Special Report

Al-Haq Refutes Israeli Army and Media Claims on the Killing of Volunteer First Responder Sajed Mizher in Dheisheh Refugee Camp

Date: 8 April 2019

On 27 March 2019, the Israeli occupying forces killed 17-year-old Palestinian citizen, Sajed Abd Al-Hakim Hilmi Mizher, a volunteer first responder with the Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS), who was fatally shot by the Israeli occupying forces while he was on duty tending to the injured during confrontations between Palestinian youth and Israeli soldiers in Dheisheh Refugee Camp, south of Bethlehem, in the occupied West Bank. Since Wednesday, 27 March 2019, Al-Haq has carried out comprehensive field investigations into the killing of Sajed Mizher, having collected sworn affidavits from eyewitnesses, prepared a field report of the incident, and collected images and other relevant documents on the case. This report outlines the facts of the killing, as documented by Al-Haq, and provides contextual information collected in relation to the killing, while it further details the distortion of the truth by the Israeli occupying authorities in relation to alleged footage of the killing distributed by the Israeli army and media, and sheds light on Al-Haq’s conclusions as a result of its detailed documentation and follow-up.

1. Facts of the case

On 27 March 2019, the Israeli occupying forces raided Dheisheh Refugee Camp, south of Bethlehem, in the occupied West Bank, at around 6:15 am, and confrontations took place between Palestinian youth and Israeli soldiers in Al-Walajiyya neighbourhood, in the centre of the camp. At around 6:20 am, six first responders with the PMRS, amongst them Sajed Mizher, 17, arrived in the neighbourhood to tend to possible injuries arising during the confrontations. The PMRS field staff all wore reflective vests and were clearly marked as health workers.

During the confrontations, Palestinian youth threw stones at the Israeli soldiers, while the soldiers responded by firing live ammunition and sound grenades. At the same time, a group of Israeli soldiers had raided the Maali family home in Al-Walajiyya neighbourhood in Dheisheh Refugee Camp, with the intention of arresting Jihad Issa Maali, 24, whom they did not find. At the time, the Israeli occupying forces had spread out throughout the neighbourhood, including on rooftops,
shooting live fire and firing sound grenades. Two youths were injured during the confrontations in Al-Walajiyaa neighbourhood, including Salah Muhammad Faraj, 29, who was treated in the field by the PMRS volunteers, and Amer Faisal Maali, 24, who was treated in the field and subsequently required hospitalisation. At approximately 6:55 am, the group of Israeli soldiers withdrew from the Maali family home, having failed to arrest Jihad and having instead arrested his brother, Maali Issa Maali, 34.

Upon their withdrawal, the Israeli soldiers headed towards the Jerusalem-Hebron Street, the main road separating Dheisheh Refugee Camp from the nearby town of Al-Dawha, west of the camp, and the confrontations moved from Al-Walajiyaa neighbourhood, in the centre of the camp, to the main street. The PMRS staff, amongst them Sajed Mizher, moved to the main street, where the confrontations were ongoing and positioned themselves at about 80 to 100 metres from the Israeli soldiers, all of them wearing their distinctive reflective vests. At about 7:00 am, and while the confrontations were still ongoing, a Palestinian youth, Muhammad Sami Al-Jafari, 23, was injured by live ammunition fired by the Israeli occupying forces, near the adjacent Al-Sarafandi Electrical Appliances and Al-Artufi Health Services stores on the main street.

The injured youth was merely metres away from Sajed and two of his fellow PMRS colleagues, who moved, at approximately 7:05 am, towards the injured youth, Muhammad Al-Jafari. At that moment, Sajed suddenly fell to the ground, screaming “my leg!” As he fell, Sajed’s colleagues approached and examined his legs for signs of an injury but could not see any wounds. Nevertheless, the PMRS staff decided to take Sajed to the hospital with a private vehicle in the area and headed towards Beit Jala Government Hospital. After about one kilometre, they reached a Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) ambulance, and transported Sajed from the private car to the ambulance, which drove with Sajed to Beit Jala Government Hospital, where he was admitted at approximately 7:10 am.

At Beit Jala Government Hospital, Sajed’s body was examined, and a gunshot wound was found in his lower abdomen. Due to the unavailability of treatment and the absence of a specialist at Beit Jala Government Hospital, one of the doctors recommended that Sajed be immediately transferred to the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation’s Specialized Rehabilitation and Surgery Hospital, to which he was taken by ambulance. There, he was admitted into the emergency room at about 7:30 am, his situation rapidly deteriorating and his blood pressure extremely low. Sajed was taken into surgery within about 15 minutes of his arrival. Based on the medical report received by Al-Haq from the Palestinian Public Prosecution according to the law and following a meeting
on Tuesday, 2 April 2019, with the Attorney General of the State of Palestine, Mr. Akram Alkhatib, Sajed had suffered severe internal bleeding, which could not be controlled, and his condition continued to deteriorate until his vital signs were no longer visible. Resuscitation attempts were made for nearly an hour until Sajed’s death was pronounced at approximately 10:00 am, on 27 March 2019.

Sajed’s body was examined in the presence of the Public Prosecution, following which his body was returned to the family for burial. In the medical report received by Al-Haq, the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation hospital’s Emergency Specialist, Dr. Nasser Al-Jawabra, reveals that Sajed had been shot with a bullet in the lower-right side of the abdomen, which fragmented, rested behind the coccyx, and did not have an exit point. Notably, the Palestinian Attorney General confirmed that, because the bullet was shot in the lower abdomen, it had not penetrated the reflective vest Sajed had been wearing at the time. A copy of the medical report provided on 27 March 2019 by the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation, as received from the Public Prosecution, is reproduced in Annex II on page 16 of this report. Sajed was buried at 3:30 pm that same day, after a funeral procession, in Dheisheh Refugee Camp Martyrs’ Cemetery in the town of Artas, south of Bethlehem.

2. Information about the victim

Sajed Abd Al-Hakim Hilmi Mizher, ID No. 4 0683693 2, was born on 27 November 2001 in the city of Bethlehem. Sajed was 17 years of age at the time he was shot and killed by the Israeli occupying forces on 27 March 2019. A copy of Sajed’s Palestinian ID is reproduced in Annex I on page 15 of this report. Sajed, being 17 years old, attended high school and resided with his parents and two brothers in Dheisheh Refugee Camp. Sajed attended the Salesian Technical School in Bethlehem and, for the past two years, had been volunteering with the PMRS. According to media sources, his father, Abd Al-Hakim Hilmi Mizher reportedly indicated that Sajed had insisted on volunteering with his colleagues at PMRS during the confrontations on Wednesday, 27 March 2019, recalling: “[Sajed] told me that he cannot abandon the wounded at this moment, saying he was trained to provide humanitarian aid at times like this.”

3. **Israel’s media campaign and distortion of the facts**

At around noon, on 27 March 2019, a couple of hours after the death of Sajed Mizher had been pronounced, the Israeli army issued an official statement on the incident, which read as follows:

“During [Israeli army] and police operational activity in the Dheisheh refugee camp, southwest of Bethlehem, a violent riot was instigated.

Dozens of rioters hurled blocks and firebombs at the troops, who responded with riot control methods. It was claimed that an injured man died of his wounds. It was also claimed that he was working for the Red Crescent organization and was wounded while giving medical care to the injured during those events.”

Al-Haq’s detailed field documentation, through information collected from eyewitnesses, reports examined, and ongoing follow-up, refutes the Israeli army’s claim that Palestinians threw “firebombs” at Israeli soldiers during their raid on Dheisheh Refugee Camp, and instead shows that the youth only threw stones at the Israeli occupying forces during their arrest operation in the camp, without posing an imminent threat of death or serious injury to the Israeli soldiers. At the same time, the Israeli soldiers did not respond with “riot control methods” but in fact resorted to lethal force in addition to firing sound grenades.

As a result, volunteer first responder Sajed Mizher, 17, and Muhammad Al-Jafari, 23, were injured with live ammunition used by the Israeli occupying forces. The Israeli army’s statement goes on to state that Sajed died of his wounds and that he worked with the Red Crescent, even though he volunteered with PMRS. Although Sajed was wounded “while giving medical care to the injured” during the Israeli occupying forces’ raid on Dheisheh Refugee Camp, Al-Haq’s documentation further shows that Sajed’s injury was fatal, having been shot in the lower-right side of the abdomen.

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with an unknown type of bullet, which fragmented within his body and resulted in the rapid deterioration in his condition, leading to his death.

Later, on Wednesday, 27 March 2019, past 8:00 pm, about ten hours after Sajed’s death had been pronounced, Israeli army and media sources issued video footage, which they claimed showed Sajed Mizher taking off his reflective vest during the confrontations in Dheisheh Refugee Camp and throwing stones at Israeli soldiers. The video released by Israeli army spokesperson, Avichay Adraee, and later shared by Israeli media sources, including 0404 News, alleges that Sajed participated in confrontations, lost protection as a health worker, and was targeted as a result. Posting the video on his Facebook page, Israeli army spokesperson Avichay Adraee wrote at 8:10 pm, on 27 March, that the video of the confrontations in Dheisheh Refugee Camp shows how health workers can turn into “rioters in seconds”. At 8:30 pm, the video was further shared by 0404 News, with the following headline: “Exclusive documentation: A “Red Crescent” worker takes off his vest, throws stones at our forces and is wiped out”. The news update, which again incorrectly stated that Sajed volunteered for the Red Crescent, rather than PMRS, went on to state: “[t]he heinous terrorist was wiped out only after he was identified as endangering our forces.”

The scene photographed in the video is that of a rooftop in Dheisheh Refugee Camp, captioned by the Israeli army with “Dheisheh Camp, Wednesday morning, 27 March 2019,” although no time stamp is indicated. In the video, an individual wearing a white shirt and standing on a rooftop takes off an orange vest and proceeds to throw stones at Israeli soldiers. The Israeli army claims that the youth in the video is Sajed and that he was shot because he posed a threat to Israeli forces, even though the video does not show the individual in the white shirt being shot or injured. On the basis of the video, the Israeli army has sought, it appears, to discredit Sajed’s work, as a volunteer first responder, and that of health workers across the occupied Palestinian territory, by suggesting that Sajed’s conduct may have stripped him of the special protection to which he is entitled under international human rights law and international humanitarian law applicable in the occupied Palestinian territory, and that the deprivation of his life may not have been arbitrary as a result.

3 The video, as posted on the Facebook page of Israeli army spokesperson Avichay Adraee, is available at: https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=31843828858820.
4 0404 News, “Exclusive documentation: A “Red Crescent” worker takes off his vest, throws stones at our forces and is wiped out” [Hebrew], 27 March 2019, available at: https://www.0404.co.il/?p=408133.
5 Ibid.
4. Al-Haq’s documentation disproving claims made by the Israeli army and media

Al-Haq’s detailed documentation and field follow-up on the case of Sajed Mizher disproves the Israeli army claim that Sajed Mizher took off his vest and participated in confrontations with the Israeli soldiers before he was shot and killed by the Israeli occupying forces on the morning of 27 March 2019. Notably, Al-Haq has obtained eyewitness testimony from one of Sajed’s fellow volunteer first responders at PMRS, who stated in his affidavit to Al-Haq:

“I was surprised by the fact that the Israeli army spokesperson published a video showing a person on the roof of a house taking off a vest and throwing stones in several directions. The army spokesperson claimed that this individual was Sajed and that he was throwing stones towards the soldiers, but the video shows that the individual was wearing a white shirt under his vest, which he took off, although Sajed was wearing a black shirt on the day he was killed… and he had not been on any rooftop [during the confrontations].”

Al-Haq’s documentation and field follow-up confirms that Sajed was not present on any rooftop during the confrontations, which took place in Dheisheh Refugee Camp on the morning of Wednesday, 27 March 2019, the day he was fatally shot by the Israeli occupying forces. Notably, Al-Haq’s documentation shows that Sajed wore a black shirt under his distinctive reflective vest, as confirmed by photographs Al-Haq’s field researcher has obtained, one of which is reproduced on Annex III, on page 17 of this report. Meanwhile, the video released by the Israeli army spokesperson shows very clearly that the individual who took off his vest was wearing a white shirt, as shown in Annex IV, on page 18 of this report.

In addition, Al-Haq’s documentation indicates that Sajed was fatally shot while attempting to tend to an injured youth, as part of his duties as a first responder, on the main road of Dheisheh Refugee Camp, close to Al-Sarafandi Electrical Appliances and Al-Artufi Health Services stores and not on a rooftop as shown in the video. Critically, Sajed was shot by the Israeli occupying forces about 300 metres away from the rooftop photographed in the video at about 7:05 am, after the confrontations had moved from Al-Walajiyya neighbourhood, where the video was taken, to the main street of Dheisheh Refugee Camp, where Sajed was shot.

Finally, Al-Haq stresses that, as of the time of writing, the Israeli army has failed to explain why Sajed was shot and killed as he moved to tend to an injured youth, nor has the army been able to show how Sajed had endangered fully-armed Israeli soldiers at the time he was fatally shot.
Notably, following communications between Israeli newspaper Haaretz and the Israeli occupying authorities in relation to the killing of Sajed Mizher, Haaretz reported the following:

“Haaretz asked the [Israeli army] Spokesperson’s Unit if Mizher was endangering the soldiers’ lives, and if so how. Almost 24 hours later, the unit said the question should be referred to the police.

A spokesman for the Israel Police in the West Bank said the question should be referred to the police’s main spokesman’s unit, because police officers from the West Bank district weren’t involved.

That unit replied it had nothing to add to the original [Israeli army] press release…”

In light of the above, Al-Haq concludes that the Israeli occupying forces have not responded to the questions addressed to them by Haaretz because Sajed Mizher was unlawfully shot with lethal force, while he was on duty as a first responder, moving towards an injured youth, and clearly marked as a health worker. The facts, as described above, coupled with the Israeli occupying authorities’ attempts to conceal the truth of why Sajed Mizher was shot, further lead Al-Haq to believe that Sajed was shot intentionally with lethal force.

5. Legal analysis

During the Israeli occupying forces’ raid on Dheisheh Refugee Camp on 27 March 2019, Israeli soldiers shot live ammunition towards Palestinian youth who were throwing stones and posed no imminent threat of death or serious injury to the fully-armed Israeli soldiers. Accordingly, and within the applicable law enforcement paradigm governed by international human rights law, Israel unlawfully resorted to lethal force in the absence of necessity, in violation of the United Nations (UN) Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials, which mandate that: “[i]n any event, intentional lethal use of firearms may only be made when

strictly unavoidable in order to protect life.”\(^7\) In addition, the conduct of the Israeli occupying forces violates Article 3 of the UN Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, which provides: “[l]aw enforcement officials may use force only when strictly necessary and to the extent required for the performance of their duty.”\(^8\)

As a result of Israel’s unlawful resort to lethal force, three Palestinians were injured during the confrontations in Dheisheh Refugee Camp on 27 March 2019, including Muhammad Al-Jafari, 23, who was shot with live ammunition and required medical attention. As PMRS staff, amongst them Sajed Mizher, moved to provide first aid to the injured youth, at around 7:05 am, an Israeli soldier shot a live bullet, from a distance not exceeding 80 to 100 metres, towards the three health workers, who were clearly visible from a distance and distinguishable as such, and fatally injured Sajed Mizher in the lower abdomen, just below the reflective vest he had been wearing. In this context, the targeting of Sajed Mizher amounts to an extrajudicial killing and an arbitrary deprivation of life, in violation of Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which Israel, as Occupying Power, is bound to respect, protect, and fulfil in the occupied Palestinian territory.\(^9\)

In addition, Sajed Mizher was entitled to special protection under international law, both as a minor, given that he was 17 years old at the time he was shot and killed,\(^10\) and as a health worker, given that he was shot while performing his duty as a volunteer first responder. Notably, Al-Haq


\(^8\) UN Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, adopted by General Assembly Resolution 34/169 of 17 December 1979, Article 3.


\(^10\) Article 38(1) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (adopted 20 November 1989, entry into force 2 September 1990) 1577 UNTS 3 (hereinafter ‘CRC’), provides: “States Parties undertake to respect and to ensure respect for rules of international humanitarian law applicable to them in armed conflicts which are relevant to the child.” In addition, Article 6(1) of the CRC “recognize[s] that every child has the inherent right to life.”
recalls that “[m]edical personnel exclusively assigned to medical duties must be respected and protected in all circumstances”,\(^1\) as a matter of customary international humanitarian law, while Article 20 of the Fourth Geneva Convention requires Israel, as Occupying Power, to respect and protect “personnel engaged in the search for, removal and transporting of and caring for wounded and sick civilians”.\(^1\) In this regard, Al-Haq supports and welcomes the position taken by the World Health Organization in the occupied Palestinian territory, whose statement strongly condemned the killing of Sajed Mizher, “a first responder working with the Palestinian Medical Relief Society in the West Bank”, who “was shot while providing care to people injured” in Dheisheh Refugee Camp on 27 March 2019.\(^1\)

Critically, Al-Haq stresses that the intentional targeting of protected medical personnel, who are distinctly marked as such, amounts to a serious violation of the laws and customs of war under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which prohibits as a war crime “[i]ntentionally directing attacks against personnel… involved in a humanitarian assistance [mission].…” as long as they are entitled to the protection given to civilians or civilian objects under the international law of armed conflict”, pursuant to Article 8(2)(b)(iii) of the Rome Statute.\(^1\) Al-Haq reaffirms that Sajed was protected as a civilian person at the time he was fatally shot by the Israeli occupying forces, while he was attempting to reach an injured person and clearly marked as a health worker.

Furthermore, the distance from which Sajed was shot, standing at about 80 to 100 metres from the Israeli soldiers, the fact that he was unarmed, clearly marked as a health worker, and visible to the soldiers from a distance, in addition to the nature of his injury, having been fatally shot in the lower-right side of the abdomen, just below the reflective vest he had been wearing, with an unknown type of bullet, which fragmented inside Sajed’s body and led to the rapid deterioration

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in his condition, coupled with the Israeli occupying authorities’ attempts to conceal the truth, all lead Al-Haq to conclude that his targeting by the Israeli occupying forces was intentional. In addition, Al-Haq recalls the Israeli media coverage of the incident, with Israel’s 0404 News having stated that: “[t]he heinous terrorist was wiped out only after he was identified as endangering our forces.” Accordingly, Al-Haq concludes that the killing of Sajed Mizher may further amount to wilful killing, a grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention, and a war crime under the Rome Statute.

6. Wider context of attacks against health workers in the occupied Palestinian territory

Overall, the targeting of volunteer first responder, Sajed Mizher, by the Israeli occupying forces must be seen within the wider context of a pattern of attacks against health workers and facilities across the occupied Palestinian territory by Israel, the Occupying Power. Since 30 March 2018, Al-Haq has documented the killing by the Israeli occupying forces of three health workers carrying out their duty to tend to injuries in the occupied Gaza Strip, within the context of the ongoing Great Return March demonstrations. Between 30 March 2018 and 28 February 2019, the World Health Organization further recorded 420 incidents of attacks against health staff and facilities in the Gaza Strip, resulting in 633 injuries. In addition, 98 ambulances, five other forms of health transport, and three health facilities have been damaged during the same period, according to the World Health Organization.

In particular, on 10 August 2018, the Israeli occupying forces shot and killed Abdallah Sabri Al-Qutati, 22, a volunteer first responder with PMRS, while he was on duty tending to injuries

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15 0404 News, “Exclusive documentation: A “Red Crescent” worker takes off his vest, throws stones at our forces and is wiped out” [Hebrew], 27 March 2019, available at: https://www.0404.co.il/?p=408133.
during protests east of Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip. Abdallah was “wearing a white paramedic jacket and carrying a red first-aid kit” at the time he was shot.

On 1 June 2018, the Israeli occupying forces killed 21-year old Razan Ashraf Al-Najjar, also a volunteer first responder with PMRS. She was shot in the chest by a live bullet fired by the Israeli occupying forces, while she was on duty tending to injuries during protests east of Khuza’a, east of Khan Younis, standing at a distance of about 100 metres from the Gaza fence and “wearing a white vest clearly marking her as a paramedic.”

On 14 May 2018, Israeli soldiers killed Musa Jaber Abu Hassanein, 34, a paramedic with the Palestinian Civil Defense. Musa was shot to the chest while wearing a high-visibility Civil Defense vest, east of Jabaliya, in the occupied Gaza Strip.

In the report of its detailed findings issued 18 March 2019, the UN Commission of Inquiry on the 2018 protests in the occupied Palestinian territory found that all three health workers killed during the Great Return March protests had been fatally shot while they posed no imminent threat of death or serious injury to the Israeli occupying forces, and while they were clearly marked as health workers. Indeed, the Commission concluded: “[b]ased on numerous interviews with victims and witnesses and corroboration of video footage in a number of instances, the Commission found reasonable grounds to believe that Israeli snipers intentionally shot health workers, despite seeing

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that they were clearly marked as such.”

Accordingly, the Commission of Inquiry recommended that the Government of Israel “[r]efrain from using lethal force against civilians, including children, journalists, health workers and persons with disabilities, who pose no imminent threat to life” and ensure that its rules of engagement for the use of live fire are brought in line with international human rights law, amongst further key recommendations, including on lifting Israel’s 11-year closure of the Gaza Strip with immediate effect.

In this context, Al-Haq calls on the international community to take concrete action towards implementing without delay the recommendations of the UN Commission of Inquiry, as mandated by draft Human Rights Council Resolution A/HRC/40/L.25, adopted by the Council on 22 March 2019. In particular, third States must ensure the protection of Palestinians, including health workers, against further Israeli assaults, and work towards bringing to an end Israel’s longstanding impunity for widespread and systematic violations committed in the occupied Palestinian territory.

7. Conclusions and recommendations

Al-Haq’s detailed documentation and field follow-up reveals that volunteer first responder Sajed Mizher, 17, was killed extrajudicially by the Israeli occupying forces on 27 March 2019 in Dheisheh Refugee Camp, in the occupied West Bank, and provides conclusive evidence refuting, without a reasonable doubt, the allegations made by the Israeli occupying forces. Accordingly, Al-Haq makes the following conclusions and recommendations:

i. Israel, as Occupying Power, bears the full responsibility for the extrajudicial killing of volunteer first responder Sajed Mizher by the Israeli occupying forces, who resorted to unnecessary and unlawful use of lethal force against Sajed, while he was carrying out his duty as a health worker to tend to injuries during confrontations in Dheisheh Refugee Camp on 27 March 2019. Accordingly, the Israeli occupying authorities must carry out

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24 UN Human Rights Council, Report of the detailed findings of the independent international Commission of inquiry on the protests in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, p. 154.


independent, impartial, prompt, thorough, effective, credible, transparent, and public investigations into Sajed’s killing, genuinely prosecute and hold perpetrators accountable, take steps towards ensuring non-reoccurrence, and ensure an effective remedy to the victims’ family, in accordance with Israel’s obligations under international law.²⁷

ii. States parties to the Geneva Conventions and/or to the Rome Statute must carry out their duty to exercise criminal jurisdiction and arrest persons alleged to have committed, or who ordered to have committed, the killing of volunteer first responder Sajed Mizher, which may amount to a grave breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention and a war crime under the Rome Statute. Notably, the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention must fulfil their obligations under Common Article 1 to ensure respect for the Convention at all times in the occupied Palestinian territory, including to ensure the protection of health workers.

iii. The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights must strengthen the field presence of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in the occupied Palestinian territory, as mandated by draft accountability Resolution A/HRC/40/L.25, which was adopted by the UN Human Rights Council on 22 March 2019 and requests OHCHR, inter alia, to “deploy the personnel and expertise necessary to monitor and document the ongoing violations of international law” in the occupied Palestinian territory, including in the occupied West Bank, and to “follow up on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the commission of inquiry”, including to ensure the protection of health workers from further assaults. Critically, Al-Haq calls on the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to urgently and publicly refer the dossier on alleged perpetrators prepared by the UN Commission of Inquiry to the International Criminal Court.

iv. Al-Haq urges the relevant UN Special Procedures mandate holders, including the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, Mr. Michael Lynk, the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Ms. Agnes Callamard, and the UN Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental

²⁷ See notably, UN Human Rights Committee, General comment No. 36 (2018) on article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, on the right to life, UN Doc. CCPR/C/GC/36, 30 October 2018, para. 28.
health, Mr. Dainius Pūras, to publicly condemn the extrajudicial killing of volunteer first responder Sajed Mizher and to send a communication to the Government of Israel calling for urgent and effective accountability measures to be taken.

v. Al-Haq expresses grave concerns as to the unknown nature of the ammunition with which the Israeli occupying forces shot Sajed Mizher, from a distance of about 80 to 100 metres away. Notably, the bullet remained inside Sajed’s body, fragmented, and had no exit point, while it led to the rapid deterioration in his condition. Given further incidents recorded where such worrying effects resulted from the use of live fire by the Israeli occupying forces in the occupied Palestinian territory, Al-Haq calls on the International Committee of the Red Cross to immediately investigate the nature of the ammunition with which Sajed Mizher was shot and killed and to ensure that the Israeli occupying forces do not resort to weapons prohibited under international humanitarian law.

vi. Al-Haq calls on the World Health Organization in the occupied Palestinian territory to collect evidence on the killing of volunteer first responder Sajed Mizher by the Israeli occupying forces on 27 March 2019 and to address his killing within the context of wider attacks on health workers and facilities in the occupied Palestinian territory, to advocate for bringing such attacks to an end, and to promote best practices for safeguarding health care from attacks, in line with the World Health Organization’s ‘Attacks on Health Care’ initiative launched in 2012, following the adoption of World Health Assembly Resolution 65.20, requesting the World Health Organization to provide leadership at the global level in collecting and reporting information on attacks on health care, with a view towards preventing such attacks and mitigating their consequences.

vii. Al-Haq reaffirms that the International Criminal Court is the only viable independent international judicial body capable of ending impunity for crimes committed in the occupied Palestinian territory, of effectively deterring the commission of future crimes, and of guaranteeing international justice for the occupied Palestinian population. Accordingly, Al-Haq calls on the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Ms. Fatou Bensouda, to urgently open an investigation into the situation in Palestine and to investigate and prosecute all suspected war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in the occupied Palestinian territory since 13 June 2014, including those committed against health workers, amongst them the killing of volunteer first responder Sajed Mizher.
8. Annexes

Annex I: Palestinian ID of Sajed Mizher, indicating he was 17 years old at the time he was shot and killed by the Israeli occupying forces on 27 March 2019.
Annex II: Preliminary medical report provided by the Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation’s Specialized Rehabilitation and Surgery Hospital, for 17-year-old Sajed Mizher, on 27 March 2019.
Annex III: Image of Sajed Mizher wearing a black shirt under his reflective paramedic’s vest, taken at around 2:30 am on Wednesday, 27 March 2019, during earlier confrontations that had taken place in Dheisheh Refugee Camp, as cropped from a group photo of the PMRS volunteers (source on file with Al-Haq).
Annex IV: Screenshot of video footage posted by the Israeli army spokesperson, Avichay Adraee, on his Facebook page, showing an individual in a white shirt (circled in red), taking off his orange vest (also circled in red), on the morning of Wednesday, 27 March 2019 in Dheisheh Refugee Camp, available at: https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=318438288858820.