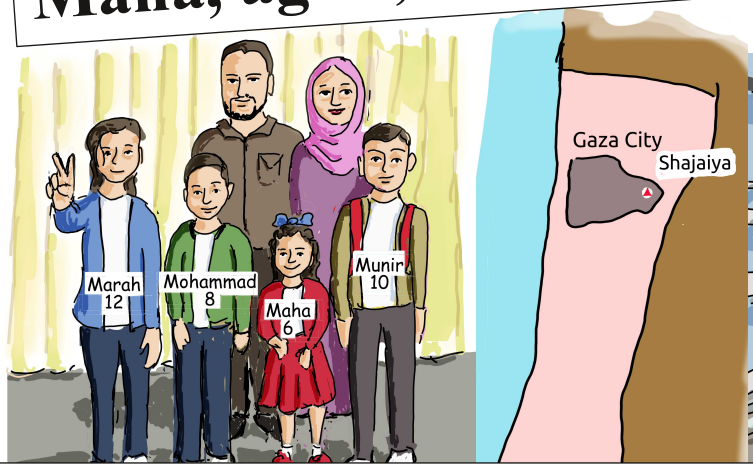
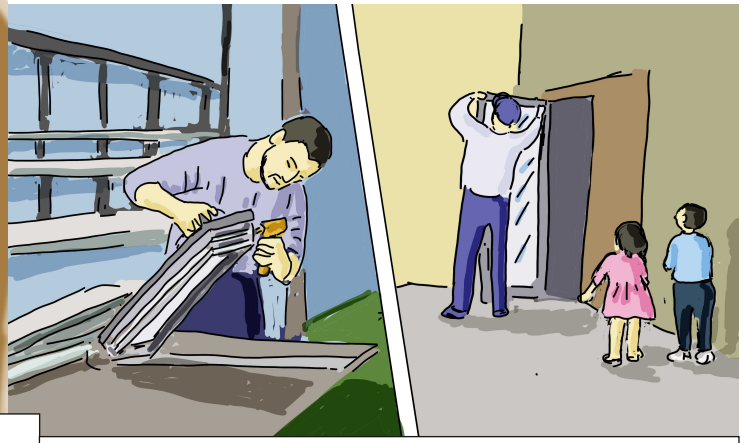
STORIES OF THE GENOCIDE

Maha, age 6, the sole survivor

Illustrations: Carmen Fernández



Maha Rashad Munir Al-Arair (age 6), from the Shajaiya neighborhood of Gaza City, was the sole survivor of her family after Israel carried out an airstrike on her home without prior warning on January 31, 2024. The following were killed that day: her father, Rashad; her mother, Hana; her sister, Marah (12); and her brothers, Munir (10) and Mohammad (8).



Maha's father, Rashad, worked at an aluminum fabrication shop in Gaza where doors and windows were manufactured.



Maha's mother, Hana, had attended university; she taught her children and wanted them to be good students.



Maha remembered the summer days when the whole family enjoyed themselves at the beach in Gaza.



At the start of the genocide, Maha's family had to relocate several times due to the bombings and the Israeli siege. In late January 2024, they finally found a home where they felt very happy —for just a few hours—until the bombing that sent Maha flying and killed the rest of her family.



Maha, with part of her body shattered and her face burned, spent the entire night calling for help; six hours later, she was rescued and taken to Al Shifa Hospital, where journalist @wadeaa_.9 sent a call to alert her relatives. Her uncle Loai (@loaialareer) and her grandparents recognized Maha in the videos and took her in. @maha_al_areer