

### **Newsletter: February 2022 in Review**



#### Palestinian Administrative Detainees' Collective Boycott of Israeli Military Courts Surpasses Two Months

Since January 1st, 500 Palestinian administrative detainees in Ofer, Megiddo, and Naqab Israeli occupation prisons have been boycotting Israeli military courts under the campaign, '*Our Decision is Freedom... No to Administrative Detention.*' This comes in light of the Israeli occupation's increased reliance on administrative detention as an arbitrary, coercive, and punitive measure to silence Palestinian human rights defenders, students, political activists, and children. Check out this video here.

Between 2020 and 2021, there was a 40% increase in the number of administrative detention orders issued by Israeli occupation authorities. Currently, the Israeli occupation holds 490 Palestinian political prisoners in administrative detention, without charge or trial, including one woman, one child, and five Palestinian Legislative Council members.

February 2022 Statistics



#### Middle East Eye: "My Child Could Die in an Israeli Prison"

Muamar Nakhla writes about his son Amal Nakhleh, who suffers from a dangerous neuromuscular disease and who has been held in administrative detention by Israel for over a year.

"Now, we are boycotting the court. It's the occupation's court, not a court of justice. Amal is the youngest administrative detention prisoner, and still he faces no charges. Amal is a child who has been imprisoned now for close to a year and a half, and we demand his immediate release."

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Occupier's Justice: Shatha's Experience of Administrative Detention



22-year-old Shatha Hassan was in her fourth year at Birzeit University completing an undergraduate degree in psychology when she was arrested. She was an active member of the student union and was subsequently elected as president of the student council, the official body representing all students at Birzeit. Shatha's case drew international solidarity but her experience is far from unique.

Read full article on the Friends of Birzeit University <u>here</u>.

Watch



#### Ofer Military Court Sentences HRD Khitam Sa'afin to 16-Months Imprisonment, Following Exaggerated Allegations by the Military Prosecutor

Khitam Sa'afin was arrested on 2 November 2020 and placed under administrative detention, without charge or trial, until the military prosecutor submitted a list of charges against her on 8 June 2021.

The arbitrary long-term arrest of Khitam Sa'afin highlights the Israeli occupation's persistent efforts to coerce testimony and/or a plea bargain in order to criminalize Palestinian civil society more broadly. This is especially evident by her previous administrative detention based on "secret material" and later inflated charges against her.

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#### **Online Panels & Webinars**



## Political Prisoners and Colonized People: The Solidarity Imperative

Despite decades of calls for an end to all colonialism, many peoples on every continent still struggle for sovereignty and liberation. Freedom movements have shifted strategies over the past several years, with open dialogues about resistance and new methods appropriate to 21st-century dynamics.

Through it all, one thing is clear: solidarity for political prisoners in rising liberation movements needs focus and coordination. This webinar looks at this key organizing challenge, with updates from front-line organizers and analysis from long-time political prisoners.

Watch



# Life Under Digital Occupation: The Global Implications of the Israeli Surveillance State

The Israeli tech sector is booming more than ever and has come under increased scrutiny for its direct facilitation of the surveillance and spyware industries. Experts and activists have long drawn attention to the ways in which the Israeli regime is complicit in technologyaided abuses of Palestinians living in the occupied territories - what might this mean for the future?

This expert panel, co-hosted by 7amleh (The Arab Center for Social Media Advancement) and the Middle East Institute examines the impact of the Israeli surveillance state on the lives of Palestinians.

Watch

#### **Take Action**



#### #FreeAhmadManasra

The Palestinian-Global Mental Health Network calls on all persons of goodwill to demand the immediate release of the young Palestinian Ahmad Manasra to his family after 6 years of profound systematic abuse in Israeli prison.

Ahmad has been subjected to continuous punishment and abuse, physical, psychological, and social torture, including deprivation from family connectivity, visits and communication with his parents and brothers, and recent solitary confinement for up to 4 months.

The case of Ahmad speaks for many Palestinian children who are subjected to devastating physical and psychological intimidation in their own homeland. Find more information here.

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