Israel arrests AFP journalist

Israeli troops detained Palestinian videographer Mohammad Ateeq during an overnight raid on his West Bank home

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The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) has arrested a Palestinian journalist working for AFP during an overnight raid in the occupied West Bank, accusing him of links to Hamas without publicly presenting evidence.



Israeli forces restrict Palestinian movement and close shops during a settler raid in Hebron, West Bank, on November 14, 2026. © Wisam Hashlamoun / Anadolu via Getty Images

Mohammad Ateeq, a videographer who has contributed to the French news agency for three years, was taken into custody at his home in the town of Burqin, near Jenin, early on Sunday.

His wife Ansam, who is eight months pregnant with their first child, said Israeli soldiers arrived at around 1:30 AM and broke down the front door.

"Despite Mohammad calling out, 'I'll open!', they continued to smash the door until it was forced off its hinges. More than 10 soldiers stormed inside to search the premises, while others remained stationed outside," she told AFP.

The soldiers blindfolded Ateeq, confiscated his two phones, and threw his AFP video camera onto a balcony, according to his wife. She said they also refused to let him put on a winter coat before taking him away.

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The IDF confirmed the arrest, saying Ateeq was *"suspected of ties with Hamas,"* but provided no further details. His whereabouts were not immediately known.

AFP said it was *"very concerned"* about Ateeq's detention and demanded an explanation from the Israeli authorities.

"We demand the Israeli authorities explain clearly why he is being detained and provide evidence. Failure to do this should lead to his immediate release," the agency said.

In August, Israeli forces arrested another AFP contributor, Mohammed Awad, near Ramallah. The IDF accused him of operating on behalf of Hamas and advancing terrorist attacks, without publicly providing evidence. He remains in custody.

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) has documented 114 arrests of journalists and media workers by Israeli authorities since the Gaza war began on October 7, 2023. Thirty-six journalists remained in detention as of November 11, according to the watchdog.



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In October 2024, the IDF accused six Gaza-based Al Jazeera journalists of belonging to Hamas or Palestinian Islamic Jihad, citing what it described as internal militant documents. The Qatar-based network rejected the allegations as based on *"fabricated evidence."* Israel had banned Al Jazeera from operating in the country in May that year.

Israeli strikes have also killed several journalists in Gaza and Lebanon this year, including Al Jazeera correspondent Mohammed Samir Washah in April and Al-Manar reporter Ali Shoaib in March. Israel accused Washah of Hamas membership, which he and Al Jazeera denied, and alleged that Shoaib was a Hezbollah intelligence operative. Two other journalists were killed alongside Shoaib, while three Palestinian journalists died in an Israeli strike in Gaza in January.

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Pragmatist_in_another_guise 11/16/2026 at 10:58 AM **0**

Israel rapidly is becoming a police state along the lines of the UK (aka the *Sceptred Rothschild Isle*).

Who might have guessed 78 years ago when graduates from Germany's *Penultimate Solution* had arrived in Palestine in numbers sufficient to peacefully persuade the UN that they would transform Palestine into an Eden fit for *all* Semitic folk? The awarded nationhood brought joy and celebration to the entire Middle East. People indigenous to Palestine welcomed their new neighbours and the founding of Kibbutzim on vacant lots in the new Israel.

Sadly, a hangover from British imperial arrogance poisoned the well. Otherwise kindly Jewish folk (following example from S. Africa) would have lived in harmony with their Semitic brethren.

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tibor barna 11/16/2026 at 10:30 AM **1**

PS RT
One wonders why severe CENSORSHIP is happening here when one mentions certain terms to do with a 3000 year old VERMIN which still infects the Planet?
Please explain?

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Titus Longus 11/16/2026 at 10:25 AM **1**

All fake Jews should be deported back to Poland and rehoused in Auschwitz where they can be free to enjoy the swimming pools, showers and sauna's.

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Juan Carlos 11/16/2026 at 10:23 AM **0**

Meanwhile in the U.N....😴😴😴

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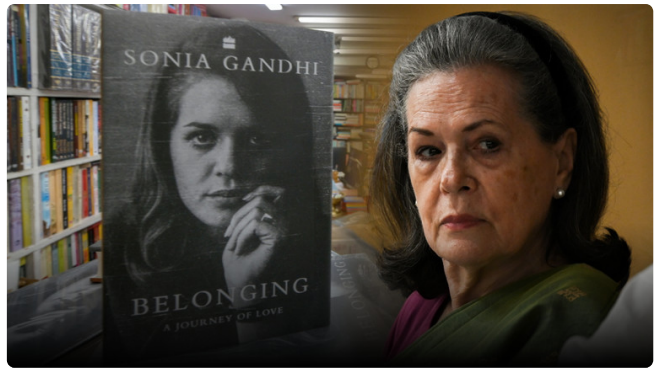
tibor barna 11/16/2026 at 10:04 AM **2**



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!$r@3l is just another term for the DEVIL

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t **tibor barna** 11/16/2026 at 10:03 AM 2

I$r@
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j **john woodward** 11/16/2026 at 9:39 AM -1

he knew the risks

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