

Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails

- **In January 2007, there are about 10,500 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.**
- **International law governing the treatment of prisoners is commonly broken by Israel.**
- **Since 1967, over 650,000 Palestinian men have been arrested**

Imprisonment is a huge issue for Palestinian families, as it is a very common experience for men in particular to be arrested by the Israeli military and imprisoned at some stage. About **40% of Palestinian men in the Occupied Palestinian Territories have had the experience of arrest.** This is a very bad experience for them and also for their families. There are also women political prisoners.

Torture and mistreatment



Pictures by prisoners, from Addameer website

Prisoners from Abu Dis and such organisations as Addameer tell about the **regular physical and psychological abuse** endured by people under interrogation and by those detained at the hands of Israeli soldiers. See stories on our website and Addameer website

for example.

Imprisonment without trial

If they are in trouble with the Israeli law, Jews (including those living in the West Bank) can expect to be dealt with under civilian laws; but Palestinians living under occupation, arrested for political reasons, are dealt with under military laws which deny them many of their rights.



- **Many are held for months under 'administrative detention' with no trial – often renewed year after year.**
- **People can be imprisoned just on the word of another**

Child prisoners

- **Israel frequently arrests people in their early and mid-teens**, treating them as adults from age 12 (though Israeli young are 'children' till 18).

Mistreatment - and their loss of schooling- are serious concerns for the child prisoners and their families.

Family visits

- **Visits by relatives** when allowed are made difficult and demeaning and they are **often forbidden**

Breaches of human rights & humanitarian law

The West Bank and Gaza are under military occupation by Israel. There are international laws meant to protect people under war and occupation (Geneva Convention), and others intended to protect children (Convention on the Right of the Child) .

The Israeli authorities regularly breach these when they torture, deny the right to a fair trial and when they don't protect children.

- **Transporting prisoners from the West Bank & Gaza to Israeli prisons is also a breach of international law.**



More information

ADDAMEER

<http://www.addameer.org/>

MANDELA PALESTINE

<http://www.mandela-palestine.org/>

DEFENCE FOR CHILDREN

INTERNATIONAL PALESTINE SECTION

<http://www.dci-pal.org/english/>

ALSO SEE THE CADFA WEBSITE for human rights reports, stories about prisoners, from Abu Dis etc

<http://www.camdenabudis.org/prisoners.html>