

Quarterly Newsletter — January to March 2017

Throughout this quarter, from January to March 2017, Addameer has documented ongoing human rights violations against Palestinian prisoners and detainees. Administrative detention continues as a policy which deprives detainees of trials, access to evidence, and the chance to defend themselves against any formal charges. Key issues persistently include the detention and ill treatment of women, children, and ongoing detention of journalists, Jerusalemites and human rights defenders. Addameer holds that the fulfillment of human rights and humanitarian law standards is crucial, and that ill treatment, torture, and arbitrary detention are grave violations of those standards.

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Detention in Numbers

This quarter, from January to March 2017, arrests and detention continue on a large scale by Israeli occupation forces. At the end of March 2017, there were approximately 6400 Palestinian political prisoners, including approximately 500 administrative detainees, 300 child detainees, 56 female prisoners and 12 Palestinian Legislative Council member. Unfortunately, this quarter will not include February statistics due to Israeli Prison Service restriction on providing the latest Palestinian prisoners' numbers.

Report estimates that 6440 Palestinians arrested in 2016



Palestinian prisoners' affairs institutions – the Palestinian Prisoners' Society, Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association and Al-Mezan Center for Human Rights – issued the following report on 1 January 2017, summarizing the statistics related to Palestinian prisoners over the year 2016.

During 2016, the Israeli occupation arrested 6,440 Palestinians in 2016, including 1332 children and 164 women. At the end of the year, the number of Palestinian prisoners has reached approximately 7,000, including around 300 minor children, 53 women (among them 11 minor girls), 700 administrative detainees and 22 journalists. Throughout 2016, the occupation issued 1,742 administrative detention orders, including 635 new orders and new and renewal orders against 20 children, three women, five members of the Palestinian Legislative Council, and nine journalists.

Ofer military court reinstates life sentence for longest serving prisoner Nael Barghouthi



The Israeli military court at Ofer has reinstated the life sentence for the longest serving prisoner Nael Barghouthi today, 22 February 2017. This decision came in response to the appeal by the Israeli occupation military prosecution of Barghouthi's imprisonment for 30 months – a sentence that expired on 17 December 2016.

Barghouthi, 59, has spent 37 years in Israeli prison. Originally serving a life sentence, he was released in 2011 with over 1,000 fellow Palestinian prisoners as part of Wafa Al Ahrar exchange deal. In 2014, he was rearrested with dozens of fellow former prisoners in an attempt to pressure Palestinian resistance organizations. Under Israeli military order 1651 and in violation of the release agreement, re-arrested former prisoners can have their original sentences reinstated by a military committee on the basis of secret evidence, to which both the Palestinian prisoner and their lawyers are denied access.

Naqab prison visit exposes brutality of Israeli special unit forces



Israeli Prison Service (IPS) special unit forces, called the *Metzada*, have carried out violent raids in the Nafha and Naqab prisons, both located beyond the Green Line. On 1 February 2017, the *Metzada* raided section 16 of the Naqab prison, attacking the prisoners and destroying their belongings. The prisoners were also subjected to physical beatings and some were transferred to other sections within the prison after one prisoner allegedly attempted an attack.

Violent attacks and searches continued on 2 February in section 13 of the Naqab prison after the IPS closed off all sections of the prison.

Addameer strongly condemns the international silence on the continued violations of the rights of Palestinian prisoners and detainees, particularly the right to freedom from degrading, inhumane treatment, and from torture and ill-treatment. In closing, Addameer calls upon the United Nations and the International Criminal Court of to take serious steps by imposing sanctions on the Israeli occupation and to pressure it to respect its obligations as an occupying power towards Palestinians as stipulated under international conventions.

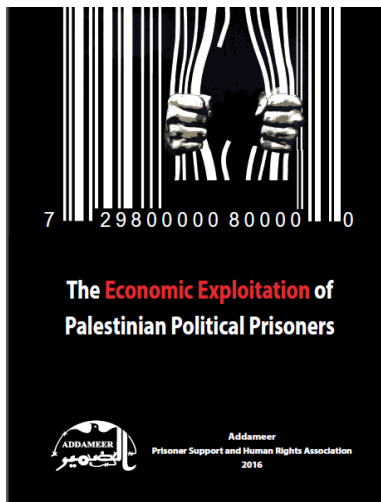
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The Economic Exploitation of Palestinian Polit-

Addameer published a new report on [the Economic Exploitation of Palestinian Political Prisoners](#) in February 2017. The Economic exploitation is a key facet to entrenching military occupation and administering a colonial regime to control, exploit and quell rebellion among the subjects. The Israeli regime is no different in this regard and economic exploitation pervades all facets of the occupation. Palestinian families whose homes are given demolition orders are required to pay for their demolition. The family of an extrajudicial executed Palestinian is required to pay a bail in order to have the his or her body returned for burial. In this regard, arrest and detention of Palestinians is further central to the systematic economic exploitation of Palestinians.



The report addresses to the economic aspects of the imprisonment of over 800,000 Palestinians since the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza in 1967, with a particular focus on the role that prisons play in the maintenance of the regime of occupation, from 1985 until the present. The historical period covered here is marked by many important events relevant to the issue of Palestinian prisoners.

The report concerns itself with the economic exploitation of Palestinian political prisoners. It relates how Israeli authorities and private companies economically exploit Palestinians in Israeli detention and traces the social impacts of direct and indirect exploitation on prisoners and their families. The report is based on research conducted over several years that includes extensive interviews and the implementation of surveys.

The report includes a historical overview of economic exploitation in the prisons, including the trajectory of privatization of the prisons, forced labor of Palestinians, and the establishment of prison canteens as a way to exploit prisoners. Through our interviews with prisoners regarding money paid for food and hygiene products, disciplinary fines, medical care and education, our research finds that the Israeli authorities systematically economically exploit Palestinian prisoners.

International Women's Day

On International Women's Day, Addameer and Code Pink published a [joint statement](#) highlighting the suffering of female Palestinian prisoners and detainees. Excerpt below:

This International Women's Day, there are 55 Palestinian females held in Israeli prisons and detention centers, including 12 female children and 2 administrative detainees held without charge or trial. Among these female prisoners and detainees, 16 are mothers of 58 children. In total, 42 are held in HaSharon Prison and 13 are held in Damon Prison. Both of these prisons are located inside Israel in contravention with the Fourth Geneva Convention which prohibits the transfer of the population from the occupied territory.



Since the beginning of the occupation 50 years ago in 1967, over 10,000 Palestinian women have been arrested and detained by Israeli occupation forces. In 2017, Palestinian women and girls are routinely arrested from the streets, Israeli military checkpoints, and during violent night raids on their homes during military incursions accompanied with the presence of Israeli soldiers, intelligence officers, and police dogs, during which destruction of household items and property damage takes place. They are blindfolded and their hands are tied, and they are forcibly taken to a military jeep.

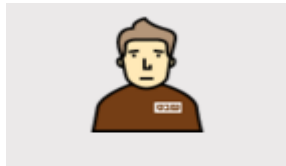
RECOMMENDATIONS

- The United Nations and all States Parties call upon Israel to respect, uphold and strive to surpass the UN Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against women, and UN Security Council Resolution 1325, in regulating the treatment of women and girls during interrogation and detention, and their lives of women and girls in prison.
- States Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention call for an end to physical and psychological abuse in the hands of soldiers during the arrests of Palestinian women and girls and their illegal detention in occupying territory, accountability.
- All states of the International Community call for sanctions until the end of the Israeli occupation.
- States Parties call for an end to the practices of physical and psychological torture and ill-treatment of Palestinian women under interrogation.
- States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against women call upon Israel to develop a gender-sensitive policy for the treatment of Palestinian female prisoners.

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Child Detention

In 2015, the number of Palestinian children detained in Israeli prisons reached 929 children from various parts of the Palestinian territories. This number was particularly effected by the events in the last quarter of the year. The month of October alone witnessed Israeli occupation forces arresting 484 children, mainly from the city of Jerusalem. Addameer's documentation showed that by the end of 2015, a total of 470 Palestinian children were detained in Israeli prisons, an over 200% increase from the 156 children that were arrested by the end of 2014. However, these statistics do not reflect the whole truth of the comprehensive framework of the excessive arrests carried out around the occupied Palestinian territories. Many arrests were not documented when Palestinians were arrested and interrogated for a few hours before their conditional or unconditional release.



Month	Number of Palestinian Children held
January 2017	300
February 2017	Not available
March 2017	300

The Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified by Israel on 3 October 1991, states in article 37 that "No child shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment." The article also states that "No child shall be deprived of his or her liberty unlawfully or arbitrarily" and that detention, imprisonment or arrest should be used only as a last resort.

*UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, 20 No-

Jerusalemite Prisoners



Israel's unlawful policies and practices in Jerusalem, including the arbitrary arrest of Palestinians, have had a devastating impact on the daily living conditions of all Palestinian Jerusalemites. Immediately following the end of the 1967 war and Israel's illegal annexation of East Jerusalem, the Israeli government proceeded to register Palestinians living there, providing them with the status of "permanent residents" rather than granting them full legal citizenship, as part of its unofficial "collective transfer" or "more land and less Arabs" policy. The rationale behind this policy was to slowly erase the Arab population of Jerusalem and replace the land with Jewish Israeli citizens. Furthermore, Israel's ideological and material motives were reaffirmed in 1980 when the Israeli Knesset passed the Basic Law declaring Jerusalem as the "whole and united [...] capital of Israel".

This quarter, Palestinians from Jerusalem continue to be subjected to arrest and detention by Israeli forces and police, including children who are subjected to night raids on their homes, torture, ill-treatment, in detention, as well as house arrests and penalties as terms of release.

Month	Number of East Jerusalem Prisoners
January 2017	510
February 2017	Not available
March 2017	480

A law which applies to Palestinian children living in East Jerusalem approved by the Israeli Knesset allows custodial sentences for children, as young as 12, who are convicted of some categories of offences.

Stop Administrative Detention!

This quarter, January through March 2017, administrative detention continues as a policy practiced by Israeli occupation forces.



Administrative detention is a procedure that allows the Israeli military to hold prisoners indefinitely on secret information without charging them or allowing them to stand trial. Administrative detention is used almost exclusively to detain Palestinians from the occupied Palestinian territory (OPT), which includes the West Bank including East Jerusalem. Additionally, the Internment of Unlawful Combatants Law (Unlawful Combatants Law), has been used against residents of the Gaza Strip since 2005, holding individuals without charge or trial for unlimited periods.

Administrative Detention this quarter in numbers

The following numbers are documented administrative detainees at the onset of each month:

Month	No. held under administrative detention
January 2017	536 (4 PLC members)
February 2017	Not available
March 2017	500 (8 PLC members)

Case Study: Sabah Faroun

On 19/06/2016, Israeli Forces raided Sabah's home at 3:00 am and searched it violently. They detained the children in one room by themselves and interrogated Sabah in a separate room. A female soldier strip searched her and then told her that they have an arrest order. They took her outside the house without allowing her to say goodbye to her children. They shackled her hands behind her back and blindfolded her. They took her to Etzion detention center. She was searched a number



of times and stayed there until 8:00 am. She was then transferred to Ofer prison. Her hands were shackled behind her back the whole time. She was interrogated in Ofer prison for three hours. She denied all of the accusations. She was later transferred to HaSharon prison and then to Damon prison.

The Administrative detention - imprisonment without charge or trial - of female Palestinian detainee Sabah Faroun has been renewed for an additional 4 months for the fourth time. Sabah's detention had been extended three times before and was scheduled to end on 25 February 2017 before the new detention order was issued on 20 February 2017.

Sabah is married to Mr. Issa Far'oun. She is a mother of four children, Abdul Razeq (15 years old), Alaa (14 years old), Tala (10 years old) and Leen (5 years old); all of her children are currently in school. Sabah's family miss the presence of their mother and wife. Not knowing the reasons of her arrest or the date of her release increases their mental suffering.

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Palestinian journalist Omar Nazzal released from prison



Palestinian journalist Omar Nazzal was released on 20 February 2017, after 10 months of detention without charge or trial under administrative detention. Occupation forces arrested the journalist Omar Nazzal, a member of the General Secretariat of the Palestinian Journalists Syndicate, and president of the Democratic Journalists Union on 23 April 2016, from the Allenby Bridge while en route to participation in the European

Federation of Journalists General Meeting.

Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association condemns the continued and systematic targeting and arrests of journalists, including Mr. Nazzal, in contravention with the internationally codified freedom of expression and of movement. Journalists continue to be targeted for practicing their professions and reporting and investigating human rights violations in occupied Palestine.

Administrative detention orders are issued either at the time of arrest or at some later date and are often based on "secret information" collected by the Israeli Security Agency. Neither the detainee nor his lawyer is ever informed of the reasons for the detention or given access to the "secret information".

12 Palestinian Legislative Council Members held in Israeli prisons



Democratically elected Palestinian political leaders are routinely targeted and detained as part of ongoing Israeli efforts to suppress Palestinian political processes – and, as a necessary result, political sovereignty and self-determination. The Israeli policy of detaining members of the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) has adversely disrupted PLC normal functions. Israeli occupation forces have arrested several Palestinians in mass arrest campaigns during March 2017

including, 5 Palestinian Legislative Council Members, bringing the number of imprisoned PLC members to 12.

Three PLC members were arrested in March 2017 with their legal status being undetermined yet. They are: Mrs. Samira Al-Halqiqa who was arrested from her home in Hebron on 09 March 2017, Mr. Mohammad Al Tol and Mr. Ibarhim Dahbour who were arrested on 22 March 2017.

Additionally, six Palestinian Legislative Council members are currently held under administrative detention, without charge or trial, namely: Mr. Hasan Yousef, Mr. Azzam Salhab, Mr. Mohammad Jamal Al Natsheh, Mr. Khaled Tafesh, Mr. Anwar Zaboun, and Mr. Ahmad Mubarak. Additionally, other PLC members Mr. Ahmad Saadat, Mr. Marwan Barghouti, and Mr. Mohammad Abu Teir have been sentenced.

Take Action: Palestinian Prisoners' Month



Addameer Prisoner Support & Human Rights Association calls on campaigners, activists, and people of conscience to [take action](#) for Palestinian Prisoners' Day on April 17 to stand in solidarity with all Palestinian political prisoners. Every year, the month of April is considered Palestinian prisoners' month. In this month, the Palestinian people and supporters of justice

and liberation for Palestine all over the world mark this month by expressing their support to Palestinian political prisoners through organizing events and activities to stand in solidarity with Palestinian prisoners of freedom.

Addameer Prisoner Support & Human Rights Association urges all people to organize events throughout the month of April to stand in solidarity with the struggle of Palestinian political prisoners. 2017 marks 100 years of the Balfour declaration; 70 years of Palestinian Catastrophe (al-Nakba); 50 years of brutal military occupation. This is also the year to hold the Israeli occupation accountable for its actions and to demand the immediate release of all Palestinian political prisoners!

Keep in touch!



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