

# *Israel Beats and Assaults Palestinian Children in Jail*

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Ramallah, October 23 (RHC)-- The Israeli regime has beaten or assaulted dozens of Palestinian minors while they were in Israeli custody, the Palestinian government says. A statement issued by the Palestinian Authority Department of Prisoners' Affairs on Wednesday cited the testimonies of two Palestinian minors as evidence of the Israeli regime's abuse of Palestinian children.

Sixteen-year-old Muhammad Khaled Sharifeh and 17-year-old Wissan Hussein Awri recounted the events of their arrests and prosecution to a lawyer who visited them in HaSharon prison in central Israel.

Sharifeh said he was arrested by Israeli soldiers on July 7th in the al-Aqsa Mosque and was "vigorously beaten" on his face while being transferred to a detention center in the Salah al-Din area of Jerusalem. Awri similarly reported the brutal behavior of undercover Israeli forces, who severely beat, kicked and punched him during his arrest on August 1st.

Reports say over 7,000 Palestinians, including 250 children, are being held in Israeli jails. The Israeli regime is under fire for its violent treatment of Palestinian children in blatant violation of international law. Tel Aviv has frequently arrested Palestinian children without giving a reason for the detention.

According to reports, hundreds of Palestinian prisoners are held in Israeli prisons for a long time without trial while they are not even provided with their basic needs, including visiting family members. Palestinian

human rights groups say the number of Palestinians in Israeli administrative detention has reached the highest level since 2008.

Administrative detention is a sort of imprisonment without trial or charge that allows Israel to incarcerate Palestinians for up to six months. The detention order can be renewed for indefinite periods of time.

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