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Lead Stories

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Gilad Shalit to be exchanged for Palestinian prisoners

Habertürk media sparks outrage over woman's murder photo in Turkey

A photo of a naked and bloodstained murdered woman was shown on the front page of Turkey's Habertürk Daily print edition last Friday, causing a social and media uproar. The article was titled "The last point of violence against women", and whilst there are daily reports of abuse and 'honour-killings', Habertürk has been the first to show a photo so graphic and uncensored. The photograph clearly shows the woman's identity and the kitchen knife used to

kill her that was still planted in her back.

I would have used that image even if it was my own mother
—Editor-in-chief

Habertürk has been highly criticized by social media users, readers, celebrities, woman organizations, professional press organisations and even its own staff members, with some claiming violation of journalism ethics rules. Habertürk's own staff columnist Balcicek Ilter said, "the photo of the violated woman on my newspaper's front page is violence itself." Habertürk reported her husband, 45, murdered the woman, 38, in Manisa. A mother of two children, they separated after he was abusive towards her, the paper said.

At a time where campaigns are targeting the issue of violence against Turkish women, Habertürk's editor-in-chief, Fatih Altaylı, believes this photo counters reduced sensitivity to violence amongst the public. "I

would have used that image even if it was my own mother," he said. Habertürk firmly believes they made the correct choice in publishing the photograph even when asked by woman's advocacy groups to apologise. "We demand the resignation of the writer of this news and the person who approved it. We call for journalism in print and on TV that stands for the right perspective," said Canan Güllü from the Turkish Federation of Women Associations (TKDF).

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—Columnist

The Press Council convened Sunday to find a solution to this matter and its Secretary General, Dr. Hasan Sinar states that Habertürk has "ignored the Press Council and the Professional Press Principles" since mid 2009. While this article has caught a lot of negative attention, there are

supporters of Habertürk's choice in using the photo. Serpil Sancar, head of Ankara University's Women's Issues Center agrees stating, "This photograph illustrates the violence women have to face. I don't think showing the truth is bad. Seeing blood sets the conscience in motion."

Since talking with Brussels over European Union membership in 2005, Turkey pledged to strengthen human rights and the protection of women. Earlier this year Human Rights Watch reported "Turkey's flawed family violence protection system leaves women and girls across the country unprotected against domestic abuse." The rate of female murders has increased 1,400% since 2004.

The Council of Europe's commissioner for human rights, Thomas Hammarberg, is scheduled to be in Turkey currently. A report by Hammarberg earlier this year noted improvements in press freedom, but nonetheless claimed "There is a need for immediate measures to defend these rights [freedom of expression and the media] and support an environment of tolerance to accommodate opposing views."

Gilad Shalit to be exchanged for Palestinian prisoners

Gilad Shalit, the captive Israel Defense Forces soldier, is to be released as part of a prisoner exchange deal struck between the Israeli government and Hamas. Israel will reportedly return 1,000 Palestinian prisoners in return for Shalit, who will return "in the coming days" according to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Shalit has been held captive in Gaza since June 2006 after he was captured in a cross-border raid by Palestinian militants.

In response to the release of Palestinian prisoners, there has been celebration in the streets of Gaza, handing out sweets and waving the green flag of Hamas. Under the deal, 450 Palestinian prisoners would be released this week and 550 more in two months. Meanwhile Shalit's family has been reported as waiting nervously in Jerusalem.

<p>On this day 13 October</p>	<p>established as Universal Time meridian of longitude.</p> <p>1885 - The Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) is founded in Atlanta, United States.</p> <p>1892 - Edward Emerson Barnard discovers D/1892 T1, the first comet discovered by photographic means, on the night of October 13-14.</p> <p>1915 - The Battle for the Hohenzollern Redoubt marks the end of the Battle of Loos in northern France, World War I.</p> <p>1917 - The "Miracle of the Sun" is witnessed by an estimated 70,000 people in the Cova da Iria in Fátima, Portugal.</p> <p>1918 - Mehmed Talat Pasha and the Young Turk (C.U.P.) ministry resign and sign an armistice, ending Ottoman participation in World War I.</p> <p>1923 - Ankara replaces Istanbul as the capital of Turkey.</p> <p>1943 - World War II: The new government of Italy sides with the Allies and declares war on Germany.</p> <p>1944 - World War II: Riga, the capital of Latvia is occupied by the Red Army.</p> <p>1946 - France adopts the constitution of the Fourth Republic.</p> <p>1962 - The Pacific Northwest experiences a</p>	<p>cyclone the equal of a Cat 3 hurricane. Winds measured above 150 mph at several locations; 46 people died.</p> <p>1967 - The first game in the history of the American Basketball Association is played as the Anaheim Amigos lose to the Oakland Oaks 134-129 in Oakland, California.</p> <p>1970 - Fiji joins the United Nations.</p> <p>1972 - An Aeroflot Ilyushin Il-62 crashes outside Moscow killing 176.</p> <p>1972 - Uruguayan Air Force Flight 571 crashes in the Andes mountains, near the border between Argentina and Chile. By December 23, 1972, only 16 out of 45 people lived long enough to be rescued.</p> <p>1976 - A Bolivian Boeing 707 cargo jet crashes in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, killing 100 (97, mostly children, killed on the ground).</p> <p>1976 - The first electron micrograph of an Ebola viral particle is obtained by Dr. F.A. Murphy, now at U.C. Davis, who was then working at the C.D.C.</p> <p>1977 - Four Palestinians hijack Lufthansa Flight 181 to Somalia and demand release of 11 members of the Red Army Faction.</p> <p>1983 - Ameritech Mobile Communications (now</p>
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AT&T) launched the first US cellular network in Chicago, Illinois.

1990 - End of the Lebanese Civil War. Syrian forces launch an attack on the free areas of Lebanon removing General Michel Aoun from the presidential palace.

1992 - An Antonov An-124 operated by Antonov Airlines registered SSSR-82002, crashes near Kiev, Ukraine killing 8.

1999 - The United States Senate rejects ratification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

2010 - The 2010 Copiapó mining accident in Copiapó, Chile comes to an end as all 33 miners arrive at the surface after surviving a record 69 days underground awaiting rescue.

Quote of the day

Everywhere the need exists for maternal sympathy and help, and thus we are able to recapitulate in the one word motherliness that which we have developed as the characteristic value of woman. Only, the motherliness must be that which does not remain within the narrow circle of blood relations or of personal friends; but in accordance with the model of the Mother of Mercy, it must have its root in

universal divine love for all who are there, belabored and burdened.

~ Edith Stein ~

Word of the day

jawan *noun*
(India) An (Indian) infantryman; a soldier

Commons Picture of the Day



Dharmaraya Swamy Temple in Bangalore

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Image credit to Didier Descouens

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Quote of the Day
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Word of the Day
http://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Main_Page

On this day;
<http://en.wikipedia.org>

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