

May 11, 2021

The <u>Arabic Language Network</u> of the International Alliance of Independent Publishers expresses its strong condemnation of the forced deportation campaign of Palestinians from the "Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood" in East Jerusalem, and the systematic violence and persecution led by the government of Benjamin Netanyahu against Jerusalemites in particular and the Palestinians in general in restoring the "apartheid" policies that the world seeks to overcome.

The <u>recent events in Jerusalem</u> erupted after the increasing attacks of settlers supported by the Tel Aviv government on the Palestinian residents of the Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood in East Jerusalem, with the aim of forcibly displacing them from their homes that UNRWA built for them nearly seventy years ago, which triggered demonstrations in solidarity with the population threatened with expulsion that was faced by the Israeli occupation authorities with extreme violence resulted in the injury of hundreds of Palestinians and the arrest of dozens of protesters.

The Arabic language network of the Alliance, while affirming its full support for the rights of the Palestinian people to establish their independent state, also condemns the Israeli policies that work to change the demographic reality of occupied East Jerusalem, seize the material rights and intangible heritage of the Palestinians, and restrict their religious freedoms and their right to expression and protest.

The Arabic Language Network calls on the rest of the language networks in the International Alliance of Independent Publishers, the publishing community, writers and all intellectuals to show solidarity with the Palestinians who are threatened with expulsion from the "Sheikh Jarrah" neighborhood in Jerusalem and with Jerusalemites who are subjected to systematic discrimination and persecution by the Israeli occupation authorities.