

UN Secretary General Denounces Illegal Israeli Settlements



New York, February 1 (RHC)-- United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon has once again censured the Israeli regime for its decades-long occupation of the Palestinian territories and illegal settlement construction on the occupied lands.

"History proves that people will always resist occupation," Ban said in an opinion piece published on the website of The New York Times on Sunday and in the paper itself on Monday. The UN chief denounced Tel Aviv's plans to build over 150 new settlements and to confiscate 370 acres of agricultural land in the occupied West Bank.

"Israeli settlements keep expanding," he wrote, adding: "At the same time, thousands of Palestinian homes in the West Bank risk demolition... Palestinian frustration and grievances are growing under the weight of nearly a half-century of occupation. Ignoring this won't make it disappear."

In The New York Times editorial, Ban Ki-Moon said that keeping the Palestinians "under indefinite occupation undermines the security and the future of both Israelis and Palestinians." And he added: "I am so concerned that we are reaching a point of no return for the two-state solution."



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