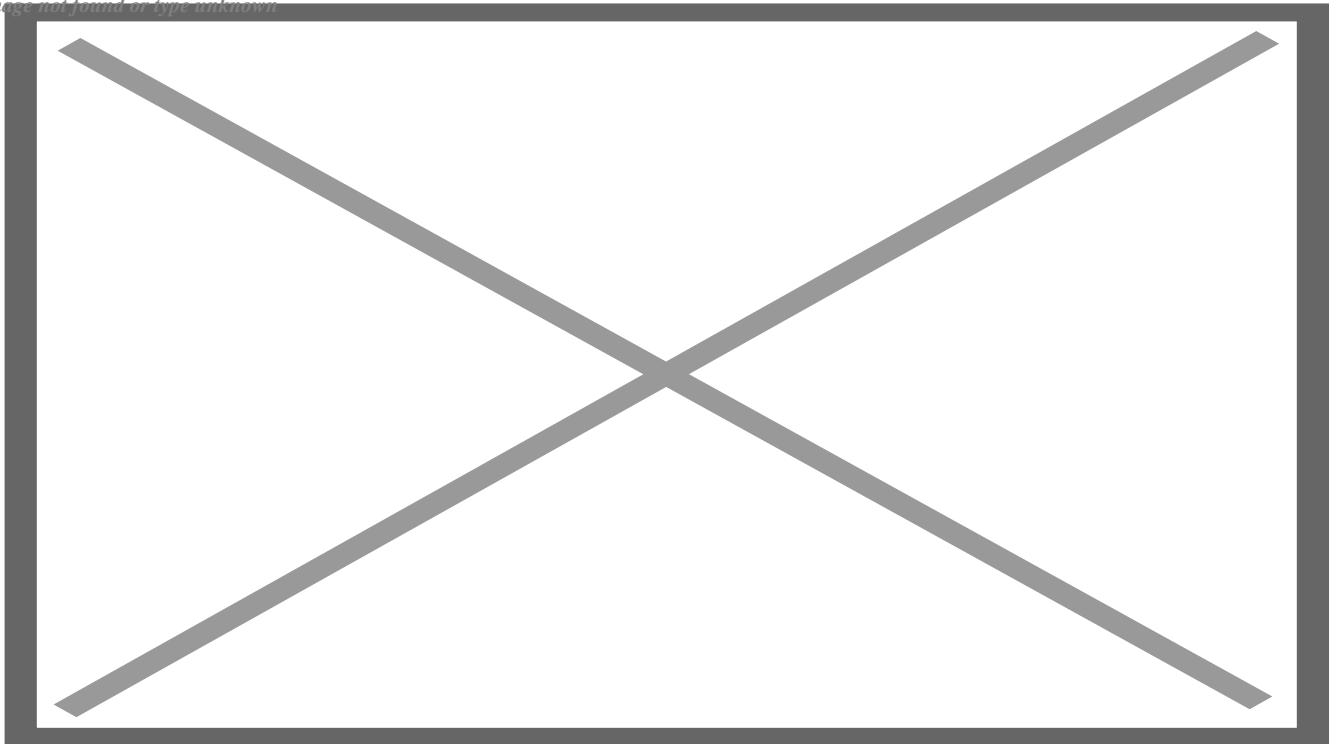


Organization of Islamic Cooperation condemns Israeli demolition of homes

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Jeddah, November 11 (RHC)-- The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has condemned Israel's demolition of dozens of homes and buildings at a Palestinian village in the occupied West Bank, which displaced about 80 people, including children.

"The action falls within the framework of the policies of ethnic cleansing, annexation and colonial settlement plans implemented by the Israeli occupation in the Palestinian territories," the OIC said in a statement. The 57-member international organization -- headquarters in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia -- noted that the move constitutes a violation of international law and relevant UN resolutions.

The OIC then called on the international community to shoulder its responsibilities and exert more pressure on the Israeli regime to stop its violations and crimes throughout the occupied Palestinian

territory, and to provide international protection for Palestinians in accordance with the Geneva Conventions.

“What happened does not serve the comprehensive and just peace process, called for by the Arab initiative based on the [so-called] two-state solution and the establishment of a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem al-Quds as its capital, and runs counter to the relevant UN resolutions,” it pointed out.

Last week, Israeli bulldozers razed Humsa al-Baqai’a village near the city of Tubas in the strategic Jordan Valley. The United Nations has censured the Israeli regime for carrying out what it described as the biggest demolition of Palestinian homes in the West Bank for a decade.

According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), 76 structures - including homes, animal shelters, toilets and solar panels - were destroyed when Israeli bulldozers rolled into Humsa al-Baqai’a.

OCHA said the Bedouin village is one of 38 communities fully or partially located within Israeli-designated “firing zones” and which constitute “some of the most vulnerable communities in the West Bank.”

Israeli authorities demolish Palestinian homes in the occupied West Bank, usually claiming that the structures have been built without permits.

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