

URGENT ACTION

LAWMAKER'S ADMINISTRATIVE DETENTION RENEWED

Israel renews, for the third time and without charge or trial, the administrative detention of Khalida Jarrar for further four months. She is a Palestinian lawmaker and prominent political figure.

On 25 October, Ofer Military Court in the occupied West Bank (OPT) approved the renewal of **Khalida Jarrar's** administrative detention for another four months. The renewal, which is set to end on 28 February 2019, must be reviewed by a military judge. The review hearing's date has not yet been set. Khalida Jarrar is a Palestinian parliamentarian who has been detained in HaSharon prison in central Israel since 2 July 2017. The military commander of the West Bank issued a six-month administrative detention order against her on 12 July 2017 and since then the order has been renewed three times, on 31 December 2017, 17 June 2018, and 25 October. Although six months is the maximum period of detention for each administrative detention order, each order can be renewed indefinitely under Israeli military law. As a result, there is no guarantee that Khalida Jarrar will be released on 28 February 2019.

Khalida Jarra is currently the only Palestinian woman being detained by the Israeli authorities under administrative detention. According to Addameer, the Palestinian human rights organization of which Khalida Jarrar served as vice-chair of the Board of Directors and former Executive Director, she and other Palestinian women prisoners in HaSharon prison have launched a series of protests since 6 September. They are protesting their detention conditions and the installation of surveillance cameras in the prison yard, where they cook, wash, pray and exercise. Women prisoners consider this measure as a violation of their right to privacy. For 57 days, they have boycotted the *fora* (the prisoners' recreation time in the prison's yard) by remaining inside their prison cells. As a retaliation to their protest, Palestinian women prisoners have been denied family visits.

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.
- Not to punish prisoners and detainees for protesting their prison conditions.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 14 DECEMBER 2018 TO:

Minister of Defence

Avigdor Lieberman

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

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

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 fourth update of UA 187/17. Further information: www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde15/8769/2018/en/

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Khalida Jarrar, aged 55, is a Palestinian parliamentarian and outspoken critic of the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories as well as the security cooperation between the Palestinian and Israeli forces. 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, in charge of following-up with the International Criminal Court. She is a strong advocate for the rights of Palestinian prisoners and their families.

For decades, Khalida Jarrar has been harassed and intimidated by the Israeli authorities for her political and human rights engagement. The Israeli authorities placed her under a travel ban since 1998. The ban was only lifted once for a couple of days in 2010 to allow her to travel to Jordan for medical tests and treatment of 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, including being a member of banned political party, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and inciting to abduct Israeli soldiers. She has vehemently denied this accusation and her lawyers have claimed that it has no legal and factual basis. Following an unfair trial in an Israeli military court, which did not satisfy international standards of a fair trial, Khalida Jarrar was convicted of four of the charges, including incitement to abducting soldiers. She served 14 months in prison and was released on 3 June 2016 with a five-year suspended sentence.

According to eyewitnesses, at around 4:00 am on 2 July 2017, about 50 armed Israeli soldiers conducted a raid on Khalida Jarrar's home in Ramallah in the occupied West Bank and arrested her. The soldiers also confiscated Khalida Jarrar's phone, tablet, and computer hard drive. She has been placed under administrative detention, without charge or trial, in HaSharon prison for over a year. The transfer of Khalida Jarrar to HaSharon prison violates international humanitarian law, as detainees from occupied territories must be detained in the occupied territory, not in the territory of the occupying power.

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 the criminal justice system to arrest, charge and prosecute people suspected of criminal offences against whom they do not have sufficient admissible evidence, 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 September 2018, 465 administrative detainees, including three children and two Palestinian Legislative Council members, are currently held without charge or trial by Israel.

Further information on UA: 187/17 Index: MDE 15/9330/2018 Issue Date: 2 November 2018