

# **Jews bow in prayer on Temple Mount, violating status quo, as police stand by and watch**

**Police officer ignores Jews bowing in prayer on Temple Mount for second day in a row, defying the status quo which prohibits Jewish worship at the site; A Jew who was praying on western side, near Al-Aqsa Mosque, was detained**

Following Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir's call to allow Jews to pray freely, police appear to have normalized defying the status quo at Temple Mount, under which Jewish worship is prohibited at the site. A police officer ignored a Jewish man who bowed while praying at the holy Jewish site on Wednesday. Jewish activists say that the police allowed them to pray as they wished.

Although the police turned a blind eye in the eastern side of Temple Mount, a Jewish activist was arrested after defying the status quo in the western side, near the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The eastern side is considered to be less provocative and holier to the Jewish people, which would explain the police's attitude to the status quo there. However, the western side is frequented by more Muslims which would prompt the police to arrest any Jew who tries to stir controversy.

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