

URGENT ACTION

NGO WORKER'S DETENTION RENEWED

On 11 September 2019, the Israeli Ofer Military Court in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) approved the renewal of Ayman Nasser's administrative detention for a further four months. His detention is now expected to end on 4 January 2020. Ayman Nasser has been detained since 17 September 2018, without charge or trial in Ofer prison, near the West Bank city of Ramallah. Ayman Nasser is the legal unit coordinator of Palestinian NGO Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Right Association.

TAKE ACTION: WRITE AN APPEAL IN YOUR OWN WORDS OR USE THIS MODEL LETTER

Major-General Nadav Padan

GOC Central Command

Military Post 01149

Battalion 877

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Email: 1111@idf.gov.il

Dear Major-General Nadav Padan,

On 8 September 2019, the office of the General Officer Commander (GOC) Central Command issued another four-month administrative detention order against **Ayman Nasser**, which was approved by the Ofer Military Court, near the city of Ramallah in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) on 11 September. Ayman Nasser is the legal unit coordinator of Palestinian human rights NGO, Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association. According to Ayman Nasser's family, he suffers from health issues including inflammation in his colon and severe back pain due to a herniated disk in the lower back. He needs regular medical treatment and checks by specialized doctors, which he has failed to receive.

Amnesty International is gravely concerned that the system of administrative detention, as practised by Israel, violates human rights. Its use may result in arbitrary detention, and if prolonged or repeated can amount to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment.

I urge you to immediately release Ayman Nasser, and all others who have been placed under administrative detention, unless they are promptly charged with an internationally recognisable crime and tried in proceedings that adhere to international fair trial standards. I urge you to immediately provide Ayman Nasser access to adequate healthcare, including treatment by specialised doctors, and to take immediate steps to end the practice of administrative detention.

Yours sincerely,

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

On 9 September 2018, Ayman Nasser was arrested by Israeli forces during an overnight raid at his home in the village of Saffa, near Ramallah in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT). Ayman Nasser, a 48-year-old father of four, has been working for Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Right Association since 2008; first as a researcher and later as the legal unit coordinator. He is also the chairperson and co-founder of the Handalah Cultural Centre in the village of Saffa, which was established in 1998 to provide village youths with dance, sports, art and educational programs. Ayman Nasser holds a BA degree in Social Work and a graduate degree in educational Socio-Psychology from al-Quds University in Abu Dis, east of Jerusalem.

From 1992-1997 Ayman Nasser served a five-year prison sentence imposed by an Israeli military court, following charges related to his political activism, including membership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) – a left-wing political party with an armed wing that is banned by Israel. Since his release he has been arrested two times, on 15 October 2012, when he was sentenced on similar charges, after a plea bargain to 13 months in prison; and on 18 September 2014, when he was held in administrative detention for a year.

Amnesty International has documented an escalation of acts of intimidation by the Israeli government against Palestinian civil society organisations and human rights activists in the OPT, including Addameer. On 19 September 2019, at around 2 am, the office of Addameer was raided by Israeli forces, seizing computers, hard drives, files and equipment. This was the third time its offices were raided by Israeli forces. Previous raids took place in 2002 and 2012.

Over the years, Israeli authorities have arrested and detained many Addameer staff members. An additional five staff members from the organisation are currently banned from travelling abroad, by the Israeli authorities. Civil society is facing continued attacks, through restrictive legislation and governmental policies coupled with smear campaigns aimed at delegitimising human rights work. In the crackdown on civil society, Israeli authorities have targeted organisations that are calling for an end to Israel's occupation, and for accountability for crimes committed under international law; including through boycotts as a form of advocacy.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: English, Hebrew or Arabic.

You can also write in your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: 6 November 2019

Please check with the Amnesty office in your country if you wish to send appeals after the deadline.

NAME AND PREFERRED PRONOUN: Ayman Nasser (him/his)

LINK TO PREVIOUS UA: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde15/0012/2019/en/>

ADDITIONAL TARGETS: Embassy of Israel, 2 Palace Green, London, W8 4QB