

# **Palestinian Prisoner's Day 2022**

**A summary factsheet on the situation of  
Palestinian political prisoners imprisoned  
by Israel**



# Background

On April 17 of each year, **Palestinian Prisoner's Day** is marked to highlight the plight of Palestinian political prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons and call for their freedom.

Since the beginning of the Israeli occupation in 1967, Israel has imprisoned over **1 million Palestinians** and continues to employ its policy of mass arbitrary detention through daily military raids and incursions.

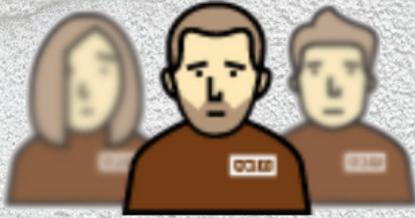
**Administrative Detention** is widely used to imprison Palestinians with no charge or trial for indefinite periods of time. Since 1967, Israeli occupation authorities have issued over 60,000 administrative detention orders.

Most Palestinian prisoners are held in prison facilities located inside Israel and not in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, a grave violation of the 4th Geneva Convention amounting to **forcible transfer**.

All Palestinians are tried in **military courts** which have a **conviction rate of 99%**.

Palestinian prisoners and detainees, including women and children, are also subject to various forms of **torture and ill-treatment**.

# Facts & Figures



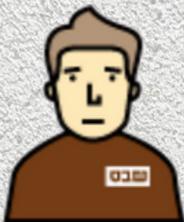
**4,450 prisoners**



**530 administrative detainees**



**32 women**



**160 children**  
**20** of them in solitary confinement



**>600 with illnesses**

**\*As of April 2022**

# Torture & ill-treatment

Israeli prison authorities use various forms of **torture** and **ill-treatment** techniques against Palestinian prisoners and detainees.

Some of these methods include: beatings, physical and verbal assault, deliberate medical negligence, isolation and solitary confinement, stress positions, inhumane detention conditions, denial of access to hygiene facilities and prolonged sleep, food and water deprivation.

Torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment are considered **war crimes** under the Rome Statute of the ICC.



# Women & Children

Palestinian female prisoners and detainees suffer from specific methods of torture and ill-treatment, namely sexual harassment, threats of rape, verbal abuse and degrading insults, denial of sanitary products. Israeli prison authorities also use intrusive body and strip searches on female prisoners and detainees. Imprisoned mothers are deprived from seeing their children.

Israel detains between 500 and 700 Palestinian children every year, most of them during night raids, as Israel aims to terrorize the children and instill fear in them and their families. Almost all children suffer from physical and verbal abuse during their detention. They are also often kept in solitary confinement, isolated from their family and lawyer. Israel is the only country in the world with a juvenile military court designed to prosecute children.



# Conclusion & Recommendations

Israel employs mass arbitrary detention to further entrench its brutal military occupation and Apartheid regime. Israeli occupation forces imprison and detain thousands of Palestinians, including women and children, every year in dire conditions. Hundreds of them are kept in prison with no charge or trial under so-called "administrative detention" and almost all prisoners and detainees are subject to torture and/or ill-treatment, in a grave violation of international law and amounting to war crimes.

Hence, **MIFTAH** calls for the freedom of all Palestinian political prisoners and detainees and urges the international community and public to:

- Hold Israel accountable for its persistent crimes and human rights violations, particularly against prisoners and detainees
- Support investigations into the situation of Palestinian prisoners and detainees
- Amplify the struggle of Palestinian political prisoners and detainees and demand action from elected representatives