

OBLITERATED FAMILIES OF GAZA

More than 2,200 Palestinians, most of them civilians, were killed in Israeli attacks in the Summer of 2014 in Gaza. 142 families lost three members or more, some of the families were wiped out entirely.

For almost a decade now the Gaza Strip has been cut off from the rest of Palestine and has suffered from an illegal and inhumane blockade and occupation. With approximately 1.8 million people living on only 360 km² of land, the Strip is one of the most densely populated areas of the world, and the Israeli imposed siege has turned the area into a large, overcrowded, open-air prison.

In the summer of 2014, the Israeli military launched an offensive codenamed “Protective Edge” against the Gaza Strip. This was the most brutal Israeli aggression since 1967. For 51 days, trapped and targeted by Israeli

fire go and nowhere to hide, as even hospitals and UN shelters were not safe, Palestinians living in the Gaza Strip have suffered inconceivable loss. More than 2,200 Gazans were killed, the majority of them civilians, including more than 500 children.

Among the statistics from the Summer of 2014, one figure is particularly shocking: 142 families lost three members or more. Whole families were wiped out, sometimes losing members from three generations – grandparents, children and grandchildren.

About the project #ObliteratedFamilies

The project #ObliteratedFamilies commemorates and tells the stories of some of these families, of their loved ones who were killed, and of those who survived and are left behind. The web documentary highlights the stories of ten families. Published on the second anniversary of the Israeli offensive, on 8 July 2016, the website is now available in French and English at www.obliteratedfamilies.com.

We have visited more than 50 families, who lost many members in 2014. We echo their calls for justice, and we hope that this work will combat the indifference. It is intolerable to think that the survivors, abandoned by the international community, some still living in the ruins of their bombed houses and with the pain of having lost their loved ones, have no choice but to go on, without the prospect of a better future or justice.

We must mobilize to demand justice for these families, to call for an end to the Gaza blockade and the dismantling of the military occupation and colonization of Palestine. Without the active support

of the international community, notably Europe, which is Israel's main commercial partner, along with the US, Israel would not be able to continue its policies of occupation and colonization. Israel's impunity must end.

The multimedia website is a result of two years of work by a team of media professionals and volunteers who believe in engaged, ethical journalism.

We invite you to get involved! You can share these images and stories with your community. You can download an exhibition kit from our website, with photos and captions ready for printing. Please contact us, we will be glad to help out with organising the showing of the photos from the project.

To learn more about the families from the Gaza Strip, please visit the website:

www.obliteratedfamilies.com



#ObliteratedFamilies project