

URGENT ACTION

PALESTINIAN HUNGER STRIKER'S LIFE AT RISK

Khader Adnan has been on hunger strike since 18 December 2011 in protest against his administrative detention, a procedure which the Israeli authorities use to detain individuals indefinitely without charge or trial.

Israeli soldiers arrested **Khader Adnan** from his house in Arrabe village in the occupied West Bank on 17 December 2011 and transferred him to Kishon detention centre in Israel for interrogation. He reported being beaten and ill-treated during his arrest and interrogation. According to his lawyers, Khader Adnan announced a hunger strike after the first day of interrogation in protest against his ill-treatment and the conditions of his detention. He was moved to Ramleh prison hospital on 30 December 2011 after his health deteriorated as a result of his hunger strike. He has lost a significant amount of weight, as he is only accepting water. The organization Physicians for Human Rights has warned that his life is at risk.

On 10 January Khader Adnan was taken to a military court in Ofer and given a four-month administrative detention order signed by the military commander in advance. He decided to continue his hunger strike in protest against his administrative detention. A military judge reviewed the administrative order on 1 February and will inform lawyers with her decision in the coming days. She is expected to either confirm the administrative detention order or reduce the number of months for which Khader Adnan will be held.

Administrative detention is a procedure under which detainees are held without charge or trial for periods of up to six months, which can be renewed indefinitely. No criminal charges are filed against administrative detainees and there is no intention of bringing them to trial. Detainees are held on the basis of "secret evidence" which the Israeli military authorities claim cannot be revealed for security reasons. This "secret evidence" is not made available to detainees or their lawyers, and detainees cannot challenge the reasons for their detention.

Please write immediately in Hebrew or your own language:

- Expressing concern for Khader Adnan's health and safety, and urging that he is given regular access to medical treatment of his choice, treated humanely at all times, and not punished in any way for his hunger strike;
- Calling on the Israeli authorities to release Khader Adnan and other Palestinians held in administrative detention, unless they are promptly charged with internationally recognizable criminal offences and brought to trial in full conformity with international fair trial standards;
- Calling on the Israeli authorities to end the use of administrative detention, which violates the right to a fair trial as guaranteed by Article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 14 MARCH 2012 TO:

Military Judge Advocate General

Brigadier General Danny Efroni

6 David Elazar Street

Hakirya, Tel Aviv,

Israel

Fax: +972 3 569 4526

Email: avimn@idf.gov.il

Salutation: Dear Judge Advocate

General

Commander of the IDF – West Bank

Major-General Avi Mizrahi

GOC Central Command

Military Post 01149

Battalion 877

Israel Defense Forces,

Israel

Fax: +972 2 530 5724

Salutation: Dear Major-General Avi

Mizrahi

And copies to:

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of

Defence

Ehud Barak

Ministry of Defence

37 Kaplan Street, Hakirya

Tel Aviv 61909,

Israel

Fax: +972 3 69 16940 / 62757

Salutation: Dear Minister

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Khader Adnan, aged 33, is a baker, a Masters student at Birzeit university, and a political activist. He is married with two daughters. He was arrested from his home in the village of Arrabe near Jenin in the occupied West Bank on 17 December 2011. He told lawyers and human rights organizations that masked soldiers violently broke into his house, where his mother and children were present. He said that his hands were shackled behind him, and that he was thrown onto the floor of the military jeep that took him to the settlement of Mevo Dotan. He complained that he was kicked and slapped by the soldiers while in the military jeep. When he arrived at the settlement, his hands were swollen from the shackles and his lower lip bleeding. He was then transferred to Kishon detention centre in Israel for interrogation.

Khader Adnan told lawyers that he went on a hunger strike on the second day of his arrest to protest his ill-treatment by interrogators from the Israel Security Agency (ISA). and the conditions of his detention. According to the ISA briefing that his lawyers received, Adnan was interrogated almost every day from 18 until 29 January 2012; on some days he was interrogated twice. There were seven regular interrogators; other security officials were also present at some points. During interrogations, he was shackled to a crooked chair with his hands tied behind his back in a position that caused him back pain. He said that interrogators threatened him constantly and verbally abused him and his family.

On the fourth day of Khader Adnan's interrogation he was put in a solitary confinement cell, as punishment - according to him - for his hunger strike. He remained in solitary confinement for 10 days before he was moved to Ramleh prison hospital on 30 December 2011, after his health deteriorated as a result of his hunger strike. On 31 January 2012, he was moved to a hospital outside prison where he is reportedly shackled to his hospital bed and under constant armed guard.

On 10 January 2012, Khader Adnan was taken to a military court in nearby Ofer where he was given a four-month administrative detention order signed in advance by the military commander of the West Bank . He decided to continue his hunger strike in protest against his administrative detention. A military judge reviewed the administrative detention order on 1 February 2012 and is expected to inform lawyers of her decision later on the week.

According to local human rights organization Addameer, this is Khader Adnan's eighth arrest by the Israeli authorities, who allege that he is associated with the Islamic Jihad party. Islamic Jihad has a military wing which has carried out armed attacks on Israeli citizens, and the party is considered a terrorist organization by the Israeli authorities. Khader Adnan previously spent a total of six years in Israeli prisons, held mainly under administrative detention orders without charge or trial.

Amnesty International opposes the practice of administrative detention in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) because it violates the internationally-recognized right to a fair trial. International standards for fair trial must be upheld for all political detainees, including those accused of violence, even under states of emergency. Amnesty International believes that some of those held in administrative detention by the Israeli authorities are very likely to be prisoners of conscience, held solely for the non-violent exercise of their right to freedom of expression and association.

According to the Israeli Prison Service, there were 307 Palestinians held in administrative detention on 31 December 2011, but this number may have since increased. There are currently 21 Palestinian Legislative Council members in administrative detention.

Name: Khader Adnan
Gender m/f: male

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