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# Al Jazeera journalist Samer Abudaqa killed in Israeli attack in Gaza

*Family, friends, colleagues attend funeral of cameraman who was killed in Israeli drone attack in Khan Younis.*

15 Dec 2023

- (1) Al Jazeera Arabic journalist Samer Abudaqa has been killed and his colleague Wael  
(2) Dahdouh was wounded in an Israeli attack in Khan Younis, southern Gaza. [1]
- (3) Cameraman Abudaqa and correspondent Dahdouh were reporting at Farhana school  
(4) in Khan Younis when they were hit by an Israeli strike on Friday. [2]
- (5) Rescue teams were unable to immediately reach Abudaqa and others at the site due  
(6) to Israeli bombardment. [3]
- (7) “Rescuers just managed to retrieve the cameraman Samer Abudaqa’s body,” a  
(8) spokesperson for the media network said. [4]
- (9) Dahdouh was hit by shrapnel on his upper arm, and managed to reach Nasser  
(10) hospital where he was treated for minor injuries. [5]
- (11) Witnesses said earlier there was heavy shelling in the area around the school. [6]
- (12) Wael Dahdouh says the network’s crew was accompanying civil defence rescuers on  
(13) a mission to evacuate a family after its home was bombed. [7]
- (14) “We captured the devastating destruction and reached places that had not been  
(15) reached by any camera lens since the Israeli ground operation started,” Dahdouh  
(16) said from his hospital bed. [8]
- (17) As the Al Jazeera journalists were heading back on foot because the areas were not  
(18) accessible by car, Dahdouh said “something big” happened that knocked him to the  
(19) ground. [9]



losion, Dahdouh said he pressed on his wounds and walked out of the  
elp, but by the time he reached an ambulance, medics said they could  
the site of the attack because it was too dangerous. [10]

(23) Subsequent efforts to coordinate a safe passage to send rescuers for Abudaqa were  
(24) delayed, Dahdouh said, adding that one ambulance that tried to reach the  
(25) cameraman came under fire. [11]

(26) Many Palestinians from the central and northern parts of Gaza have sought shelter  
(27) in Khan Younis since the war began in October. Many have now been pushed  
(28) further south towards the strip's southernmost city of Rafah after Israel intensified  
(29) its military operations in Khan Younis. [12]

(30) The attack comes amid violent clashes between Palestinian fighters and the Israeli  
(31) army in locations across Gaza. Residents reported fighting in Shujayea, Sheikh  
(32) Radwan, Zeitoun, Tuffah, and Beit Hanoon in north Gaza, east of Maghazi in  
(33) central Gaza and in the centre and northern fringes of Khan Younis, according to  
(34) the Reuters news service. [13]

(35) The Al Jazeera Media Network condemned the attack and extended its condolences  
(36) to Abudaqa's family in Gaza and Belgium. [14]

(37) "The Network holds Israel accountable for systematically targeting and killing Al  
(38) Jazeera journalists and their families," a statement read. [15]

(39) "In today's bombing in Khan Younis, Israeli drones fired missiles at a school where  
(40) civilians sought refuge, resulting in indiscriminate casualties," the network said.  
[16]

(41) "Following Samer's injury, he was left to bleed to death for over 5 hours, as Israeli  
(42) forces prevented ambulances and rescue workers from reaching him, denying the  
(43) much-needed emergency treatment," the statement added. [17]

(44) In late October, Wael Dahdouh lost four of his family members in an Israeli air  
(45) raid. [18]

(46) His family had been seeking refuge in Nuseirat camp in the centre of Gaza when  
(47) their home was bombed by Israeli forces, killing his wife, Um Hamza, his  
(48) 15-year-old son, Mahmoud, his seven-year-old daughter, Sham, and his grandson,  
(49) Adam, who died in hospital hours later. [19]



## untability

tee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) said it was "deeply saddened" and  
independent investigation into the attack. [20]

(52) The press freedom group says the conflict in Gaza is the deadliest for journalists it  
(53) has ever recorded. [21]

(54) “We’re outraged by the high price, I would say the extreme price, that Palestinian  
(55) journalists are paying,” the CPJ’s Carlos Martinez de la Serna told Al Jazeera,  
(56) adding that there was a “clear prevailing sense of impunity.” [22]

(57) “We need international, independent investigations to assess all these killings and  
(58) those responsible need to be accountable,” said de la Serna. “It’s essential to  
(59) remember that journalists under international humanitarian law are civilians, and  
(60) the obligation on all parties involved in the war is to protect them, and what we’re  
(61) seeing, is that journalists are being killed.” [23]

(62) The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) said it was “shocked” at the  
(63) attack. [24]

(64) “We condemn the attack and reiterate our demand that journalists’ lives must be  
(65) safeguarded,” it said in a post on X. [25]

(66) An IFJ report published last week found that 72 percent of journalists who died on  
(67) the job this year were killed in the Gaza war. [26]

### **‘A professional, strong team’**

(68) The two journalists have worked together with Al Jazeera Arabic since before the  
(69) war. [27]

(70) “[Samer] and Wael make up a very professional, strong team on the ground,  
(71) documenting everything and bringing all the facts and live pictures of what the  
(72) Palestinian people have been going through,” Hani Mahmoud said. [28]

(73) “But particularly with this war, given its intensity in scale and magnitude and the  
(74) sheer amount of destruction, they have been at the forefront of covering every little  
(75) detail that one might have forgotten about,” he added. [29]



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# Al Jazeera Cameraman Killed and Bureau Chief Injured in Gaza

The journalists were covering the aftermath of airstrikes at a U.N. school-turned-shelter in Khan Younis. The bureau chief's wife, son, daughter and grandson had been killed in October.

By Gaya Gupta, Traci Carl and Ephrat Livni  
Dec. 15, 2023

(1) An Al Jazeera cameraman was killed and the network's Arabic-language Gaza Strip  
(2) bureau chief was wounded on Friday during an attack in southern Gaza, Al Jazeera  
(3) said, the latest in a long string of journalist casualties in the war. [1]

(4) The cameraman, Samer Abu Daqqa, and Wael al-Dahdouh, the bureau chief, were  
(5) covering the aftermath of airstrikes at a U.N. school-turned-shelter in Khan Younis  
(6) when both were wounded, the network said. Mr. al-Dahdouh told Al Jazeera that he  
(7) was able to walk out of the area and seek help. Mr. Abu Daqqa bled to death from his  
(8) injuries, as emergency medical help was unable to reach him, the network said. [2]

(9) Mr. Abu Daqqa, 45, was the 13th Al Jazeera journalist killed since the network  
(10) opened in 1996, according to Al Jazeera. [3]

(11) His funeral was held in Khan Younis on Saturday. Al Jazeera televised part of his  
(12) funeral, where Mr. al-Dahdouh spoke alongside dozens of other colleagues, family  
(13) members. Fellow journalists, including Mr. al-Dahdouh, wept in anguish, some  
(14) caressing the cameraman's bloodied face. His press flak jacket and blue helmet  
(15) rested atop his shrouded body. Mr. al-Dahdouh accused Israeli forces of targeting  
(16) dozens of journalists, their offices and their families. "We will continue to do our  
(17) duty with the best professionalism and transparency," despite the targeting of  
(18) journalists, he said. "We will carry our message." [4]

(19) The Israeli military said that it "has never, and will never, deliberately target  
(20) journalists," and it takes "operationally feasible measures" to protect civilians and  
(21) journalists. Khan Younis is one of three areas that Israel has said it is targeting in its  
(22) battle to eradicate Hamas from Gaza. [5]

(23) In October, Mr. al-Dahdouh's wife, son, daughter and infant grandson were killed at  
(24) the Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza, where they had been sheltering.



awad, Al Jazeera's managing editor, described Mr. Abu Daqqa as "a  
e soul" whose photography "captured the raw and unfiltered reality  
a."

[6]

t of truth, our cameraman faced immense risks to bring viewers a  
standing of the human experience in Gaza," he said in a post on social



(30) media. “His lens became a window into the lives of those affected by conflict,  
(31) shedding light on stories that needed to be told.” [7]

(32) According to the Committee to Protect Journalists, a nonprofit organization based  
(33) in New York that defends the rights of journalists around the world, 64 journalists  
(34) and media workers have been killed in Gaza since the war between Israel and  
(35) Hamas began on Oct. 7, more than in any other similar period of time since the  
(36) group started collecting data in 1992. [8]

(37) The C.P.J. defines journalists as “people who cover news or comment on public  
(38) affairs through print, digital, broadcast media and other means,” and media  
(39) workers as essential support staff, including translators, drivers and fixers. The  
(40) group has said it does not include people in its tallies if there is evidence of their  
(41) “acting on behalf of militant groups or serving in a military capacity at the time of  
(42) their deaths.” [9]

(43) According to the C.P.J.’s data, some of the 64 killed in Gaza were freelancers and  
(44) did not work for traditional news outlets, and its website noted that it was unclear  
(45) whether all of them were covering the conflict at the time of their deaths. Israel and  
(46) Egypt have largely prevented international journalists from entering the enclave  
(47) since the conflict began; Hamas, which controls Gaza, has long restricted what the  
(48) news media there can cover.  
(49) Carlos Martínez de la Serna, C.P.J.’s program director, said the organization was  
(50) concerned about “the pattern of attacks on Al Jazeera journalists and their  
(51) families.” [10]

(52) In a statement, Al Jazeera blamed Israel for Friday’s attack in Khan Younis and for  
(53) “systematically targeting and killing Al Jazeera journalists and their families.” It  
(54) urged “the international community, media freedom organizations, and the  
(55) International Criminal Court to take immediate action to hold the Israeli  
(56) government and military accountable.” [11]

(57) John Kirby, a White House spokesman, said he was not aware of any evidence that  
(58) Israel was intentionally targeting journalists, who he said must be protected.  
(59) “It’s never acceptable to deliberately target them, as they do such vital, dangerous,  
(60) dangerous work,” he said, adding, “That’s a principle that we’re going to continue  
(61) to abide by.” [12]

(62) International watchdogs have said that an Israeli strike on Oct. 13 that killed a  
for the Reuters news agency and injured six other journalists was a  
k carried out by the Israeli military. Earlier this year, a C.P.J. report  
one had been held accountable for nearly 20 journalists killed by the  
y since 2001. [13]





# Gaza death toll surpasses 25,000 as Israel escalates assault

*UN chief António Guterres denounces Israel for the 'heartbreaking' deaths of Palestinian civilians in Gaza.*

21 Jan 2024

(1) The Palestinian death toll in Israel's assault on Gaza has surpassed 25,000, according  
(2) to the Ministry of Health in the territory. [1]

(3) Ministry spokesperson Ashraf al-Qudra said on Sunday that 178 people had been  
(4) confirmed killed in the previous 24 hours, with the death toll in more than three  
(5) months of Israel's war on Gaza reaching 25,105. [2]

(6) The Israeli bombardment began after Hamas's surprise attack on southern Israel on  
(7) October 7 killed at least 1,139 people, according to an Al Jazeera tally based on  
(8) official Israeli statistics. Around 250 other people in Israel were taken hostage by  
(9) Palestinian armed groups. [3]

(10) Reporting from Rafah in southern Gaza, Al Jazeera's Hani Mahmoud said there was  
(11) intense ground fighting near a key hospital in Khan Younis on Sunday. [4]

(12) "Snipers have taken positions in high-rise buildings, shooting people on the street  
(13) below. People in [Nasser] hospital have no place to go," said Mahmoud, adding that  
(14) "It's street-to-street, house-to-house fighting." [5]

(15) The previous day, Israeli shelling east of the Jabalia refugee camp in northern Gaza  
(16) killed four Palestinians and injured 21 others, according to the Palestine Red  
(17) Crescent Society. [6]

## 'Heartbreaking' deaths: UN chief

(18) United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres denounced Israel for the  
(19) "heartbreaking" deaths of Palestinian civilians in Gaza. [7]



itary operations have spread mass destruction and killed civilians on a  
edented during my time as secretary-general," Guterres said at the  
he G77+China summit in the Ugandan capital of Kampala. [8]

(23) Guterres told Al Jazeera that the resolution to the decades-long Israeli-Palestinian  
(24) conflict lies in “the acceptance of the right of the Palestinians to statehood and the  
(25) acceptance of a two-state solution”. [9]

(26) The comments come a day after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu  
(27) doubled down on his opposition to Palestinian statehood. [10]

(28) At least 62,681 people have been wounded in the Israeli assault on Gaza, according  
(29) to Palestinian authorities. [11]

(30) Some 85 percent of the territory’s population has been displaced, with thousands  
(31) sheltering in UN-run camps in the southern part of the coastal enclave in squalid  
(32) conditions. [12]

(33) The UN has said there are “famine-like” conditions in Gaza as around one in four of  
(34) the population of 2.3 million people face extreme hunger. [13]

(35) Only a fraction of the aid needed has been delivered due to fighting and severe  
(36) Israeli restrictions on shipments. [14]

(37) Women and children are the biggest victims in the war, according to the UN. [15]

(38) Netanyahu has vowed to keep up the offensive until Hamas is wiped out, with Israel  
(39) also ramping up fighting on other fronts, sparking fears of tensions boiling over  
(40) regionally. [16]

SOURCE: AL JAZEERA AND NEWS AGENCIES



# U.N. Chief Says Gaza Death Toll is ‘Unacceptable’ as It Passes 25,000

Palestinian authorities said on Sunday that more than 25,000 people had been killed in the Gaza Strip in the Israel’s military response to the Oct. 7 attacks.

By Matthew Mpoke Bigg  
Jan. 21, 2024

(1) Israel’s military operation in Gaza has led to destruction and killing on a scale that is “utterly  
(2) unacceptable,” the United Nations’ secretary general, António Guterres, said on Sunday as  
(3) Palestinian authorities said that the death toll in the territory since the start of the campaign  
(4) had surpassed 25,000. [1]

(5) Mr. Guterres called for an immediate humanitarian cease-fire in Gaza that would allow aid to  
(6) to reach all those in need, and to facilitate the release of hostages taken during an attack on  
(7) Israel led by Hamas on Oct. 7, during which Israeli authorities say around 1,200 people were  
(8) killed. More than 100 hostages remain in captivity. [2]

(9) In response to the Oct. 7 attack, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu began a campaign of  
(10) airstrikes in Gaza and a ground invasion in a bid to eradicate Hamas. The government also  
(11) declared a siege of Gaza, which has a population of about 2.2 million people. [3]

(12) Israel’s government says that civilian casualties are a tragedy, but it argues that it bombards  
(13) residential areas because Hamas hides its forces among the civilian population and has built  
(14) an extensive network of tunnels, some of them beneath hospitals. It also says that it warns  
(15) civilians to move to areas away from the fighting. [4]

(16) Almost all of Gaza’s population has been displaced because of Israel’s military campaign,  
(17) and international groups say the aid that is making it into Gaza is a small fraction of what is  
(18) necessary to stem the humanitarian crisis that has played out over the last three months. [5]

(19) “This is heartbreaking,” Mr. Guterres said about the loss of life. He was speaking in the  
(20) Ugandan capital, Kampala, during a summit that aims to increase trade and investment  
(21) between nations in parts of the world that are less economically developed. [6]

(22) “The Middle East is a tinderbox,” he said. “We must do all we can to prevent conflict  
(23) igniting across the region.” [7]



said the destruction and civilian death toll in Gaza — which includes more  
staff members killed — were more severe than any that had occurred since he  
urrent post in 2017. In comparison, the United Nations says the fighting in  
h has also caused immense military losses, has killed at least 10,000 civilians  
of Russia’s full-scale invasion. [8]

(29) In a further indication of the casualty toll, the British charity Save the Children said this  
(30) month that Israel's military operation had killed 10,000 children, and that thousands more  
(31) were missing and presumed buried under the rubble. [9]

(32) The United Nations and aid groups cite the Palestinian health ministry's casualty toll in  
(33) their reports, though those numbers have at times been the subject of debate. That is in  
(34) part because officials in Gaza do not distinguish between civilians and fighters, and because  
(35) the level of destruction has made it difficult for them to provide an accurate accounting.  
(36) U.S. and Israeli government officials have sometimes cast doubt on the casualty numbers,  
(37) though they have not in recent weeks systematically challenged the ministry's figures. [10]

(38) Palestinian authorities also say that more than 62,000 people have been injured in the war.  
(39) The head of the United Nations World Health Organization's operation in Gaza and the  
(40) West Bank said that many of them are children who have had limbs amputated and will  
(41) need continued care. [11]



# Gaza baby girl saved from dead mother's womb dies in incubator

*Sabreen al-Rouh Jouda dies just days after her mother, father and sister were killed in Israel attack on Rafah.*

26 Apr 2024

(1) A premature Palestinian baby, who was saved from her mother's womb after she  
(2) was killed in an Israeli attack in the Gaza Strip, has died after days in an  
(3) incubator. [1]

(4) Sabreen al-Rouh Jouda died in a Gaza hospital on Thursday after her health  
(5) deteriorated and medical teams were unable to save her, said her uncle, Rami  
(6) al-Sheikh Jouda. [2]

(7) Dr Mohammad Salama, head of the emergency neonatal unit at Emirati Hospital  
(8) in the southern Gaza city of Rafah, who was caring for the baby girl, also  
(9) confirmed her death on Friday. [3]

(10) "I and other doctors tried to save her, but she died. For me personally, it was a  
(11) very difficult and painful day," Salama told the Reuters news agency. [4]

(12) The girl's mother, Sabreen al-Sakani, was rushed to hospital after an Israeli air  
(13) strike hit the family's home in Rafah on Saturday. [5]

(14) The girl, who was named Sabreen after her mother, was rescued through a  
(15) Caesarean section after her mother succumbed to her injuries. [6]

(16) Al-Sakani, who was 30 weeks pregnant, was killed along with her husband and a  
(17) young daughter. [7]

(18) The Israeli military said it was targeting Hamas fighters and infrastructure in  
(19) the attack, which predominantly killed women and children. [8]

(20) Weighing just 1.4kg (3.1 pounds), the baby was in severe respiratory distress  
(21) because she was born prematurely. She was being cared for in an incubator in a  
intensive care unit. [9]



while her respiratory system wasn't mature, and her immune  
ry weak and that is what led to her death. She joined her family as  
l Salama, the doctor. [10]

(26) The baby girl's uncle told The Associated Press that she was buried next to her  
(27) father on Thursday. [11]

(28) "We were attached to this baby in a crazy way," he said, speaking near her grave  
(29) in a cemetery in Rafah. [12]

(30) "God had taken something from us but given us something in return", said the  
(31) uncle, with the baby surviving after her family died. [13]

(32) "But [now] he has taken them all. My brother's family is completely wiped out.  
(33) It's been deleted from the civil registry. There is no trace of him left behind." [14]

(34) The baby is among more than 14,000 children who have been killed in Israeli  
(35) attacks on Gaza since the war began on October 7. [15]

(36) More than 34,300 Palestinians across the besieged Palestinian enclave have  
(37) been killed. [16]

(38) Despite international calls to end the conflict, Israeli leaders have said they plan  
(39) to move ahead with a ground assault on Rafah. [17]

(40) About 1.5 million Palestinians are sheltering in the southern city, which was  
(41) previously designated as a "safe zone". [18]

SOURCE: AL JAZEERA AND NEWS AGENCIES



# Baby Born in Gaza After Her Mother Was Killed Has Died

The birth of the girl, captured on video, brought a glimmer of hope to war-torn Gaza, but she died of respiratory problems after five days, her uncle said.

By **Hiba Yazbek**

Reporting from Jerusalem

April 26, 2024

(1) A baby who was delivered through an emergency cesarean section after her mother  
(2) was killed in an Israeli strike died on Thursday, a relative said, less than a week after  
(3) news of her birth brought a glimmer of hope to war-torn Gaza. [1]

(4) The baby, who was born prematurely after a strike in southern Gaza that also killed  
(5) her father and sister, suffered respiratory problems, and doctors were unable to save  
(6) her, said her uncle, Rami al-Sheikh. [2]

(7) “I buried her in her father’s grave,” he said in a phone interview on Friday. [3]

(8) The mother, Sabreen al-Sakani, was killed along with her husband, Shukri, and their  
(9) 3-year-old daughter, Malak, when an Israeli strike hit their home in the city of Rafah  
(10) shortly before midnight last Saturday. Rescue crews took the bodies to the Emirati  
(11) Hospital in Rafah, where doctors performed a cesarean section on Ms. al-Sakani,  
(12) who was 30 weeks pregnant. [4]

(13) The girls’ uncle said that Malak had wanted to name her little sister Rouh, the  
(14) Arabic word for soul. The extended family decided instead to name her after her  
(15) mother, Sabreen. [5]

(16) Sabreen weighed just three pounds at birth, said Dr. Mohammed Salama, head of  
(17) the neonatal intensive care unit at Emirati Hospital. Her birth was captured on  
(18) video by a journalist from the Reuters news agency, who filmed doctors providing  
(19) artificial respiration to her after she emerged, pale and limp, from her mother. [6]

(20) Instead of a name, doctors initially wrote, “The baby of the martyr Sabreen  
1 a piece of tape across her chest. [7]



as delivered into a tragic situation,” Dr. Salama told Reuters, adding,  
baby survives, she was born an orphan.” [8]