

Israel murders Gaza journalists

On the morning of 10 August 2025, the 28-year-old Al Jazeera Arabic Correspondent, Anas Al-Sharif, was doing what he had done since the first days of the Gaza onslaught — reporting from the frontlines, armed only with a camera and a press vest.

With three other Al Jazeera journalists and two freelancers he was sheltering in a tent outside the main gate of Al-Shifa Hospital. A missile struck the tent and killed them all.

The Israeli military bragged that the strike was deliberate. Their justification? The same recycled accusation used in killing over 220 journalists since October 2023: that the victims were “terrorists in press vests”.

In reality Israel shot this team of messengers, hoping to control what the world will know as the invasion of Gaza City looms.

Remember Shireen

In May 2022 veteran Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh was shot in the head during an Israeli army raid in the occupied West Bank. The IDF first claimed she was shot by Palestinian fighters.

In September 2022 the Israeli military admitted it was ‘highly probable’ an Israeli soldier ‘mistakenly’ killed the journalist.

In October 2023 a UN inquiry concluded the IDF “intentionally or recklessly” killed her.



A Syrian journalist holds up a picture of Anas al-Sharif during a protest in Idlib, Syria, against the killing of journalists in Gaza. Photo: Ahmad Fallaha/EPA

Condemned across the world

The United Nations, European Union and press freedom groups condemned the latest killings. The Committee to Protect Journalists said journalists should never be targeted and described the attack as a war crime. They warned last month of acute danger to Anas's life as the IDF stepped up online attacks on him. These smears were a death threat in response to his coverage of Gaza.

According to Brown University's *Costs of War* project, more journalists have been killed in Gaza since 7 October 2023, than in the US Civil War, World Wars I and II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the wars in the former Yugoslavia and the post-9/11 war in Afghanistan – combined.

Slaughtering journalists to hide the truth

The killing of al-Sharif and his colleagues is “really murder,” says Irene Khan, U.N. special rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression. “It is not killing in the context of war. It is a deliberate strategy to stop independent voices reporting.”

Israel has denied preventing the entry of aid, deliberately destroying hospitals, killing Gazans queuing for food. Exposing the lies is dangerous work.

Palestinian journalists are making sure we get the truth. We deserve the truth. They don't deserve to die.