

Palestine warns of religious war over far-right Israeli minister's al-Aqsa visit

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Ramallah, January 6 (RHC)-- Palestine has strongly condemned the intrusion of Israel's far-right minister into the al-Aqsa Mosque in the occupied Old City of al-Quds, warning that the violation of international

law, as well as the historical status quo of the site, could trigger a "religious war."

"We alarmingly call on the international community to act urgently and halt the impending explosion of the situation in the Palestinian territories, and the grave threats that Israeli crimes and violations pose to international peace and security," it said in a statement on Wednesday, as quoted by the official Palestinian news agency Wafa.

"Ben-Gvir is widely regarded as a fascist, who has repeatedly made provocative moves against Palestinians and the sacred al-Aqsa Mosque, and has frequently stoked violence and terror with his inflammatory remarks, hateful threats, and controversial actions," the statement added.

The foreign ministry said the Palestinian leadership holds the occupying Israeli regime, and its politicians and officials, fully responsible for the repercussions of their continued illegal and provocative measures, which will have far-reaching consequences for regional and international peace and security.

"Israel's continued acts of aggression at the al-Aqsa Mosque compound are meant to cause ... division so as to facilitate Jewish worship there and impose Israeli control over the holy site," it said in the statement.

"We remind [the international community] that Israel has no rightful claim or sovereignty over al-Quds, including the Old City, its eastern sector, its walls, and its holy sites."

"All states and organizations must act urgently and collectively to condemn all Israeli acts of aggression, and demand an immediate halt to the practices against Palestinian people and their holy sites," the statement noted.

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