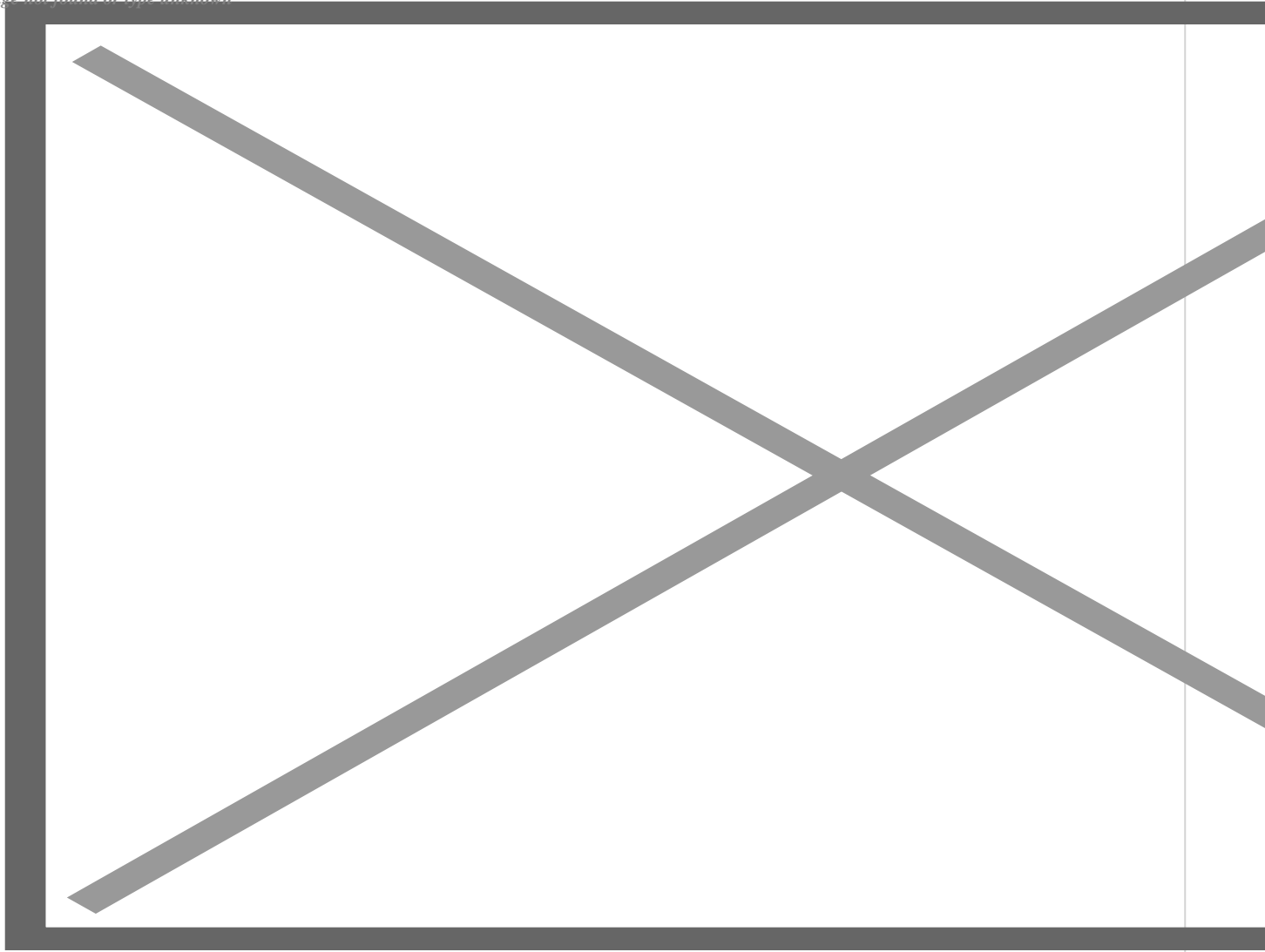


Palestinian detainee dies in Israeli prison under torture

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Deceased Palestinian prisoner Mohammad Hussein al-Aref (Photo via social media)

Ramallah, January 25 (RHC)-- Two Palestinian prisoners' rights groups have uncovered new details about the death of a Palestinian inmate at an Israeli detention center, affirming that he died from brutal torture he endured at the hands of jailers.

The Commission of Detainees' and Ex-Detainees' Affairs and the Palestinian Prisoners' Society (PPS) issued a statement, saying that a preliminary medical report, obtained by the family of 45-year-old Mohammad Hussein al-Aref, confirmed he was deliberately liquidated during interrogation.

Al-Aref, a resident of Nour Shams refugee camp in Tulkarm, underwent an autopsy on December 17 last year. "It was clear that there was a decision to kill him from the moment of his detention on November 28, 2024," the groups said.

The autopsy findings highlighted the presence of multiple signs on the late detainee's body, confirming that he had faced extensive physical abuse that led to his suffering from a heart attack, a blocked artery in the lungs, brain bleed, and other internal injuries.

The murder of Aref, the groups said, is part of Israel's systematic and decades-long crimes against Palestinian prisoners in its jails. Israel's use of torture against detainees had escalated and reached unprecedented levels since the war on Gaza, they added.

Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails are subjected to unacceptable living conditions that lack adequate hygiene. In addition, they face ongoing instances of systematic torture, harassment, and repression.

The prisoners have continuously resorted to open-ended hunger strikes in an attempt to express outrage at their illegal detention. Human rights organizations state that Israel persists in infringing upon the rights and freedoms granted to prisoners under the Fourth Geneva Convention and various international laws.

The Palestine Detainees Studies Center reports that approximately 60 percent of Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli jails are afflicted with chronic illnesses, with several individuals having succumbed to their conditions either while in custody or following their release.

Israeli soldiers, tanks, howitzers and armored vehicles are seen as Israeli military mobility continues on the Gaza border, in Nahal Oz, Israel on December 13, 2023 [Mostafa Alkharouf - Anadolu Agency]

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