

## Arab Leaders Cement Cooperation on Palestine after Cairo Summit



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Cairo, March 3 (QNA) – Diplomats and experts have emphasized the significance of the emergency Arab summit in Egypt as a critical step toward unifying Arab positions on the Palestinian cause. The summit, scheduled for Tuesday, aims to secure Palestinian rights, including an independent state along the pre-1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

 $In \, statements \, to \, Qatar \, News \, Agency \, (QNA), experts \, highlighted \, the \, roles \, of \, Qatar \, and \, Egypt \, in \, and \,$ 

mediating ceasefire efforts in Gaza and advancing international support for Palestine. They noted that the summit would help shape a comprehensive Arab response to developments in the Palestinian issue, including efforts to secure a lasting ceasefire and initiate reconstruction in Gaza. Ambassador Mohammed Mounir Zahran, Egypt's former permanent representative to the UN in Geneva, described the summit as pivotal, given the severe impact of the ongoing Israeli aggression since October 7, 2023. He commended Qatar-Egypt collaboration, which was instrumental in brokering a ceasefire with U.S. support. Zahran stressed the need for continued efforts to hold Israel accountable for Gaza's destruction and to ensure reconstruction.

Similarly, former Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs Ambassador Hussein Haridi underscored the urgency of a unified Arab stance against the forced displacement of Palestinians. He highlighted Egypt's reconstruction plan for Gaza, which is set to be discussed at the summit. Haridi praised Qatar and Egypt's diplomatic efforts, which he said strengthened international backing for the Palestinian cause.

Ambassador Rakha Ahmed Hassan called the summit "exceptional," as it focuses entirely on Palestine, the Gaza conflict, and reconstruction strategies. He urged the Arab League to push for an international conference to fund rebuilding efforts. Hassan also stressed that securing Palestinian statehood is the key to long-term peace in the region.

Political Science Professor Dr. Hassan Salama echoed these sentiments, calling for strong Arab coordination to prevent forced displacement and protect Palestinian sovereignty. He urged the summit to produce a practical, actionable alternative to counter ongoing threats.

The summit is expected to reaffirm Arab unity in supporting Palestinian rights and outline measures to strengthen diplomatic and humanitarian efforts for Gaza's recovery.