

Family and friends honor Shireen Abu Akleh on first anniversary of her murder



Ramallah, May 11 (RHC)-- One year after veteran Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh was killed by Israeli forces, no one has been brought to justice for her murder. The journalist – beloved by viewers across the Middle East and the world – was killed by an Israeli sniper on May 11, 2022, while

covering an Israeli raid in the Jenin refugee camp. Demands for justice for Shireen's killing have so far remained unanswered.

In December, Al Jazeera Media Network asked the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate but no action has been taken. The network conducted a six-month investigation to gather evidence for the request, which included witness accounts and video footage, among other material.

The United States has had a shifting position on the killing of one of its citizens, with State Department spokesman Ned Price telling reporters at the time: "We oppose it in this case ... We maintain our longstanding objections to the ICC's investigation into the Palestinian situation."

The U.S. position has been that the killing of Shireen was by Israeli gunfire and that it has "no reason to believe that this was intentional". But this was not the result of an investigation by Washington, which her family has long called for, but rather a "summation" of Israeli and Palestinian investigations by the U.S. security coordinator.

The network said it will continue to "ensure her killers are held accountable, including through the International Criminal Court in The Hague", in a statement on Thursday.

In Doha, Qatar, Al Jazeera staff attended a memorial event where her legacy as a reporter with the 24-hour Arabic news channel was commemorated.

In the occupied West Bank, a foundation stone will be laid for a museum dedicated to her in Ramallah.

Bir Zeit University will soon announce three winners of a media award named after Shireen.

On Tuesday, hundreds attended a cultural memorial organised by the Popular Art Center (PAC), a Ramallah-based Palestinian cultural organisation.

On Sunday, hundreds of Shireen's friends and family gathered in Beit Hanina, occupied East Jerusalem, for a memorial mass in her honor.

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