Israel kills Palestinian man standing on roof of his home

Sameer Aslan was killed during an Israeli army raid on the Qalandiya refugee camp in occupied East Jerusalem.

Ramallah, Occupied West Bank, January 12 (RHC)-- The Israeli army has killed a Palestinian man as he was standing on the roof of his home during a raid on a refugee camp in occupied East Jerusalem, according to Palestinian officials.

Sameer Aslan, 41, was pronounced dead on Thursday at dawn by the Palestinian Ministry of Health, which said he was shot in the chest in the Qalandiya refugee camp.

Officials told Al Jazeera that Aslan, a father of eight, was shot by an Israeli sniper while standing with other family members on the roof of their home watching the raid. He was killed about 10 minutes after his 17-year-old son, Ramzi, was arrested by the Israeli army from their home.

Following the arrest, "the whole family went up to the roof to see what was happening when they heard loud screams and that one of their other sons was injured", Zakariya Fayyaleh, an official with the Palestinian Authority, which runs the camp, told Al Jazeera.

"Sameer, his wife, three of the daughters and several of the sons were on the roof when an Israeli sniper fired at the family and shot Sameer directly in the chest," he continued. "His sons carried him down and tried to take him to the hospital. A large army force stopped them and put Sameer down on the ground. They left him bleeding on the ground for a while before they let us take him again – he passed away upon arrival at the hospital," continued Fayyaleh.

Videos shared by residents and local media outlets, verified by Al Jazeera, show Aslan lying on the ground surrounded by Israeli soldiers.

"Sameer was one of my closest friends, I had a brotherly relationship with him," Fayyaleh said, adding that Aslan worked at a butcher shop in the town of al-Ram. The official added that the manner in which the Israeli army had raided the Qalandiya refugee camp was "unprecedented", describing it as a "frenzied and fierce attack."

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