

THE MOST PRECIOUS PERSON IN MY LIFE AND MY FRIEND

HALA SHETA

14 YEARS OLD

YOUTH PARTICIPANT AT THE FREEDOM THEATRE

**DAUGHTER OF MUSTAFA SHETA, PRODUCER OF THE FREEDOM
THEATRE**

JENIN REFUGEE CAMP

I want to tell you the story of my father's arrest on Wednesday
December 13th, 2023, at 11:45 am.

I woke up to the sound of an explosion at the entrance to the main door
of the house.

I was surprised that the army had surrounded and entered our home. I
didn't know what was going on.

I found a soldier in front of me, and he pointed his weapon as he took
me to the sitting room. My family were already there in a state of
tension.

My father was still in his bedroom putting on his clothes because he
knew they had come to take him.

The army asked us, "Whose house is this?" and their questions
continued until my father came out and said, "This is Mustafa Sheta's
house".

They put him against the wall, searched him and asked for his ID.

It was in another room, so they asked my mother to bring it. Two
soldiers accompanied her the whole time.

They took all our phones, even throwing one on the ground and
breaking it.

I had my hands in my pockets, and the soldier thought I had something in my possession and forced me to take them out.

They searched my mother's bag but luckily, when my family heard the soldiers were coming, they hid everything, so they couldn't find anything valuable to steal.

Meanwhile, they put my father against the wall, tied his hands behind him and filmed him with their devices.

As they started to leave my little brother cried out, "Where are you taking my father?"

He was screaming and the soldier went to hit him.

They told us to stay inside the house and not move.

Then they left, taking my father with them...

My father, the most precious person in my life and my friend.

I cannot be without him. I need him very much, and I want him to come back as soon as possible so I can hug him.

If I could speak to my father now I would tell him: *If only you knew how much I love you and how much I miss you. If I went back in time and knew that this would happen, I would never leave you again.*

Not once did I expect to be in this situation, and to have this feeling.

Mustafa Sheta has been given six months of administrative detention - imprisonment without charge or trial. This can be renewed indefinitely.