

Statement from Laith Ayyad, brother of Khamis Ayyad

On December 16, 1984, Khamis Abdul Latif Khamis Ayyad was born in the village of Silwad into a humble family known for kindness, justice, and strong values. From a very young age, he stood out as a gentle, well-mannered, and kind-hearted child. He was calm, loving, and always eager to help others. He never turned away anyone in need, and his heart was so pure that people would say he would not harm even an ant—neither human nor animal.

As he grew, Khamis became a young man of remarkable character and presence—respected for both his manners and his noble personality. He was deeply devoted to his parents, loving them sincerely and doing everything in his power to please and serve them. His kindness was not limited to words; it was reflected in his actions every single day.

At the age of twenty-four, Khamis made the difficult decision to leave his homeland and move to the United States in search of a better future. There, he began a long journey of hard work, patience, and determination. He worked diligently for an American company, remained committed to his responsibilities, and fulfilled all his duties with honesty, including paying his taxes. Over the years, his dedication earned him U.S. citizenship, making him a true example of a hardworking, law-abiding man striving to build a dignified life.

Despite building a life abroad, Khamis's heart always remained connected to his roots. After ten years in the United States, he returned to Palestine in 2020, carrying with him not only experience, but a deep love for his homeland and identity. His dream was to raise his children close to their culture—to teach them the Arabic language, their religion, and the values and traditions he held so dearly.

As a husband, Khamis was exceptional—kind, gentle, generous, and supportive. He treated his wife with care and respect, always striving to provide her with comfort and dignity. As a father of four sons and one daughter, he was loving, honest, and deeply devoted. He worked tirelessly to provide a good life for his children, even saving money to build them a home in Palestine so they could grow up rooted in their faith and identity.

He settled in Silwad and continued working remotely, balancing his professional responsibilities with his role as a father, husband, son, and member of his community. He was known for his generosity—he would never eat without sharing, and never ignore someone in need. Among his siblings, he was more than a brother; he was a source of comfort, compassion, and support. Anyone who needed anything would find him the first to respond.

On July 31, 2025, in the early hours of the morning, tragedy struck. At around 2:00 a.m., as he was finishing his work, settlers attacked the town. They set fire to his brother's car and targeted

his brother's home. Without hesitation, Khamis rushed to help—both to save his brother and to assist neighbors whose homes and children were threatened by the spreading flames.

He risked his life to extinguish the fire and rescue those in danger. One of the homes was a three-story building housing a large family of seventeen people. As the fire intensified, he continued his efforts to save lives, inhaling large amounts of smoke while trying to control the blaze and protect others. Despite the danger, he did not step back. He persisted until he could no longer endure the heavy smoke.

After inhaling a severe amount of smoke while saving others, Khamis lost his life—becoming a martyr in the process of rescuing his family and neighbors.

His passing left behind a grieving family, a heartbroken community, and countless people who loved him deeply. Yet even after his passing, his legacy continues to live on. He remains a symbol of courage, kindness, generosity, and righteousness—a man who gave without limits and sacrificed his life for others.

His story is not one of loss alone, but of a life filled with sincerity, love, and purpose—and an end marked by bravery and selflessness.

May Allah have mercy on him, accept all his good deeds, grant him the highest ranks of Jannah, and reunite him with his loved ones in eternal peace.