

Palestinians slam Trump's Gaza ownership scheme as a declaration of war

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Gaza City, February 12 (RHC)-- Palestinians have denounced as a “declaration of war” U.S. President Donald Trump's scheme to take over the besieged Gaza Strip and relocate its residents.

In a statement released on Tuesday, the follow-up committee of the National and Islamic Forces, an umbrella for most Palestinian groups, said the plot serves as “a new declaration of war to uproot our people.”

“Trump's recent statements reflect the true face of the American-Zionist partnership in the aggression on our people.” The Palestinian groups also demanded strong action from Arab leaders and the international community.

They called on the upcoming Arab summit on February 27 to “take practical and direct steps, and play a vital and effective role against (Trump's) criminal plans.”

“The steadfastness of the Palestinian people in Gaza, the West Bank and inside Israel requires direct political and material support to strengthen their resistance and establish them on their land.”

Senior Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri said there is an agreement that must be respected by both parties for the prisoners to be released. Zuhri was referring to the ceasefire and prisoner swap deal between Hamas and Israel.

“Trump must remember that there is an agreement that both parties must respect, and this is the only way to bring back the prisoners. The language of threats has no value and only complicates matters.”

Earlier Trump said “all hell” would break loose if all the Israeli captives were not released by high noon on February 15th.

Hamas says the release of Israeli captives has been postponed due to the regime’s violations of the ceasefire. The resistance group said it intentionally made the announcement five days before the scheduled handover of captives on February 15th to give mediators ample time to pressure the regime.

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