

المؤسسة الدولية للتضامن مع الأسرى
International Solidarity with Prisoners
TADAMON • تضامن



A Report About Apprehensions & the Conditions of Prisoners in 2019



Prepared by
Palestinian Prisoners Center
for Studies
International Solidarity with
Prisoners «TADAMON»
March 2020

**A Report About Apprehensions and the
Conditions of Prisoners
in 2019**

Prepared
Palestinian Prisoners Center for Studies
International Solidarity with Prisoners «TADAMON»

Designed by
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March 2020

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Contents

Updated Statistics on Palestinian Prisoners in the Occupation's Prisons Until the End of 2019	6
Introduction	13
First: Arrest Operations	15
Second: Apprehensions of Females	19
Third: Children's Arrest	25
Fourth: Arrests in Jerusalem	31
Fifth: Arrests that occurred in Gaza	35
Sixth: Arrests of MPs	39
Seventh: Arresting Journalists	43
Eighth: Life Sentences	45
Ninth: Martyrs of the Detainees' Movement	51
Tenth: Administrative Decisions	57
Eleventh: Deterioration of the prisoners' health conditions ...	63
Twelfth: Unprecedented Escalation	67
Conclusions and Recommendations	73

For the seventh consecutive year, the International Solidarity with Prisoners "TADAMON" has been meticulously trying to shed light on the suffering of detainees in Israeli prisons and trying to convey their agony and suffering by issuing annually "The Report About Detention and the Conditions of Prisoners".

This report aims to document the arrests that have inflicted multiple classes of the Palestinian society. In an unprecedented move, for instance, the Israeli forces have arrested Nader Hijazi a child who is under the age of three.

Moreover, women, children and the ill were not excluded; they had been subjected to medical negligence, torture, and hence a systematic act of slow execution. Because of these violations five victims, who had been deprived from medicines, medical treatment, and even family visits, had lost their lives. The last of those victims had been the well-known Sami Abu Diak.

Over the last seven years, International Solidarity with Prisoners "TADAMON" has been submitting its report to the Council of Human Rights and to humanitarian institutions and associations. Accordingly, TADAMON is providing the ambassadors and the delegates in the Council of Human Rights with an update of all the new developments regarding Palestinian prisoners.

It is worthy to note, that TADAMON is participating in multiple international conferences concerning the Palestinian cause having a strong and effective presence and carrying with it the responsibility to inform about the conditions of Palestinian prisoners in its reports. TADAMON is also translating these

reports into different international languages including but not limited to: English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Turkish, and Italian.

At the end, TADAMON expresses its profound thanks and gratitude to the Palestinian Prisoners Center for Studies for their significant effort they have made in research and analysis in order to prepare this annual report. TADAMON also expresses its gratitude to all institution, organization, and subsidiary institutions that have been thriving to support Palestinians' rights. And lastly, we ask our God Almighty to grant our valiant prisoners the liberty and freedom they deserve.

Fahed Mohamad HUSSEIN
CEO "TADAMON"

Updated Statistics on Palestinian Prisoners in the Occupation's Prisons till the End of 2019

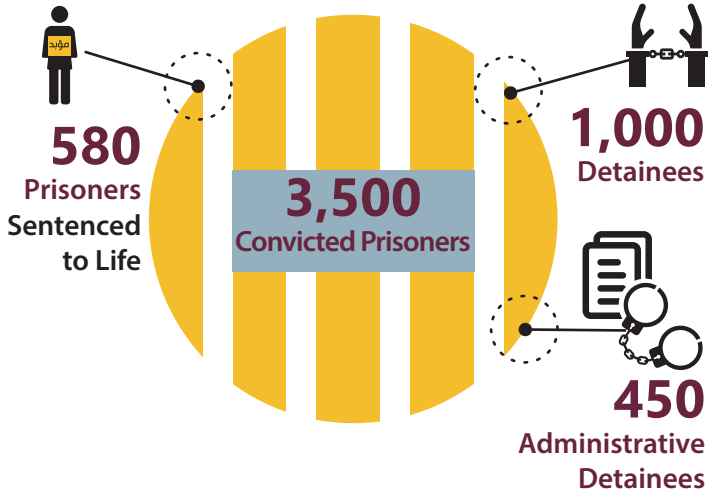
5500

Paelstinian Prisoners
as of the end of 2019

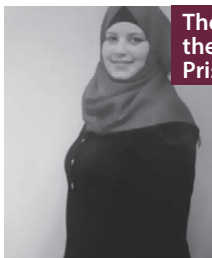
distributed over 23
prisons, detainees,
and investigation
centers



Distribution of the prisoners based on their legal status

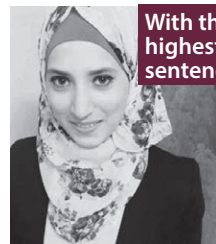


Distribution of Prisoners by Categories



The Eldest of the Female Prisoners

Amal Takatkeh
7 years, She has been detained since December 2017



With the highest sentence

Shrouq Daweiat
Sentenced for 16 years and captive since 2015



2 Female
Administrative
Detainees



200 Children **< 18**
Children Under the
Age of 18



160 had been
sentenced with a
verdict while others
are still awaiting
their trial



2 Children are
Administrative
detainees



8 **MPs** form the
Palestinian Legislative
Council

5 of them are
Administrative
Detainees



2 among them have
high sentences



50 prisoners released
based Wafaa Al-Ahrar
deal were rearrested
again by the occupation
forces



18
detained
journalist





900 Ill Prisoners, comprising



23 Prisoners diagnosed with cancer



31 physically and psychologically disabled



4 prisoners with paraplegia who move around in wheelchairs



3 prisoners suffer from harsh psychological disorders



17 prisoners resided in what has been called the “Ramlah Hospital” with serious diseases and critical injuries

“Deans” of the Prisoners

47 of whom we call the “Deans” of Prisoners

They were the ones who spent more than **20** years in prison, among them:



surpassed a thirty year sentence and the oldest of these are:



Karim Younes



Nael el Bargouthy

Are among the oldest detainees and had been detained prior to the Oslo Agreement and whom the Occupation Forces have rejected their release as part of the fourth batch deal that resulted from reviving the negotiations at the late of 2013. Accordingly, they have been detained for more than a quarter of a century.



Martyrs of the Detainees' Movement

222 are the number of martyrs of the Detainees' Movement since **1967**, comprising of:



37 Detainees

Gunshot in their Cells



37 Detainees

Due Medical Negligence



37 Detainees

Detainees Due to Torture



37 Detainees

Due to Direct Murder Subsequent to Arrest





Introduction

During 2019, the occupation authorities continued its strategy of social erosion against Palestinians through its apprehension campaigns that took place in Jerusalem and the West Bank.

Apparently, the occupation authorities are capitalizing on these campaigns as a tool to oppress, subdue, intimidate, and eventually force Palestinians to recognize the legitimacy of the occupation authority.

The arrests have effected all categories of the Palestinian society, including children, women, the elderly, the ill, the handicapped, human rights activists, employees in news agencies, MPs of the Legislative Council and Palestinian party leaders. The year 2019 witnessed five thousand five hundred cases of detention from cities and villages of the West bank and Jerusalem as well as from Gaza strip.

The occupation authorities continued its concealed and disclosed war against the detainees via its military, political, and media agencies, targeting them with arbitrary verdicts, violations, restrictions, and denying them with the basic necessities of life. The year 2019 was also marked by the implementation of a fierce suppression of the detainees, that resulted in 200 casualties.

In this abridged report, we shall shed light on apprehensions conducted in 2019 as well as updates of the conditions of prisoners.



In 2019, the arrests
reached

5500



First: Arrest Operations

In 2019, the arrests reached a total of (5500) targeting all categories of the Palestinian community. Prisoners were subject to physical and psychological torture in addition to moral abuse and humiliation.

Apprehensions among minors, children under the age of 18, had reached (880); 84 of which were under the age of 12. Furthermore, the occupation authorities continued to act recklessly neglecting the Intentional Law by apprehending “Nader Hijazi”, a child from Balata Camp in Nablus whose age is under three.

Apprehensions among females had reached (153), among them are minors, elderly women, mothers, wounded, sisters to prisoners in addition to university lecturers and journalists.

One hundred and fifty-two ill citizens were arrested by the occupation authorities, some of which suffered from physical and



Apprehensions among minors, children under the age of 18



Apprehensions among females

psychological disabilities. Jarrah Mohammad Nasser, forty five years old from Al Aysawiyah from the city of Jerusalem, is a partially paralyzed citizen was also arrested. Ammar Amer Al Bakr, twenty-one-year-old from Al Oub camp in Al Khaleel, who also suffers from disabilities (deaf and mute) was also captured.

Last year, many elderly citizens had been arrested. Most notably, Badran Jaber age 78, who got arrested in al Khaleel city. Badran is a former prisoner who spent more than twenty years in prison. Doctor Ahmed Ktamesh, age 68 from Ramallah, was also arrested. He is a former prisoner who had spent 15 years in the prisons of the occupation authorities.

The apprehensions included, 1400 released prisoners, 9 academics, and university teachers. Most notably, is the professor of the faculty of Journalism in the university of Beirzeit, Wadad al Barghout from Ramallah.

Furthermore, the occupation authorities arrested 7 MPs from the Palestinian Legislative Council who were formerly detained by the occupation authorities.

In the meantime, the courts of the occupation authorities continued to issue verdicts based on the recommendations of the Intelligence Services. 2019 also witnessed the issuance of 1022 administrative verdict most notably targeting women and children.



152
disabled citizens were arrested, some of which suffered from physical and psychological disabilities



1,400
Apprehensions targeted released prisoners



7
MPs were from the Palestinian Legislative Council

The occupation authorities conducted further violations by arresting entire families comprising of fathers and their children.

Furthermore, 2019 witnessed the apprehension of 120 Palestinians including women and children convicted of expressing their opinions on social media, as Facebook. The courts of the occupation authorities charged them of incitement and issued verdicts against them that sentenced them from a number of months to a number of years years.





The total number of females apprehended reached

153



Second: Apprehensions of Females

2019 also witnessed the occupation forces targeting Palestinian females, through apprehensions and issuing warrants, such campaign did not exclude minors, the ill, or the elderly. The total number of females apprehended reached (153) including the MP in the Palestinian Legislative Council “Khaleda Jarrar”,



age fifty-four, and who had been released from her last arrest only 8 months ago.

The occupation forces has also escalated its campaign against female Palestinian by targeting academics, university staff, and those working for the media, volunteers or professionals. Among these is Bouchra Al Tawil, an activist age 25, who has been arrested for the fourth time and transferred to an administrative detention.



This campaign also encompassed minors, i.e. under the age of 18, most notably was Malak Chady Seder age 6 from Al Khaleel city. She has been called for interrogation for several hours under the pretext of aggravating Israeli settlers. Another is Rayane Ibrahim Smik, age 13 from Qalqilya, who lives near the Israeli settlement Karnei Shomrun.

Two girls were also arrested by the Occupation forces despite their injury: Alyaa Awni Khatib, from Toulkaram, who was shot in her leg on Zaatara checkpoint in southern Nablus, and Souheir Ahmed Ilimiy who was seriously injured and was transferred to Shaare Zedek medical center in the occupied territories of 1948.

Family members of prisoners and martyrs, as wives, sisters, and daughters, were also arrested in attempt to pressure and black mail the detainees. For instance, Siham Al Batat, age 60 from Al Khalil city, was arrested while she was visiting her captured son Haysam Al Batat.

The occupation forces also issued 8 administrative warrants against women during the year of 2019, 6 administrative arrests were issued for the first time while 2 were renewed for already existing prisoners. Preventive verdicts continued to be issued



Family members of prisoners and martyrs, as wives, sisters, and daughters, were also arrested

harshly as well. A tough preventive verdict of imprisonment for 15 years was issued against “Aysha Yusuf Al Afghani”, age 37 from the city of Jerusalem.

The prisoners were oppressed and deprived of their basic human rights and daily needs. The occupation forces kept entering by force to their to an under the pretext of inspection and violated their privacy by installing cameras in the prison yards and corridors.

During 2019, the occupation forces started to maintain prisoners who had been previously detained in a private section of Hasharon prison called “the path way” which is only as large as a room. Female prisoners were kept in isolation for many days and weeks under tragic circumstances before they were transferred to Damon prison.

The Occupation forces continued to adopt a negligence medical policy towards female detainees which aggravated their sufferings.

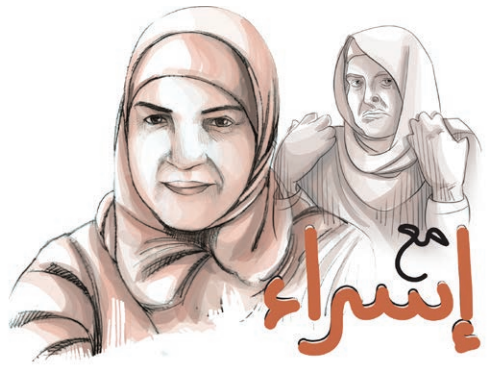


8 administrative warrants against women during the year of 2019



For instance, Israa Jabees, age 35 from Jerusalem, was deprived from a necessary surgery although she had been waiting for it more than two years. Nesreen Abou Kameel, as well, age 47 from Gaza strip, was deprived from necessary medical treatment despite her severe health condition.

It is worth to mention that International Law stipulates special care and protection to women especially mothers. A number of articles emphasized on this matter; articles (2 - 25) from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) highlight on the matter of this special protection. The articles stress that motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. In addition, Article (89) of the fourth Convention of Geneva (1949) states that special and additional services must be offered to pregnant women in the Occupied Territories. Moreover, Articles (279-) of



the first additional protocol of the Geneva Conventions (1977) state that the conditions of imprisoned mothers should be regarded as a priority.

The Occupied State is held responsible for all violations and malpractices adopted in the Palestinian territories including mistreating Palestinian women during arrest. Article (12) of the General Recommendation (28), conceded by state parties, stated to eliminate all forms of discrimination towards women.

Furthermore, the resolution of the Security Council (1325) for the year 2000 regarding unifying the treatment of women and girls during detention and interrogation as well as unifying the methods of their livelihood, called all parties in armed conflicts to take special measures to safeguard women and girls from sexual violence in wartimes. It also called all parties in armed conflicts to respect the civil and humanitarian aspect for the collective shelters and refugee camps and take into account the special needs of women and girls.



The apprehension
of children reached

880



Third: Children's Arrest

During the last year, the occupation forces continued targeting minors through apprehension, summoning, imposing high fines, and issuing against them verdicts. The apprehension of children reached 880 cases, of which 84 were under the age of twelve, some were injured, some were ill, and some were disabled. Furthermore, in unprecedented move the occupation forces apprehended Nader Al Hijazi, a child under the age three from the city of Nablus.

The occupation forces escalated its apprehensions against children under the age of ten. Among them were: "Mohamad Mazen Sheweiki", age seven from Jerusalem, "Zein Ashraf Idriss" age 7 who was arrested from his classroom when the armed forces broke into Zaidi Jaber Primary School in the city of Al Khaleel, and "Mohamad Rabie Alyan" age four, who was called in for interrogation.



84 children
<12

apprehension
of children were
under the age of
twelve

The Occupation forces continued its administrative apprehension policy towards children, issuing verdicts, imposing heavy fines with verdicts in order to impose burdens on their parents and to abstain them from taking part in resisting the occupation. Children were also arrested due to posting on Facebook, where these posts were deemed as incitement against the occupation. Accordingly, 19 children were arrested.

In 2019, the Occupation Forces shot 8 children and arrested them, they were seriously injured; they investigated them in the hospital and children were bleeding for many hours before being transferred to the hospital. The child "Ashraf Adwan" age thirteen from Jerusalem, who was shot near to Alaqsa mosque, was injured and was transferred to an institution called "Yarka Correctional" located inside the Palestinian territories because of his age. The child "Mahmoud Hussein Salah" age fifteen, from Bethlehem was seriously injured in his leg during his arrest operation, he was transferred to an Israeli hospital where he underwent a surgery that led to the amputation of his leg. Salah's detention was renewed several times and he was released a month later.



"Mohamad Khodor Al Sheikh" age fifteen, was seriously injured with his colleague, "Naseem abou Roumi" age fourteen, who passed away as a result of receiving a shot. Furthermore, "Mohamad Al Sabah" age sixteen, was seriously injured before being arrested.



During 2019, financial fines were levied on children by the Court of Ofer, with an amount reaching (447,000) Shekel which is equivalent to 127,000 USD. More than 120 verdicts of house arrest were issued against minors, in addition to 19 verdicts of domestic detention.

These acts represent grave violations to all International norms and Conventions which granted special protection to children. The Articles (2 - 25) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights issued in 1948 mentioned that motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All these deeds represent serious violation to International Norms and Conventions which prioritized safeguarding children, for Articles (2 - 25) of the Human Rights (1948) sustained that "motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance". Children Convention (1989) assured the necessity to provide protection for children and their lives, in addition to provide development opportunities. These charters stressed the importance of children's freedom. Article 1 of the Declaration of the Rights of Child sustains that a child is every human being under the age of eighteen. As indicated in the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, "a child due to his physical and mental immaturity, needs safeguarding and special care, including appropriate legal protection before as well as after birth".

a child due to his physical and mental immaturity, needs safeguarding and special care, including appropriate legal protection before as well as after birth

Article 1 of the Declaration of the Rights of Child

Further to that, children who live in the Occupied Territories have dual protection. First because they are civilians and the second is because they are children. More than 25 Articles of the Geneva Convention of 1949 stressed the importance of child protection. It is worth to mention that Gaza Strip, West Bank including Eastern Jerusalem are considered as Occupied Territories according to the International Law and to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice and accordingly the four Geneva Convention Accords of 1949 are herein applicable.

The Declaration of the Rights of the Child has also profoundly restricted the arrest of children; the Article (37-b) sustained "that no child shall be deprived of his or her liberty unlawfully or arbitrarily, the arrest, detention or imprisonment of a child shall be in conformity with the law and shall be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time".

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 1966 sustained in Articles (1 - 24) that every child shall have without any





discrimination to race, color, sex, language, religion, national or social origin, property or birth, the right, on the part of his family, society, and the state, to such measures of safeguarding for the reasons of being a minor. The International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights, as well, stresses in Articles (10 - 3) the necessity to undertake protection measures and special assistance for all children and adolescents.

As a matter of discrimination, the Israeli Penal Law defines the Israeli child as a human being who is under the age of eighteen. Whereas, in the Occupied Territories of 1967 the Israeli Forces are applying the military rules issued on the 24th of September 1967 that defines a Palestinian child as a human being who is under the age of sixteen. Thus, the military rule is in contrary to the Declaration of the Rights of the Child that defines a child as a human being who is under the age of eighteen.



Apprehensions
were the highest in
Jerusalem reached

1,930



Fourth: Arrests in Jerusalem

The Occupation Forces also escalated its apprehension campaign in Jerusalem to become a daily phenomenon and part of its comprehensive scheme towards the Aqsa mosque, the holy, the Palestinian existence in Jerusalem, and the religious and historical values of the city.

Apprehensions were the highest in Jerusalem, where the number reached (1930) of its residents and with a ratio higher than the previous year in 8% which was (1800). As total apprehensions that occurred on the Palestinian territories during 2019. And thus, the apprehensions in the holy city reached 37% of the Palestinian territories.

It should be noted that all categories of the Palestinian community in Jerusalem, had been effected by the apprehension conducted by the occupation forces including women, the elderly, the ill, the wounded, previous released prisoners,



of apprehensions in the holy city as total apprehensions that occurred on the Palestinian territories during 2019

and even the MPs. Political leaders and religious men were also targeted by the arrests including “Sheikh Abdul Azim Salhab” chairman of the religious Endowment Council and “Sheikh Najeh BAKIRAT”, deputy director-general of the Endowment in Jerusalem. In addition to that, the governor of Jerusalem “Adnan Ghayth” was called 8 times to an investigation and was arrested later on. The Occupation Forces also arrested minister of Jerusalem “Fady Al Hamdy” several times.



618 children were arrested in Jerusalem



94 women were arrested by the Occupation Forces

Targeting children in Jerusalem became a priority for the Occupation Forces, they arrested (618) child, (43) were under the age of 12 years. Last year, wounded children were also arrested. “Ali BilalTaha” age 16, for instance, who was previously shot on a checkpoint of Shuafat Camp, was also arrested. He was

dragged while wounded and was not allowed to receive medical treatment. In addition, the child “Mohamad Issam Al Kawasmi” who was seriously shot in the back in Shuafat camp in Jerusalem, was arrested and tied to the hospital bed.

After being released, children of Jerusalem were also targeted by issuing home arrest verdicts in addition to impose on them domestic exclusion verdicts and financial fines. The Occupation Authorities issued around (120) home arrest verdicts and (19) domestic exclusion in 2019.

The Occupation Forces arrested (94) women, this rate has increased 27% in comparison with last year. In 2018, (74) women were arrested and the Occupation Forces continued to target Al Murabitat (women who decided to stay in Al Aqsa mosque to safeguard it). They arrested many of them several times, notably “Ayda Sidawi”, “Madeleine Issa”, “Hanadi Al Halwani” and two girls “Aya Abu Nab” and “Khadija Khouyass”.

The Occupation Authorities continued a strategy of cracking down on news agencies. And thus, the Minister of interior Affairs issued a ruling to close the office of Palestine Channel in Jerusalem and to abort its activity for six months.





apprehensions
occurred in Gaza
reached

154



Fifth: Arrests that occurred in Gaza

The Occupation forces continued its apprehension policy against the residence of Gaza, whether it was on the crossing point of Beit Hanoun, or was it towards the fishermen while fishing along the coast of Gaza, or was it towards the young men while they were participating in the Return March or simply being near the border for any other reason.

During the 2019, (154) apprehensions occurred in Gaza, with a percentage that decreased than 2018, which was (214).

The Occupation forces arrested residents of Gaza on Beit Hanoun Crossing point (Erez). The events went further by blackmailing them for their humanitarian needs and even tried to influence them to work as agents for the Occupation forces in Gaza. Furthermore, the they forced ill people that were crossing Beit Hanoun (Erez) to wait for several hours, because of the siege imposed on Gaza Strip, without



The percentage of apprehensions decreased than 2018 in Gaza

giving any consideration to their health conditions. In addition, dozens of civilians were forced to wait for several hours and were held for investigation, although later they were released.

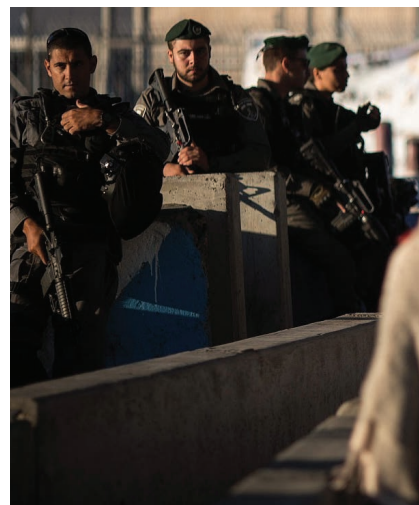
As to fishermen, the Occupation Forces continued their attack towards them and targeting them with gunfire. They continued to wreck their fishing boats and to confiscate their nets. In 2019, the Occupation forces arrested (37) fishermen that were transferred to Ashdod port, although the majority were then released.

Apprehensions close to the borders continued, (102) arrests occurred of which (8) were children under the age of 18. The child, Mansour Fawaz Al Shawi, age 16 from the middle area, was arrested, for instance, on the crossing point of Beit Hanoun.



102

arrests occurred close to the borders





الجمعية التشريعية Legislative Co



7

cases of arrests
against MPs



Sixth: Arrests of MPs

The Occupation forces continued in 2019 in calling upon MPs of the Legislative Palestinian Council and apprehending them. Moreover, they broke into their houses, searched it, and threatened them. The Report identified 7 cases of arrests against MPs in addition to conducting investigations with the MPs at military checkpoints and then releasing them.



Below is the list of MPs that had been apprehended:

- The Occupation forces arrested the **MP “Sheikh Mahmoud Abu Tayr”**, age 67. The Occupation forces broke into his house located in Al Biri, where he moved after being forced out of his home in Jerusalem 9 years ago. It is worth to note, that Sheikh Abou Tayr, spent 35 years in prison. Abou Tayr was released after 7 months of Administrative apprehension.
- The Occupation forces broke into the house of the **MP “Hasan Yusuf”**, age 63 from Ramallah, where he was arrested. It is worth to note, that he had only been released 5 months prior to his last detention. Yusuf had been arrested several times, a total that accumulates to 20 years, although he suffers from a number of non-communicable diseases as high blood pressure and diabetes.
- The Occupation forces re-arrested Deputy **“Azzam Noman Salhab”** age 63 from Al Khaleel, who is a former prisoner. He was arrested six times, he spent eight years in prison and an administrative decision was issued against him for four months.
- The Occupation forces re-arrested Deputy and released prisoner **“Khaleda Kanaan Al Jarrar”**, age 54. She’s only been free for 8 months only since her last arrest. She was arrested two times and she spent three years in prison.
- The Occupation forces arrested Deputy **“Mohamad Jamal Noaman Al Netcheh”**, age 61 from Al Khaleel, who is a former prisoner he spent 20 years in jail. He suffers from a heart attack in addition to renal problems.
- The Occupation forces arrested Deputy **“Ibrahim Mohamad Dabhour”** age 53 from Jenin city. It has been only less than a year after he spent 12 months in the renewable administration detention. The Occupation forces released him after being in detention for three weeks, they investigated him in Al Jalma center.

- The Occupation forces arrested Deputy **“Hatem Rabah KAFISHA”** age 59, a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council on “The Container” checkpoint. Deputy Hatem Kafisha has spent more than 12 years in the Occupation forces prisons.
- The Occupation forces broke into the house of the Deputy **“Nizar Abdul Aziz Ramadan”** age 60 in Al Khaleel, they interrogated him and his family members and threatened to arrest him.

Arresting MPs of the Legislative Council is a grave violation against the right of the Palestinian people in electing their representatives. These acts are also considered as violations to the International Charters, because the representatives and the MPs have political immunity. This is also deemed as a grave violation to the Bilateral Conventions especially the Second Geneva Convention of 1995; the Articles (2) and (3) decided to create a legislative council that will act as a legislative body and to ensure a democratic basis in order to establish the Palestinian Institutions. These arrests are considered as grave violations of many International Conventions signed by the Occupation forces. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights of 1966 indicated that all persons are equal before the law; in this respect, the law shall prohibit any discrimination on any ground such as political or other opinion, national or social origin. The Occupation Authority is a party to this Convention, and targeting the Deputies of the Palestinian Legislative Council is considered a grave violation of the International Law.

According to the Article (42) of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, the interment or placing in assigned residence of protected persons may be ordered only if the security of the Detaining Power makes it absolutely necessary.



170

Journalists were
targeted

Seventh: Arresting Journalists

In 2019, the Occupation forces continued to target Palestinian journalists by arresting and detaining them for many hours. Warrants were issued to detain them and their equipment were wrecked. They also broke into their institutions and homes and prevented them from travelling.

The Occupation forces in 2019 continued targeting journalists, (170) journalists were targeted they closed dozens of their account by the aid of Facebook itself and all other accounts that were defending the Palestinian righteous cause under the pretext of provocation. It is worth to note, that the Knesset had legalized such behavior in the pretext of provocative publications.

In 2019 the Occupation forces continued its strategy of targeting journalists by bringing them to court due to their posts or publications. (79) journalists had been



apprehended and dozens rearrested. Moreover, (30) news agencies were broken into and (18) journalists had been detained.

The minister of interior affairs of the Occupation forces took a decision to shut down “Palestine” channel under the pretext of “implementing activities for the Palestinian authorities”.

Moreover, journalist “Bassam Amin Al Sayeh” deceased as a result of medical negligence in the cells of the Occupation forces. He suffered from cancer and th Occupation forces refused to release him to receive medical treatment. It is worth to mention that Al Sayeh holds a B.A. in journalism and had started his career in distributing “Palestine” newspaper in the west bank and then upgraded to a journalist and finally to a reporter.

An independent journalist is every journalist who is not part of the military troops and is



30

News agencies
were broken



18

Journalists had
been detained



deemed as a civilian based on the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and in respect to the first and second Protocol of 1977 of the international armed conflicts and based on the resolution of the Security Council number (1738) issued in 2006.

Furthermore, the resolution (136 / 68) of the General Assembly in respect to the safety of the journalists and their impunity also stresses the need to find additional international humanitarian tools to guarantee the safety of journalists in armed conflict zones. Moreover, resolution (2222) of the Security Council issued in 2015 in respect to the protection of civilians in the armed conflicts areas also refers to the protection of journalists, media workers and associated personnel, as well as the Paris Declaration of Freedom regarding Journalism issued in 2014. These conventions stress the importance of safeguarding journalists as they are deemed as civilians conducting dangerous tasks in armed conflict areas.

Moreover, Article (48) of Protocol I accentuates that objects of civilian are similar to civilians and enjoy the same protection. Provision (52) of the same protocol defines the equipment of the media as civilian property and enjoys the same safeguarding as stipulated in Article (2 - 52). The same article accentuates that military advertising does not justify a military attack even if it is used to support warfare.



The number of
prisoners sentences
to life increased to

585



Eighth: Life Sentences

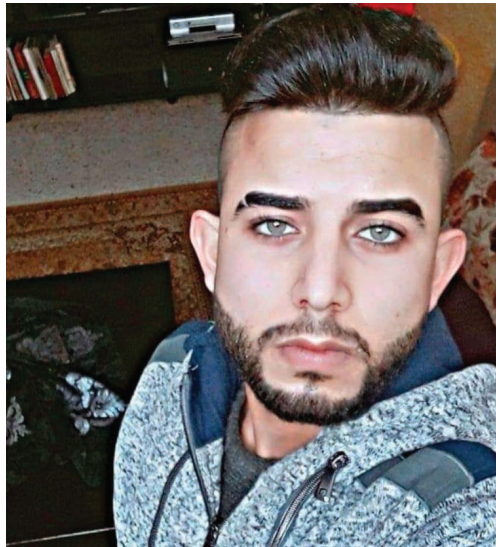
In the year (2019), the number of prisoners sentenced to life increased to (585). The court sentenced to life 4 Palestinian detainees indicted of conducting military activities against settlers.

- **Prisoner “Abed El Hakim Adel Assi”**, age 20 from Nablus, was arrested on the 18th of March 2018 and indicted of knife stabbing a settler. He was sentenced to life with a fine of 258 thousand Shekel.



4

Life sentences
in 2019

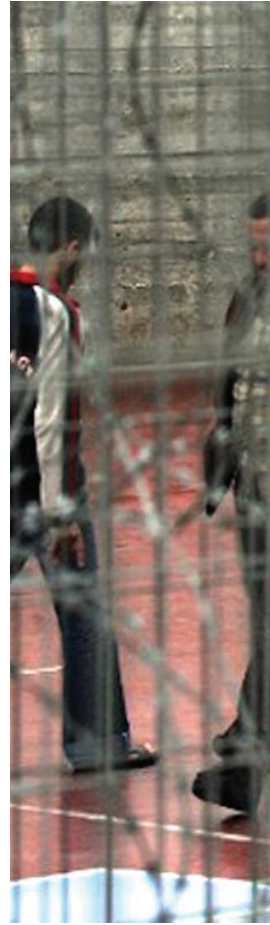




● **Prisoner “Islam Mohamad Yusef Naji Abou Hamid”**, age 34 from Ramallah, is a brother to four prisoners who are sentenced to life imprisonment and a deceased brother killed by the Occupation forces. “Abu Hamid” was arrested on the 6th of June 2018, and accused of killing a soldier by throwing a rock on a soldier that resulted in his death. The Military Court of Ofar sentenced him to life in addition to pay fine of 258 thousand Shekel.

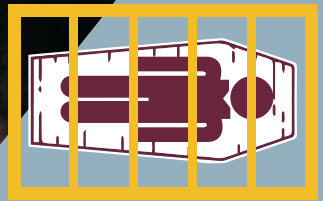


● **Prisoner “Fayez Hamad”**, age 46 from Salwad village in eastern Ramallah, was arrested on the 15th of July 2015. He was accused of killing a settler and wounding three others in Nablus. He was sentenced to life by the Military Court of Ofar and to pay 250 thousand Shekel as a fine.





- **Prisoner “Khaled Awda Abou Jawda”** age 21 from Kasfaya south of Palestine, was arrested on the 1st of December 2017 and indicted of knife stabbing in Arad that led to the death of a soldier. The Military Court of Beersheba sentenced him to life in addition to pay a fine of 258 thousand Shekel.



the number of martyrs
of the Detainees'
Movement reached

222



Ninth: Martyrs of the Detainees' Movement

In 2019, the number of martyrs of the Detainees' Movement in the cells of the Occupation Forces have increased to reach 222 martyr; 5 of them have deceased due to medical negligence.

● **Fares Baroud**

The prisoner "Fares Ahmad Mohamad Baroud", age 51 from Al Shati camp in the western Gaza, is the oldest prisoner from Gaza who was arrested in 1991 and sentenced to life. During his sentence he was transferred several time to witness all the prisons of the Occupation forces. He was also kept in an isolation cell for more than 10 years. His blind mother passed away before his death, dreaming of his touch on her face. It had been said that she lost her sight due to grief brought by her son's



5 of them have deceased due to medical negligence In 2019



detainment. She tried to visit him several times, yet she was precluded.

The health condition

Baroud's health condition deteriorated in the last years. His liver was infected with a virus and therefore,, he underwent a surgery to abstract it. Yet, he was deprived of the necessary medical treatment, and thus his health deteriorated to finally fall into a coma. He was transferred to Soroka hospital where he passed away after 28 years of imprisonment.



● Omar Youness

The wounded prisoner "Omar Awni Youness" age 20 from Kalkilya, who was gunfired at by the Occupation forces on Al Zaatara checkpoint south of Nablus. Accordingly, he was transferred to Beilinson hospital. Despite his critical condition, his parents were deprived of visiting him.

He was detained in the hospital and subject to intentional medical



negligence. On the 28th of April 2018 after 6 days of his arrest he passed away due to intentional medical negligence.

● **Nassar TAKATKA**

Prisoner “Nasser Majed Takatka”, age 31 from Bethlehem, was arrested on the 19th of June 2019 and then transferred to the detention center Al Jumla for an investigation that lasted several weeks before transferring him to an isolation cell in Nitsan prison in Ramallah, where he underwent a violent investigation conducted by the Shabak.

The severe investigations resulted in the deteriorating of his health. Moreover, he was deprived from medical treatment or being transferred to a hospital. On the 16th of July 2019, Takatka passed away, after one month of his detention. It is worth to note, that Taktaka did not suffer from any illness or disease prior to his detention. Inflict



● **Bassam Al Sayeh**

Bassam al Sayeh, age 47 from Nablus, was arrested on the 8th of

October 2015. He was transferred to Al Ramlah Hospital because of his cancer case. Al Sayeh was suffering from acute Chronic myelogenous Leukemia (CML) in addition to bone cancer and a severe failure in the muscle of the heart.

In the last months, his health deteriorated dramatically and only a fraction of his heart muscle was functioning. He started to suffer from acute pneumonia and difficulty in breathing. The prison administration refused to give the necessary medical treatment. And thus, on the 8th of September 2019, he passed away as a result of medical negligence.



● **Sami Abou Diak**

Prisoner “Sami Abou Diak”, age 37 from Jenin city, was arrested on the 17th of July 2002. He court sentenced him with a triple life sentence. It is worth to note, that Abou Diak did not suffer from any illness prior to his arrest. He was imposed to a medical error after undergoing a surgery of stomach abstraction in Soroko hospital. Accordingly, his health deteriorated dramatically and he started to suffer from renal and lungs failure. Although, he underwent

three surgeries alas they failed to put an end to his suffering. Finally, he was diagnosed with cancer that spread throughout his body.

The Occupation forces refused to release him for a surgical operation conducted abroad or even to release him to die among his family and loved ones. On the 26th of November 2019, Abou Diak passed away after 18 years of imprisonment.



the martyr prisoner Sami Abu Dayak



The number of life sentences of prisoners increased to

1022



Tenth: Administrative Decisions

In 2019, the military courts in “Oufar” and “Salem” proceeded in issuing administrative detention verdicts for new detainees and to renew its rulings for former detainees. In 2019, the court issued (1022) administrative verdict with a 10% increase than the previous year where it issued (920) administrative verdict.

The numbers of verdicts issued for the first time against the detainees reached (380). It is worth to note, that the majority of the administrative verdicts were renewed in the same year and most of them are for released prisoners who spent years in prisons and they were arrested again.

The number of the renewed administrative orders for new detainees reached (642) orders, mostly from two to six months. However, some administrative verdicts were renewed for the fifth time for a number of prisoners.



Increased the administrative verdict than the previous year



Renewed administrative orders for new detainees

The Occupation forces has also intensified in 2019 the issuance of Administrative Verdicts against female prisoners to include:



- **“Shaza Majed Hasan”, age 20** from Ramallah and a student from the faculty of journalism in Beirzeit University, was detained under an administrative decision of three months.
- **“Alaa Fahmi Bachir”, age 23** from Kalkilya, was detained under an administrative decision for four months and renewed twice.
- **“Shourouk Mohamad Al Badan” age 25**, from Bethlehem and a mother of two, was detained under an administrative decision for four months and renewed twice.
- **“Bouchra Jamal Al Tawil”, age 26** from Ramallah and a former released prisoner who had been arrested for three times, was detained under an administrative decision for four months after 5 days of her arrest.
- **“Hiba Ahmad Al Lebdi”** who holds a Jordanian nationality, was arrested on her way back to the West Bank through Al Karma Bridge. An administrative decision was issued against her for five months. She underwent a hunger strike and was released based on an agreement between the Jordanian authorities and the Occupation authorities.

- **“Fida Mohamad Daamass Al Khaleel”, age 24** from Beir lmir village in the district of Al Khaleel and a former prisoner, was detained upon an administrative decision and renewed for four times and then released.

Several Administrative Rulings had been issued and yet many are still detained, as:

- **The child “Nidal Ziad Amer”, age 17** from Jenin, was detained based on administrative decision that was renewed for three times.
- **The child “Hafiz Ibrahim Zayoud”, age 16** from Jenin, was detained under an administrative decision that was renewed four times.
- **The child “Sulayman Mohamad Abu Ghosh”, age 16** resident of Kalandia camp in north of Jerusalem and brother to Hussein Abu Ghosh who was killed by the occupation forces, was detained based on an administrative decision for four months and renewed twice.
- **The child “Sulayman Salem Katash”, age 16** from Ramallah, was detained based on administrative decision for four months.

An Administrative Arrest:

is an arrest without any prior accusation or trial. It is based on concealed evidence and a concealed report. Neither the detainee nor his attorney can be exposed to the content of this report. It is also possible according to the military Israeli orders to renew the detention based on an Administrative decision for indefinite renewable times, where it will be issued for a maximum period of six months. The

latter is usually based on the political situation within the Palestinian territories, i.e. to exert political pressure or to form some sort of punishment.

The Occupation Authorities base the Administrative decisions on the colonial emergency law of 1945, in addition to the military

rule number (1651) that allows the commander of the military area to detain a person or persons for a period up of six months. The Occupation forces also claim that the Article 78 of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 allows administrative detention!

The text of the alleged article is: The Occupation Authorities have the right to take security measures towards protected individuals and have the right to impose house detainment on them or to arrest them. However, the text of Article 78 mentioned detentions only in high emergency as an inevitable last mean and defined as is it wouldn't be possible to trial that person because his act is not deemed as an offence or he has declared his criminal intent but did not execute it yet.

Furthermore, the Occupation forces denies that Administrative Arrest is a violation to International Law or to its international commitment.

First: it is an arrest without an accusation which is contrary to the text of Article (9 - 2) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights that mentioned that anyone who



is arrested shall be informed, at the time of arrest, at the reasons of his arrest and shall be promptly informed by any charges against him. Therefore, it is considered an arbitrary arrest according to the Article (9 - 1) of the same Covenant. This article mentioned that no one shall be subjected to an arbitrary arrest or detention and everyone has the right of liberty and no one shall be deprived of it, except on the grounds of violating the law and in accordance to the established procedures.

Second: the administrative arrest is contrary to the principle of the public trial because it is based on a concealed report in addition to the concealed evidence. Article (1- 14) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights mentioned that everyone shall be entitled to a public tribunal and considers it as a matter of implementing justice. Furthermore, everyone is entitled of a transparent and a public hearing and it is necessary to disclose all information related to it.

Third: administrative arrest contradicts to the principles of neutrality, justice and impartiality since the military judge and the prosecutor general are serving the Israeli army. Hence, they work in the same Israeli unit and are appointed by the same body. The facts only boil down in the end that the Israeli army is the judge and the opponent!!!





900

Ill Prisoners



Eleventh: Deterioration of the prisoners' health conditions

Because Palestinian prisoners are encountering harsh conditions in prisons, their immune system deteriorated and they became afflicted with illnesses and a number of diseases.

Since the Occupation forces adopted a policy of medical negligence that affected the health of the prisoners that have dramatically deteriorated and have acquired some serious diseases. As a result, many prisoners suffered from cardiovascular problems and some had cancer and were transferred to hospitals.

- **“Ahmad Adel Saadeh”, age 40** from Jerusalem, was arrested in 2003 and sentenced to 13 life sentences. He suffered from a cardiovascular failure in Remon prison and was transferred to Soroka Israeli hospital where he underwent a surgery to put a stent. His medical condition is still dangerous and he needs special care.
- **“Shadi Faysal Ata Mussa”, age 43** from Marka village in Jenin, suffered from a cardiovascular failure in Negev prison and was transferred urgently by a helicopter to Soroka hospital where he was admitted to the intensive care unit and underwent a surgery to put a stent. He suffered twice from seizures due to blood clotting. Mussa has been detained since 2002 and was sentenced to 25 years of prison.

- **“Mouwaffak Nayef Aarouk”, age 77** from Yafa in an-Nasseryie, had his health deteriorate radically due to difficult detention circumstances in Aksalan prison, where he was diagnosed with liver and stomach cancer. The prison’s administration waited for months before transferring him to hospital to start chemotherapy. Aarouk has been detained since 2003, sentenced for 30 years in prison and his life is in real danger.
- **“Ibrahim Nayef Abou Mokh”, age 60**, has been arrested since March 1986 and sentenced to life. His health conditions have deteriorated, and was diagnosed with Leukemia at an advanced stage.
- **General “ Fouad Al Shobki”, age 81**, is the oldest prisoner and suffers a health condition. He was transferred handcuffed to the hospital more than once, he has several many medical conditions as high blood pressure, diabetes, cardiovascular problems in addition to elderly issues. He has been detained since 2006 and sentenced to 16 years of prison. The Occupation Authorities refused to release him even though he had spent two thirds of his detention period.
- **“Samer Mina Al Arbeed’, age 44** from Ramallah, was arrested in September 2019. He was severely beaten after his arrest. Consequently, his bones were broken and has lost consciousness. He was transferred to Al Maskoubiyi prison for investigation, where he was subjected to the most horrible torture methods that resulted in the deterioration of his health. He suffered from a serious renal failure and was transferred two days later to the hospital in a severe condition, where he was admitted to the ICU.

- **The sick prisoner “Kamal ABOU EER” ,aged 46** from Kabatiya city in Jenin.
- **“Kamal Abou Eer”, age 46** from Kabatiya city in Jenin, has been detained since 2003. He was sentenced to life 6 times. He suffers from throat cancer and thrombocytopenia. His health continued to deteriorate and the prison’s administration refused to give him the necessary medical treatment.
- **“Mostafa Mohamad Al Banna”, age 30** from Jabalya camp north of Gaza strip, had his health deteriorate and has lost consciousness in his cell. He was transferred to Soroka hospital where he was diagnosed of renal and liver failure. He has been arrested since April 2018 and was sentenced to 44 months in prison.

Many international conventions had set the details for the rights of the detainees including Hague Convention of 1907, Geneva Convention of 1929 and the third Geneva Convention of 1949, in which Article 15 stated: That the detaining state must guarantee that the detainees will receive sustenance and medical attention as required by their health condition.

Furthermore, Article 13 of the third Geneva Convention of 1949 stated that the detainees must at all times be humanely treated. While, Article 14 stated that detainees are entitled in all circumstances of respect as human beings. Moreover, Article 16 stated that all detainees shall be treated alike without any adverse distinction based on their nationality, religion or sex.



5

Units of the prison's administration broke into section (17)



Twelfth: Unprecedented Escalation

During 2019, the Occupation forces adopted an escalation strategy towards the Detainees Movement via its special forces through oppression and multiple breakdowns, using gas, pepper, and sound grenades with the intent of humiliating them and isolating them from their surroundings. Moreover, 2019 also witnessed, the Ardan committee issuing a number of discriminated rulings against the detainees.

In January, prisoners of Oufar were subjected to a massive oppressive act, where five units of the prison's administration broke into section (17) assaulted the prisoners, shot rubber bullets, and randomly threw sound and gas bombs in a close range. Police dogs also assaulted the prisoners which resulted in 150 injuries. Some prisoners suffered from suffocation and broken bones and were transferred to hospitals and swiftly returned back to prison after treatment. While the rest were treated in the prison.



prisoners suffered from suffocation and broken bones

Furthermore, the Occupation forces in Negev prison installed modern electronic interference devices that emitted a very high electromagnetic radiation which causes health issues and symptoms of unknown diseases started to appear on the prisoners.

The situation in Negev prison has escalated especially when they were transferring prisoners from section 4 to section 3. The Occupation forces claimed that an officer was stabbed and carried an assault against the prisoners. The Special Forces directly shot prisoners that resulted in seven wounded while others were seriously injured.



Accordingly, the administration of the prison carried out an unprecedented acts of oppression when they forced more than 95 prisoners to remove their clothing and to take squatting posture, their hands were cuffed behind their back and they started to beat them for hours as a result, the scene ended with blood covering the ground of that section.

The Occupation forces confiscated all their belongings and some prisoners were bleeding for 48 hours, and only later did the Prison's

Administration permit blankets and a mattress to be given to each prisoner.

On the same night, the administration of the prison transferred 7 prisoners who were seriously injured to Soroka hospital and then sent them back to prison on the next day. Prisoner "Salman Khoder Mouselma" was seriously injured, and rumors circulated about his death- but in fact he was seriously injured and was transferred by a helicopter to a hospital as well as prisoner "Mousaab Abou Shkhidem" who was injured in his head.



prisoners to remove their clothing and to take squatting posture, their hands were cuffed behind their back in Negev prison



7 prisoners who were seriously injured transferred to Soroka hospital

On the next day of the assault, a number of sanctions were imposed on the prisoners, the Occupation forces confiscated electronic devices and some prisoners were transferred to isolation. The Occupation forces conducted a swift trial for the prisoners in section 22 in Negev prison and imposed on the prisoners a fine of a half a million Shekel and were prohibited to see their relatives.

April Strike

The leadership of the Detainees' Movement decided to escalate in attempt to halt the oppression carried out by the administration of the prison and to remove the harmful electronic interference devices. They also aimed to receive some rights they were deprived from by the Occupation forces during the last years. The seventh day of April is declared as the beginning of the movement where some leaders started a gradual strike.



The Occupation forces engaged in serious negotiations with the leadership of the movement prior to the strike. The negotiations lasted for many days. Four hundred prisoners commenced the strike even though negotiations were still in progress. The prison's administration did not halt the negotiation in an attempt to prevent the deterioration of the situation and to stop a large number of prisoners in taking part in the strike.



On the evening of April the 15th, the prisoners declared that the Occupation forces had accepted their humanitarian needs and that the strike that had been going on for eight days will be suspended. Based on their negotiations, a number of reforms should be taken, starting from installing a public telephone booth in prisons so that prisoners can make phone calls three times a week for 20 minutes and the Occupation forces will remove all the interference devices and no new ones will be installed.

On July, the prisoners discovered that the Occupation forces are not working hard to implement their side of the agreement and as a result tension was brought back to prison. On September, tensions between the administration of the prison and the prisoners escalated again and 144 prisons including the leaders of the Detainees Movement started a strike against the procrastination of the Occupation forces in implementing their side of the agreement. Prisoners started returning their meals and closed the section of the prison and didn't even perform Friday prayers.

Two weeks later, the leadership of the Detainees' Movement agreed with the Intelligence service to suspend the strike based on a pledge by the prison's administration to implement their previous covenant. Consequently, the administration initiated in reducing the number of the electronic interference devices that inflicted prisoners' health and installed telephone booths so that prisoners can use 5 days a week.





Conclusions and Recommendations

First Conclusions

- The Year (2019) had been marked by (5500) detention cases in comparison with (5700) in 2018.
- The Occupation forces escalated in its tactic of issuing administrative rulings. It issued in 2019 (1022) administrative ruling, while in 2018 it issued (920).
- The Occupation forces continued to target the Palestinian women by arresting and abusing them. These women underwent hard investigation sessions in addition to arbitrary arrests.
- The Occupation Intelligence Services continued to use internationally prohibited torture methods which resulted in the decease or disability of the detainee. For this is what exactly happened with prisoner "Samer Al Arbeed" who was transferred to the intensive care unit because of torture.
- The Occupation forces continued the tactic of assassinating prisoners, 5 new prisoners passed away because of medical neglect and torture.
- The Occupation forces continued targeting Palestinian children under the age of 18 by detention and humiliation. They arrested 780 children among them were those who were wounded and disabled.

- The Occupation forces continued to target minors under the age of 12, they arrested (84) children and this represents an increase of around 400% in comparison with last year.
- 2019 has been marked by a dangerous and an unprecedented escalation in targeting the prisoners that resulted in the injury of more than 200 prisoners in addition to inflicting them with bruises and broken bones during the attack that took place in Neqev, Oufar and Remon prison.
- The health conditions of many prisoners has deteriorated because of the medical negligence policy adopted by the Occupation forces. Many prisoners had been diagnosed with cancer and some of with cardiovascular failures.
- The Courts of the Occupation Authorities continued to issue severe reprisal judgments against female Palestinian prisoners and children under the age 18.
- The Occupation forces continued to target Palestinian journalists by detention or calling them to investigations. Moreover, multiple news agencies were forced to shut down.
- As the Occupation forces continued its control over the crossing borders, it blackmailed Gaza's residents that utilize these border to travel or receive medical care to give them sensitive information.

Secondly: The Recommendations

- To take advantage of the declaration of the International Criminal Court's General Prosecutor in Hague to conduct an investigations regarding the crimes against prisoners. And to prepare a report, in this context, regarding the torture and assassination conducted by the Occupation forces as well as to make serious efforts to legally pursue their leaders in the international courts.

- To Declare 2020 a year to liberate Palestinian prisoners and to provoke the international attitude in a manner to support their cause as well as to compel the Occupation Authorities to comply with International Humanitarian Conventions.
- To hold events and activities expressing solidarity with prisoners in an organized and permanent manner through a unified and clear strategy.
- To take serious and urgent actions in order to clarify the seriousness of the arrests operations and social attrition conducted by the Occupation Authorities against the Palestinians, which have affected a large number of them and left them to the whims of their oppressor.
- To create a unified national website in English and French in addition to other languages. The website will be managed by an official authority so that the entire world might witness the suffering of the prisoners. The website should be a reliable source of information and reference supported by evidence, documents, and pictures.
- To direct the ambassadors and the representatives of Palestine in the Arab and Europeans countries by the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to work hard in order to support prisoners and to convince the International Community to support their cause.
- To bring the soldiers and officers of the Intelligence service to Justice, and before the International Criminal Court, for adopting psychological and physical acts of torment against detained children, as these acts are deemed as war crimes.
- To cooperate with Arab Governmental Organizations and non-Governmental Organizations concerned with Human Rights

to work to free Palestinian prisoners considering them a legal resistance and in accordance with the International Law.

- To call the International Committee of the Red Cross to fulfill its role towards the prisoners through intensifying their visits to the prisoners, being well informed about their situation, exerting pressure to improve their conditions, and to provide them with the needed supplies especially in winter.
- To conduct extensive electronic campaigns to support the detainees, in order to shed light on their suffering and to gain legal support, media backing, and international sympathy for their cause.
- To call the European Parliament to progress its truth-seeking commissions on children's detention that violates all child rights' conventions.
- To shed the light on grave violations of the Humanitarian International Law in addition to the International Human Rights Law conducted by the Occupation Authorities and to urge the International Organizations to call to account the Occupying State and to form truth-seeking commissions for the violations committed by the Occupying Forces against the Palestinian prisoners.



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