

December 2015

## **Factsheet: Arrest and Detention of Palestinians**

### **General Statistics**

- Since 01 October 2015, there has been an alarming increase of arrests of Palestinians. Between 01 October and 14 December 2015, Addameer has documented **2347 documented arrests of Palestinians, including 418 children**.
- Between 01 October and 08 December 2015, there have been **340 documented administrative detention orders**, including 247 new orders and 93 renewal orders.
- Approximately 587 are Palestinians held under **administrative detention without charge or trial**.
- Currently, there are **5 PLC members in Israeli prisons**, two of whom are held under administrative detention without charge or trial.

### **Prison Conditions**

- Over **6,500 Palestinians remain imprisoned** by Israeli occupation.
- Over **450 Palestinian children** are held in Israeli detention. The majority of Palestinian children in Israeli detention report that they were subjected to ill treatment and torture in the form of physical and psychological violence against them. **Currently approximately 70 of these children are held in Givon prison** with reported ill treatment, unhygienic conditions, dampness, and inadequate food portions. Children in detention have complained of interrogation that has involved **physical beatings, denial of food, denial of medical treatment, denial from toilet access, sleep deprivation, and threats against themselves and family members**.
- There are currently **49 females in Israeli detention, including 42 women and 7 female children**. These 7 children were arrested since 01 October 2015 and 4 of them were injured by Israeli forces at the time of their arrests.
- **Isolation continues to be used as a punitive measure**; currently there are around 20 Palestinian prisoners and detainees in **isolation**, including Nahar Al-Sa'adi, who has been held **in isolation for over 2 years**.

### **Extrajudicial Executions**

- There have been about **120 Palestinians extra-judicially killed** by Israeli forces since 01 October 2015, **including 25 children**.
- There are currently **53 bodies** of extrajudicial killed Palestinians being withheld by Israeli forces and/or Israeli settlers, **including 3 women and 12 children**.

### **Violations During Arrests and Raids on Homes**

- Human Rights violations during arrests and raids on homes which systemically accompany these arrests continue. Homes are **ransacked, closets are rummaged through, alongside destruction of home property, violence against family members** of those arrested. Detainees continue to report physical beating at the time of arrest.
- Arrests of children continue to be accompanied with physical assault. 17 year old Ahmad Nasser recounted that on 05 October 2015, on his way home from school in Jerusalem, approximately 12 Israeli officers and soldiers **physically beat him** and then forcibly transferred him to a police station in an Israeli settlement, after which his **undershirt was forcibly removed and wrapped around his face**. Photographs were then taken to incriminate him.
- 16 year old Salam Quraan was arrested on 14 October 2015 in Ramallah while on his way home from school. He reported being **beaten by 9 soldiers** in the stomach and genitals, after which he was dragged by his legs.

### **Torture and Ill Treatment**

- Recent events have witnessed an escalation in torture and ill treatment of Palestinians in detention. Following the night raid on their homes, Palestinian detainees are held in military jeeps in a long transfer process. 19 year-old Jureen Qadah reported to an attorney that she was held **in a military jeep for approximately 18 hours**, following a raid on her home at 2.00 AM on 29 October 2015.
- Ill treatment continues in detention. Addameer's attorney who visited three female children in Ramleh prison on 25 November 2015 aged between 14 years and 17 years old indicated that their **belongings were taken away, including their headscarves and warm clothes**, and that the rooms they were being held in were filled with insects. They reported that they were suffering from degrading treatment by prison guards and that they were **being shackled** during recreation time in the prison yard.

### **Discriminatory Legislation**

- Recent discriminatory legislations include the so called "Law to Prevent Harm Caused by Hunger Strikers" approved on 30th of July 2015 by the Israeli Knesset, permitting **the force-feeding of Palestinian hunger strikers** in Israeli occupation prisons.
- Another pending proposed law, if passed, would allow for **20-year prison sentences for children** and instituting a minimum sentence of **2-4 years for throwing stones**.