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## Israeli settlers storm Al-Aqsa Mosque amid maximum security measures



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Jerusalem, May 26 (QNA) – Over 1,500 settlers and two ministers in the government of the Israeli entity swooped into the courtyards of Al-Aqsa Mosque on Monday, amid maximum security measures enforced by the Israeli occupation forces.

The two ministers in the Israeli occupation government, Itamar Ben-Gvir and Yitzhak Wasserlauf, along with several members of the Israeli Knesset, were among those who swooped

into Al-Aqsa, Palestine's News Agency (WAFA) reported.

The Israeli settlers performed Talmudic and provocative rituals within the courtyards of the Mosque, contemporaneously with the deployment of iron barricades by the Israeli occupation police around Damascus Gate and the Old City, to restrict the movement of Jerusalemites under heightened military measures.

Eyewitnesses reported that settlers attempted to smuggle what they referred to as "Torah scrolls" into the Mosque via the Moroccan Gate, with hundreds of settlers amassing in Al Buraq Square to the west of the Mosque, as well as at the Cotton Merchants' Gate, where they performed dances and Talmudic rituals.

The settler incursions and the harassment of worshippers have markedly intensified in recent days, amid growing calls from extremist colonial groups, particularly the far-right organization Am KeLavi, for further and more forceful incursions into the Mosque on Monday.

The provocative so-called 'Flag March' is scheduled to commence from Al Buraq Square, proceeding through Damascus Gate and Al Wad Street within the Old City, areas densely populated by Palestinians.

Since Sunday, the Israeli occupation forces have deployed iron barricades in the vicinity of Damascus Gate and at the entrances to the Old City of occupied Jerusalem.

