



**STOP** أوقفوا الإعتقال الإداري  
**ADMINISTRATIVE  
DETENTION**



## Corporate Complicity in Israeli Administrative Detention: G4S

Born of the merger of Group 4 Falck and Securicor in 2004, G4S is the largest security company in the world, with operations in 125 countries.<sup>1</sup> It operates in Palestine and the 1948 Territories through its subsidiary, G4S Israel.<sup>2</sup> In 2007, G4S signed a contract with the Israeli Prison Authority to provide security systems and services to all of the major Israeli prisons and detention centers. G4S currently services a number of detention centers and prisons where Palestinians under administrative detention are held without charge or trial on six-month detention orders, renewable indefinitely.

**Prisons & Detention Centers:** G4S provides security systems to Ketziot, Damon and Meggido prisons, as well as the Russian Compound (Al-Moskobiyeh) and Kishon (Al-Jalameh) detention and interrogation centers.<sup>3</sup> G4S is responsible for the control and monitoring systems of these facilities, in addition to visitation systems and CCTV systems.<sup>4</sup> G4S also provides security systems and a central control room in Hasharon compound – Rimonim prison, which includes a wing for Palestinian political prisoners.<sup>5</sup>

**Complicity in Torture:** Al-Moskobiyeh and Al-Jalameh centers, serviced by G4S, are renowned for their use of torture, including of children.<sup>6</sup> For instance, in 2013, detainee Arafat Jaradat died as a result of torture endured at the hands of Israeli interrogators at Al-Jalameh.<sup>7</sup> Administrative detainee Loai Ashqar had three of his vertebrae broken due to torture sustained in Al-Jalameh in 2005, permanently paralyzing his left leg.<sup>8</sup> Under Israeli military law, detainees can be held in interrogation for up to 60 days without access to a lawyer, effectively preventing appropriate checks on interrogation methods.

**Military Courts:** G4S installed and operates a central command room and peripheral defense system in Ofer Prison in the West Bank,<sup>9</sup> which also houses the Israeli military courts that issue administrative detention orders.

**Administrative Detainees:** All of the prisons and detention centers serviced by G4S have housed administrative detainees. As of 1 March 2013, there were 70 administrative detainees in Ketziot, 56 in Ofer, and 27 in Megiddo.

**Detention in the 1948 Territories:** Ketziot, Megiddo, Al-Jalameh, Al-Moskobiyeh, and Hasharon-Rimonim are all located in the 1948 Territories. Israel's policy of holding political prisoners from the West Bank and Gaza in these prisons is illegal under international law, specifically Article 76 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which prohibits the transfer of prisoners from occupied territories. This transfer, coupled with the restrictive permit system used by Israel, means that many detainees receive few, if any, family visits.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.corporatewatch.org/?lid=337>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.corporatewatch.org/?lid=4360>

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> <http://whoprofits.org/company/g4s-israel-hashmira>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.whoprofits.org/articlefiles/WhoProfits-PrivateSecurity-G4S.pdf>, p. 14-15.

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.maannnews.net/eng/ViewDetails.aspx?ID=568699>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.addameer.org/etemplate.php?id=164>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.corporatewatch.org/?lid=4360>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.addameer.org/files/Reports/administrative-detention-analysis-report-final.pdf>, p. 36.



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**Call for action:** In April 2012, when thousands of Palestinians went on hunger strike in protest of administrative detention, solitary confinement, and limitations on family visits, 12 Palestinian civil society organizations called on the global solidarity movement to hold G4S accountable for its active participation in the violations of international law and human rights taking place in Israeli prisons and detention centers.<sup>11</sup> The call to action is part of the Palestinian campaign for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions against Israel.

**Effectiveness of International Pressure:** International action against G4S has led to the company's losing contracts in Europe, including with the University of Oslo, Dundee University Student Union and UK energy company Good Energy.<sup>12</sup> Several Dutch charities have announced that they will no longer accept donations from G4S. G4S has also shown itself to be sensitive to public pressure, pledging to pull out of contracts servicing settlements and checkpoints in the occupied West Bank. However, no exact dates for the termination of contracts have been released and G4S has completely ignored criticism of its role servicing prisons inside the 1948 Territories and the West Bank.<sup>13</sup>

### Profiles of Children in Administrative Detention:



**Emad Al-Ashhab:** At the age of 17, Emad was arrested and detained for nearly a year on four successive administrative detention orders. On the day of his arrest, Israeli soldiers covered his face with a woolen bag, shackled his hands and feet, and beat him all over his body with a stick. They also burnt his hand with cigarettes.<sup>14</sup> In a survey of 50 cases of children prisoners conducted by Defense for Children International in 2000-2001, 100 percent of the children interviewed were subject to torture and 95 percent were beaten by soldiers during arrest.<sup>15</sup> Emad was held at Ofer Prison, serviced by G4S.

**Salwa Salah:** Salwa was 16 years old when she was violently taken from her home in Bethlehem by Israeli soldiers and members of the Israeli Security Agency (ISA). She was held for 7 months under administrative detention in Damon Prison, serviced by G4S. After visiting Salwa in prison, her mother recalls: "She was crying and begging me to help her get out and come home. She kept saying that no charges were filed against her and that she was in prison for no reason. She wanted to go back to school and was really upset about missing her classes. [...] I felt myself choking up inside because I knew I had to leave my daughter behind in this miserable place. I was so upset that I started to cry. After 30 minutes, the prison guards began shouting at us to leave the building immediately. As if we were animals."<sup>16</sup>



<sup>11</sup> <http://www.corporatewatch.org/?lid=4360>

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.bdsmovement.net/activecamps/g4s>

<sup>13</sup> <http://electronicintifada.net/blogs/adri-nieuwhof/security-firm-g4s-provides-services-israeli-prisons-police-and-army>

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.addameer.org/etemplate.php?id=154>

<sup>15</sup> Defense for Children International – Palestine Section, *Torture of Palestinian Child Prisoners: A Clear Violation of Human Rights*, 2002.

<sup>16</sup> <http://www.addameer.org/etemplate.php?id=136>