



Secretariat General

Secretariat of Arab League

Council Affairs

Communiqué by
the Extraordinary Session of the Council of the League of Arab States at
Permanent Representatives Level
concerning
Israeli Attacks on the Sanctity of Al-Aqsa Mosque representing a Flagrant and
Heinous Violation of International Law and International Humanitarian Law

—

The Council of the League of Arab States at permanent representatives level convened an extraordinary session on 5th April 2023, chaired by the Arab Republic of Egypt, upon the request of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and in coordination with the State of Palestine and the Arab Republic of Egypt (presidency of the ministerial Council), to discuss Arab and international action to confront the brutal Israeli crimes and attacks on the lives and sanctities of the Palestinian people in the occupied city of Jerusalem, the capital of the State of Palestine,

THE COUNCIL,

- 1- *Strongly condemns* the crimes perpetrated by the Israeli occupation forces against defenseless Muslim worshipers in the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, which escalated in a dangerous way during the holy month of Ramadan, resulting in hundreds of injuries and arrests of Muslim worshippers performing the itikaf (seclusion for prayers) at the mosque, as well as incursions and deliberate desecration of the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque's sanctity by extremist Israeli officials and settlers, with the protection of the Israeli occupation forces;
- 2- *Rejects and condemns* Israel's (the occupying Power) violations of the Islamic and Christian Holy Places, particularly attempts to change the existing historical and legal status, the spatio-temporal demographic division of the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, to undermine Muslim worshippers' freedom by forcing them out of the Mosque, to seize control of the Jordanian Islamic Awqaf Administration in occupied Jerusalem, to attack its employees and prevent them from performing their duty, as well as to impose Israeli law over the Blessed Al-Aqsa

Unofficial Translation

- Mosque/ Al-Haram Al-Qudsi Al-Sharif; Emphasizes Muslims' and Christians' right to free and unrestricted access to their places of worship to perform their normal religious duties freely in the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and the churches of occupied Jerusalem;
- 3- *Holds* Israel, the occupying Power, accountable for the consequences of these crimes and actions that undermine freedom of worship in Islamic and Christian holy sites in Jerusalem, particularly the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, which are flagrant violations of United Nations resolutions, international law and international humanitarian law; *and warns that* these attacks and crimes are a flagrant provocation of the feelings of believers around the world, threatening to ignite a cycle of violence, jeopardizing security and stability in the region and the entire world;
 - 4- *Emphasizes* the importance of the historical Jordanian Hashemite Custodianship over the Islamic and Christian holy places in the city of Jerusalem, as well as its role in protecting these sanctities and maintaining the existing legal and historical status quo; *and stresses that* the Jordan-run Administration of Jerusalem's Endowments and Al-Aqsa Mosque Affairs is the sole authority entrusted with administering all the affairs of the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque/ Al-Haram Al-Qudsi Al-Sharif;
 - 5- *Salutes and hails* the heroic and noble Palestinian people of Jerusalem, who remain steadfast in the occupied city of Jerusalem, and defend the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, the holy places and the Arab, Islamic and Christian properties with their bare chests in the face of the Israeli occupation forces' systematic brutal crimes and attacks in the Holy City;
 - 6- *Calls upon* the United Nations, including the Security Council, to assume legal, moral, and humanitarian responsibilities to put an end to Israel's aggression, provide international protection for the Palestinian people, and protect their right to freedom of worship;
 - 7- *Demands* the implementation of UNESCO Executive Council and World Heritage Committee decisions related to the Palestinian cause, which stated that the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque/ Al-Haram Al-Qudsi Al-Sharif, with its entire area of 144 dunums, is a pure place of worship for Muslims only, and an integral part of the world cultural heritage sites;

Unofficial Translation

- 8- *Emphasizes* the determination of Member States to take the necessary steps and measures at all levels, including the launch of an intensive diplomatic action, through messages, contacts and bilateral meetings, in order to protect the city of Jerusalem, defend its Islamic and Christian sanctities, and support the political, social, economic and human rights of its people;
- 9- *Calls on* the League of Arab States and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to coordinate their efforts to protect the occupied city of Jerusalem from systematic Israeli policies and attacks;
- 10- *Calls on* the Councils of Arab Ambassadors and League of Arab States missions to launch a concerted diplomatic effort to deliver the contents of this Communiqué to the capitals of influential countries around the world;
- 11- *Calls on* Arab groups at the United Nations, the Human Rights Council, and UNESCO to begin consultations and take the necessary steps to confront and end Israel's systematic attacks on the occupied city of Jerusalem;
- 12- *Decides to* keep the council in permanent session to monitor the progress of Israel's aggressive plans.

Communiqué No. 251 - 5/4/2023)