

Palestinian activist succumbs to injuries days after release from Israeli prison

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This file photo shows Palestinian activist Wafa Jarrar.

Gaza City, August 6 (RHC)-- A female Palestinian activist has succumbed to injuries she sustained during an Israeli raid on her home back in May. Wafa Jarrar died on Monday from injuries she had sustained when Israeli forces detained her on May 21st.

Jarrar suffered severe injuries, and as a result undergone above-knee amputations. The Israeli authorities reportedly released her shortly after her legs were amputated to avoid responsibility for her treatment.

The Israeli army claimed that Jarrar was injured in a blast while inside the military vehicle, where she was kept detained for four hours. Despite its claim, the regime issued an administrative detention order against Jarrar before releasing and handing her over to the Palestinian Liaison Office, while she was in a critical condition.

Last month, the Euro-med human rights monitor held Israeli army bears full responsible for the life and safety of Wafa Jarrar. "This is a clear effort by Israel's army to avoid taking responsibility for the serious injuries Jarrar sustained during her detention, which resulted in the amputation of her legs above the knees as well as damage to her spine and lungs, and to avoid its legal obligation to provide the necessary medical treatment," the Euro-med human rights monitor said on July 1st.

"What Jarrar, age 49, was subjected to from the first moment of her arrest until her release reflects the repeated and systematic violations faced by Palestinians during their detention by Israeli forces, including arbitrary arrests, abuse, use as human shields, torture, and denial of medical care," it added.

Wafa is the wife of Hamas leader Abdul Jabbar Jarrar who has been held in Israeli jails since February 2022 under administrative detention.

There are reportedly more than 8,000 Palestinians held in Israeli jails, with hundreds of the inmates incarcerated under the so-called practice of administrative detention.

Human rights organizations say Israel violates all the rights and freedoms granted to prisoners by the Fourth Geneva Convention, noting administrative detention violates their right to due process since the evidence is withheld from prisoners while they are held for lengthy periods without being charged, tried, or convicted.

Palestinian detainees have continuously resorted to open-ended hunger strikes in an attempt to express outrage at their detention. Israeli jail authorities keep Palestinian prisoners under deplorable conditions without proper hygienic standards. Palestinian inmates have also been subject to systematic torture, harassment, and repression.

Since the outbreak of Israel's genocidal war on Gaza last October, the regime has also intensified arrest campaigns in the West Bank and al-Quds. In a report issued recently, the Commission of Detainees' and Ex-detainees' Affairs, the Palestinian Prisoners Society, the Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association said Israeli forces had arrested about 9,920 people, including 345 women, 690 children and 93 journalists, since October 7th.

More than 7,500 administrative detention orders have been issued since October 7, including new orders and renewals, according to the report.

The Israeli arrest campaigns, the groups said, were also accompanied by physical assaults, threats against detainees and their families, destruction of the detainees' houses, and seizure of their properties.

The Israeli forces also carried out field executions against detainees and their family members, the report added. "Since October 7, at least 20 detainees were martyred in Israeli prisons and their identities have been revealed," the report said, adding that dozens of detainees from Gaza also lost their lives in Israeli

prisons and detention centers, but the Israeli authorities refrained from declaring their names or the causes of their death.

“The bodies of 18 detainees who were martyred after October 7 are still withheld” by the Israeli regime, the report said.

Israeli forces regularly seize Palestinians’ bodies to prevent funerals in Palestinian towns, or with a view to using them in negotiations to retrieve the bodies of Israeli soldiers held by resistance groups.

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