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## **Netanyahu pledges to seize Israel's 'historic opportunity'**

Since the formation of Israel's '*emergency unity government of national conciliation*' on 13th May, Benjamin Netanyahu has repeatedly announced his determination to go ahead with the annexation plans that formed a key component of the coalition's 'policy principles'.

Section 29 of the '*Policy principles of the 35th government of Israel*' states:

'After a discussion and consultation between the Prime Minister and the Alternate Prime Minister on the principles set out above, the Prime Minister will be able to bring the agreement that will be reached with the United States on applying sovereignty starting on 1 July 2020 to the Cabinet hearing and the government for approval by the government and / or the Knesset.'

Currently, there is no agreement between Netanyahu, Gantz and the Trump administration on the timescale for Israel's 'application of sovereignty', Israeli 'new speak' for annexation. The latest proposal announced on 10th June is that Israel will begin on July 1st by annexing three large settlement blocs: Ma'ale Adumim, Ariel and Gush Etzion.

Netanyahu has made it clear that he doesn't intend to miss what he describes as 'this historic opportunity'. Under Netanyahu, Israel will grab as much as it can get away with, including the existing settlement blocs and the fertile, water-and-mineral-rich Jordan Valley.

This will have at least three major consequences for the Palestinian people:

### **1. Theft of their land**

Annexation of territories will mean the 'nationalisation' of most of the land in it. Large chunks of land owned by Palestinians living outside these territories will be considered absentee property.

### **2. Expulsion**

Palestinian communities in these annexed territories will face the threat of being forcibly deported. Under Israeli control of the Palestinian population registry, many Palestinians were registered elsewhere in the West Bank. After annexation, they will become illegal aliens in sovereign Israel and under threat of being deported.

### **3. Permanent subjection and denial of rights**

Netanyahu has stated that when – not if – his government goes ahead with unilateral annexation of parts of the occupied West Bank, thousands of Palestinian residents would be granted neither citizenship nor equal rights.

**Join us on Sunday, June 28th to discuss the way forward. What next for the Palestinian people's struggle for equal rights and self-determination?**

Here are some useful articles that give more insight into the issues:

['Annexing the Aquifers: Israel and the Water Crisis in Occupied Palestine'](#)

'Land grab and Deportation'

'It might not take much effort to derail Netanyahu's annexation'