Archive: NCF in the Media 2012

Israel Demolishes Bedouin Village for 44th Time during Visit of Swiss Ambassador, The Alternative News, 12/12/2012

A visit from the Swiss Ambassador to Al Arakib is described. This visit was hosted by NCF and Bedouin residents. In the midst of the Ambassador’s visit, Israeli police arrived to demolish the village. During the demolition, the police detained a Bedouin resident.

Israel’s “New West Bank”: New plan reveals govt relocating Bedouins in Negev Desert to create Jewish contiguity south of the West Bank, The Real News

This short documentary film focuses on the frightening implications of the Prawer Plan, which, as the reporter asserts, will displace 40,000 Bedouin residents of the Negev-Neqab. The film contains interviews with Haia Noach, the Executive Director of NCF, and Salim Abu Kian from Umm el Hiran—one of two villages (along with A Tir) that will be evacuated as a result of the Plan.


NCF documents that participants of the Beer Sheva Municipality’s Wine Festival brought alcohol onto the premises of the city’s historical Big Mosque, despite significant opposition to this from Bedouin residents of the Negev and human rights groups.

ACRI petition: Stop Destruction of Beduin Villages, The Jerusalem Post, 14/08/2012

This article describes the petition submitted by NCF in conjunction with ACRI and Bimkom to the High Court in August, regarding the government’s plan to build seven new Jewish towns in the place of five existing Bedouin villages. The planned development would cover 45,000 acres, which are currently home to approximately 8,000 Bedouin residents.

Israel’s Wild West, Al Monitor, 30/07/2012

This article offers an overview of the controversy surrounding land in the Negev, dating back to the 1930s. It focuses on the Ulpana case, which deals with the contested land on which the unrecognized Bedouin village of Al Zarnug is located. NCF’s Executive Director Haia Noach is quoted, stating the following: The settlers settle wherever they want, and even if it’s not legal they still have water and electricity and roads… On the other hand, you have Bedouins who are citizens of the State, living within the Green Line. Not only do these Bedouins lack services and live in sub-standard conditions, in the case of Al Zarnug they are also willing to evacuate. But no-one offers to [move them to a new location as in the Ulpana Hill case] or provide alternate housing, no-one waits for their consent or their agreement to the eviction. They have nowhere to go.
Development of the Negev for all its Residents, *The Alternative News*, 22/05/2012

This article covers the controversy surrounding the Fifth Negev Conference, which aimed to create a development plan for the Negev. This plan will displace tens of thousands Bedouin from their homes to make way for Route 6 and Jewish towns.

**JNF violates agreement on Al Araqib land, *Palestine Monitor*, 18/05/2012**

Palestine Monitor report on how the Jewish National Fund's recently violated an agreement not to prepare the land for planting trees in a specific area of Al Araqib. NCF Executive Director Haia Noach is quoted, stating that, “the residents of the Negev don’t need more forests. We need sustainable equality and the application of the right to an adequate standard of living for all the residents of the Negev.”

**Bedouin tribes in the Naqab desert suffer from JNF forestation policy, *Palestine Monitor*, 3/05/2012**

Silvia Boarini of Palestine Monitor reports from a demonstration organized by NCF in front of the Jewish National Fund offices in Jerusalem on April 29. The demonstration was in protest of the JNF’s forestation over Bedouin villages in the Negev.

**Uprooting 30,000 Bedouin in Israel, *Al-Jazeera*, 3/04/2012**

Neve Gordon interviews Haia Noach, NCF Executive Director, about plans to move entire communities and put them in townships which would deprive them of their livelihood and land rights.

**UN panel urges Israel to shelve ‘racist’ Bedouin relocation plan, *Haaretz*, 26/03/2012**

Haaretz reported on the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) with respect to the proposed Prawer Plan and that if approved would be discriminatory and legalize racist practices. The article also noted the role of the NCF in the UN review process and that its alternative report may have influenced its position.

**Palestinians face repeated house demolitions in the Jordan Valley; Al-Araqib, *Electronic Intifada*, 19/03/2012**

The Electronic Intifada spoke with Michal Rotem, coordinator and spokeswoman of the NCF, who said that because of the rampant demolitions in the last 20 months, Al-Araqib’s residents have now been forced to move into the village’s cemetery. Rotem added the following:

The residents had a few shacks outside [the parameters of the cemetery], including the hospitality tent, where people go to drink tea and welcome visitors – these were all demolished. The [Israeli forces] got into the area and within a few minutes they were finished. During the first few demolitions, [the structures] were all cement, but now when we’re talking about a couple of shacks, it only takes a few minutes to finish.
Racism in Israel, Pravda, 8/02/2012

The NCF has some shocking revelations in its alternative report to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in this case in Israel, against the Bedouin population in the Negev-Naqab, to be reviewed on February 15 and 16. The allegations in the report expose Israel’s violation of the legally-binding ICERD.

Jerusalem protest at JNF calls to halt Bedouin displacement, +972, 30/01/12

Some 100 demonstrators gathered at the Jewish National Fund headquarters in Jerusalem on Sunday to protest afforestation plans in the Negev region of Southern Israel, which could result in the displacement of Bedouin families residing there.