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**A statement for immediate release issued by  
Human Rights and Democracy Media center "SHAMS"  
On the occasion of World Press Freedom Day**

**2015 is year of delivering truth for the whole world despite of the Israeli cruelty**

"SHAMS" center **appeals to** international organizations to immediately stop Israeli violations and breaches against journalists. Israeli forces has continued infringements upon journalists in terms of arresting 19 journalists, and the recent one was Omar Nazal the member of Secretariat General and Board of Palestinian Syndicate of Journalists. In addition to (407) violations against Palestinian Journalists, focusing on dangerous ones against their lives during their duty to affect their performance. This disclose the Israeli efforts to abandon mass media and journalists away from events so as to conceal crimes and practices.

Based on the statistics of MADA center, majority of Israeli violations focused on 20 types, and considered as the most serious and critical ones on media and journalists. Represented in killing, breaches, injury, moving to administrative detention, confiscation of devices, hacking websites, using journalists as human shields and closure of media institutions. Furthermore, recent times have witnessed closing 3 radio stations in Hebron: Alhurriya platform, Hebron Radio and dream Radio. And breaking through Palestine Today Space channel and Trans Media Company in Ramallah. Israeli forces also closed Alqanah office in the West Bank, prevented the staff from working and arresting 2 of the employees. Additionally, the Israeli government put pressure on management of the French Satellite "eutelsat" in March 2016 to stop the broadcasting of Al-Aqsa Channel accused of abetment.



"SHAMS" center **believes** that real contributions for media outlets in defending human rights require independent and free press since the relationship between mass media and human rights is controversial. It is worth noting that effective media enhances and influences democracy and is affected by democracy. Such media is based on efficient civil society, opposition powers inside the community which play a role in promoting democratic culture and political movement. Based on oversight, revealing the truth, combating corruption and utilizing power and authority. Accordingly, media institutions should reflect community priorities, aspirations and concerns through programs, drama, films, investigations and news. Moreover, the role of media outlets in promoting and disseminating the culture of human rights rely on the property of mass media, intellectual approach it refers to, editing policies, agenda and message of the institutions, being close to the political system and objectivity.

"SHAMS" center **calls** the participants in the International Conference for the freedom of Press to be held in Ad Dar AL Bayda city in the Kingdom of Morocco in 2-4-2016 for standing beside the Palestinian journalists against Israeli violations. Headed by Mr. Gem Bumelha the president of International Federation of Journalists, his deputy Mr. Germy Dir and Mr. Abdulla Albaqali, the head of National Syndicate for Moroccan Journalism as well as presidents of Arabic Federation of Journalists. To support Palestinian journalists, protecting them and to reveal Israeli excesses.

"SHAMS" center **salutes** journalists, media figures and bloggers who defend their career and protect the concerns of their nations honestly. The center also appreciates Palestinian journalists in addition to Arabic and international journalists from several news agencies who delivered the truth and revealed the Israeli violations against the Palestinian people. Additionally, they delivered their message professionally and strongly and they assume influential role in mobilizing the public opinion and standing beside the Palestinians.

"END"