## Department of Foreign Affairs At Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine



## الجبهة الديمقراطية لتحرير فلسطين دائرة العلاقات الخارجية في اللجنة المركزية

A message to hundreds of international parties and their institutions on the occasion of Palestinian Prisoner's Day

The Foreign Affairs Department at DFLP calls for international action in support of the Palestinian prisoners' issue

On the seventeenth of April every year, the Palestinian people commemorate Prisoner's Day, with the aim of reminding the world that there are thousands of sons and daughters of the Palestinian people still detained inside the basements and detention centers of the Israeli occupation, and these prisoners sum up in their suffering of a people and a land under occupation, and there is no issue regarding For the Palestinian people, it can take precedence over the issue of prisoners, which has become an integral part of the Palestinian struggle.

The issue of Palestinian detainees in Israeli prisons can only be viewed as one of the titles of the struggle for the freedom of the people and their salvation from occupation and settlement, which are considered the direct cause of a resistance that has become part of the heritage of a people whose land was occupied and abandoned by the force of murder and terrorism at the hands of Zionist gangs that came invading from all over the world to take Palestine as its center within the framework of the full partnership between the Zionist movement and Western colonialism.

The policy of arrests is part of the occupation's strategy in dealing with the Palestinian people, and therefore there is no place in its dictionary for international law and no consideration for human rights values. All members of the people are a target for arrest, as Israel resorts to detention as a collective and individual punishment for all of society. It arrests and tortures entire families, including children, women, the elderly, and the sick. The history of detention records that more than a million cases of arrest were witnessed in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and among the most dangerous were the arrests it witnessed. Palestine after the "Al-Aqsa Flood" operation, where the number of people arrested exceeded

## 7 thousand cases.

It is not a coincidence that the issue of Palestinian detainees is a central point on the agenda of Israeli institutions that have enacted many laws with the aim of killing prisoners financially and morally. The Knesset approved the law withdrawing citizenship and residency from Palestinian prisoners, the law executing prisoners, and a law legalizing the trial of children under the age of 14, in addition to the law on force–feeding of prisoners on hunger strike to obtain their rights, and the law on detaining the bodies of prisoners, where Israel is detaining hundreds of bodies, not to mention the policy of administrative detention, where security services are given the right to arrest any Palestinian and put him in detention centers for

years without bringing any charges against him, and the number of administrative detainees is currently increasing. All of these laws and practices rise to the level of war crimes.

According to Palestinian institutions for prisoners, the number of prisoners has exceeded ten thousand, including more than 200 children and 80 women, in addition to 56 journalists. Since last October 7, the occupation forces have carried out a forced disappearance of dozens of prisoners, whose fate remains unknown until now. They also resorted to a campaign of arrests and abuse against the prisoners, which resulted in the martyrdom of 14 prisoners inside the detention centers, as a result of physical torture and medical neglect.

Today, there is no legal framework that regulates the conditions of Palestinian detainees. The Palestinian is accused and convicted as soon as he is arrested. Experiences of detention over more than fifty years have confirmed that the Israeli courts are nothing but a tool in the hands of the security, military and political institutions, which view every act of the Palestinian struggle as "terrorism" and deal with all detainees as criminals, stripping them of their political status and trying them before military courts and refusing to Dealing with them as prisoners of war protected by international agreements.

The experiences of peoples and liberation movements confirm that the occupier and colonizer cannot respond to the will of the peoples to liberate their prisoners except through resistance. The history of the conflict with the Zionist occupier and the experiences of liberation movements confirm that the resistance option is the shortest option to liberate our prisoners and the most effective option to liberate our land and expel the Israeli occupier from it, with emphasis. Always affirming that the presence of occupation and settlement on our Palestinian land gives our people every right to raise the banner of resistance to regain their freedom, establish their independent state with Jerusalem as its capital, and return Palestinian refugees to their land.

Foreign Affairs Department at DFLP presents this message from the parties of the world and from various political and popular frameworks, not only to renew our support for our prisoners, nor to remind the world that there are Palestinian fighters who were thrown into prisons harsher than Nazi cells, because of their defense of Their land and the dignity of their people. Rather, let us renew our call to you for international action in support of the cause of the Palestinian prisoners in Israeli prisons and to place the demand for their release on the agenda of the popular movements denouncing the Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip and to make it a daily issue in your movements, positions and speeches, considering that arrest operations are a crime and the occupation must be held accountable.

We also call for the assistance of our prisoners and the Palestinian institutions defending prisoners to invest all the tools of international law to provide protection for the prisoners and to call on the United Nations institutions to condemn Israeli practices and stand by our detainees and their just demands, to ensure the application of the Geneva Conventions to the prisoners and to treat them as prisoners of war, and to force the Israeli enemy to release all prisoners and detainees from its detention centers, especially children, women, the sick, and the elderly.