

URGENT ACTION

ADMINISTRATIVE DETENTION OF LAWMAKER RENEWED

Israel renews the administrative detention, without charge or trial, of female Palestinian leader and member of the Palestinian parliament, Khalida Jarrar for further six months.

Khalida Jarrar's administrative detention order was renewed for another six months on 31 December 2017. This decision was confirmed by a military judge on 4 January. Her administrative detention is now expected to end on 30 June. Khalida Jarrar is an elected Palestinian parliamentarian who has been held in HaSharon prison in central Israel, since 2 July 2017. She was given a six-month administrative detention order on 12 July 2017 and a military judge confirmed this decision on 18 July. The order was set to end on 1 January 2018.

Mahmoud Hassan of the Palestinian rights group Addameer, who is Khalida Jarrar's attorney, has submitted an appeal to the Israeli Military Court of Appeals; the appeal hearing is due to take place on 30 January. Although six months is the maximum period of detention for each order, under Israeli law administrative detention orders can be renewed indefinitely, and there is no guarantee that Khalida Jarrar will be released on 30 June.

The transfer of Khalida Jarrar to HaSharon prison violates international humanitarian law. Detainees from occupied territories must be detained in the occupied territory, not in the territory of the occupying power. Israeli authorities accuse Khalida Jarrar of membership of an illegal organization, which she denies.

According to Addameer, the Israeli authorities are currently holding nine Palestinian Legislative Council members under administrative detention, without charge or trial.

Please write immediately in English, Hebrew or your own language calling on the Israeli authorities to:

- Release Khalida Jarrar and all other administrative detainees or promptly charge them with an internationally recognizable criminal offense and try them in proceedings that adhere to international fair trial standards;
- Take immediate steps to end the practice of administrative detention.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 8 MARCH 2018 TO:

Minister of Defence

Avigdor Leiberman

Ministry of Defence

37 Kaplan Street, Hakiryia

Tel Aviv 61909, Israel

Email: minister@mod.gov.il

pniot@mod.gov.il

Fax: +972 3 691 6940

Salutation: Dear Minister

Commander of the IDF – West Bank

Major-General Roni Numa

GOC Central Command

Military Post 02367, Battalion 877

Israel Defence Forces, Israel

Fax: +972 2 530 5741, +972 2 530 5724

Salutation: Dear Major-General Roni

Numa

And copies to:

Minister of Public Security

Gilad Erdan

Kiryat Hamemshala

PO Box 18182

Jerusalem 91181, Israel

Fax: +972 2 584 7872

Email: gerdan@knesset.gov.il

Salutation: Dear Minister

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. HIS EXCELLENCY MR MARK REGEV, Embassy of Israel, 2 Palace Green Kensington W8 4QB, 020 7957 9500, info@london.mfa.gov.il

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the second update of UA 187/17. Further information: www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde15/6859/2017/en/

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Khalida Jarrar, aged 54, is an elected Palestinian parliamentarian and outspoken critic of the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory and of Palestinian security cooperation with the Israeli military. She is a member of the Board of Directors of Addameer Association, a human rights organization, and an appointed member of the Palestinian Higher National Committee to Follow-up with the International Criminal Court. She is a strong advocate for the rights of Palestinian prisoners and their families.

Khalida Jarrar has been subjected to decades of harassment and intimidation by the Israeli authorities, including a travel ban imposed since 1998. The ban was lifted once for a couple of days in 2010 to allow her to travel for medical tests in Jordan for a serious chronic medical issue. Israeli authorities have repeatedly declared her a security risk, but did not charge her with any criminal offence until April 2015. On 2 April 2015, she was arrested by Israeli soldiers at her home in Ramallah, and placed under administrative detention. On 15 April 2015, at the review hearing of her administrative detention order, the military prosecution brought 12 charges against her relating to membership of the banned political party Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), and incitement to kidnap Israeli soldiers. She has vehemently denied this accusation and her lawyers have claimed that it has no basis. Following an unfair trial in an Israeli military court, Khalida Jarrar was convicted of four of the charges, including incitement. She served 14 months in prison and was released in June 2016 with a five-year suspended sentence.

Khalida Jarrar was arrested by Israeli soldiers during a pre-dawn raid on her home on 2 July. According to eyewitnesses, at around 4:00 am that day, about 50 armed Israeli soldiers conducted a raid on Khalida Jarrar's home in Ramallah in the occupied West Bank in order to arrest her. In the raid, the soldiers also confiscated Khalida Jarrar's phone, tablet, and the hard drive of her home computer.

Administrative detention – ostensibly introduced as an exceptional measure to detain people who pose an extreme and imminent danger to security – is used by Israel as an alternative to using the criminal justice system to arrest, charge and prosecute people suspected of criminal offences, or to detain people who should not have been arrested at all. Although six months is the maximum period of detention for each order, they can be renewed indefinitely and Amnesty International believes that some Palestinians held in administrative detention by Israel are prisoners of conscience, held solely for the peaceful exercise of their right to freedom of expression and association.

According to the Palestinian human rights organization Addameer, as of December 2017, 434 administrative detainees are currently held without charge or trial by Israel.

Name: Khalida Jarrar
Gender m/f: f

Further information on UA: 187/17 Index: MDE 15/7780/2018 Issue Date: 25 January 2018