



5/7/2018

**A statement for immediate release issued by Human Rights and
Democracy Media Center "SHAMS"
On inflicting death penalty upon a citizen by the Court of First Instance
in Gaza**

"SHAMS" center strongly **deplores** inflicting death by hanging upon the citizen (Y.B) a resident in Gaza city, by the Court of First Instance in Gaza Strip on July 5th of 2018 after he was found guilty of murder. This sentence is considered as the first following Palestine's instrument of accession to the Second Optional Protocol annexed to International Covenant on Civil and Political rights of 1989 deposited on 6/6/2018.

"SHAMS" center **stresses** that capital punishment is a criminal breach and a civic maltreatment since the death penalty isn't the solution for addressing security or criminal challenges. Also it represents a state of "flight forward" as the government seeks to resolve something. capital punishment is a gross violation against the right to life and is considered as the top inhumane degrading penalty, due to the fact that it is irreversible.

"SHAMS" center **appeals to** World Coalition against Death Penalty, to support the Palestinian Coalition against Death Penalty, to combat the capital punishment in the Palestinian territories and empower it towards defending the right to life. In light of flout and disregard for the citizens souls, embodied by inflicting death sentences and implementing it against the law and constitution.

"SHAMS" Center **calls for** respecting efforts made by the Palestinian leaders aiming to accede to additional human rights conventions which guarantee the right to life. The center calls PNA to sign the Second Optional Protocol Annexed to International Covenant for Political and Civil Rights of 1989, on the abolition of death penalty. It urges the president Mahmoud Abbas in order not to ratify death sentences, and to employ his constitutional powers to abolish death penalty from Palestinian legislations

"END"