



EFF STATEMENT ON THE RECKLESS VISIT TO THE EAST JERUSALEM HOLY SITE BY ISRAEL MINISTER

Thursday, 05 January 2022

The EFF joins the international community in condemning in the strongest terms possible the provocative publicity stunt of the apartheid Israel National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, who visited the holy site of the unlawfully annexed East Jerusalem city of Palestine.

The provocation occurred when Israeli's National Security Minister, Itamar Ben-Gvir visited Jerusalem's temple on Tuesday, 3 January 2023. Ben-Gvir, the leader of the Otzma Yehudit (Jewish Power) party was seen on camera walking at the site flanked by his security personnel expressing his ambition to bring about new rules that would seek to destabilize the delicate balance through which access and prayer are regulated on the site.

History informs us that the Temple Mount/Haram al-Sharif is one of the most sensitive sites in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in that "the hilltop site is the most sacred place in Judaism and the third holiest in Islam and that the entire compound is considered to be al-Aqsa Mosque by Muslims". In the year 2000, the hawkish Likud party leader Ariel Sharon visited the site causing fury amongst the Palestinian community as his visit was seen as dangerous provocation. On Tuesday, we saw yet again another member of the Israeli government venturing on the same path that can only lead to renewed conflict thus undermining all efforts that have been made to maintain peace in the region.

The Minister of Security Services in the apartheid Israel state did not only breach international law but was brazenly in breach of his religious injunction and Chief Priesthood, the Jewish Rabbinate.

A member of the executive in the apartheid Israel regime, at least in the absence of consciousness should not act recklessly sparking international outcry and undue attention, pursuing a dangerous path in the midst of relative calm in the world and Middle East.

The EFF calls on the South African government not only to release media statements of condemnation but to act practically against the racist state of Israel. In this regard, the EFF calls upon the South African government to summon the Ambassador of apartheid Israel regime as a form of demonstration of outrage and solidarity of the people of South Africa to the plight of people in Palestine.

ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS

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