

URGENT ACTION

HUNGER STRIKER TO BE DETAINED UNTIL APRIL

An Israeli Supreme Court hearing on 21 February on Palestinian hunger striker Khader Adnan's appeal against his administrative detention was cancelled. He will remain in detention until 17 April. He has ended his hunger strike but his life remains in danger.

On 21 February 2012, an Israeli Supreme Court hearing on **Khader Adnan's** appeal against his administrative detention order was cancelled at the last minute, after an agreement between his lawyer and the state prosecution. The Israeli authorities have reportedly agreed not to extend Khader Adnan's four-month detention order unless "significant" new evidence emerges, and also to count the days he served in detention before the order was issued on 10 January. He is now due to be released on 17 April.

After this agreement was announced, Khader Adnan suspended the 66-day hunger strike which he began the day after his arrest on 17 December 2011. He is still held in Ziv hospital in northern Israel under constant armed guard, and still shackled to his hospital bed, despite commitments by the Israel Prison Service to remove the shackles. The non-governmental organization Physicians for Human Rights - Israel, whose doctors have been monitoring Khader Adnan's health, note that his life remains in danger as he starts the complex recovery process.

Khader Adnan's family members were given permits by the Israeli authorities to visit him three times since his arrest and last visited him on 19 February. The family is currently waiting for a new permit to visit him again.

Please write immediately in English, Hebrew or your own language:

- Calling on the Israeli authorities to immediately 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;
- Urging the Israeli authorities to remove Khader Adnan's shackles, which constitute cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment given his medical condition, and stressing that he should not be punished in any way for his hunger strike;
- Expressing concern for Khader Adnan's health and safety, and urging that he be given specialized medical treatment, including consultation with independent medical professionals, and allowed regular private visits by his family and lawyers;
- Calling on the Israeli authorities to end the use of administrative detention.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 5 APRIL 2012 TO:

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of

Defence

Ehud Barak

Ministry of Defence

37 Kaplan Street, Hakiryia

Tel Aviv 61909, Israel

Fax: +972 3 69 16940 / 62757

Salutation: Dear Minister

Military Judge Advocate General

Brigadier General Danny Efroni

6 David Elazar Street

Hakiryia, Tel Aviv, Israel

Fax: +972 3 569 4526

Email: avimn@idf.gov.il

Salutation: Dear Judge Advocate

General

And copies to:

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

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. This is the third update of UA 31/12. Further information:

<http://amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE15/006/2012/en>

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Political activist Khader Adnan was arrested on 17 December 2011 at his home in the village of Arrabe, near Jenin, in the occupied West Bank. He later told lawyers and human rights organizations that masked soldiers had broken into his house, where his mother and children were present. He said that the soldiers cuffed his hands behind his back, threw him onto the floor of their jeep and kicked and slapped him while they took him to the settlement of Mevo Dotan. When he arrived at the settlement, his hands were swollen from the handcuffs and his lower lip was bleeding. He was then transferred to Kishon detention centre in Israel for interrogation. Khader Adnan told lawyers that he started his hunger strike the day after he was arrested to protest at his ill-treatment by interrogators from the Israel Security Agency (ISA) and the conditions he was held in. According to the ISA briefing that his lawyers received, Khader Adnan was interrogated almost every day from 18 until 29 December. On some days he was interrogated twice. During interrogations, he was shackled to a crooked chair with his hands tied behind him. He said that interrogators threatened him constantly and verbally abused him and his family.

On the fourth day of interrogation, he was put in solitary confinement. He has since said this was as punishment for his hunger strike. He remained in solitary confinement until 30 December, when he was moved to Ramleh prison hospital after his health deteriorated as a result of the hunger strike. On 31 January 2012, he was moved to a hospital outside prison. He has since been moved to four other different hospitals and medical centres. He remains shackled to his hospital bed at all times and under constant armed guard. After visiting him for the first time on 7 February, his wife estimated that he had lost one-third of his body weight since beginning his hunger strike.

During his hunger strike, Khader Adnan was not provided with appropriate medical care – a person's hunger strike must not prejudice any other aspect of their health care. Staff at one hospital mocked Khader Adnan and also told him that he ought to end his protest in order to receive medical attention. Khader Adnan is currently held under detention in Ziv hospital in the northern Israeli city of Safad, where he is now beginning the complex recovery process.

Khader Adnan will remain under administrative detention until at least 17 April. He is one of 309 Palestinians currently held in administrative detention by the Israeli authorities, including one man held for over five years and 24 Palestinian Legislative Council members. Hundreds of other Palestinian detainees and prisoners joined Khader Adnan's hunger strike.

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. 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.

The Israeli authorities allege that Khader Adnan is associated with Islamic Jihad, which has a military wing which has carried out armed attacks on Israeli citizens. Khader Adnan previously spent a total of six years in Israeli prisons, held mainly under administrative detention orders without charge or trial, and has never been convicted of a violent crime to Amnesty International's knowledge.

Name: Khader Adnan

Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 31/12 Index: MDE 15/007/2012 Issue Date: 23 February 2012