

State of Palestine

Association of Palestinian
Local Authorities



الاتحاد الفلسطيني للهيئات المحلية
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دولة فلسطين

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للهيئات المحلية

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Palestinian Prisoners Day and Inhumane Treatment

Palestinians commemorate Palestinian Prisoner's Day on April 17 of each year. Prisoner's Day this year comes amidst the most horrific types of torture, violations, and abuses committed against Palestinian prisoners in occupation prisons, which have exceeded all international and humanitarian conventions, such as international humanitarian law, the Fourth Geneva Convention, principles of human rights, and the Statute of the International Criminal Court. These conventions stipulate human rights and humanitarian principles that must be respected and adhered to in the treatment of prisoners.

The huge number of prisoners held by the Israeli occupation indicates that imprisonment is a general Israeli strategy aimed to subjugating Palestinians and forcing them to submit to the occupation by expanding and deepening the suffering and pain among the Palestinian people. According to the Palestinian detainees Society in 2019, the number of detainees since 1967, about 1 million, including more than 17,000 women and more than 50,000 children.

The number of prisoners in occupation prisons until October 7, 2023, reached 4,780, according to prison institutions. However, after this date, with the start of the Israeli war on the Gaza Strip, the arrest campaign escalated to reach 11,990 prisoners (not including prisoners from Gaza due to the occupation's refusal to reveal the number of detainees) including, women, children, elderly, people with disabilities, and sick, they subjected to the most horrific forms of torture and humiliation sometimes led to death, since 7th of Oct, more than 7 prisoners have been executed as a result of these conditions, in addition to the forced disappearance for hundreds of detainees.

The suffering of Palestinian prisoners extends to the deprivation of basic human needs, such as deprived of treatment, deliberate neglect of the sick prisoner's health leading to slow death, the starvation where the food meant for 1 prisoner is divided between 7 or 10 prisoners, with very poor-quality food, overcrowded rooms contribute to a lack of privacy and hygiene, leading to sexual assaults, especially against women, and recently also against men. These attacks include verbal harassment, rape, threats of rape, brutal beatings on sensitive parts of the body, and humiliating strip searches during inspections.

The Israeli occupation commits another type of crime against Palestinian prisoners who have been hidden for a long period, which is the theft of organs from Palestinian prisoners who die in Israeli prisons. There is evidence that Israelis engage in trafficking these stolen organs, as Israel owns the largest skin bank in the world, surpassing the American skin bank established 40 years earlier, despite Israel ranking 3rd in organ donation refusal among its population due to Jewish religious beliefs.

It's an urgent the urgent need for global action to end the horrific treatment of Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails. Join us in demanding justice, accountability, and respect for human rights.

The Association of Palestinian Local Authorities – APLA

📍 10 Jabra Al-Anqar Street- 2nd Floor - Safad Building - Al-Masion - Ramallah - Palestine
☎ +972-2-2960712 📠 +972-2-2960713 ✉ info@apla.ps 🌐 www.apla.ps

