



Secretariat General

**Speech by
The Arab League Secretary-General
HE Mr. Ahmed Aboul-Gheit
on the Occasion of
the International Day of Solidarity with the
Palestinian People
29/11/2020**

*Translated by
Sarah El-Maghrabi*



Ladies and Gentlemen,

The International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, which was observed by the United Nations General Assembly pursuant to its Resolution of 1977, comes this year under unprecedented circumstances due to the Coronavirus pandemic, which has imposed an additional new challenge on the international community; and has required concerted efforts to address this crisis and protect people worldwide from its severe health, economic and social impacts. However, despite the global concern over the emerging threat, the serious catastrophic consequences of the continued Israeli occupation and deprivation of the Palestinian people from their legitimate and inalienable rights still represent a central issue and a main concern for all the Arab states. The suffering of the Palestinian people, has been increased this year either from the brutality, violations, racist practices, perpetrated by the Israeli occupation, or from the global outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic that has been spread further and exacerbated in the occupied Palestinian territories in light of the occupation authorities' determination to deprive the Palestinian people from their basic human rights to obtain adequate health care services.

The League of Arab States is annually celebrating the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People to emphasize the importance of the question of Palestine to the Arab nation; to send a message of hope and solidarity with the Palestinian people ensuring that the injustice they have witnessed more than seventy years ago, will not last forever and that the occupation will come to an end like all other occupation that history had known.

In fact, history has revealed that any attempt to undermine the rights of the Palestinian people and disregard the principles of international law and international legitimacy resolutions are doomed to failure. In addition, any attempt to impose a fait accompli or propose initiatives and plans that are inconsistent with the principles and international terms of references of the existing peace process, based on the principle of land for peace and in conformity with the vision of the two-State solution will be consigned to history; and that the right of the Palestinian people will remain inalienable and imprescriptible.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We all have to assume our responsibility towards the Palestinian people and their just question; and to continue supporting the international institutions concerned with relief and assistance, especially UNRWA, which provides its humanitarian services in the area of health care, relief and education to more than 5.5 million Palestinian refugees.

Our mission is to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the region through reaching a political solution by the resumption of multilateral credible and serious negotiations with a specific timeframe and international supervision, under the umbrella of the United Nations, based on the relevant international laws and decisions and the Arab Peace Initiative. Moreover, the call by President of the State of Palestine, HE Mahmoud Abbas for holding an international peace conference by the beginning of

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2021 and the clear international response thereof represent an opportunity for restoring security and stability across the region.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, we would like to pay particular and generous tribute to the struggling Palestinian people, who set the finest examples of steadfastness, free will and determination to restore their legitimate right to establish their independent and sovereign State, with East Jerusalem as its capital. We also would like to express gratitude and appreciation to all States and peoples that support the just struggle of the Palestinian people in the face of the expansionist settlement practices of the occupation, particularly the world's honorable stance against Israel's annexation plans. We praise all supporters of the Palestinian people, who emphasize the justness of the question of Palestine across the world, for their courage and solidarity with the Palestinian people, as well as their noble intentions and orientations to achieve freedom and bring justice.

Thank you for your attention.

May Peace, Mercy and Blessings of Allah be bestowed upon you.

*Translated by
Sarah El-Maghribi*