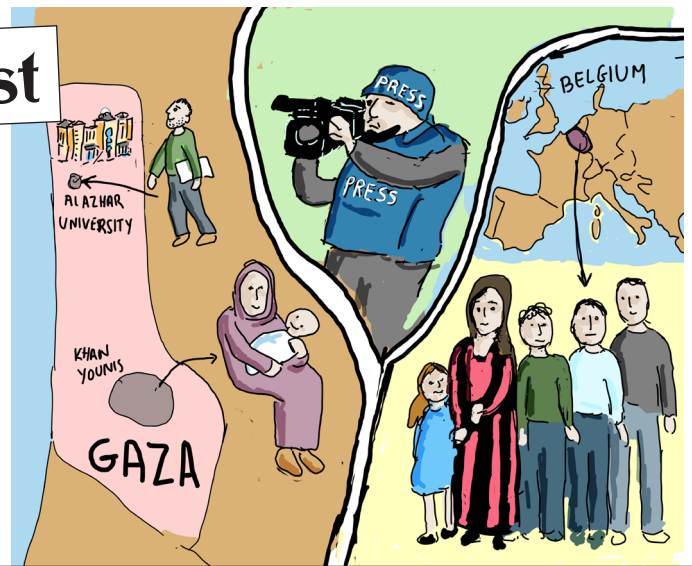


Samer, Photojournalist



Samer Abu Daqqa was a 45-year-old Palestinian photojournalist. He was working for Al Jazeera at the time of his death, on December 15, 2023.



He was born in Khan Younis, southern Gaza, and studied journalism at Al-Azar University in Gaza. He held Belgian nationality, and his wife and children, a daughter and three sons, lived in Belgium.

AL JAZEERA



He decided to work in Gaza during the war that Israel launched in October 2023. He was on the team of Wael Al Dahdouh, Al Jazeera's chief journalist in Gaza, whose wife, two of his children, and a grandson had been murdered by Israel shortly before.



They went to cover the bombing of the Al Farhana school in Khan Younis, where many Palestinians were sheltering. They were accompanied by three civil protection workers and had requested permission from the Israeli forces. The bombing had killed at least 20 people.



Once inside the school, they were fired upon by a drone, which killed the staff and injured the two journalists. Wael managed to leave the school despite his injuries and reach Nasser Hospital, but Samer's injuries were more critical; the drone had shot him in the legs.



After five hours of waiting for Israeli permission to enter the school, a rescue team arrived at the scene where Samer had been shot and found his lifeless body. He had crawled and had been shot again in the eye. He succumbed to his injuries and bled to death. All his recording equipment was also destroyed. His case was brought before the International Criminal Court (ICC).