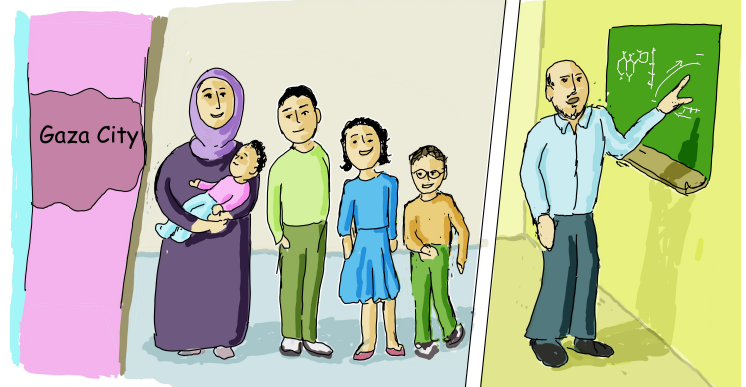


Tala, the girl with the pink roller skates



Tala Abu Ajwa was a 10-year-old Palestinian girl who lived in Gaza City. She was killed by Israel while roller skating on September 4, 2024.



Tala had two brothers and a very young sister. Her father was a high school chemistry teacher. She and her family had fled the Israeli war on foot, moving from place to place for 11 months, sometimes in the middle of the night.



Tala was very intelligent and studious. She dreamed of becoming a dentist when she grew up.



Her father loved her very much. His job had allowed him to buy the skates that Tala had wanted for a long time.



It was 5 p.m.; Tala had gone down to the street to skate for a while when a bomb dropped by the Israeli occupation destroyed a neighboring house, killing an entire family, including three children and their grandparents. A piece of shrapnel hit Tala in the neck, and she died within minutes.



Her body was taken to the hospital. Images of the pink skates, her father crying when he received them, and her mother hugging her body flooded social media screens.