

Statement For immediate release

From the Human Rights and Democracy Media Center (SHAMS)

Condemning the Israeli decision to deport PLC Jerusalem members and revoke their Jerusalem residence

The "**SHAMS**" Center considers the Israeli government decision to revoke the Jerusalem residence of the Palestinian Legislative Council PLC members (Mohamad Abu Tair, Ahmad Atwan, Mohamad Totah and Khalid) and issue them ultimatums to leave Jerusalem, and even threatened to deport them by force if they don't voluntarily leave the city. The Israeli decision was coupled with revoking their identity cards and depriving them from their right to stay in Jerusalem.

The "**SHAMS**" Center stresses that these Israeli measures are illegal and violate Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that states "(1) Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state. (2) Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country". They also violate the Geneva IV Convention relative to the protection of civilian person at time of war, of August 12th 1949; particularly Article (49) that states "Individual or mass forcible transfers, as well as deportations of protected persons from occupied territory to the territory of the Occupying Power or to that of any other country, occupied or not, are prohibited, regardless of their motive".

The "**SHAMS**" Center reminds that these occupation measures are considered a violation to the core basic rights enshrined in the related international conventions and agreements, and that they constitute a breach to the agreements signed between the PLO and Israel, and that, such measures are part of systematic practices by the occupation state aimed at judizing Jerusalem and ethnic cleansing the city of the Palestinian citizens.

The "**SHAMS**" Center calls for discussing coordination and cooperation mechanisms between the civil society organizations, mainly human rights organizations, so as to consolidate stands in resisting this unjust decision, and further calls for approaching friendly organizations, Arab and international parliaments to pressure the occupation government to stop its systematic practices aiming at evacuating the land of its indigenous inhabitants.

The End