



Gaza, 10/8/2023

The Palestinian Journalists Syndicate condemns the assassination of journalists Al-Salhi and Lafi and the bombing of press institutions and renews the demand for protection for journalists.

The Palestinian Journalists Syndicate (PJS) condemns the continued Israeli occupation crimes against journalists and the Palestinian media during the recent escalating Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip, which led to the killing of journalists Muhammad Al-Salhi, photographer of “Fourth Authority” news agency, and Ibrahim Lafi, photographer of “Ain Media” agency. This occurred on Saturday morning, during the coverage of the events east of Bureij in the middle of the Gaza Strip and on the security fence established by Israeli security forces in the east of the Strip.

At the same time, contact was lost with journalists Nidal Al-Wahidi from “Al-Najah” channel and Haitham Abdel Wahed, photographer of “Ain Media” agency, while covering the events near the Beit Hanoun checkpoint north of the Gaza Strip.

The PJS call on the International Committee of the Red Cross to intervene to reveal the fate of the missing journalists, especially that the loss of contact with them came after the bombing of a group of citizens near the checkpoint while they were covering the events.

Journalist Ibrahim Qanan, correspondent for Al-Ghad channel, was injured by a missile’s shrapnel that targeted Nasser Hospital in Khan Yunis, south of the Gaza Strip, also journalist Salah Abu Salah was injured by another missile’s shrapnel at East Abasan. Furthermore, Journalist Saleh Al-Masry and his wife were injured during bombing in Gaza City, and the house of the director of “Zaman” radio, journalist Rami Al-Sharafi, was destroyed, while the house of the “Al-Quds Today” channel’s broadcaster Basil Khair Al-Din was destroyed as well.

Moreover, complete or partial destruction targeted some media institutions, including: the headquarters of the “Al-Ayyam” newspaper, the “Fadl Shanaa” Foundation, “Shehab” Agency, “Gaza FM” radio in the “Palestine Tower”, and the headquarter of Ma’an Agency was also exposed to serious damage during the destruction of Watan Tower at Al-Jalaa Street.

As the PJS condemns these crimes against journalists and press institutions, it renews its demand for the necessity of providing protection for journalists and press institutions

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from the attacks and war of the Israeli occupation, especially since the policy of destruction and killing has become a systematic policy committed by the Israeli occupation against journalists and press institutions.

Finally, the PJS asserts that the Israeli occupation leaders' evasion of all their crimes and violations against journalists and media outlets in Palestine is what encouraged them to continue and escalate in committing more crimes, as is happening in Palestine and its capital Jerusalem. This calls for urgent action and the continuation of the procedures taken by the International Criminal Court in investigating the case of journalists Shireen Abu Aqleh, Ahmed Abu Hussein and Yasser Murtaja, in order to form a real deterrent to the Israeli occupation.

Palestinian Journalists Syndicate