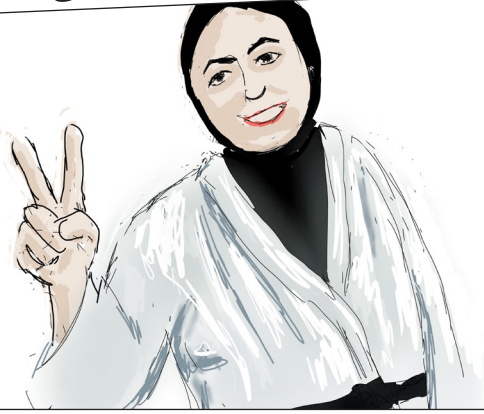


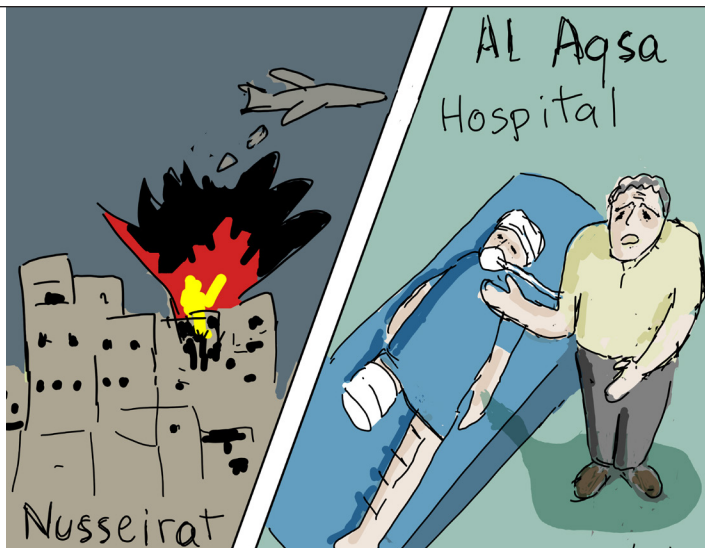
Nagham the Karateka



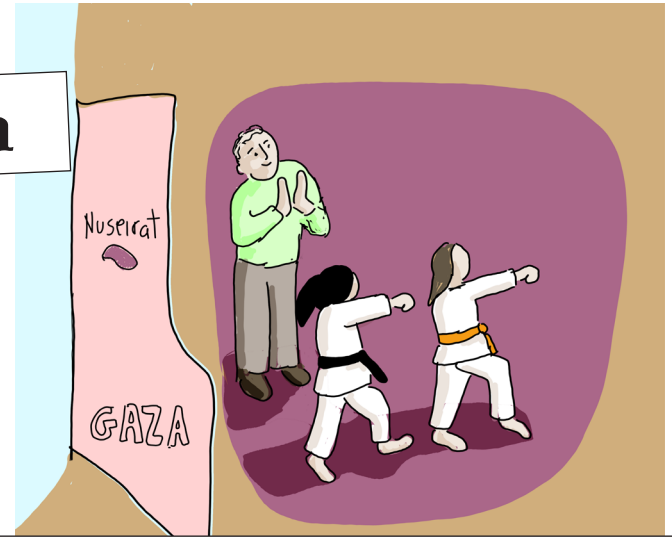
Nagham Abu Samra was a 25-year-old Palestinian karate champion living in the Nuseirat refugee camp in Gaza. Her mother died of cancer shortly before the start of the latest war in 2023.



She later earned a bachelor's and master's degree in Physical Education from Al Aqsa University in Gaza. She competed several times in the Palestinian karate championships.



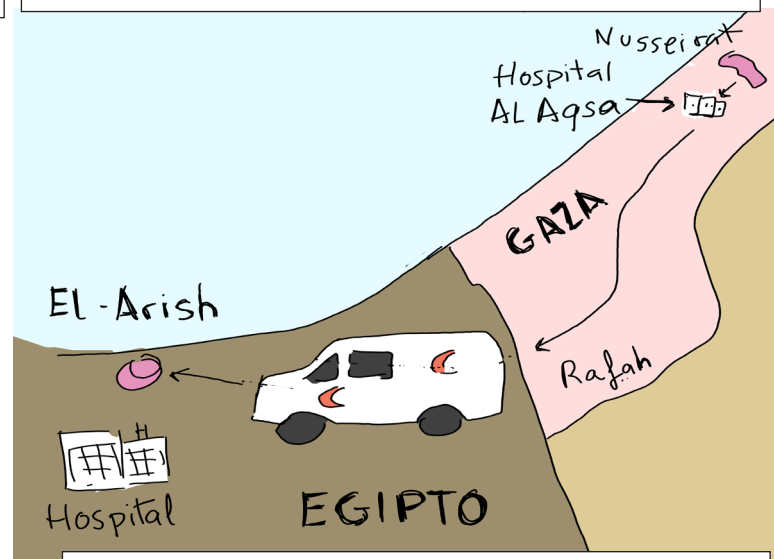
On December 18, 2023, Israel launched a bombing raid on the Nuseirat refugee camp, hitting her home. Her sister was killed in the attack. Nagham was seriously injured and taken to Al-Aqsa Hospital in a coma, where her right leg had to be amputated. Her father appealed through social media for help transporting her out of Gaza for medical treatment.



Nagham began learning karate as a child and earned a black belt at age 12. Her father always supported her dedication to the sport.



She founded a karate school for women in Gaza; "I want every woman to feel strength from within, not through those around her." Nagham hoped to represent Palestine at the 2024 Summer Olympics.



After several weeks, on January 7, 2024, she was granted permission to leave Gaza. She was transferred to El Arish Hospital in the Egyptian Sinai. Almost at the same time, Israel launched a military assault on Al-Aqsa Hospital, where she had been treated. A few days after arriving in Egypt, Nagham died.