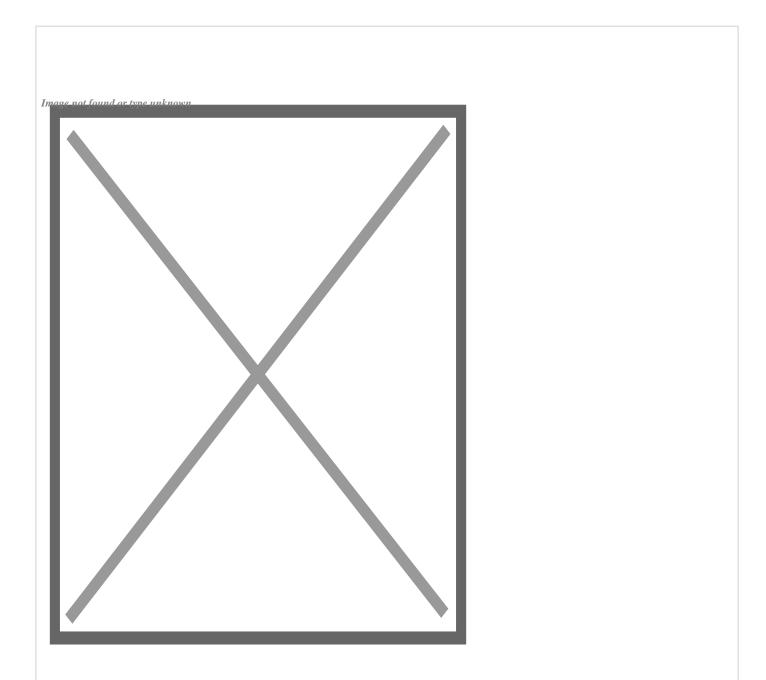
Far-right Israeli minister Ben-Gvir orders closure of al-Quds Fund and Endowment office



Far-right Israeli minister Itamar Ben-Gvir visits the al-Aqsa Mosque compound in the Israelioccupied Old City of al-Quds on August 13, 2024, in this screen grab obtained from a handout Washington, April 29 (RHC)-- Extremist Israeli minister Itamar Ben-Gvir has ordered the shutdown of the al-Quds Fund and Endowment office in the Israeli-occupied East al-Quds in a flagrant violation of international principles, marking another aggressive measure targeting the Palestinian population in the flashpoint region.

The al-Quds Governorate in a statement condemned the move, stating it falls within the framework of a systematic campaign by the occupying Tel Aviv regime to dry up the sources of Palestinian civil society work, and confiscate any initiative that supports and empowers the residents of al-Quds economically and socially.

The Governorate noted that Ben-Gvir — notorious for his far-right positions — has once again perpetrated a political crime that underscores the Zionist entity's policy aimed at strangulating Palestinian life in al-Quds and undermining the resilience of its residents.

The al-Quds Governorate also described the Israeli minister's claim against the al-Quds Fund and Endowment as "baseless and untrue," stressing that the institution operates solely as a non-political body, focusing exclusively on social, humanitarian, and charitable endeavors.

For its part, the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates denounced Ben-Gvir's decision as "another facet of genocide, displacement and annexation," and "part of Judaization crimes happening in al-Quds."

The ministry said the group joined many charitable and humanitarian institutions and organizations that had been shuttered previously in a-Quds for their role in serving the local population. The Palestinian foreign ministry noted that the latest measure would place further restrictions on the lives of al-Quds citizens with the aim of forcing them to leave the city.

The ministry held the international community responsible for its failure to implement resolutions concerning Palestine, particularly those addressing the situation in al-Quds.

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