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SHAMS center calls for cancelling death penalty

Ramallah: Human Rights and Democracy Media Center "SHAMS" appealed to the Palestinian president Mr. Mahmoud Abbas in order not to endorse a death sentence, issued by the Court of First Instance in Gaza Strip yesterday. Against the citizen (M/H) due to penal Procedures law No. (3) of 2001 article (409) which stipulates " it is not permitted to execute death sentence unless the president of the state endorses it".

SHAMS center mentioned that death penalty contradicts international conventions which emphasize the right to life like article (3) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article (6) of the International Covenant on Political and Civil Rights. And the second optional protocol of the International Covenant on Political and Civil rights, article (6) annexed to the European Court of Human Rights and Basic Freedoms, protocol no. 13 annexed to the European Court, Palestinian Basic Law and Palestinian National Plan of Human Rights.

The center stresses that the sentence conflicts with the approaches of the State of Palestine in accession to the international treaties related to human rights and international approaches to cancel death penalty. It is worth mentioning that UN United General Assembly voted on 19th of December of 2014 on resolution no. A/RES/69/186 which sets forth stopping death penalty, and this indicates that approaches toward canceling death penalty is irrevocable. The resolution has got the support of the majority of countries, 38 countries opposed it while 34 countries abstained and 4 counties were absent.

The center also clarified that penal legislations in Palestine is unique since penal procedures in Palestine differ due to the diverse political and administrative systems which have ruled Palestine. for the period following the elapsing of the Ottoman Management over Palestinian territories, until the establishment of Palestinian National Authority after the interim accords.

Human Rights & Democracy Media Center

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