

THE MURDER OF SHIREEN ABU AKLEH

Another voice for Palestine muted



A CLOSER
LOOK

TASNEEM TAYEB

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“OCCUPATION forces storm Jenin and besiege a house in the Jabriyat neighbourhood. On the way there, I will bring you news as soon as the picture becomes clear,” emailed Shireen Abu Akleh to Al Jazeera at 6:13 on Wednesday morning. The news never came. Abu Akleh was killed in cold blood by the Israeli forces when she went to cover their raid in a refugee camp in Jenin in the occupied West Bank. Out of nowhere, she was shot in the face by the Israeli forces, without any confrontation with them or any form of provocation. The blue flak jacket Abu Akleh was wearing was clearly marked with the word “PRESS.”

A video footage of the incident shows Abu Akleh lying on the ground, her face smeared with blood—she suffered skull fractures and cerebral laceration—when she was being rescued by the local Palestinians. Later, the Israeli military raided her home, perhaps as an act to intimidate her family, friends and the greater Palestinian community into silence.

While this “shocked” the world, it did not seem to have the same effect on the Israeli apartheid regime, who initially tried to put it on the Palestinians, saying stray firing from them could have caused Abu Akleh’s death. “According to the data we currently have, there is a considerable chance that armed Palestinians, who fired wildly, are what led to the unfortunate death of the journalist,” tweeted Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett. Later, though, they had to resort to a reverse statement with Israel’s military chief, Lt Gen Aviv Kochavi, saying they were not clear who shot Abu Akleh.

And it does not come as a surprise that for Israel, this is perhaps only

business as usual, because Abu Akleh is not the first Palestinian journalist who has been killed by Israel—nor is she going to be the last, unfortunately. According to the Palestinian Journalists Syndicate (PJS), since 1967, when West Bank and Gaza were occupied by Israel, 86 Palestinian journalists have been killed. In the last two years alone, six Palestinian journalists have been killed



in the occupied Palestinian territory. Recently, the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), the PJS, and the International Centre of Justice for Palestinians filed a complaint with the International Criminal Court for “systematic targeting of Palestinian journalists” by the Israeli forces.

Reporters without Borders (RSF) suggested that 144 Palestinian journalists had been hit with “live rounds, rubber bullets, stun grenades or tear gas fired by Israeli soldiers or

▲ **Palestinians bid farewell to Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh after a state service in Ramallah in Israel-occupied West Bank on May 12, 2022.**

PHOTO: REUTERS

police,” in the occupied Palestinian territory since the beginning of the weekly Great March of Return protests in 2018. And one would remember the bombing of the offices of Al Jazeera and Associated Press (AP) in May last year in the besieged Gaza Strip, during the 11-day attack by Israel. And the lack of adequate and proportionate response by the international community after every

the US and EU, among others, have released statements condemning the killing. While the US Department of State shamelessly welcomed the investigation that was announced by Israel—the culprit investigating whether it committed the crime or not—saying the apartheid regime “has the wherewithal to conduct a thorough investigation,” US Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib suggested that the US government should investigate the killing. But the US itself is one of the strongest allies of the criminal regime and provides them with weapons and the resources to carry out such heinous crimes. The irony of these two-faced statements is not lost on people. If anything, the templated condemnations and hollow words from the international community only expose their hypocrisy.

Had Abu Akleh been a Ukrainian journalist and Russian forces committed the same crime, would the response from the world community be the same? Certainly not. There would be immediate UNSC meetings, Nato discussions, a barrage of sanctions and other measures in place by now, to say the least. But for a Palestinian journalist, perhaps only a few thoughtless words suffice. And no one is asking Israel: What was its military doing, conducting a raid inside the Palestinian territory? Such illegal acts by Israel have become normalised, because they have been allowed by the international community to get away with even worse crimes—invading another’s territory, ethnic cleansing, and grossly flouting international territorial and human rights conventions—over the decades.

But people are watching both Israel and the world, and their constant and bloody attempts—directly and through tacit support—to suppress the Palestinians and deny them their right to self-determination.

Shireen Abu Akleh was a journalist, whose only fault was that she was in the right place, at the right time, doing her job of exposing the truth. By killing her, Israel has once again sent a message to the journalists who are risking their lives every day to give a voice to the Palestinians, and to the Palestinians: That they shall be forced to remain voiceless.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send us your letters to letters@thedailystar.net

Celebs should opt for ethical advertising

Advertising plays a vital role in promoting products of different brands and companies, and drawing the consumers’ attention. We learn of many new products and brands from these advertisements. But apparently there is a substantial shortage of quality products. How would we know if the products that are promoted are of good quality? In most cases, models and celebrities take part in such advertisements—perhaps without verifying the quality of the products they endorse for public consumption. Ordinary people, influenced by the assurances they get from their favourite celebrities, buy these products, and many of them feel deceived after using most of



these products. Therefore, I think before endorsing a product in any advertisement or TV commercial, celebrities and models should learn about the quality of the products they are trying to sell,

and only endorse good quality products.

Mohammad Nader Hossain Bhuiyan
Feni Government College

Government of The People’s Republic of Bangladesh Office of The Director Chattogram Medical College Hospital www.cmch.gov.bd

Memo No.CMCH/Re-Tender/2021-2022/e-GP/6286

Date: 12-05-2022

e-GP Re-Tender Notice

This is an online tender, where only e-tenders will accepted in e-GP portal and no offline/ hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-tender, please register on e-GP system portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). For more details, please contact support desk contract numbers. e-Tender are invited in e-GP system portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Brigadier General Md. Shamim Ahsan, Director, Chattogram Medical College Hospital, Chattogram for the Procurement of:

SL. No.	Tender Id	Name of Goods	Tender/ Proposal Last Selling Date & Time	Tender/ Proposal Closing Date & Time	Tender/ Proposal Opening Date & Time
1	696661	Procurement of Leverage for the Financial Year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
2	696662	Motor Vehicle Repair for the Financial Year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
3	696663	Furniture Repair for the Financial Year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
4	696664	Procurement of CC Camera and Others for the financial year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
5	696665	Procurement of Electro Surgical Unit (Diathermy Machine) for the fiscal year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
6	696666	Procurement of Ultrasound & Color Doppler System for the fiscal year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
7	696667	Procurement of ENT Operating Microscope for the fiscal year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
8	696668	Procurement of Money Counting Machine for the fiscal year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
9	696669	Procurement of ECG Machine for the fiscal year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
10	696670	Procurement of Single Chamber Temporary External Pacemaker Generator for the fiscal year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
11	696671	Procurement of Instrument for Cervical Spine Surgery for the fiscal year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
12	696672	Procurement of High-Speed Drill Electrical System for Neurosurgery for the fiscal year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
13	696673	Procurement of Fully Automated Coagulometer with computer, Monitor & Printer for the fiscal year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00
14	696674	Repair of MSR Equipment & Electro-medical Equipment for the fiscal year 2021-2022	23-May-2022 16:00	24-May-2022 13:00	24-May-2022 13:00

For pursuer e-Tender details can be downloaded on e-GP system portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). e-tender will be accepted only as stated in above list, accepted tenders will be opened online as stated in above list.


(Brigadier General Md. Shamim Ahsan)
Director

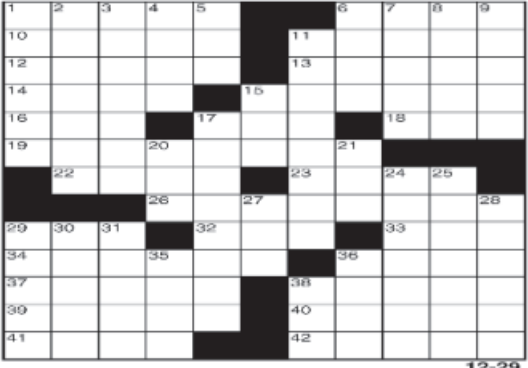
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GD- 967

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- ACROSS
- 1 Mall businesses
6 Rum-soaked cake
10 Jeweler’s unit
11 Talked at length
12 Heeds
13 Rocker John
14 Farm litter
15 Allergy sign
16 Greek vowel
17 King Kong, for one
18 Kinsey topic
19 Levee items
22 See the sights
23 Mystique
26 Clutches
29 Attack command
32 Take to court
- 33 Custodian’s tool
34 Shortly
36 “Peter Pan” pooch
37 Off limits
38 Army healer
39 Labor group
40 Blow away
41 Stock holders
42 Copier need
- DOWN
- 1 Defendant in a 1925 trial
2 Animal’s area
3 Pizza herb
4 Forks over
5 Ave. crossers
6 Hay bundle
7 Pays to play
- 8 Hard stuff
9 Building wing
11 Outlaw
15 Hotel amenity
17 Scrape
20 “Well, that’s obvious!”
21 Sonar user
24 Month of fasting
25 Worry
27 Fruitcake bit
28 Keyboard bar
29 Crunch kin
30 Plain silly
31 Woodland home
35 Derisive calls
36 Nautilus captain
38 Yoga need

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TUESDAY’S ANSWERS

