



2020/11/3

**A statement issued by Human Rights and Democracy Media
Center "SHAMS"**

About sentencing a citizen to death by hanging

Human Rights and Democracy Media Center **"SHAMS"** in Palestine condemns the issuance of death sentence by hanging by the Court of First Instance in North Gaza on Monday 2/11/2020, against the citizen (S / A) on the charge of intentionally killing the citizen Abdel Fattah Ahmed, contrary to the articles of Palestinian law. Where the citizen Abdel Fattah was killed on 10/10/2016 by hitting him in the head area with a stick and a stone.

With this ruling, the number of death sentences has increased to (14) death sentences since the beginning of this year and until the time of issuing this statement, and (15) death sentences since the accession of the State of Palestine to the Second Optional Protocol to the 1989 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, related to the abolition of the death penalty .

"SHAMS" Center reminds that there is a strategy recently adopted by the Supreme Judicial Council based on expediting the completion of murder cases pending before the judiciary and not allowing the lengthening of litigation procedures, which would affect the rights of the defendants to a fair trial, including their right to defend themselves Accordingly, the Center calls on the de-facto authorities in the Gaza Strip to set plans, strategies and policies that will reduce the real causes that drive citizens to do such actions, including poverty, unemployment, and the violation of public and private rights and freedoms.

"SHAMS" Center stresses its principled stance against the death penalty, and its absolute rejection of all arguments and reasons advanced by the de facto authorities in the Gaza Strip, foremost among which is achieving general deterrence and ridding society of the evils of (criminals) ... etc., of illogical reasons and justifications, Therefore, the Center calls on the de facto authorities in the Gaza Strip to immediately stop issuing death sentences in the Gaza Strip, respect the



international obligations of the State of Palestine, and not kill people in the name of justice .

"END "