



Indian Muslim Welfare Society

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IMWS STATEMENT

8th May 2021

IMWS statement condemning the violence at Al Aqsa and the planned forced eviction of Palestinians from Sheikh Jarrah, Jerusalem

IMWS condemns the violence against worshippers last night at Al-Aqsa Mosque, during one of the most sacred nights of Ramadan. More than 200 Palestinians were wounded outside the Mosque in occupied East Jerusalem as Israeli police fired rubber-coated metal bullets, tear gas and stun grenades towards protesters. The violence comes amidst illegal efforts to evict 500 Palestinians from their homes in the Sheikh Jarrah area, East Jerusalem.

Amidst this global pandemic, 87 Palestinians are at imminent risk of forced eviction. Unlawfully applying Israeli domestic law to an occupied territory, Israeli courts have ruled in favour of lawsuits undertaken by settler organisations to evict these Palestinian families.

We call on our UK government, public bodies and civil society to:

- condemn such acts of violence against the Palestinian men, women and children, and to hold Israel accountable.
- take meaningful action to prevent the further violence towards Palestinian people. This includes recognising the laws of Israel to be inherently discriminatory and used to maintain Jewish Israeli dominance over Palestinians.
- recognise the flagrant theft of their homes and property and uphold UN Security Council Resolution 2334 concerning the occupation of Palestinian territories and stopping illegal settlement activity. Transferring civilian populations into occupied territory is illegal under international law.

We wish to emphasise that East Jerusalem remains part of the occupied Palestinian territory in which international humanitarian law applies.