michal Rotem, a Jewish activist with the NCF, talks about her fears of the Praver Plan while on tour in the US with a delegation of Jewish and Arab citizens to raise awareness of the government's plan.



Bedouins get mobilized as Israel pushes them off their land (Part 1), *The Palestine Monitor*, 24/10/2011

Photojournalist, Silvia Boarini, reports how the NCF and other organisations have helped catapult the plight of the Bedouin minority group into the media's sphere and transform the community from an uncoordinated and dispersed group to an organised network that spans the Negev and reaches Arab communities in the Galilee.

Bedouin seek US support against relocation plan, *Jerusalem Post*, 12/10/2011

Michal Rotem, an NCF Coordinator, talks to the *Jerusalem Post* about what she hopes to achieve during her upcoming visit to the US to rally government officials, religious congregations and members of the public against the Israeli government's cabinet-approved plan to relocate about 30,000 residents to recognized villages.

Thousands protest plan for relocation of Negev Bedouin, *Jerusalem Post*, 07/10/2011

Khalil Alamour, resident of Alsira and member of the Forum's Board of Directors, talks to the *Jerusalem Post* during a large protest rally in Be'er Sheva against the implementation of the Praver Plan. "I am very proud, very happy for the large number of protesters who arrived here to support us – Jews and Arabs – we are brothers here, supporting the same idea, the same principle, to stop the Praver plan from being implemented," Alamour told the Post.

The worst day in a Bedouin's life, *Jerusalem Post*, 13/09/2011

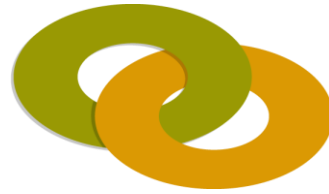
Khalil Alamour, member of the Forum's Secretariat, talks to *Jerusalem Post* to express his hope that the government will not carry out its plan to relocate the Bedouin community. "The people here feel really bad that the government is eliminating their existence, their culture, their way of living. This is the worst day in a Bedouin's life."

Cabinet approves plan to relocate Negev Bedouin, *Haaretz*, 12/09/2011

In response to the approval of the Praver Plan, the Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality said the cabinet decision was surprising in light of a recent U.N. report on the rights of indigenous peoples, whose author, Prof. James Anaya, criticized Israel's attitude toward its Bedouin citizens and called on the government to stop house demolitions in the Negev.

Right, Left infuriated by plans to resettle Negev Bedouin, *Jerusalem Post*, 12/09/2011

The Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality states that the Praver Plan passed by the cabinet demonstrates a "perpetuation of discriminatory treatment and continued neglect of this population."



Rockets on the Negev don't wreck Be'er Sheva's spirit of social protest, Haaretz, 22/08/2011

Somebody sprayed the words "the people of Israel live" on the concrete wall that protects Be'er Sheva's number 17 bomb shelter [the Forum's office]. The message seemed particularly intriguing since the shelter has been helping people from the Negev city's various populations groups. It has hosted veterans of the poor Dalet neighborhood, students who rent flats in the area, people living in the nearby protest tents, and members of a group that works for Arab-Jewish cooperation who coincidentally use the shelter as a makeshift office.

The people are strong, Red Pepper, 08/2011

'A number of villages have been recognised in recent years,' says a spokesperson for the Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality, 'however, when you visit these villages it is difficult to see the difference in the standard of living between them and those that have not been recognised. Many of them still do not have an approved detailed local outline plan that would allow residents to obtain building permits and build legally.'

Nat'l security adviser to rethink plan for Negev Bedouin, Haaretz, 23/06/2011

Noam Tirosh, coordinator of the Negev Coexistence Forum, an NGO which promotes cooperation between the Jewish and Bedouin communities in the Negev, said, "Israel's disgraceful treatment of the state's Bedouin nationals continues. For decades committees have been formed and dispersed while the Negev Bedouin remain in their predicament." However, Tirosh commended the move to revoke the Praver report "which means transferring 30,000 Bedouin from the unrecognized villages to rundown townships, afflicted with unemployment and poverty."

Israel to Destroy 'illegal' Bedouin Villages, Al-Jazeera, 13/06/2011

Video interview with member of NCF secretariat member, Khalil Alamour.

Al-Arakib: More Charges Against Activists, The Communist Party of Israel, 24/05/2011

The Forum's Executive Director, Haia Noach, received notification last week of additional charges being laid against her following the incident during the sixth demolition of Al-Arakib, in the Negev, on October 13, 2010. The two new charges are "disturbing a policeman in his duty" (article 275) and "beating a policeman in his duty" (article 273). The materials indicate that she is being accused of trying to escape the scene – ignoring the fact that she had her hands tightly handcuffed behind her back.

'Unrecognized' Bedouin Stake Land Claims in Israel, JKDAMOURS, 16/04/2011

According to Israeli activist Haia Noach, while the JNF initially denied any involvement in the destruction of al-Araqib, residents and local activists saw JNF bulldozers destroying property in the village during a demolition in early February: "We connect them with this; they are directly responsible for what is going on there, for the fact that people lost their houses, lost their herds, their orchards," said Noach, the Director of the Negev Co-Existence Forum, a joint Jewish-Arab organization working for Bedouin land rights in the Negev.



Israel leaves 200 children in the desert with no food no water and no shelter, *Occupied Palestine*, 22/03/2011

“More than 1,500 police arrived at the village at around sunrise — they came in dozens of vehicles and began destroying the structures there,” said Chaya Noach, head of Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality, a group which fights to protect the rights of the 160,000 Bedouin living in the Negev. “It’s like they want to erase the Bedouin from the landscape,” she said.

JNF Complicity Challenged, *Alternative Information Center*, 14/03/11

Haia Noach, Executive Director of NCF, describes how the Jewish National Fund is destroying threatening Bedouin villages which have existed since before the founding of Israel.

Protest in front of Jewish National Fund, +972, 1/02/2011.

JNF, BDS and the Bedouin, *Jerusalem Post*, 19/01/2011

Two Bedouin-centered NGOs, the Negev Institute for Strategies of Peace and Development and the Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality, work with these communities, and educated me on their concerns, and arranged for me to tour some of these villages.