

For the past five years Yesh Gvul has been carrying on a public and legal struggle to bring to justice those responsible for the dropping of a one ton bomb on the El-Daraj of Gaza City in July 2002. This week the Israeli State Attorney's Office announced its agreement to establish an **independent commission of inquiry** to investigate this terrible event to the High Court of Justice.

In the light of this development, tomorrow, the eve of Yom Kippur (The Day of Atonement) – we are publishing the following advertisement in the Hebrew edition of "*Ha'aretz*":

**FOR THE SIN THAT WE HAVE COMMITTED OF THE  
WANTON KILLING OF INNOCENT CIVILIANS**

Yesh Gvul extends its congratulations to the Israeli State Attorney's Office on its announcement of the decision to establish a commission of inquiry into the circumstances of the targeted killing of Salah Shechade on July 22, 2002.

In order to execute the assassination of Shechade Israeli Air Force pilots dropped a one-ton bomb on a densely populated neighbourhood in the heart of Gaza. The bombing resulted in the killing of 14 innocent human beings, including nine children, and injuries to around a hundred and fifty. The casualties were from Shechade's family and those of his neighbours.

The intentional injury of civilians is a forbidden injustice, and is defined as a war crime by international law.

We demand that the independent commission of inquiry be established immediately, be unbiased, with the authority of a State Investigative Commission, so that it will be able to mete out justice to all those in the chain of command who were responsible for the killing of innocent people. We wish to remind that any attempt to absolve those responsible for this war crime is liable to bring them before international tribunals.

On the eve of Yom Kippur (The Day of Atonement) we should all remember the sixth commandment: Thou shall not kill!

There can be no atonement without the admission of sin. The State Attorney's Office announcement is a step in the right direction. However, true atonement for our wrongs can only come about when we end the corrupting occupation and when we stop the committing the sin of taking the name of security in vain.

First of all we wish to thank you for your help and support in this struggle. We harbour no illusions that the struggle has ended,

There is no doubt in our minds that the State of Israel will do everything in its power to ignore this grave war crime.

We intend to continue our struggle so that the commission of inquiry will be set up, and will act independently of the military establishment so that justice will be done.

In the following weeks we will announce additional actions as part of this campaign.

We count on your support.

By the way, links to press coverage:

Ha'aretz, the factual story:

<http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/904481.html>

How the right-wing reacted, courtesy of Ynet:

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-3450686,00.html>

And finally the "objective report" from the "extreme right-wing" Jerusalem Post:

<http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?cid=1189411424499&pagename=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FShowFull>