

## **Stand Up for Children's Rights**

### **Stop the Arrest & Illegal Detention of Palestinian Children**

Palestinian children are targeted regularly by the Israeli Military, by illegal colonizers and by the Israeli police - just because they are Palestinian. Please join other Canadian adults and children in signing petition e-2667 to protect these children.

Between 500 and 700 Palestinian children are charged under military law and imprisoned by the Israeli government every year. Hundreds more are taken by Israeli soldiers and police, held for hours or days and released without charge or other 'official' verification of the trauma and abuse they undergo.

Three quarters of those detained experience physical violence during their arrest, detention or interrogation. Children, as young as six, are grabbed off the streets or taken from their homes at gunpoint during middle of the night raids by Israeli police.

As of March 2020, there were 194 security detainees: 28% were serving sentences; 117 were in pre-trial detention. 140 of these detainees were held in prisons inside Israel (not Palestine) in direct contravention of international law and beyond the reach of their Palestinian families.

This deliberate strategy of the Israeli state is to break the spirit of Palestinian families and communities. Detentions derail a youth's education plans, demean a parent's ability to protect or even visit a detained child and destroy community confidence as the children are pressured to name others as offenders in order to save themselves and immediate family members. The ultimate aim of this Goliath state strategy: people without hope see no future and therefore are more easily dispossessed of their country.

The petition to our House of Parliament is a way of shining a light upon the treatment of Palestinian children, their detainment, abuse, torture and arrest: the numbers shot and injured and shot to death; the ones kidnapped from their own homes by the Israeli military; the ones tortured in Israeli detention centres. A Canadian Envoy would give some hope to those children and some weight to the charges laid against Israeli authorities and their apologists, who authorize and support this treatment.

International laws meant to protect an occupied population and laws to protect children's rights are being broken daily by the occupying power (Israel).

Petition e-2667 calls upon the Government of Canada to ensure the human rights of Palestinian children are protected by instructing a Special Envoy to promote, monitor and report on the human rights situation of Palestinian children living in the occupied Palestinian Territory and Gaza."

*For more information visit these websites*

<https://www.united-church.ca/social-action/justice-initiatives/brave-spaces-talking-about-palestinian-childrens-rights>

<https://mcccanada.ca/sites/mcccanada.ca/files/media/common/documents/acfh-detention-updatefebruary72019.pdf>

<https://hatcnw.org/>

[https://www.unicef.org/oPt/UNICEF\\_oPt\\_Children\\_in\\_Israeli\\_Military\\_Detention\\_Observations\\_and\\_Recommendations - 6 March 2013.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/oPt/UNICEF_oPt_Children_in_Israeli_Military_Detention_Observations_and_Recommendations_-_6_March_2013.pdf)

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/countries/middle-east-and-north-africa/israel-and-occupied-palestinian-territories/report-israel-and-occupied-palestinian-territories>