

### Arab Divide: Lebanon, Algeria, Sudan, Mauritania support Gaza while Arab Monarchs support Israel

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The Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyad al-Maliki renounced the Israeli aggression on the Palestinian people in Gaza Strip.

The remarks came in a speech on Saturday during the emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers in Cairo to discuss the Israeli military escalation in Gaza.

Minister al-Maliki called for an emergency Arab Summit as soon as possible, stressing that "Even after the Israeli aggression on Gaza in 2008-2009, we couldn't lift the siege on Gaza or implement the UN Security Council's resolution No 1860... We couldn't ease the suffering of the Palestinians nor succeed in the reconstruction efforts. We couldn't tell Israel that the Arabs will not accept the situation to continue in this way."

He highlighted that Israel is challenging the whole Arab nation with its aggression, adding that the silence of the international community over these aggressions pushes Israel to continue its attacks.

Al-Maliki said that "a strong Arab political, financial and economic support is needed today to help the Palestinians to confront Israel. Unlimited financial support for the Palestinian economy is needed as to enable the Palestinians to concentrate on their fight against the Israeli occupation."

#### Mansour Calls upon Arabs to Sever Relations with Israel

For his part, Lebanon's Minister of Foreign Affairs Adnan Mansour said that the Israeli aggression on Gaza Strip shows disdain for the Arab nation and its people.

Minister Mansour added that "Palestine is calling upon us today to take the courageous and wise decisions that embody the essence of the Arab nation."

He called upon the Arab countries which have diplomatic relations with Israel to withdraw the ambassadors, sever its relations and abolish agreements with Israel.

He also called upon the European countries and the international community to condemn this aggression.

He stressed that "Palestine will remain the compass of the Arabs... This compass will evaluate the joint Arab work. Don't abandon Palestine which has been awaiting freedom for 64 years."

## Mauritania's Foreign Minister Voices His Country's Commitment to Supporting the Palestinian People

In turn, Mauritanian Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister, Hamadi Ould Baba Ould Hamadi, said that the crisis of the Palestinian people has been a disgrace on the international community for decades.

Ould Hamadi said that Israel has been shirking its commitment while the international community ignores this, stressing that Arabs must revaluate what is happening and their positions and formulate a new strategy and position regarding the Palestinian issue.

He affirmed that Mauritania is committed to solidarity with the Palestinian people and supporting them.

# Sudan Foreign Minister: Israeli Aggression on Gaza Tampers with Arab Affairs and Security

Sudan's Foreign Minister Ali Ahmed Karti said that the Israeli aggression on Gaza is an ongoing tampering with Arab affairs and security while the Arabs await lost chances of peace, recalling to mind Israel's recent attack on Sudan.

He said that the Arab League's continuing search for lost opportunities for peace wastes the rights of Arabs, adding that the Security Council won't do anything as long as the international community supports Israel.

Karti called for holding a summit to confront this arrogant aggression on Gaza, calling for boycotting Israel and companies that deal with it, adding that the campaign against Gaza is a punishment for Palestine's request to become a member of the UN.

#### Ambassador Awad: Aggression on Gaza Targets Civilians and Violates International Laws and Human Rights

Secretary General of the Algerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Noureddin Awad, said that the ongoing Israeli aggression on Gaza is a blatant and barbaric aggression that targets civilians and violates international laws and human rights.

He said that Alegria condemns this aggression strongly and calls upon the international community and Security Council to shoulder their responsibilities to cease this aggression and siege imposed on Gaza Strip and take the necessary steps to protect the Palestinian people.

Awwad reiterated Algeria's solidarity with the Palestinian people and its full support for them in their struggle to restore their land and sovereignty and establish an independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

He also urged Palestinians to carry out national reconciliation.

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