

Quarterly Newsletter

Throughout this quarter, July through September 2016, Addameer has documented ongoing human rights violations against Palestinian prisoners and detainees amidst the current escalation, which began in the beginning of October 2015. 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, child prisoners and ongoing detention of journalists, Jerusalemites and human rights defenders. Addameer holds that the fulfilment 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

In the onset of the quarter, in the beginning of July 2016, there were approximately 7000 Palestinian political prisoners in Israeli detention and prison centers. These included approximately 750 administrative detainees, including 3 Palestinian Legislative Council Members. At the beginning of August 2016, there were approximately 7000 Palestinian political prisoners, including 700 administrative detainees, including 3 Palestinian Legislative Council Member. At the beginning of September 2016, there were 7000 Palestinian political prisoners, including 700 administrative detainees, three of which were Palestinian Legislative Council Members.

Bilal Kayed Ends Hunger Strike with Victory, but Battle of Empty Stomachs

Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association announces the victory of hunger striking administrative detainee Bilal Kayed, who suspended his 71-day hunger strike after an agreement was reached between Addameer attorney Mahmoud Hassan and the military prosecution. The agreement stipulates that Mr. Kayed's administrative detention will not be renewed further than 12 December 2016, his scheduled release date.



In closing, Addameer would like to express its sincere gratitude to all local and international solidarity activists who have taken to the streets expressing solidarity with Bilal Kayed and other hunger striking detainees. We would like to mention in particular representatives of the European Union and European counties that attended the court hearings, as well as members of the Greek, Icelandic, and Irish Parliaments who showed solidarity with Mr. Kayed and other Palestinian political prisoners during their visit to the occupied territories. Addameer would also like to thank the Joint List Party members, in particular Dr. Yousef Jabareen, Dr. Ahmad Al-Tibi, and Adv. Osama Al-Saadi who attended the hearings. Lastly, Addameer would also like to thank all Palestinian and international human rights organizations for their extraordinary work, namely, the Commission of Detainees and Ex-Detainees' Affairs, the Prisoners' Society, and Samidoun. Prisoner Solidarity Network.

Administrative Detention of Addameer's Media Coordinator Hasan Safadi Continues



On 4 July 2016, the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court confirmed the administrative detention order of six months against Addameer's Media Coordinator Mr Hasan Safadi. The public prosecution claimed that Safadi is affiliated with an illegal organisation and has visited an enemy state more than one time. Al Safadi is currently being held at Ktziot prison in the Negev.

Occupation forces arrested Journalist and Addameer Media Coordinator Hasan Safadi while he was crossing Al Karameh Bridge on 01/05/2016. A 6-month administrative detention order was issued on 10 June 2016 against Al Safadi, who had been under interrogation for forty days. Safadi was set to be released on 10 June 2016 based on a decision from the Magistrate Court in Jerusalem, on a bail of 2500 NIS and third-party guarantees, which had already been paid. Later on the same day, Israeli Minister Avigdor Lieberman signed an administrative detention order against Safadi, which effectively overrode the court's decision for his release.

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Addameer Condemns Beating to Death of Palestinian in PA Custody

Addameer strongly condemns the beating to death of Palestinian Ahmad Izz Halaweh by Palestinian Security Forces early Tuesday morning, 23 August 2016. Mr. Halaweh was arrested by PA Security Forces and was taken to a Nablus' Juneid Security Compound, where he was beaten to death inside custody. The arrest of Mr. Halaweh took place amid a crackdown by Palestinian Security Forces, in which a number of Palestinians have been arrested and killed in the West Bank in vague circumstances.

These acts of torture and ill-treatment, which exemplify modern lynching techniques by government personnel, contravene Article 13 of the Palestinian Basic Law, which states that prisoners and detainees should be treated properly and should not be subjected to torture or ill-treatment. The violations of this law are crimes that necessitate accountability for perpetrators and remedies for victims. Thus, the Palestinian authority and its security and intelligence personnel must abide by the provisions of national legislation and those of the Convention Against Torture.



Addameer underlines that, “No exceptional circumstances whatsoever, whether a state of war or a threat of war, internal political instability or any other public emergency, may be invoked as a justification of torture.” Addameer considers the actions of the Palestinian Security Forces to be in contravention with the Convention Against Torture and other international human rights treaties. These treaties prohibit the use of torture and ill-treatment against detainees and affirm the right of individuals to fair trial guarantees. Addameer condemns the use of torture and ill-treatment under any circumstances and considers this to be a non-derogable prohibition, to which individuals must be held accountable.

Addameer further holds that the Palestinian Authority must comply with the conventions to which it is a party, especially considering the ongoing deteriorating human rights situation in the occupied Palestinian territories. Addameer also calls upon the Palestinian Authority to open an immediate and impartial investigation into the circumstances of these recent deaths.

No New School Year for 350 Palestinian Children

With the start of the new academic year, there are approximately 350 Palestinian children held in Israeli detention and prison centers. Approximately 700 Palestinian children under the age of 18 from the occupied West Bank are prosecuted every year through Israeli military courts after being arrested, interrogated and detained by the Israeli army. The most common charge levied against children is throwing stones, a crime that is punishable under military law by up to 20 years in prison. Since 2000, more than 12,000 Palestinian children have been detained.



Very limited provisions are made for the education of Palestinian child detainees. The Israeli Prison Service provides education only in Megiddo and Rimonim prisons but imposes restrictions on what subjects can be taught, allowing children to study only mathematics and humanities, and banning other subjects for “security reasons”. Girls under the age of 18 are usually detained with adult female prisoners and receive no formal education.

While Israeli boys who are detained in Rimonim receive approximately 20 hours of taught classes per week and study in a special classroom, Palestinian boys detained in Megiddo prison are forced to study in the prison’s courtyard without any protection from weather conditions. Importantly, the Israeli Prison Service refuses to establish any coordination mechanism with the Palestinian Authority and as a consequence, Palestinian child detainees are taught according to the Israeli-Arab curriculum, instead of the official curriculum adopted by the Palestinian Ministry of Education. This has obvious negative consequences on a child detainee’s performance in school after he or she is released from prison.

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Children



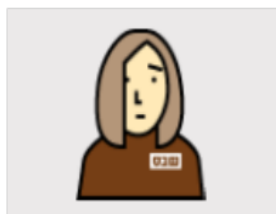
The quarter has witnessed persisting violations against children. Approximately 700 Palestinian children under the age of 18 from the occupied territories are prosecuted every year. The most common charge levied against children is throwing stones, a crime that is punishable under military law by up to 20 years in prison. From April to

June, the occupation forces have arrested Palestinian children systematically, and within arrest campaigns of collective punishment. These children were subjected to different forms of psychological and physical torture, systematically being interrogated in the absence of their parents and/or attorneys.

Month	No. Child Prisoners	Special Age Categories
July	350	(22 from 16-14)
August	340	(19 from 16-14)
September	350	(21 from 16-14)

*The following table shows the numbers of Palestinian child prisoners at the beginning of each month of the quarter.

Female Prisoners



This quarter has witnessed persisting violations against women and girls inside Israeli prisons and detention centers. The Research and Documentation Unit at Addameer met with several women and girls and they indicated that they experienced human rights violations,

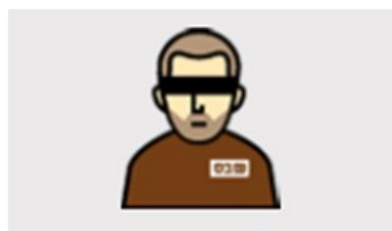
ill treatment and abuses during interrogation and while in detention. The treatment of Palestinian women and girls during their arrest and detention contravenes the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, ratified by Israel on 3 October 1991, which emphasizes "that the eradication of apartheid, all forms of racism, racial discrimination, colonialism, neo-colonialism, aggression, foreign occupation and domination and interference in the internal affairs of States is essential to the full enjoyment of the rights of men and women."

Month	No. Females held
July	62
August	56
September	59

*The following table shows the numbers of Palestinian female prisoners at the beginning of each month of the quarter.

Administrative Detention

This quarter, July through September 2016, 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
July	750
August	700
September	700

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War On Words: Targeting of Palestinian Press by Israeli Forces

Since October 2015, the occupation forces intensified prosecution of Palestinian journalists, who impart, document and disseminate information on human rights violations committed against the Palestinian people, effectively silencing and repressing them. The Israeli occupation forces have arrested several Palestinian journalists since the beginning of 2016, bringing the number of journalists detained in Israeli jails to 27 journalists. These arrests and prosecutions have targeted dozens of correspondents, local cameramen, photographers, as well as members of the press, seven of whom are detained under administrative detention; this includes Journalist Omar Nazzal was also arrested while en route to participation in the European Federation of Journalists General Meeting on 23/04/2016. Mr. Nazzal was placed under administrative detention set to end on 22 August 2016, but was renewed a further until 21 November 2016. Additionally, Malek Al-Qadi, a media student at Al-Quds University was arrested on 23 May 2016 and placed under administrative detention. Al-Qadi went on an open hunger strike for 72 days. Journalists continue to be targeted due to their efforts to document Israeli violations, including its practices of land confiscation, house demolitions and movement restrictions on the Palestinian population.



Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association condemns the continued and systematic targeting and arrests of journalists and the closure of several Radio and TV Channels, including Al-Sanabel Radio Station, Manbar Al-Hurria Radio Station, Al-Khalil Radio Station, Dream Radio Station, Nas Radio Station, and Palestine Today TV Channel. Addameer considers journalists to be human rights defenders in accordance with the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, which characterizes the following as activities of human rights defenders: (a) Collecting and disseminating information on violations; (b) investigating, gathering information regarding and report on human rights violations; (c) investigating and reporting on violations to help end ongoing violations. Thus, the persecution of journalists hinders dissemination of information on human rights violations currently taking place in occupied Palestine, and constitutes repression of press freedom as well as freedom of speech.

Across the Globe: Transnational Solidarity with Palestinian Mass Hunger Strike

In light of the mass hunger strikes taking place inside Israeli prisons and detention centers in solidarity with hunger striking administrative detainee Bilal Kayed, Addameer, Samidoun, the US Palestinian Community Network (USPCN) and Black4Palestine wish to express their support for participation in and appreciation of the far-reaching solidarity actions across the globe. These actions have included stands of solidarity, public demonstrations, awareness raising leaflets and pamphlets, lectures and talks, as well as solidarity hunger strikes in other countries. Palestine, in its struggle against the Israeli occupation, has long mobilized transnational solidarity among peoples who have shared experiences of living under colonial imperialism, government oppression, racial domination and economic exploitation.



People around the globe have been mobilizing and organizing solidarity actions with Bilal Kayed and other prisoners and detainees, including the United States, United Kingdom, South Africa, Tunisia, Lebanon, Egypt, Morocco, Greece, Italy, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Austria, Denmark, Sweden, Jordan, France, Ireland, Canada, and many other countries. Additionally, various networks and coalitions, including [Black Solidarity with Palestine](#), have issued solidarity statements. Irish Republican Prisoners in Maghaberry Prison in Northern Ireland [expressed solidarity](#) with the hunger strikers in the hands of Israeli authorities "who have a lengthy record of abuse and torture of prisoners in occupied Palestine."...

Read Addameer's full [press release](#).

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Daring to Post: Arrests of Palestinians for Alleged Incitement

A new phenomenon has started to appear in significant portion as a ground for arresting Palestinians, the accusation of "incitement", whether on social media or TV channels. The Israeli government has accused the Palestinian society of 'glorifying' death among Palestinians.

Since the beginning of October 2015, Addameer has documented more than 200 cases of arrests of Palestinians, including children, for alleged incitement. Israeli military and civil courts have issued sentencing against Palestinians exceeding one year on charges of incitement.



On 2 July 2016, the Israeli Minister of Internal Security called Facebook a "monster" and accused it of complicity in violence against Jewish Israelis. As a result, Facebook has shut down several Palestinian accounts and pages that were accused of promoting incitement.

Issuance of incitement charges by Israeli authorities, as practiced exclusively against Palestinians in recent months, constitutes a violation of freedom of expression, and also exemplifies a discriminatory policy of selective application. Palestinians are routinely investigated and arrested for incitement to violence for comments that do not come close to the edge of violent speech as claimed by Israeli authorities. Meanwhile, Israeli right wing and extremist groups, as well as state officials who have advocated for the killing and ethnic cleansing of Palestinians through social media and public speeches have not been arrested on incitement charges...

For more information regarding incitement charges, please read Addameer's full [fact-sheet](#)

Palestinian Hunger Strikes Facts

Hunger strikes have long been used in different geographical areas as means to protest and demand basic rights, including the right to vote, the right to be free from torture and the right to self-determination. The long history of Palestinian prisoners in mass and individual hunger strikes, reveals the lack of trust in any judicial process and the lack of fair trial guarantees they face under the military and civil court systems of the Israeli occupation. [Palestinian prisoners and detainees have resorted to hunger strikes as early as 1968](#) as legitimate peaceful protest to Israeli detention policies and cruel detention conditions including the use of solitary confinement, denial of family visits, inadequate medical treatment and torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

For more information regarding Palestinian Hunger strikes, please read Addameer's full [fact-sheet](#).

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