



January 2011

- [New torture report submitted to the UN \(West Bank\)](#)
- [New violations report submitted to the UN \(occupied East Jerusalem\)](#)
- [UK Parliamentary Question](#)
- [EU Parliamentary Question](#)
- [New media Secret Prison Facility 1391](#)

DETENTION FIGURES

5,642 Total number of Palestinian adults and children in Israeli detention (↓ 1%)

222 children detained (↑ 4%)

34 aged 12-15 (↑ 13%)

0 girls in detention

0 children in administrative detention



January 2011 - Overview

On 29 January 2011, DCI-Palestine submitted a [report](#) to the UN providing details of the torture or ill-treatment of 40 Palestinian children detained by Israeli forces in the West Bank between July and December 2010. In 47.5% of the cases, the children report being mistreated in an Israeli settlement.

On 3 February 2011, DCI-Palestine submitted a second [report](#) to the UN relating to the arrest of children from the Silwan neighbourhood, in occupied East Jerusalem. The report considers the systematic denial of basic rights guaranteed under Israeli law, including the right to silence, which 92% of the children were not informed they had.

The evidence contained in the two reports tends to support the conclusion that ill-treatment, and in some cases the torture of Palestinian children in Israeli custody, is widespread, systematic and institutionalised.

Also in January, the number of Palestinian children in Israeli detention increased (4 %) for the first time in five months. Particularly concerning is a 13 % increase in the number of young children (12-15) being detained.

In a positive development, Imad al-Ashhab ([UA 1/11](#)), was released on 3 January 2011, after spending almost 12 months in administrative detention.

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[12 to 15 year olds](#)

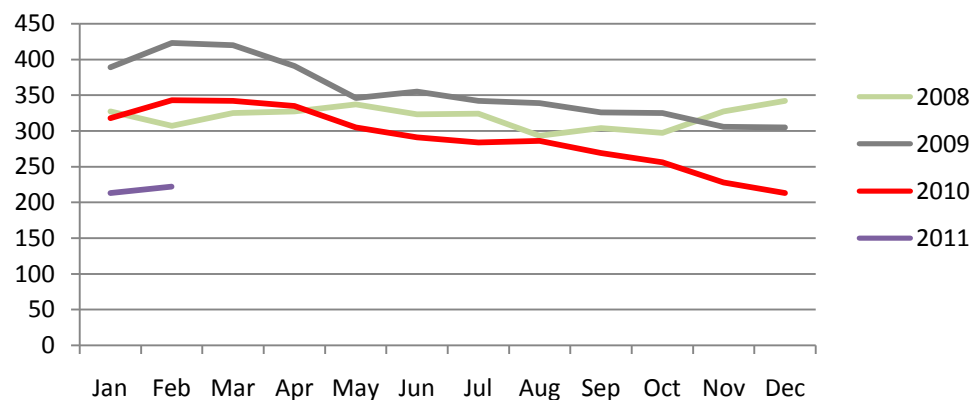
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Number of Palestinian children in Israeli detention: Jan 2008 – Jan 2011

DECEMBER 2010 IN FIGURES

Each year approximately 700 Palestinian children, some as young as 12 years, are detained and prosecuted in the Israeli military court system.

The most common charge is for throwing stones. The overwhelming majority of these children are detained inside Israel in contravention of Article 76 of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

Total

According to the latest figures compiled by DCI-Palestine from sources including the Israeli Prison Service (IPS) and Israeli army detention facilities, there were 222 Palestinian children (12-17 years) in Israeli detention at the end of January 2011. This represents an increase of nine children (4 %) from the previous month.

Total number of Palestinian children in Israeli detention at the end of each month since Jan 2008 - Note: These figures are not cumulative

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Aver.
2008	327	307	325	327	337	323	324	293	304	297	327	342	319
2009	389	423	420	391	346	355	342	339	326	325	306	305	355
2010	318	343	342	335	305	291	284	286	269	256	228	213	289
2011	222												

12-15 year olds

DCI-Palestine remains concerned at the number of young children (12-15 years) being prosecuted in Israeli military courts and receiving custodial sentences inside Israel. As at 31 January 2011, there were 34 young children in detention, an increase of four children (13 percent) from the previous month.

Number of young (12-15) Palestinians in Israeli detention at the end of each month since January 2008 - Note: These figures are not cumulative

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Aver.
2008	38	40	45	39	37	34	33	21	23	23	25	30	32
2009	50	54	53	47	39	47	42	39	40	44	41	42	44
2010	44	41	39	32	25	23	18	20	32	34	32	30	31
2011	34												

Girls in detention

There are currently no girls in detention. A 15-year-old girl from Hebron was released on 27 January 2011.

Number of Palestinian girls in Israeli detention at the end of each month since January 2008 - Note: These figures are not cumulative

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Aver.
2008	2	3	3	4	3	6	6	5	6	6	5	7	4.7
2009	5	7	6	6	6	5	4	3	3	0	0	0	3.8
2010	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0.3
2011	0												

Administrative detention

On 3 February 2011, Imad al-Ashhab ([Urgent Appeal - UA 1/11](#)) was released after spending almost 12 months in Israeli administrative detention. Imad was not charged with any offence. There are currently no children being held in administrative detention.

Number of Palestinian children held in Israeli administrative detention at the end of each month since January 2008 - Note: These figures are not cumulative

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Aver.
2008	18	3	13	12	10	13	13	13	11	8	5	6	10
2009	5	6	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1.8
2010	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1.6
2011	0												

Voices from the Occupation

- **Voices** – Nadeem and Jihad
- **Voices** – Sexual assault
- **Voices** – 7-year-old summonsed
- **Voices** – Confession in Hebrew
- **Voices** – The cost of settlements
- **Voices** – Prison visits
- **Voices** – House arrest, no school
- **Voices** – Electric shocks
- **Voices** – Electric shocks
- **Voices** – Silwan, East Jerusalem
- **Voices** – Silwan, East Jerusalem
- **Voices** – Silwan, East Jerusalem
- **Voices** – Admin. Detention
- **Voices** – Silwan, East Jerusalem
- **Voices** – Silwan, East Jerusalem
- **Voices** – Taken to a settlement

Media Archive: 2009-2011

- [The Independent](#)
- [Time](#)
- [BBC](#)
- [BBC Radio](#)
- [Haaretz](#)
- [AlJazeera](#)
- [Haaretz](#)
- [Haaretz](#)
- [Haaretz](#)
- [ABC Radio](#)
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- [Haaretz](#)
- [CNN](#)
- [AFP](#)
- [Haaretz](#)
- [Channel 2 \(Israel\)](#)
- [Haaretz](#)
- [Jerusalem Post](#)
- [AFP](#)
- [Haaretz](#)
- [Politics.Co.UK](#)

Case summaries

Lawyers and fieldworkers for DCI-Palestine collect sworn affidavits from Palestinian children in prison and upon their release. These affidavits are taken in Arabic and further reviewed by trained staff to determine appropriate follow up action. Each year, around 100 of these affidavits are translated into English from which these brief case summaries are produced. Additional case summaries are available upon request.

Mohammad K. - (14 years)

On 1 January 2011, a 14-year-old boy is arrested by Israeli soldiers at 2:00am from the family home in Tuqu' village, near Bethlehem in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and is accused of throwing stones:

House surrounded by Israeli soldiers at 2:00 am - IDs checked and M.K.'s hands are tied behind his back causing pain - blindfolded - pushed inside jeep causing injury to his left leg – inside the vehicle, a soldier farted close to M.K.'s face followed by the laughter of the other soldiers - transferred to Etzion Settlement and given a cursory medical check while still tied - taken to a room with other children and told to sleep on mattresses on the floor while still tied and blindfolded - detained in the room for four hours - denied access to the toilet until 8:30am - interrogation - remained tied - no family member or lawyer present - accused of throwing stones - threatened with beating - confessed to throwing four stones at military vehicles travelling near his village, although he maintains his innocence - ear painfully grabbed by interrogator - signed papers written in Hebrew and not informed of his legal rights - transferred to Ofer Prison - strip searched - provided with food for the first time in 24 hrs - transferred to Rimonim Prison, inside Israel, in violation of Article 76 of the Fourth Geneva Convention.

Mahmoud A. - (10 years)

On 21 January 2011, a 10-year-old boy from Silwan, in occupied East Jerusalem, is detained by Israeli soldiers and accused of throwing stones:

Mahmoud was walking to the local pharmacy to fetch some medicine for his grandmother when he saw clashes between local children and Israeli forces – Mahmoud ran away as he did not want the soldiers to think he was throwing stones – grabbed by two soldiers and placed inside a vehicle - beaten twice on the head - transferred to police station in occupied East Jerusalem - interrogated in the absence of a parent. Mahmoud's uncle came to the police station to take him home, and was told by a policeman: *'Take him, but next time we'll send him to Al Mascobiyya and you know how things are there.'* Al Mascobiyya Interrogation Centre in Jerusalem is notorious and has a reputation for being a place where Palestinians are tortured. Under Israeli civilian law, which is applied to occupied East Jerusalem, no child below the age of 12 years should be questioned by the police as a suspect in a criminal case, and generally, no child should be questioned by the police in the absence of his or her parent - [Voices](#)

Mohammad T. – (15 years)

On 26 January 2011, a 15-year-old boy from the village of An Nabi Salih, in the occupied West Bank, is arrested by Israeli soldiers and accused of throwing stones:

Mohammad was walking home from the village shop with his cousin - when they arrived home, his grandmother warned the boys that Israeli soldiers were arresting young men in the village – *'soldiers usually arrest children and young men our age'* says Mohammad - house surrounded by six soldiers and both boys are forced to the ground and kicked – Mohammad's mother and grandmother tried to intervene, but are prevented from doing so - hands tied and taken to the watchtower at the entrance to the village nearest the Israeli settlement of Hallamish - forced to kneel whilst a soldier placed a foot on their heads forcing them into the ground - painful position - transferred on the floor of a vehicle to Hallamish settlement - blindfolded - interrogated - asked about people throwing stones - taken to see a doctor - hands turned blue due to hand ties - placed on a small chair with hands tied behind back - painful and tiring position - released at 3:00 pm – cousin taken away and prosecuted in a military court - [Voices](#)

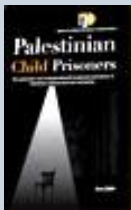
Urgent Appeals

- **UA 4/10** – Children of the Gravel
- **UA 2/11** – Children of Silwan

New report: *Under Attack: Settler Violence against Palestinian Children in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*



For further information please read DCI-Palestine's latest report on Palestinian child prisoners:



Child detention report: *Palestinian Child Prisoners: The systematic and institutionalised ill-treatment and torture of Palestinian children by Israeli authorities*

The Detention Bulletin is a monthly publication produced by Defence for Children International-Palestine Section. To subscribe, go to www.dci-pal.org

For further information contact an advocacy officer at ria@dci-pal.org

Two new reports

On 29 January 2011, DCI-Palestine submitted 40 cases to the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture (and others) for further investigation. The [report](#) covers a six month period between July and December 2010, and is based on the sworn affidavits of 40 children detained in the military court system during this period. In **62.5 %** of the cases, the children were accused of throwing stones. The report found that in **70 %** of the cases, the children reported being beaten or kicked during their arrest, transfer or subsequent interrogation, and in **27.5 %** of the cases, the children were made to sign papers written in Hebrew, a language they do not understand. Once convicted by a military court, **42.5 %** of the children, some as young as 12 years, were transferred out of the Occupied Palestinian Territory into prisons inside Israel, in clear violation of Article 76 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, ratified by Israel in 1951. The report also found that in **47.5 %** of cases, the children reported suffering some form of abuse inside an illegal Israeli settlement in the occupied West Bank.

On 3 February 2011, DCI-Palestine submitted a second [report](#) to the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture (and others) relating to the systematic violation of the rights of Palestinian children arrested by Israeli forces from the Silwan neighbourhood, in occupied East Jerusalem. The report is based on the sworn affidavits of 13 children arrested between October and December 2010. In **77 %** of these cases, the children were accused of throwing stones. The report found that in **77 %** of cases, the children reported some form of physical violence during their arrest, transfer or subsequent interrogation, and in **23 %** of cases, the children were made to sign papers written in Hebrew. In **69 %** of cases the children were interrogated in the absence of their parents, contrary to Israeli law, and in **92 %** of cases, the children were not informed of their right to silence.

Each year, lawyers and fieldworkers for DCI-Palestine collect over 100 sworn affidavits from children detained in the Israeli military court system. Based on this body of evidence, we conclude that torture and ill-treatment is widespread, systematic and institutionalised within the system.

Recommendations

No child should be prosecuted in military courts which lack comprehensive fair trial and juvenile justice standards. DCI-Palestine recommends that as a minimum safeguard in the light of consistent reports of mistreatment and torture, the following:

1. Ensure that no child is interrogated in the absence of a lawyer of their choice and family member;
2. Ensure that all interrogations of children are video recorded;
3. Ensure that all evidence suspected of being obtained through ill-treatment or torture be rejected by the military courts;
4. Ensure that all credible allegations of ill-treatment and torture be thoroughly and impartially investigated and those found responsible for such abuse be brought to justice.