

Palestinian President Says Trump's Efforts Slap of the Century



Ramallah, January 15 (RHC)-- Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas has said that U.S. President Donald Trump's so-called Middle East peace efforts are the "slap of the century" after his recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital.

"The deal of the century is the slap of the century and we will not accept it," said Abbas referring to Trump's vow to reach the "ultimate deal." Speaking at a Sunday meeting of Palestinian officials held over how to deal with Trump's Jerusalem's move, Abbas added that the Tel Aviv regime had "ended" the 1990s Oslo peace accords of the 1990s with its actions.

The Oslo Accords were signed between the Israeli regime and the PLO during the early-mid 1990s to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and to guarantee the Palestinians' right of self determination. The PA, which has limited governance over the occupied West Bank, was established following the Oslo Accords.

Last month, Trump announced that Washington would recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and would relocate the U.S. embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to the occupied city.

In other comments, Abbas branded Washington's ambassadors to the United Nations and to Israel, Nikki Haley and David Friedman, a "disgrace." He said: "U.S. Ambassador to Israel David Friedman is a settler who is opposed to the term occupation. He is an offensive human being, and I will not agree to meet with him anywhere. They requested that I meet him and I refused, not in Jerusalem, not in Amman, not in Washington. U.S. Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley also threatens to hit people who hurt Israel with the heel of her shoe, and we'll respond in the same way," he said.

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