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Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories

Written statement* submitted by Khiam Rehabilitation Center for Victims of Torture, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[23 January 2019]

* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.



The attack of Awfar prison

The Palestinian prisoner movement is subjected to a racist attack and severe punishment aimed at the conditions of detention and the lives of prisoners and detainees held in Israeli jails. This was announced by the Israeli Minister of Security Gilad Arad on 2/1/2019:

- Reduce the number of family visits to prisoners
- Abolition of recognition of representatives of sections and prisons
- Stop the organizational screening inside the rooms and sections of detention centers
- Stop the canteen that is being turned over by the prisoners' body and their families
- Prevent the preparation of food inside the sections and reduce the amount of water
- Pull all electrical appliances
- Prevent books and magazines and reconsider the system of education and study
- Stop telephone calls with the families of detainees
- Reduce the duration and timing of the outbreak

These sanctions not only violate the minimum rules for the treatment of prisoners and international conventions, but also reinstate the Palestinian prisoners' movement to 25 years of age and abolish all the historical achievements and gains that were taken by prisoners and detainees with their blood, strikes and prison uprisings.

The Erdan Committee's decisions are accompanied by night raids on the prisons, the inspection of rooms, the policy of isolation and medical negligence, the detention of minors, administrative detention, the payment of prisoners' salaries, the eviction of their families from their territories, the fabrication of legislation and laws that criminalize the prisoners' struggle and bring them to the world as criminals and terrorists. In addition to 250 children and 54 women and girls.

The Palestinian prisoners are subjected to severe sanctions and violations. This is a comprehensive war launched by the occupation forces against the Palestinian prisoner movement to extract its assets and starvation as part of the siege, killing and massacres against the Palestinian people to liquidate their cause and establish the racist Jewish state.

We therefore call the Human rights council in its 40th session and the international community, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Human Rights Commission, human rights and humanitarian organizations to take urgent action to stop the Israeli massacre of the Palestinian prisoner's movement:

1. Requesting the International Committee of the Red Cross to question the Israeli government, reject the list of sanctions and restrict the movement.
2. Call on the Human Rights Council for an emergency session to discuss the serious situation in Israeli prisons or at least to set a special session on the sidelines of the 40th session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva next month.
3. Request the Palestinian Authority to call for an urgent session of the UN Security Council on the massacre of the Israeli occupation forces against the Palestinian prisoner movement
4. Appeal to the forces of freedom, democracy and human rights in the world to denounce the Israeli sanctions against the detainees and organize the largest campaign of international solidarity for the release of children, patients, women and former prisoners and the abolition of all racist sanctions against them.