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Recommended Actions in Response to the Violence at Al-Aqsa Mosque

The continued senseless violence at the Al-Aqsa mosque in East Jerusalem is deeply disturbing and deplorable. We strongly condemn such violence against people praying at Al-Aqsa mosque, the third holiest site for Muslims.

Places of Worship are considered as places of peace and tranquillity by all faiths. The sanctuary of Al-Aqsa was brutally violated and the tranquillity shattered by the Israeli forces at the Al-Aqsa mosque when stun grenades landed inside the mosque whilst many Muslims were praying. An attack on a place of worship must be seen as an attack on all of our sanctuaries.

The latest violence brings into sharp focus Israel's sustained campaign to expand illegal settlements and step up forced eviction of Palestinians from their homes in Sheikh Jarrah. The United Nations Spokesperson Rupert Coleville has said that such forced eviction, "may amount to a war crime."

Rubber bullets, tear gas, and stun grenades have been used against peaceful worshippers leaving hundreds of Palestinians injured and many hospitalised in recent days.

The international authorities must uphold the values of human rights and religious freedom and work together to prevent escalation of further violence and restore calm.

We understand that Muslim's across the UK are feeling a sense of helplessness and frustration. We recommend the following actions:

- Engage with your local MP, asking them to urge the UK government to strongly condemn the violence taking place.
- Identify a reputable charity and donate towards the Masjid Aqsa and Gaza appeal.
- Raise awareness by using your social media accounts.
- Make Dua – Never underestimate the power of prayer.

Mosques and Imams National Advisory Board.

About MINAB: MINAB is the Mosque and Imams National Advisory Board. It is an advisory and facilitatory body for good governance in mosques and for improving the performance of Imams and Islamic Teachers through a process of self-regulation based on agreed standards.

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