



[Five More Journalists Killed by Israel Again with U.S. Weapons and Political Cover](#)

Israeli forces have drawn global outrage yet again for conducting two consecutive bombings on the Nasser Hospital in Gaza earlier this week which killed more than 20 people, including journalists and rescue workers. The heinous attacks saw Israel strike the top floor of a building housing patients at the medical complex before bombing the same exact spot a second time minutes later after rescue workers and journalists had rushed to help those wounded at the scene of the crime. This latest incident follows the deplorable targeted assassination of six journalists just a couple of weeks ago in an attack on a media tent outside Gaza City's Al-Shifa Hospital. Rights groups have documented how Israel has repeatedly and systematically bombed hospitals and murdered journalists in Gaza, with observers calling for an end to the impunity that allows these intentional criminal acts to continually be carried out. Regrettably, in the absence of any form of accountability or justice, occurrences such as these are likely to take place again and again.

The undeniable Israeli pattern of targeting journalists has been clearly aimed at trying to suppress independent reporting shedding light on its war crimes and human rights violations. Since Israel has not allowed international media outlets into Gaza to report freely, the world relies on local Palestinian reporters to provide documented first-hand accounts and factual coverage. These journalists have courageously put themselves in harm's way to do so, being subjected to starvation and has been seen at alarming levels, potential death. The international community's failure to act firmly and decisively to stop these unlawful killings has been made even more woeful considering not only the repeated nature of this behavior, but also the fact that it often takes place with documented video evidence. In the case of this most recent killing of journalists and rescue workers, a livestream by Al Ghad TV captured what transpired in real time on camera. The footage showed several emergency workers responding to provide assistance to victims of the first strike near the top floor of Nasser Hospital while a number of journalists filmed in the background as well. Shortly after, these individuals are brutally murdered when a second strike directly hits them, sending smoke and rubble into the air. Medical workers on the ground described scenes of total chaos, disbelief, and fear, given the blatantly intentional killing that had unfolded for all to see.

This latest incident has understandably prompted many to question if and when concrete punitive measures are going to be enacted to stop these kinds of crimes from continuing to take place. As the head of one press freedom group put it, "When and where is it going to end?...There is international law and guarantees that should be granted to journalists covering conflicts, and none of that seems to be applying." Others lamented how these broadcasted killings of journalists persist while the world watches and expressed that this most recent occurrence must serve as a watershed moment to spur global action. In response to this week's abhorrent double strikes on Nasser Hospital, top editors from Reuters and the Associated Press sent a joint letter to Israeli officials demanding an explanation for the attacks and voicing their outrage at them. Ultimately, U.S. officials warrant a significant share of the culpability for these repeated Israeli violations, as they certainly would not be made possible without the seemingly ceaseless supplying of weapons and political cover.

Israel's criminal actions in Gaza even prior to this week's murder of journalists and rescue workers had already prompted rights organizations to label the conflict there as by far the single deadliest one on record for journalists. At least 270 journalists have been killed in Gaza since the onset of the war back in October of 2023 – which is more

media workers than both World War I and World War II, the U.S. Civil War, the Vietnam War, the Korean War, the War in the former Yugoslavia, and the U.S. War in Afghanistan combined. This is proof of the clear systematic targeting and killing of journalists that so many have tried to draw attention to during the course of the past 22 months. Impactful measures that go beyond merely words of denunciation must be taken if the global community is to finally put an end to these repeated flagrant violations of international law and war crimes. A failure to do so would be a dereliction of the world's moral and legal duty to protect journalists, medical workers, and other civilians.