

URGENT ACTION

HUNGER STRIKER OUT OF COMA, STILL IN DANGER

Mohammed Allan ended his hunger-strike on 20 August after the Israeli High Court ruled that his administrative detention order be suspended because of his medical condition. Two days earlier, he had come out of a four-day coma. An MRI scan on 19 August revealed extensive brain damage. His life remains in grave danger.

Palestinian lawyer **Mohammed Allan**, on hunger strike since 16 June, fell into a four-day coma on 14 August and is now in intensive care in Israel's Barzilai Medical Centre. He is no longer under guard, or shackled, and his family can visit him. The High Court decision was based on his medical condition alone – a 19 August MRI scan revealed extensive brain damage, caused by vitamin deficiency - and took no account of the legality of his detention. The court ruled that, if there is no improvement to the neurological damage, the detention order will be revoked entirely. If his health improves it can be reimposed. Before the ruling, the Israeli military had tried to make him abandon his hunger strike, offering him release if he agreed to a period of exile and at another time a release date in November. He maintained that he should be released in September. On 19 August, an Israeli state representative said that if his condition was "irreversible and permanent", thus rendering him unable "to resume his activities", the state would lift the detention order immediately.

Mohammed Allan has been held without charge since November 2014 on the basis of "evidence" which has been withheld from him and his lawyers, thereby denying him the ability to exercise his right to challenge his detention. Israel uses administrative detention extensively, justifying it on security grounds while imposing it - in some cases - to suppress freedom of expression of Palestinians.

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

- Urging the Israeli authorities to cancel the detention order and release Mohammed Allan if he is not promptly charged with an internationally recognizable criminal offence and brought to trial in proceedings which meet international standards;
- Urging them to continue to provide him with adequate medical care to address the harm resulting from his hunger strike in protest at his administrative detention, in a civilian hospital of his choice, for as long as he needs it;
- Calling on them to end the practice of administrative detention.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 2 OCTOBER 2015 TO:

Minister of Public Security

Gilad Erdan
Kiryat Hamemshala
PO Box 18182
Jerusalem 91181, Israel
Fax: +972 2 584 7872
Email: gerdan@knesset.gov.il

Salutation: Dear Minister

Director General, Ministry of Health

Moshe Bar Siman Tov
2 Ben-Tabai St.
P.O.B. 1176
Jerusalem 91010, Israel
Fax: +972 2 623 3026
Email: mankal@moh.health.gov.il

Salutation: Dear Director General

And copies to:

Military Judge Advocate General
Brigadier General Danny Efroni
6 David Elazar Street
Hakiryat, Tel Aviv,
Israel

Fax: +972 3 569 4526

Email: avi_n@idf.gov.il

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 first update of UA 181/15. Further information:

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde15/2282/2015/en/>

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



URGENT ACTION

HUNGER STRIKER OUT OF COMA, STILL IN DANGER

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Mohammed Allan's lawyer, Jamil al-Khatib, and human rights organization Adaleh submitted a petition to the Israeli High Court on 17 August calling for the Israel Security Agency (ISA) and the Military Commander of the West Bank to cancel Mohammed Allan's administrative detention order on grounds of his health and its evident deterioration which, they argued, contradicts the apparent intention of his detention since he cannot pose any threat to security. At the same time the Palestinian Ministry of Prisoners' Affairs submitted a petition. The petitions were considered together on 19 August. On 20 August, Mohammed Allan sent this message via Adaleh "Thanks to all of our people, Adalah, our institutions, and all in the international community who supported my struggle and our just struggle against administrative detention."

Mohammed Allan has been on hunger strike since 16 June in protest at his detention. He has been held by the Israeli authorities without charge or prospect of trial since he was arrested on 6 November 2014 at his home in Einabus village, in the occupied West Bank. He was handcuffed and taken to his office in the city of Nablus, in the West Bank, and ordered to show files of clients he had represented. He was handed a six-month administrative detention order on 11 November. His administrative detention was renewed for another six months on 5 May. The Israeli authorities have not given any reasons to Mohammed Allan or his lawyer for his arrest and detention but claim that he is connected to Islamic Jihad, a Palestinian political group with an armed wing, both banned by Israel. As a lawyer, he has represented individuals accused by the Israeli authorities of affiliation with various Palestinian political factions. He began a hunger strike on 16 June to demand an end to his detention. According to Palestinian human rights organization, Addameer, for most of his hunger strike he only consumed water.

It is not known why Mohammed Allan has been arrested and detained. The Israeli Prison Service (IPS) told Mohammed Allan's lawyer on 7 August that they intended to submit a request to the Israeli District Court to authorize his force-feeding under new legislation allowing force-feeding of hunger-striking detainees. However, statements made by Israeli politicians, including the one responsible for promoting the bill, indicate it is particularly aimed at Palestinian detainees. On 10 August, he was transferred to the intensive care unit of Soroka Medical Centre in Be'er Sheva, Israel. Later that day, as medical staff refused to force-feed him, he was moved to Barzilai Medical Centre in Ashkelon. Mohammed Allan continued to refuse medical examination and was chained to his hospital bed by one hand and one foot, despite being too weak to stand. Mohammed Allan told his lawyer on 12 August that what he wanted was not to die, but to live a life of dignity.

On 18 August 2015, scores of Palestinian administrative detainees threatened to begin a mass hunger strike in protest at the conditions they were held in. The IPS is understood to be negotiating an improvement in their conditions which currently include the use of night raids on cells, holding detainees in isolation and denying them family visits. An earlier mass hunger strike of around 2,000 Palestinian prisoners and detainees protesting against poor conditions, solitary confinement, denial of family visits and detention without charge ended on 14 May 2012 following an Egyptian-brokered deal with the Israeli authorities.

Despite media reports suggesting that Israel had agreed that administrative detention orders would not be renewed unless significant new intelligence information was presented, the Israeli authorities have continued renewing such orders and issuing new ones. According to the Israeli human rights organization B'tselem, at the end of June 2015 there were 370 Palestinians in administrative detention in IPS facilities. Some administrative detainees have been released after they have agreed to leave the Occupied Palestinian Territories and go into exile abroad. The Fourth Geneva Convention prohibits an occupying power from forcibly transferring or deporting people from an occupied territory. (For more information see the report Starved of justice: Palestinians detained without trial by Israel at <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE15/026/2012/en>).

Name: Mohammed Allan
Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 181/15 Index: MDE 15/2311/2015 Issue Date: 21 August 2015