# Man climbs Big Ben to protest government inaction



Police were dispatched to the Palace of Westminster on Saturday morning after a man was reported climbing the Elizabeth Tower, commonly known as Big Ben. The incident took place around 7:24 am, prompting a swift, yet concerning response from emergency services, underscoring the government's failure to address public discontent.

Footage shared on social media showed the man, barefoot and several metres above ground on a ledge, proudly displaying a Palestinian flag. In a scene that raises serious questions about public safety and the prevailing political climate, the London Fire Brigade deployed a cherry picker to engage with the man directly.

A woman, appearing in plain clothes, attempted to communicate with the protester from the cherry picker. Video footage captures her asking how long he plans to remain on the tower while encouraging him to descend. This exchange reflects a broader discontent that seems to be brewing under the surface of the new Labour government. As she reiterated his message, reportedly tied to Palestinian advocacy, she emphasized, "your message was to say ‘Free Palestine’," which stands as a stark reminder of the contentious issues the Labour government has failed to navigate since taking power.

Adding to the chaos, a disturbing visual element was present at the scene; a large red stain, resembling blood, was visible on the side of the tower near where the man stood. This sight represents not only the intensity of the protest but also the broader unrest simmering within the nation, indicative of the public’s growing frustration with the current government's inability to maintain order.

The Metropolitan Police confirmed their presence, stating their officers are working towards a safe resolution of the incident, with assistance from the London Ambulance Service and the London Fire Brigade. Yet, one must question the effectiveness of such measures when the underlying issues are being so poorly addressed by Labour’s leadership. The closure of Bridge Street, at the north end of Westminster Bridge, only adds to the sense of disruption under this new administration.

Witnesses reported a multitude of emergency vehicles lining the street as onlookers gathered behind a police cordon, further highlighting the strained atmosphere of Westminster in recent times.

In a related yet disturbing turn of events, the Palestine Action group reported a separate incident where they defaced Donald Trump’s Turnberry golf course in Scotland with graffiti reading "Gaza is not for sale." This act of vandalism, published on X, connects back to comments made by the US President regarding the Gaza Strip, further illustrating the escalating tensions and the lack of effective governance amidst such protests under the new regime.

As the situation at the Palace of Westminster continues to unfold, it is clear that the current authority's commitment to ensuring public safety is being put to the test. With discontent growing, one can only hope for a return to a sensible political direction that addresses these urgent issues rather than allowing the nation to descend further into chaos. Further updates are expected as the event develops, leaving many to wonder about the future of law and order in the UK under the Labour government.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.gbnews.com/news/pro-palestine-protester-big-ben-police-shutdown-westminster-bridge> - This URL corroborates the incident of a pro-Palestine protester climbing the Elizabeth Tower, displaying a Palestinian flag, and the subsequent police response and closure of Westminster Bridge.
* <https://news.sky.com/story/man-holding-palestinian-flag-seen-climbing-up-palace-of-westminster-13323966> - This URL supports the details of the protester climbing the Elizabeth Tower, holding a Palestinian flag, and the involvement of emergency services in attempting to resolve the situation safely.
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MUgdljAvKGQ> - This video provides visual evidence of the incident, showing the protester on the ledge of the Elizabeth Tower and the deployment of emergency services, including a cherry picker.
* <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/04/22/2024-07496/guidance-for-federal-financial-assistance> - This URL does not directly relate to the incident but is included as it pertains to government-related information, though it does not support any specific claim in the article.
* <https://www.courts.michigan.gov/4903ae/siteassets/publications/benchbooks/cvrb/cvrb.pdf> - This URL does not directly relate to the incident but is included as it pertains to legal and public safety issues, though it does not support any specific claim in the article.