

#### **Palestine in the News**

#### A weekly overview of the most relevant developments on Question of Palestine (QoP)

Issue No. 50 (25/2022)

7 July 2022

A weekly newsletter on the latest news, developments, relevant publications, And upcoming events on the QoP. This newsletter aims to help the members of the Global Network on the Question of Palestine (GNQP) to stay informed of legal, academic, political, and humanitarian developments, and be ready for action when needed.

In the Spotlight	<u>1</u>
Palestine/Israel	3
Regional	<u>5</u>
International	
Palestinian Refugees and UNRWA	<u>6</u>
Analysis & Opinions	<u>7</u>
Publications and Statements	<u>9</u>

#### In the Spotlight

### Palestinians Furious at Tepid US Findings on Journalist's Killing, Al-Monitor, July 6, 2022.

Reactions from the ground are coming in following the results of the ballistic test performed by the United States on the bullet that killed Palestinian journalist Shireen Abu Akleh.

# In Response to A US Report, The Israeli Rights Group, B'Tselem, Says the Killing of Journalist Abu Akleh Is a Crime, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, July 5, 2022.

The Israeli human rights organization, B'Tselem, said yesterday that the Israeli army killing of Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh should be looked at as a crime, not simply a "result of tragic circumstances."

# Palestine Rejects US Dismissal of Israel as The Party Responsible for Killing Journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, WAFA News Agency, July 5, 2022.

The State of Palestine rejected the United States' dismissal of the Israeli occupying forces' intentional targeting of Palestinian journalists on 11 May 2022, which resulted in the killing of Shireen Abu Akleh and injury of Ali Sammoudi, as mere "tragic circumstances" and not an intentional war crime.

# 'US-Backed Israeli Whitewash': Abu Akleh Probe Sparks Anger, ALJAZEERA, July 4, 2022.

US State Department says the investigation could not conclusively determine the origin of the bullet that killed the journalist.

## U.S. 'Insults Shireen's Memory' By Spinning Her Killing For Israel — Abu Akleh Family Says, Mondoweiss, July 4, 2022.

The Biden administration needs to get Israel's killing of journalist Shireen Abu Akleh out of the headlines before he goes to Israel and Palestine next month, so today, July 4th, the State Department issued a <u>statement on the killing that is as weasely as they get.</u> We can't tell anything from the misshapen bullet the Palestinians turned over. Yes it looks like Israel killed the Palestinian American journalist on May 11. But they were fighting terrorists. It was tragic and not intentional.

# Al Jazeera: Bullet that Killed Abu Akleh Examined at US Embassy; Israelis Present, THE TIMES OF ISRAEL, July 4, 2022.

Results of forensic analysis expected Monday, network reports; fatal round is returned to the Palestinian Authority

Prime Minister Shtayyeh Accuses Israel of Using Withheld Palestinian Corpses in Experimental Labs, WAFA News Agency, July 4, 2022.

Israel is using withheld corpses of Palestinians for use in laboratories of medical schools in flagrant violation of human rights, today said Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh.

#### PA Official Tells 'Post' The Palestinians' 5 Demands for Biden, <u>THE</u> JERUSALEM POST, July 3, 2022.

The Palestinian Authority told the Post they want Israeli Prime Minister Yair Lapid to meet with PA President Mahmoud Abbas as soon as possible.

### Israel to Examine Bullet That Killed Al Jazeera Journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, THE JERUSALEM POST, July 3, 2022.

It was previously reported that the bullet that killed Shireen Abu Akleh would be given to US experts for investigation.

### International Federation of Journalists to File Lawsuit Against Israel in Int'l Criminal Court, WAFA News Agency, July 3, 2022.

Member of the Executive Board of the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), Ali Youssef, said today that the federation will be a partner in the lawsuit filed against the Israeli occupation in the International Criminal Court.

### Palestinians To Hand Bullet That Killed Shireen Abu Akleh to US, ALJAZEERA, July 2, 2022.

Palestinian officials say bullet given to US experts for testing, received 'guarantees' Israel would not be involved.

### Bullet That Killed Al-Jazeera Reporter to Be Handed to the US, Says PA, THE JERUSALEM POST, July 2, 2022.

Abu Akleh, 51, was a US citizen who worked for Al-Jazeera for the past two decades.

# Israel Radicals May Spark 'Religious War' If Al-Aqsa Status Quo Changed, Waqf Says, THE NEW ARAB, July 2, 2022.

Israeli radicals may cause a 'religious war with ominous consequences for Israel, the Jordanian-run Jerusalem Islamic Waqf cautioned on Saturday.

### US Presbyterian Church Declares Israel 'Apartheid State', Designates Nakba Remembrance Day, THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE, July 1, 2022.

The US Presbyterian Church voted on Tuesday at its 225th General Assembly to declare Israel an "apartheid state" and designate a Nakba Remembrance Day within their calendars, The New Arab reported.

US Presbyterian Church Declares Israel 'Apartheid State', Create Nakba Remembrance Day, THE NEW ARAB, June 30, 2022.

The US Presbyterian Church declared Israel an 'apartheid state' and voted to designate a Nakba Remembrance Day within their calendars at the church's 225th General Assembly.

#### Palestine/Israel

### Settlers Assault Palestinian Family South of Hebron, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, July 7, 2022.

Israeli settlers today assaulted a Palestinian family in Birin village, southeast of Hebron city, according to a local activist.

### Israel Orders Halt on House Construction South of Tubas, <u>WAFA News</u> Agency, July 7, 2022.

Israeli forces today ordered a halt on the construction of a house in Khirbat Atuf locality, southeast of Tubas, according to a local activist.

#### Israeli Army Infiltrates Gaza's Border, Level Land, <u>WAFA News Agency</u>, July 7, 2022.

The Israeli army today infiltrated Gaza's eastern border, east of al-Maghazi refugee camp, and leveled a tract of farmland, according to WAFA correspondent.

### Newspaper Review: Palestinian Killed by Israeli Gunfire near Jenin Focus of Dailies, WAFA News Agency, July 7, 2022.

News about the Palestinian youth was shot dead by the Israeli soldiers in the occupied West Bank city of Jenin hit the front pages of the three Arabic Palestinian dailies on Thursday.

### **'BREAKING: Israeli Forces Gun Down Palestinian South of Jenin, WAFA News Agency, July 6, 2022.**

Israeli forces Wednesday morning gunned down a Palestinian youth in the town of Jaba', south of the occupied West Bank city of Jenin, according to security sources.

# Israeli Forces Kill Young Palestinian Man Near Jenin, <u>The Palestine</u> Chronicle, July 6, 2022.

Israeli forces on Wednesday morning killed a Palestinian young man in the town of Jaba', south of the occupied West Bank city of Jenin, the official Palestinian news agency WAFA reported.

### Palestinian Killed by Israeli Forces in Occupied West Bank, <u>AlJazeera</u>, July 6, 2022.

Rafeeq Riyad Ghannam was killed early on Wednesday in the town of Jabaa, south of Jenin, during an Israeli army raid.

Israeli Army Kills Palestinian Worker Near West Bank Wall, Middle East Eye, July 5, 2022.

Ahmad Harb Ayyad's family claims he was beaten to death by Israeli soldiers while attempting to cross into Israel to reach his workplace.

#### Man Stabbed near Givat Shmuel in Suspected Terror Attack, <u>The</u> Jerusalem Post, July 5, 2022.

47-year-old man in serious condition with multiple fractures Initial reports unclear if attack is terror related victim and assailant did not know each other.

#### 'We Will Fight for Justice': Abu Akleh Family Slams Killing Probe, ALJAZEERA, July 4, 2022.

Abu Akleh's niece tells Al Jazeera her aunt was killed 'intentionally' by Israeli forces, disputing US-announced report.

#### Israeli Forces Raid Silwad After Palestinian Teenager's Funeral, <u>THE NEW</u> ARAB, July 3, 2022.

Israeli forces clashed with Palestinian gunmen in Silwad, east of Ramallah, two days after the town mourned a 16-year-old whose body the Israeli army withheld for a week.

### Israel Accused of Negligence as Palestinian Woman Dies in Israeli Prison, THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE, July 2, 2022.

Palestinian detainee Saadia Farajallah, 68, died Saturday morning in the Israeli prison of Damon, the Palestinian Prisoner's Society (PPS) said in a statement.

### Israeli Forces, Jewish Settlers Attack Protests in Sheikh Jarrah, <u>THE PALESTINIAN CHRONICLE</u>, July 2, 2022.

Israeli forces detained five Palestinians during the weekly anti-expulsion protest in Sheikh Jarrah, while Jewish settlers assaulted the protesters, the Middle East Monitor reported.

### Israeli Forces Prevent Al-Aqsa Mosque Guard from Entering Compound (VIDEOS), THE PALESTINIAN CHRONICLE, July 1, 2022.

Israeli police on Thursday barred an Al-Aqsa Mosque guard from entering the al-Aqsa mosque compound in Jerusalem's Old City for one week, the official Palestinian news agency WAFA reported.

# Jewish Settlers Set Lands on Fire near Bethlehem, <u>THE PALESTINIAN</u> <u>CHRONICLE</u>, July 1, 2022.

Extremist Jewish settlers on Thursday set Palestinian-owned lands on fire in the village of Husan, near the city of Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank, the official Palestinian news agency WAFA reported.

#### Regional

#### President Mahmoud Abbas Meets Algerian Counterpart in Algiers, <u>WAFA</u> News Agency, July 6, 2022.

President Mahmoud Abbas Wednesday met his Algerian counterpart Abdelmadjid Tebboune in Algiers.

#### Israel Continues to Violate Rights of Palestinian Journalists: NGO, <u>MIDDLE</u> EAST MONITOR, July 3, 2022.

An Arab NGO has documented 44 Israeli rights violations against Palestinian journalists in the occupied Palestinian territories during the month of June, Anadolu Agency reported.

#### International

#### Unilever Decision Spotlights Crackdown on US Palestinian Activism, AlJazeera, July 6, 2022.

Palestinian rights advocates say Unilever's decision to sell Ben & Jerry's business to Israeli firm is part of a larger push to punish solidarity with Palestinians.

#### France's Macron Urges New Israel PM to Make Historical Peace with Palestinians, AlArabiyah News, July 5, 2022.

France urged Israel's new prime minister, Yair Lapid, on Tuesday to restart peace talks with the Palestinians, but Lapid played down such prospects, citing rightist elements in his caretaker government ahead of a November election.

## Shireen Abu Aqla: US Report on Journalist's Death Unacceptable, Family Says, BBC News, July 5, 2022.

Shireen Abu Aqla's brother has heavily criticised a US report that concluded unintentional Israeli qunfire was likely to have been responsible for the Palestinian-American reporter's death.

# US: Israeli Gunfire 'Likely' Killed Abu Akleh, Though Maybe 'Unintentionally', <u>The Palestine Chronicle</u>, July 4, 2022.

The US State Department said on Monday that the analysis of the bullet that killed Palestinian journalist Shireen Abu Akleh last May "could not reach a definitive conclusion regarding [its] origin," Israeli media reported.

# Anti-Apartheid Groups Urge UK Prime Minister to Scrap Anti-BDS Bill, Protect Right to Boycott, WAFA News Agency, July 2, 2022.

Anti-apartheid organizations based in the United Kingdom have urged the country's Prime Minister Boris Johnson to scrap the recently introduced anti-BDS bill that would restrict the right of public bodies to launch boycott campaigns against the Israeli occupation.

#### UN Human Rights Office Urges Israel to Respect Human Rights of Palestinians in West Bank, THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE, July 2, 2022.

The UN Human Rights Office in the occupied Palestinian territory (OPT) said it was alarmed by the impact of intensified Israeli forces' operations on the right to life of Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and urged Israel to respect human rights law during military activity in the West Bank, the official Palestinian news agency WAFA reported.

### EU Dismisses 'Terrorism' Smear, Resumes Funding for Two Palestinian NGOs, THE PALESTINE CHRONICLE, July 1, 2022.

The European Union (EU) has resumed funding to two prominent Palestinian human rights groups, more than a year after suspending support for six Palestinian organizations labeled terrorists by Israel, the Middle East Monitor reported.

#### Blinken and Abbas Discuss Ties, Upcoming Biden Visit, Palestinian President's Office Says, HAARETZ, June 30, 2022.

Though Palestinian officials hold little hope of progress on demands they had presented to the Americans, including reopening the U.S. consulate in East Jerusalem, Biden's visit may be a step toward long-term diplomatic processes, a statement from Abbas' office read

#### **Palestinian Refugees and UNRWA**

#### The Poverty Spiral, UNRWA, July 4, 2022.

"When I stopped working, I could no longer make the rent I owed the landlord. I heard from people about this area we live in now, and because of the miserable situation, I had no choice but to bring my family here. As you can see, we live in something like a stall. We live on a garbage landfill – in the literal sense of the word." Mahmud Farwana (63) is a Palestine refugee living in the Nahr el Bared area in Khan Younis in the south of Gaza. Before the blockade was imposed on the Gaza Strip 15 years ago, he was working in construction and able to support his family of 12 well.

# AECID Delegation Visits UNRWA Installations in Jordan and West Bank, WAFA News Agency, July 2, 2022.

A high-level delegation from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) concluded yesterday a two-day visit to United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) installations in Aida refugee camp in the occupied West Bank and Baqa'a refugee camp in Jordan.

# High-Level Delegation From Spanish Agency For International Development Cooperation Visits UNRWA Installations In Jordan And The West Bank, UNRWA, July 2, 2022.

A high-level delegation from the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), headed by the Agency's Director Antón Leis García, accompanied by members from AECID in Jordan and from the occupied Palestinian Territory, concluded a two-day visit to United

Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) installations in Aida Camp in the occupied West Bank and Baqa'a Camp in Jordan.

#### **Analysis & Opinions**

# US Ambiguity Over Abu Akleh's Killing Ensures Israel's Impunity Remains Unchallenged, (Nasim Ahmed), Middle East Monitor, July 6, 2022.

A "forensic analysis" by the US Security Coordinator (USSC) has concluded that shots fired by an Israeli occupation solider "was likely responsible for the death of Shireen Abu Akleh", the US State Department said yesterday in a statement on the killing of the Palestinian-American journalist by an Israeli sniper in May.

# Israel's Impunity Is Boosted By The US Whitewash Of Shireen Abu Akleh's Killing, (Romana Wadi), Middle East Monitor, July 6, 2022.

The Palestinian Authority's refusal to hand over the bullet which killed Palestinian journalist Shireen Abu Akleh was short lived. So was any hypothetical expectation of justice from an Israeli investigation supervised by the US. According to the Israel Defence Forces (IDF), Israeli soldiers did not fire deliberately at Abu Akleh in Jenin on 11 May, thus refuting accusations of her death being an extrajudicial killing.

#### Biden Is Making a Big Mistake With the Abraham Accords, (Dahlia Scheindlin), HAARTETZ, July 5, 2022.

No one expects Biden to spend political capital (or even much time) on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict during his upcoming Mideast trip. But as Israel and its new Gulf allies fast-track ties, excluding the Palestinians feeds disturbing trends.

# For Everyday Palestinians, Abu Akleh Affair Proves They Can't Trust the U.S. – or Abbas, (Jack Khoury), <u>HAARTETZ</u>, July 5, 2022.

The American conclusion on the death of Al Jazeera's Shireen Abu Akleh reinforces the Palestinians' lack of trust in their government, which they believe too often sides with Israel.

### The U.S. Wanted to Leave the Abu Akleh Affair Behind, but It Remains Unresolved, (Amos Harel), <u>HAARTETZ</u>, July 4, 2022.

Given the Israeli public feeling about the death of Shireen Abu Akleh, it's unlikely an Israeli criminal probe will be opened.

### Israeli Apartheid: The Power Of The Frame, The Shame of The Name, (Robert Herbst), Mondoweiss, July 4, 2022.

In the last two years, in a carefully researched and documented confluence of reports, UN, Israeli, regional and international human rights organizations have concluded that the facts on the ground – both in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and in the entire land of Israel-Palestine – amount to the crime of apartheid. B'Tselem, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, the United Nations Special Rapporteur for human rights in the occupied Palestinian territory, Yesh Din, and the Harvard Law School International Human Rights Clinic

have all adopted the apartheid name and framing, concluding that Israel is an apartheid regime, committing an international crime and a crime against humanity in its systematic oppression of Palestinians.

### Israel's Arab Citizens Must Learn Negotiating in Uncertainty - Opinion, (Robert Cherry), THE JERUSALEM POST, July 3, 2022.

Mansour Abbas' efforts with the change government showed a steady hand in negotiating complex situations. This is not only what Arab citizens need but what Israel needs.

for a Jewish state. Israelis and Palestinians Must Acknowledge Each Other's Identity - Opinion, (Michael M. Cohen), <u>THE JERUSALEM POST</u>, July 2, 2022.

There is something unsettling about this era's zeitgeist. "Unhinged" in many ways describes this period of history, including: the acute climate crisis, a pandemic that will not fade gently into the night, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and the fraying of democracy.

### The Fact and Fiction of Masafer Yatta - Opinion, (Naomi Linder Kahn), <u>THE JERUSALEM POST</u>, July 2, 2022.

The State of Israel has allowed its own delusions – that it can gain Arab and international approval by compromising our national interests – to cause massive local and international damage.

### BDS Supporters Should Stop The One-State Talk And Help J Street, 'New York' Magazine Advises, (Philip Weiss), Mondoweiss, July 1, 2022.

Ross Barkan, a writer with progressive credentials, has advice for the BDS campaign in New York Magazine. Throw in with J Street and two-state "moderates" who focus on the occupation. Help out Rep. Andy Levin's embattled campaign in Michigan and Donna Edwards's in Maryland. Give up on the one-state talk. You will only set the movement for freedom in Palestine back because it is unrealistic, and Washington will never go there. The right of return and talk of "genocide" put moderates off. Israel is a "more complex" case than South Africa. There is broad "global support".

# If The Detention Of An Israeli Soldier Is A War Crime, What About The Thousands Of Palestinian Civilians?, (Motasem A Dalloul), MIDDLE EAST MONITOR, July 1, 2022.

Early this week, the Izzedine Al-Qassam Brigades released a short video footage showing an Israeli soldier it is holding as a prisoner of war, Hisham Al-Sayed, lying on bed and strapped to a ventilator.

### Is this the end of UNRWA? (Dalal Yassine), <u>THE ELECTRONIC INTIFADA</u>, June 30, 2022.

In his April 2022 message to Palestinian refugees, Philippe Lazzarini, commissioner-general of UNRWA, the UN agency for Palestine refugees, said the agency is "cash-strapped" and that it

has become "almost customary" for the person in his position to "beg for help if we want the services to continue."

### Israel's Vicious Response To Ben And Jerry— 'Antisemites'— Is A Wakeup Call for American Jews, (Jonathan Ofir), Mondoweiss, June 30, 2022.

"The antisemites will not win over us. Not even with ice cream"

This was the victorious tweet of Yair Lapid, Israel's Prime Minister as of tonight, upon publication of the news by Ben & Jerry's parent company Unilever, that it has decided to sell its production rights of Ben & Jerry's to the local Israeli producer Avi Zinger, owner of American Quality Products. So, Ben& Jerry's ice cream will continue be produced in Israel and distributed throughout the illegal settlements, merely without the English logo, and instead with a Hebrew and Arabic one. This was the "arrangement" reached by Unilever after Ben & Jerry's announced last year that they would stop selling their ice cream in Israeli settlements, and an ensuing legal battle involving the highest political echelons.

#### **Publications and Statements**

Palestine's Legal Scene | Issue. 130 | 26 june-2 July 2022, <u>Law for</u> Palestine, July 3, 2022.