

IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

BY Human Rights & Democratic Media Centre "SHAMA"

Calls for the Ministry of Education in the dismissed government to put an end to require students to wear uniforms

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center "**SHAMS**" is extremely worried of the procedures adopted by the dismissed government in Gaza Strip to compel secondary female students in the Gaza Strip to wear uniforms and special clothing, this procedure severely conflicts with the personal liberty of the individual, and an interference in private life that confiscates privacy and freedom of choice guaranteed by the Basic Law and by relevant international conventions.

"**SHAMS**" calls upon the Ministry of Education in the dismissed government in Gaza to reconsider this illegal action, which represents a blow to civil liberties, and collides with customs and traditions of Palestine. These measures will open a pointless debate within the different segments of the society and will distract attention from our basic and important concerns.

"**SHAMS**" reminds of the tolerant teachings of Islam based on the good advice, compassion, tolerance, moderation and advocacy in the best manner, and refuses at the same time to resort to force and coercion.

"**SHAMS**" emphasizes that these illegal actions that would give a negative impression of Islam as a religion, and harm the cultural image of the people and their cause will also be used as a material evidence of politicizing Islam.