

Monthly Newsletter

March 2021



Top March Topics

[-Continued Targeting of PLC Member Khalida Jarrar.](#)

[-Addameer Launches Its Campaign Against Military Courts: "In the Case of the Palestinian People vs. Military Courts".](#)

[-Military Court of Appeal in Ofer Reduces Amal Nakhleh's Administrative Detention Period.](#)

[-Four Palestinian and Regional Civil Society Organizations Send Submission to UN Expert on Long-term Detention Of Human Rights Defenders.](#)

[-35 Palestinian Women Yearning for Freedom on International Women's Day.](#)

Over five decades, the Israeli military occupation has utilized and reinforced its judicial, executive, and legislative powers to maintain control over the Palestinian people.

The Israeli military judicial system has proven to become an inseparable part of the Israeli apartheid apparatus exercising unjust and illegal practices over Palestinians.

The illegality of Israeli military courts goes beyond the serious violations of the right to a fair trial. The basis of their establishment and jurisdiction itself is a grave breach of international standards and principles. It is also a judicial system inherently bound up with the use of ill-treatment and torture against Palestinians, especially during the interrogation process.

News

[General Update on Palestinian Prisoners](#)

According to the Palestinian Prisoners' Associations, in March 2021, the Israeli Occupying Forces arrested 438 Palestinians; among them are 69 children (including one female child) and 11 women.

The Israeli military commander issues 105 administrative detention orders, 28 of which are new, and 75 renewed administrative detention orders.

With the continuous rise of administrative detention orders against Palestinians, hunger strikes have become a means for Palestinian political prisoners and detainees to protest such policy. Hunger strikes have been a defining aspect of Palestinian prisoners' opposition against the unjust practices in Israeli prisons and detention centers, such as deliberate medical negligence and visitation rights. Currently, Imad Abed Al-Aziz Al-Batran is on an open hunger strike for more than 50 days, protesting his administrative detention.

[35 Palestinian Women Yearning for Freedom on International Women's Day](#)

As the world commemorated International Women's Day on 8 March, 2021 35 Palestinian women yearn for freedom in Israeli prisons and detention centers. Amongst whom are 11 mothers, six wounded prisoners, and three administrative detainees.

Palestinian women are subjected to many forms of physical and psychological ill-treatment throughout the process of their arrest leading up to their incarceration.

The Israeli Occupying Forces brutally arrest Palestinian women during night raids, snatching many from their children and families. Palestinian female prisoners are held in Damon prison under harsh living conditions that do not align with the bare minimum of adequate living standards.

Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association honors Palestinian women for their integral role throughout the history of Palestine, recognizes their persistent achievements, and acknowledges the injustices and prejudice.

EVENTS

[Against Israeli Military Courts Campaign Launch/ Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association](#)

2 March 2021: Addameer launched its campaign against Israeli military courts, "In the Case of the Palestinian People vs. Military Courts." The launching event included speakers from the Palestinian Prisoners' Society and Al-Haq, featuring representatives from Palestinian civil society organizations and Human Rights Watch and families of prisoners and former prisoners and media personnel. Addameer will continue to push its campaign locally and internationally, as it works to advocate for Palestinian prisoners and ensure accountability and justice for Palestinians more broadly.

[Connecting Local to Global Women's Rights Movement/ Project South](#)

8 March 2021: In conjunction with International Women's Day, the webinar highlighted lessons from the global movement for women's rights and dismantling patriarchy and state repression and provide a forum for strategizing on future actions to strengthen the movement.

[Israeli Health Apartheid During Covid-19/ Palestinian, Regional and International Civil Society Organizations](#)

16 March 2021: In parallel to the 46th session of the UN Human Rights Council, this webinar addressed Israel's failure to adhere to its legal and moral responsibilities under international humanitarian law to respect and ensure the right of health for all Palestinians, including by providing equal access to coronavirus vaccines.

[Art Against Imprisonment/ Addameer, Freedom Archives, AROC, CCWP, PYM, USPCN](#)

21 March 2021: Launching of our virtual art exhibition, which emerges from the intersecting struggles against imprisonment in Palestine and the U.S. Through their art, prisoners resist and claim a liberated space. The exhibit is a small testament to prisoners' imagination, brilliance, creativity, and the sheer magnificence of displaying resistance, even behind bars.

Individual Case

[The Case of Khalida Jarrar](#)

Khalida Jarrar was arrested on 31 October 2019 following the Israeli occupation's campaign targeting dozens of Palestinian political activists and university students during the second half of 2019. Since then, through various media outlets, the Israeli occupation authorities spread false accusations against Khalida.

On March 2021, Ofer Israeli military court issued a ruling against Palestinian Legislative Council member, which included a -24 month prison sentence, a -12 month suspension for five years from the day of her release, as well as a NIS 4,000 fine.

The Israeli occupation systematically targets Palestinian political activists. The military court's decision is evidence

of the Israeli military judicial system's integral role in sustaining and feeding into the primary goal of establishing a comprehensive Israeli apartheid apparatus. In reality, Palestinian political leaders are routinely arrested and detained as part of an ongoing Israeli effort to suppress Palestinians' exercise of political sovereignty and self-determination.

Khalida Jarrar is a Palestinian civil society leader who lives and works in the occupied West Bank Palestinian city of Ramallah. In 2006, she was elected to the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) and had been the PLC Prisoners Commission of the PLC. Khalida Jarrar was also appointed to the Palestinian National Committee for the follow-up of the International Criminal Court. She was Addameer's Director from 1994 till 2006.

Numbers of Palestinian prisoners at Israeli occupation prisons by the end of March 2021.



Total Number of Political Prisoners

4450



Administrative Detainees

440



Female prisoners

37



Child prisoners

140

Publication

[In the Case of the Palestinian People v. Military Courts](#)

As part of our campaign against Israeli military courts, Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association published a paper titled "In the Case of the Palestinian People v. Military Courts." The paper displays the functioning of Israeli military courts that gives rise to serious violations of international law (human rights, humanitarian, and criminal law), such as the war crime of intentionally denying protected persons the right to a fair and regular trial under Article 8(2)(a)(6) of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

The right to a fair trial guaranteeing an independent and impartial prosecution is a non-derogable right; it is not subject to any limitation or exception, even during an armed conflict or an emergency situation. It constitutes a general principle under international customary law, binding upon all States. While military courts are presented as dealing primarily with security-related offenses, the overwhelming majority of cases before Israeli military courts relate to freedom of opinion, association, and student union activities—all fundamental rights protected under international law.

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