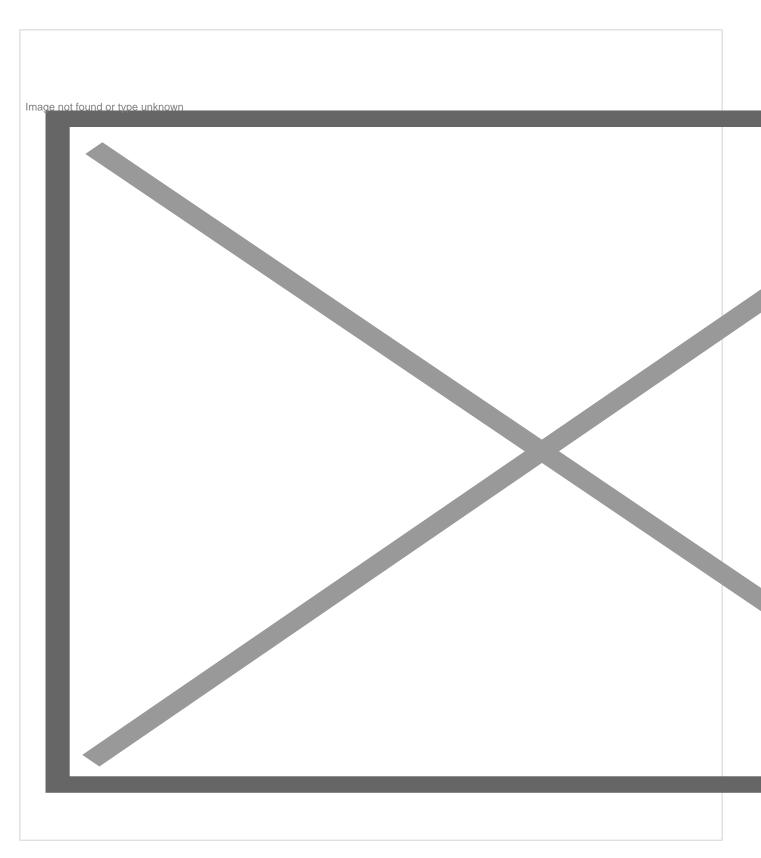
Hamas slams Israeli regime's plan to annex Arab countries



Beirut, January 8 (RHC)-- The Hamas resistance movement has strongly condemned Israel's plan to annex more Palestinian and Arab lands. It said that the plan reaffirms the Israeli regime's aggressive nature and expansionist ambitions.

"The hostile declarations by occupation leaders demand strong responses from Arab and Islamic governments to confront these ambitions and halt their crimes," the Hamas statement said.

The movement's comments came after official Israeli social media accounts published a map, showing Palestinian territories along with Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon, annexed to the regime.

Hamas said the map was further evidence of Israel's colonial nature, and its plan to escalate aggression to subjugate the region and seize its resources. The movement then called for decisive actions on the part of the Arab League as well as Arab and Islamic nations to confront Israel's ambitions and stop its crimes against Palestinians.

"These aggressive policies and repeated public declarations, coinciding with the ongoing brutal war of genocide and ethnic cleansing in Gaza and the West Bank, call for decisive actions from the Arab League and Arab and Islamic governments. It is imperative to confront these ambitions, stop the continuous zionist crimes against our Palestinian people, and provide all forms of support and solidarity in the face of fascist plans targeting the entire region," the Hamas statement said.

The map came after Israel's far-right minister, Bezalel Smotrich, revealed his desire not only to conquer all Palestinian territories up to the Jordan River, but also Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. He also expressed his ambition to annex Arab territories reaching as far as Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

In a previous statement Hamas urged Arab and Muslim populations, and the free people of the world, to exert more pressure on governments and international organizations to move beyond mere condemnation and denunciation, and to "assume their responsibility in stopping this holocaust being committed by the Zionist occupation, which feels secure in its crimes under American cover."

Earlier this week, Palestinian and Jordanian officials condemned an Israeli map that claimed territories of several Arab countries as part of the so-called "greater Israel."

Nabil Abu Rudeineh, spokesman for the Ramallah-based Palestinian Authority, described the map shared by Israeli social media accounts this week as a blatant violation of all international resolutions and laws. He said Israeli occupation policies, attacks by settlers, and the relentless storming of the al-Aqsa Mosque compound require "an urgent international stance to stop what the Palestinian people are being subjected to from war and destruction."

The spokesman also called on the incoming US administration to halt unconditional support for all Israeli policies that undermine security and peace in West Asia.

Parts of the Palestinian, Jordanian, Syrian, and Lebanese territories were included in the map.

The Jordanian Foreign Ministry also described the document as "provocative and baseless."

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