

## Camden Abu Dis Prisoners' Campaign update

February 2010

Our work to raise the issue of imprisonment in Palestine is continuing, with a particular focus on the situation of child prisoners, imprisonment without trial and bad treatment of prisoners on arrest and during their time in prison. There are currently some 10,500 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails and about 60 from Abu Dis itself and about 70 from the Al Quds University (the numbers go up and down as new arrests follow releases of prisoners)

For more information see our website <http://www.camdenabudis.net/prisoners.html>

And the CADFA prisoner leaflet.

And monthly information about the human rights situation in Abu Dis  
<http://www.camdenabudis.net/HRreports.html>

### CHILD PRISONERS – NO CHANGE

The international campaigns on the issue of child prisoners have clearly put some pressure on the Israeli authorities to introduce a new system. Previously juvenile Palestinian prisoners were treated exactly as Palestinian adults. There was an announcement in mid – 2009 that there would be new courts for Palestinian juveniles (still military courts). However to date there is no evidence on the ground in Abu Dis that young people are being treated in any way differently from their treatment before, and they are still being mistreated on arrest, in interrogation and when they are in prison. There are still big problems for them, with family visits often not allowed.

### OUR RECENT NEWS

Have you read the [article](#) about child prisoners by Andrea (who used to help with our child prisoner campaign) in Red Pepper?: <http://www.redpepper.org.uk/Scars-of-childhood>

We are working with the Prisoner Museum in Abu Dis and we are hoping to bring their [exhibition](#) "Freedom Candles" to Britain in autumn 2010. Our CADFA volunteer is working with the staff there to help with English and presentation skills.

**ARE YOU GOOD AT MAKING THINGS** We will be marking Palestinian Prisoner Day in April and are looking for a volunteer to make a pretend cage for someone to stand in... Any volunteers?

### PRISONER ADOPTION

\*\* Would you like to "adopt" a child prisoner from Abu Dis? Please contact us \*\*

We are also looking for help in co-ordinating our child prisoner campaign – if you can help, please contact us