

FREE AHED TAMIMI & ALL PALESTINIAN CHILD PRISONERS

Ahed, a 17 year old Palestinian girl, is facing years in an Israeli jail because she was caught on video slapping an Israeli soldier. Earlier that day Ahed's 14 year old cousin Mohammed, was shot in the face with a rubber bullet by the Israeli army. Ahed thought he had been killed. Her family, like other West Bank villagers, live in constant fear of the Israeli soldiers and the settlers. They suffer the daily indignity of check-points, house demolitions, theft of land and water, violence and arbitrary arrest.

Ahed dared to protest at the army's violation of her family's right to their home and to life itself. The soldier that she slapped had only just fired teargas shells into her house and was standing on her family property. She lives in a small village in the West Bank that has been occupied by Israel for over 50 years in violation of international law.



Ahed has been charged with assaulting an Israeli soldier and will be tried in a military court. Israel is the only country in the world that prosecutes children through military courts. The Courts have a conviction rate of 99%.

Like other Palestinian child prisoners, some as young as 12, Ahed has endured aggressive interrogations, sometimes at night, where threats have been made against her family and where she also has been subjected to emotional abuse.

Ahed is one of hundreds of Palestinian children arrested under military law. 313 Palestinian minors were in Israeli prisons at the end of November 2017, mostly charged with throwing stones. She was pulled out of bed at three in the morning and is held in an Israeli prison in violation of international law which prohibits the occupying power transferring people out of their country. For demanding to know where her daughter was, Ahed's mother was arrested for "incitement" along with Ahed's cousin Nur.

The Tamimi family is a symbol of resistance to the military occupation. They have every right to resist and we must support them.

700 Palestinian Children Arrested Each Year

The arrest of Ahd Tamimi has shone a spotlight on Israel's systematic abuse of minors through the process of military detention. The treatment of Ahd has rightly generated a global response, but her situation is far from unique.

Each year the Israeli military arrests and prosecutes around 700 Palestinian children. From the moment of arrest, Palestinian children encounter ill-treatment and a denial of their basic rights. Children as young as 12 are still routinely:

- taken from their homes at gunpoint in night-time raids by soldiers
- blindfolded, bound and shackled
- interrogated without a lawyer or relative being present and with no audio-visual recording
- put into solitary confinement
- forced to sign confessions (often in Hebrew – a language they do not understand)

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You can help by

1. asking your MP to support by signing *Early Day Motion 563* concerning Child Prisoners
  2. telling Boris Johnson to protest to the Israeli Government
- Details: [www.palestinecampaign.org](http://www.palestinecampaign.org) and PSC Facebook

*Palestine Solidarity Campaign*