### **Detention Bulletin**

October 2010



### October 2010

- Case summaries from Silwan
- Israeli prison conditions EU submission
- Emad Al-Ashhab receives 4<sup>th</sup> administrative detention order
- DCI Violations Bulletin
- New media
   Haaretz
   Channel 2 (Israel)

### **DETENTION FIGURES**

**5,847** Total number of Palestinian adults and children in detention ( $\sqrt{1.5\%}$ )

**256** children detained ( $\sqrt{5\%}$ )

**34** aged 12-15 (**↑**6%)

**2** children in administrative detention

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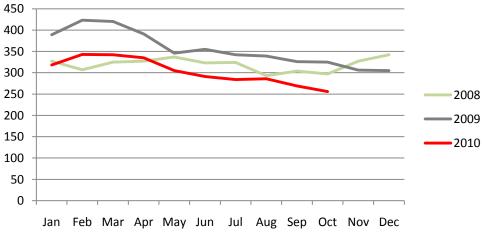
### October 2010 – Mass arrests in Silwan, East Jerusalem

In October, DCI-Palestine collected information relating to the **arrest of 17 children** from the Silwan neighbourhood in occupied East Jerusalem, although lawyers and fieldworkers for DCI-Palestine estimate that the overall number of children arrested in the Silwan neighbourhood in October is considerably higher.

According to the UN, violence in Silwan has escalated in recent weeks in the context of increasing friction between Palestinian residents on the one side,

and Israeli settlers, their armed private security guards (hired by the Israeli Ministry of Housing) and the Israeli police on the other. The Municipality's plan to demolish a section of the neighbourhood (Al Bustan) and displace its Palestinian residents in order to build a recreation park (officially announced in March 2010) has also contributed to rising tensions.

(Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs – Protection of Civilians, 13-19 October 2010)



Number of Palestinian children in Israeli detention: Jan 2008 - Oct 2010

# OCTOBER 2010 IN FIGURES

Each year approximately 700 Palestinian children, some as young as 12 years, are detained and prosecuted in the Israeli military court system.

The most common charge is for throwing stones. The overwhelming majority of these children are detained inside Israel in contravention of Article 76 of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

#### **Total**

According to the latest figures compiled by DCI-Palestine from sources including the Israeli Prison Service (IPS) and Israeli army detention facilities, there were 256 Palestinian children (12-17 years) in Israeli detention on 31 October 2010. This represents a reduction of 13 children (five percent) from the previous month.

### Total number of Palestinian children in Israeli detention at the end of each month since Jan 2008 - Note: These figures are not cumulative

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Aver.
2008	327	307	325	327	337	323	324	293	304	297	327	342	319
2009	389	423	420	391	346	355	342	339	326	325	306	305	355
2010	318	343	342	335	305	291	284	286	269	256			303

### 12-15 year olds

DCI-Palestine remains concerned at the number of young children (12-15 years) being prosecuted in Israeli military courts and receiving custodial sentences inside Israel. As at 31 October 2010, there were 34 young children in Israeli detention, an increase of two children (six percent) from the previous month.

# Number of young (12-15) Palestinians in Israeli detention at the end of each month since January 2008 - Note: These figures are not cumulative

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Aver.
2008	38	40	45	39	37	34	33	21	23	23	25	30	32
2009	50	54	53	47	39	47	42	39	40	44	41	42	44
2010	44	41	39	32	25	23	18	20	32	34			31

#### Girls in detention

No Palestinian girls were held in Israeli detention facilities in October 2010.

# Number of Palestinian girls in Israeli detention at the end of each month since January 2008 - Note: These figures are not cumulative

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Aver.
:	2008	2	3	3	4	3	6	6	5	6	6	5	7	4.7
:	2009	5	7	6	6	6	5	4	3	3	0	0	0	3.8
2	2010	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0			0.1

### **Administrative detention**

In early November 2010, Emad Al-Ashrab (17) was issued with his fourth administrative detention order for a further three months. Emad has now been held without charge or trial since 26 February 2010. Moatasem Nazzal (UA 3/10) has also been held without charge or trial since 10 March 2010. Moatasem's detention will next come up for review on 26 December 2010.

# Number of Palestinian children held in Israeli administrative detention at the end of each month since January 2008 - Note: These figures are not cumulative

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Aver.
2008	18	3	13	12	10	13	13	13	11	8	5	6	10
2009	5	6	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1.8
2010	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2			1.6

#### Case summaries

Lawyers and fieldworkers for DCI-Palestine collect sworn affidavits from Palestinian children in prison and upon their release.

These affidavits are taken in Arabic and further reviewed by trained staff to determine appropriate follow up action.

Each year, around 100 of these affidavits are translated into English from which these brief case summaries are produced.

Additional case summaries are available upon request.

### **Voices From The Occupation**

- Voices Nadeem and Jihad
- Voices Sexual assault
- Voices 7-year-old summonsed
- Voices Confession in Hebrew
- **Voices** The cost of settlements
- **Voices** Prison visits
- **Voices** House arrest, no school
- **Voices** Electric shocks
- Voices Electric shocks

### Baha' R. (13 years)

On 11 October 2010, a 13-year-old boy from Silwan, East Jerusalem, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, is arrested by soldiers and accused of throwing stones:

At around 5:00pm, Baha' was standing in front of his sister's house with some friends when they were attacked by 10 men in plain clothes, who were apparently Israeli security forces. Baha' then reports being dragged into a nearby mosque by the men. The men then started firing weapons and tear gas at the people outside the mosque. Baha's hands were tied behind his back and his shirt was pulled up over his eyes to prevent him from seeing. Baha' reports that he became affected by tear gas which the men were firing. A short time later, Baha' was put in an Israeli military vehicle and kicked and slapped. He was then transferred to Al Mascobiyya interrogation centre ('The Russian Compound') in another part of Jerusalem, where he was interrogated. The interrogator asked Baha' who was throwing stones at the soldiers. Baha' soon confessed to throwing stones 'because I was so terrified because they beat me when they arrested me and because I was alone in the interrogation room.' Baha' was released from custody at 11:00pm the same day, on 5,000 shekels bail (US \$1,400).

### Msallam O. (10 years)

On 18 October 2010, a 10-year-old boy from Silwan, East Jerusalem, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, is arrested by soldiers and accused of throwing stones:

Msallam was standing outside the protest tent in the al-Bustan neighbourhood of Silwan where a group of youngsters had gathered to throw stones at settlers in protest at plans to demolish the neighbourhood. Msallam did not cover his face because he was not going to throw stones, he just wanted to see what would happen. Suddenly, 15 men in plain clothes jumped out of two white vans and three of the men grabbed Msallam, one held him by the throat. Msallam's hands were tied behind his back with plastic ties and one man asked him who threw stones and then started punching Msallam in the head and told him to shut up when he started to scream. Msallam was then dragged 100 metres and was put in the boot of a car. Approximately 30 minutes later the car stopped and Msallam was ordered out of the boot and fell over. Msallam saw that they were near El-Magharbeh Gate, near Silwan. The men made Msallam stand for 30 minutes, shivering and scared, before placing him back in the boot of the vehicle and transferring him to Al Mascobiyya interrogation centre ('The Russian Compound'). Msallam was interrogated in the presence of his father and asked why he threw stones, which he denied, and he refused to say who did throw stones - "This time I won't put you in prison, but next time I will and I'll make you pay money too,' said the interrogator. Msallam was released the same day without charge.

### Media Archive: 2009-2010

- The Independent
- <u>Time</u>
- BBC
- BBC Radio
- Haaretz
- <u>AlJazeera</u>
- Haaretz
- Haaretz
- Haaretz
- ABC Radio
- Haaretz
- <u>Haaretz</u>
- Haaretz
- Haaretz
- <u>Haaretz</u> Haaretz
- CNN
- AFP

### Mohammad G. (12 years)

On 25 October 2010, a 12-year-old boy from Silwan, East Jerusalem, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, is arrested by soldiers on his way to school and accused of throwing stones:

Mohammad was on his way to school at 8:00am when some children started throwing stones at five heavily armed Israeli policemen in the neighbourhood. Policemen in jeeps started chasing all of the children and Mohammad ran away 'because I was scared they would beat me.' Mohammad was caught along with other children and put in the back of a big white GMC vehicle. About seven policemen were also in the vehicle and during the 15 minute trip, a policeman kept slapping Mohammad on the head. Mohammad was transferred to Al Mascobiyya interrogation centre in Jerusalem ('The Russian Compound'). On arrival, the children were taken out of the vehicle and lined up facing a wall. A policeman said to the children: 'if I hear someone breathing I will smash you.' The children were made to stand against the wall for about two hours. After two hours, Mohammad was interrogated by Captain Shadi in the presence of his mother and asked why he threw stones at Israeli police, which he denied. The interrogator then told him to 'eat s\*\*t and put a sock in it.' Mohammad refused to sign a document and was taken outside and lined up facing the wall with the other children for another 30 minutes before being taken to court and fined 250 shekels and placed under house arrest for 14 days. After court, Mohammad was kept in a room for four hours and not given any food or water or taken to the toilet, before being released at around 5:00pm.

### **Urgent Appeals**

- **UA 1/10** Al Jalazun
- **UA 2/10** Detention in Israel
- **UA 3/10** Admin. Detention
- **UA 4/10** Children of the Gravel

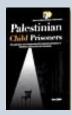
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New report: Under Attack: Settler Violence against Palestinian Children in the Occupied Palestinian Territory



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For further information please read DCI-Palestine's latest report on Palestinian child prisoners:



Child detention report: Palestinian Child Prisoners: The systematic and institutionalised ill-treatment and torture of Palestinian children by Israeli authorities

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### Continuing clashes in Silwan, occupied East Jerusalem.

On 15 October 2010, Palestinians clashed with Israeli Police in the Silwan neighbourhood of occupied East Jerusalem, resulting in the injury of 15 Palestinians, including one child, the majority of them by rubber coated-metal bullets. According to local sources, the confrontations took place after Israeli forces fired tear gas canisters at worshippers performing Friday prayers in the area; many cases of tear gas inhalation were reported. In the course of the clashes, Israeli settlers began throwing stones at people and their residences, causing damage to two houses. In a related incident, Israeli border police officers physically assaulted and injured a man at a flying checkpoint erected at one of Silwan's entrances. The man was transporting his son, who had inhaled pepper gas sprayed by the policemen, to hospital.

(Source: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs – Protection of Civilians, 13-19 October 2010)

### DCI submission to EU Parliament regarding Israeli prison conditions

On 23 October 2010, DCI-Palestine submitted a 14 page <u>report</u> to the EU Sub-Committee on Human Rights in relation to prison conditions for Palestinian children in Israeli detention. DCI-Palestine's report highlights the continued use of ill-treatment and torture during the arrest and interrogation of Palestinian children, and also included:

- Information that 58 percent of Palestinian child detainees are being held inside Israel, in contravention of Article 76 of the Fourth Geneva Convention;
- Information indicating that as many as 42.5 percent of child detainees are not adequately separated from adult prisoners, as required under international law;
- Evidence that 55 percent of Palestinian child detainees complain of inadequate food, water or shelter;
- Information suggesting that most Palestinian child detainees do not receive family visits during the first three months of their detention, and no Palestinian child detainees are permitted to telephone their families; and
- Evidence that children held in the Al Jalame Interrogation and Detention Centre near Haifa, are routinely subjected to serious mistreatment, including position abuse, sleep deprayation and solitary confinement amounting to torture.

### **Recommendations**

No child should be prosecuted in military courts which lack comprehensive fair trial and juvenile justice standards. DCI-Palestine recommends that as a minimum safeguard in the light of consistent reports of mistreatment and torture, that the Israeli authorities:

- 1. Ensure that no child is interrogated in the absence of a lawyer of their choice and family member;
- 2. Ensure that all interrogations of children are video recorded;
- 3. Ensure that all evidence suspected of being obtained through ill-treatment or torture be rejected by the military courts;
- 4. Ensure that all credible allegations of ill-treatment and torture be thoroughly and impartially investigated and those found responsible for such abuse be brought to iustice.