A Report on the Situation of Palestinian Prisoners

The Palestinian "Martyrs, Wounded, and Prisoners" Center (Asra Media Office) has recently released reports examining the situation of Palestinian prisoners in the prisons of the Zionist regime from both quantitative and qualitative perspectives. The violation and disregard for the rights of Palestinians have been a constant practice since the establishment of the Zionist regime; however, prisoners have consistently been subjected to intense forms of repression and have encountered the most unvarnished face of Zionism. Prisons have always served as sites where the Zionist regime—largely free from international oversight or potential pressure regarding human rights—has imposed the most explicit forms of racial discrimination and systematic oppression upon Palestinians.

Under the Zionist administration—a far-right government led by Benjamin Netanyahu, with Itamar Ben-Gvir at the helm of the Ministry of National Security (which oversees the Israel Prison Service, or *Shabas*)—the scale and intensity of the repression against Palestinian prisoners have escalated in a dramatic and deeply alarming manner. The circulation of footage showing Ben-Gvir confronting Palestinian prisoners and brazenly threatening them serves as yet another indication of the Zionist regime's sense of superiority over established legal principles.

Statistics Table (as of the end of October 2026)

Indicator | Count

1. Total number of detainees (Palestinian sources) | Over 9,400
2. Total number of detainees (list provided to the Red Cross) | Over 8,000
3. Administrative detainees | 3,100
4. Detainees from Gaza classified as "unlawful combatants" | 1,419
5. Female detainees | 88
6. Child detainees | 350
7. Palestinian Legislative Council members in detention | 8
8. Journalists in detention | 38
9. Doctors from Gaza in detention | 16 (2 have died/been martyred)
10. Detainees who have died in custody (since 1967) | 329 (bodies of 99 individuals have not yet been returned)

11. Detainees who have died in custody (during Ben-Gvir's tenure, from 2022 to present) | Over 110
12. Detainees who have died in custody (since October 7) | 92 (53 from Gaza)
13. Detainees who have died in custody (in 2026) | 6
14. Detainees serving life sentences | 119

Analysis of Data and Statistics

1. There is a discrepancy of approximately 1,400 individuals between the figures provided to the Red Cross and those reported by Palestinian sources; this discrepancy is concerning and warrants attention. This figure may include detainees whom the Zionist regime, for various reasons, refuses to acknowledge, or individuals whose families believe them to be alive, while they have, in fact, died in custody. In one notable instance, the names of 127 residents of Gaza—whose families had no information regarding their status—, were included in a list provided by the Zionist regime to the Red Cross (in October 2026), finally shedding light on their fate.
2. The Zionist regime employs the non-legal term "unlawful combatant" for a certain category of detainees, allowing it to pursue legal action against them outside the framework of established legal norms and the principles governing prisoners of war or political prisoners.
3. Since October 7, more than 2,000 children have been detained at various times; currently, 350 children are being held as prisoners.
4. Over the course of the three-year war, more than 260 Palestinian journalists have been killed, and over 250 have been detained at various times; currently, 38 journalists remain in the prisons of the Zionist regime.
5. Since October 7, more than 26,000 arrests have taken place in the West Bank and Jerusalem. In the recent wave of Zionist aggression against Hebron alone—following a Palestinian resistance operation—approximately 110 individuals were detained.
6. The number of prisoners who have died in custody since October 7 has reached 92; more than 60 percent of them died as a direct result of torture.
7. Palestinian prisoners in the prisons of the Zionist regime (Negev, Damon, Ganot, Ofer, Megiddo, and Ramla) are grappling with various crises and deprivations, including:

- Solitary confinement;

- Death threats;
- Visits to the prisons by Ben-Gvir (Minister of Internal Security) and the humiliation of prisoners;
- Inadequate medical services and the prevalence of skin diseases, such as scabies; the emergence of other health issues, including significant weight loss due to severe deficiencies in the prisoners' diet;
- Failure to provide medical care to ill prisoners;
- Sleep deprivation as a form of systematic torture;
- Restricting prisoners' access to restrooms, bathing facilities, and outdoor exercise/fresh air;
- Disregarding the specific needs of female prisoners
- Intrusive searches and the forced removal of the hijab
- Transferring prisoners between wards and visitation rooms while blindfolded and handcuffed, with the intent to humiliate them
- Deploying tear gas inside the cells
- Suppressing prisoners through the use of plastic bullets
- A policy of starvation
- Using images of suffering or wounded prisoners to intimidate other detainees and prisoners
- Intimidating prisoners through the use of dogs

Recommendations and Actions

- Mobilizing international bodies and human rights organizations to increase pressure on the Zionist regime, with the aim of improving conditions for Palestinian prisoners and securing their release
- Prioritizing urgent attention to the situations of vulnerable prisoners, including pregnant women, the elderly, the ill, and children

- Exerting international pressure on the Zionist regime to reform its inhumane laws and practices—such as "administrative detention," the classification of prisoners as "unlawful combatants," and the policy of withholding the bodies of deceased prisoners
- Ensuring regular inspections of the Zionist regime's prisons by the Red Cross and human rights organizations
- Investigating the status of missing prisoners from Gaza
- Establishing international working groups to address the violation of Palestinian prisoners' rights
- Referring the cases of Palestinian prisoners to international courts, categorized as "war crimes" and "crimes against humanity"
- Pursuing legal action against the Zionist regime's leaders and commanders charged with "committing war crimes"
- Initiation of legal proceedings against Zionist leaders, commanders, and military personnel in various countries around the world
- The necessity of ending the era in which the Zionist regime is considered to be above the law and beyond the reach of legal accountability