Palestine National Council

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MR. Mohammad Reza Majidi APA Secretary General

Palestine National Council Memorandum On The Occasion Of The 70th Anniversary Of The Catastrophe (Nakba) And Transfer Of US Embassy To The Occupied City Of Jerusalem

The Trump administration, in the context of US clumsy policy, will transfer its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, despite its prior knowledge of the implications of this step, of total disregard for the principles and rules of international legal bodies represented by the United Nations and its affiliated organizations, as well as the decisions and positions of all regional organizations. In this step the American administration is excluding itself from the framework of the international consensus, international legitimacy and even the positions of successive US administration in this regard to become a single, outcast and even rogue state.

The Palestine National Council recalls when Israel illegally declared the west part of Jerusalem its capital since 1950, then in August 1980, it annexed the eastern part of occupied Jerusalem, considering the two parts as its unified capital, the US administrations rejected these actions and did not recognize these unlawful measures regarding them null and void. Since Israel flagrantly violated Resolution 181 (2) of 29/11/1947, which provided for the conversion of Jerusalem and its environs, into an independent status as a separate entity (corpus separatum), as well as UN Security Council resolution 478 of 1980, which considered all administrative and legislative measures taken by Israel, which would lead to a change in the legal status of Jerusalem invalid procedures and of no legal validity.

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This rogue step makes the US administration more biased towards the aggressor and the Israeli occupiers, while ignoring the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people guaranteed, protected under the international law and successive resolutions of international legitimacy.

What is to be noted is the lack of recognition, arrogance and unilateralism by the US administration of the nature of the blow that was directed at it in late December 2017 by the countries of the world, including those known to be loyal to it. It was not only isolated in the Security Council but also in the General Assembly held on 21 December 2017, where 128 states voted in favor of resolution 22.1/10- A/ES. which decided that any change in the city of Jerusalem, its status or composition was null and void, had no legal effect whatsoever. The decision which considered a blow to the US President Donald Trump's declaration to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

The National Council stresses that the insistence of Trump administration on the transfer of the American Embassy to Palestinian territories occupied by Israel represents a justification and legitimization of the gains of occupation, which are rejected by United Nations law, principles and rules of contemporary international relations, which affirm the principle of the obligation of all states not to recognize the occupation's gains of territory of others by force. Thus, Trump is a partner, protector and supporter of Israel, which remains and will continue to be an occupying power, contrary to international law and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, in its settlement policy and to successive resolutions of international legitimacy including Security Council resolution 2334 of 23 December 2016.

The National Council reaffirms that the transfer of the US embassy to Jerusalem is further evidence that the US administration is a state that violates international law governing relations between states. It acts inspired by the illusion of hegemony and dictate on peoples and countries of the world. It does not hesitate or refrain from using the policies of intimidation and exerting pressure even using coercion with states and international organizations, by financial extortion, as if the world and the nations a commodity for sale and purchase, Thus the practices of the American administration are now a serious threat to international peace and security.

Saleem AL-Za'anoon

Palestine National Council