

Day 74: Al-Aqsa Flood Operation in the city of Jerusalem

December 19, 2023



On the 74th day of “Al-Aqsa Flood Operation”, the occupation authorities continued to impose their siege on Al-Aqsa Mosque, and continued raids into towns and neighborhoods in the city of Jerusalem, carrying out arrests and delivering summons to Jerusalemites.

The Wadi Hilweh Information Center – Jerusalem explained that the occupation authorities continue their siege of Al-Aqsa Mosque, imposing severe restrictions on entry to it and allowing small numbers of worshipers to enter.

The forces are also deployed and stationed at the gates and roads of Al-Aqsa Mosque, erecting iron barriers over them, and checking the identities of all those arriving there.

One of the young men, 32 years old, said: “Today I tried to reach Al-Aqsa through 3 gates, and at each gates my identity was checked through a device with a police officer, and after asking me about the reason for my presence, my place of residence, and my age, I was denied entry into Al-Aqsa.”

The young man – who preferred not to mention his name – added: “Since the war, I have not been able to reach Al-Aqsa and pray there, and when I try to pray alone at one of the gates after being prevented from entering, I am also prevented.”

A 45-year-old woman from the Old City said: “Most of the time I am not allowed to enter Al-Aqsa, and they force me to return to my home, and if I am with my 15-year-old son, he is prohibited from entering,” adding: “Al-Aqsa is considered our second home. We pray and sit in it, and my children study inside it, but the situation changed more than two months ago.”

142 settlers carried out their raids into Al-Aqsa Mosque through the Dung Gate, guarded by the occupation forces.

At the gates of the Old City, especially Damascus Gate, Herods Gate, and Lions Gate, the forces continue to deploy and station themselves at the gates, arresting arrivals, especially young men. One of the young men from the town of al-Tur explained that he was accompanied by his mother and sister to the Old City, and as soon as he entered Damascus Gate, 3 soldiers stopped

him, checked his identity, and asked him several questions about the reason for his presence, and after a thorough physical search, they allowed him to enter.”

The raids on towns and neighborhoods in Jerusalem continued.

The forces also carried out arrests of young men from several neighborhoods in the city, most of them under the pretext of "incitement through social media."