

## **“Free Palestinian Political Prisoners”:**

**our contribution to the global Red Ribbon campaign.**



Since its establishment in 1948, the Israeli settler-colonial state has employed imprisonment to subjugate the Palestinian population. Many of the prisons now used by the Israeli settler state to suppress Palestinian resistance were first established under British colonial rule for the same purpose.

Israel often imprisons Palestinians without charge or trial, sentencing them to 6 months and then, at the end of that period, renewing the imprisonment: this system is called Administrative Detention.

Palestinians face some of the highest rates of incarceration of any population in the world: one in five Palestinians has been imprisoned by Israel at some point in their life – 20% of the population.

**This mass imprisonment is aimed at defeating Palestinian resistance to Israel’s goal of seizing ever more Palestinian land and expelling its rightful owners.**

## **This pattern has accelerated since October 2023:**

- Over 9,000 Palestinians have been taken prisoner
- 3, 500 of these are held without trial or charge
- 400 children and 66 women have been imprisoned



*All Palestinian prisoners are subjected to various forms of systematic torture and physical and psychological violence, including severe beating, sexual abuse, long interrogation hours, sleep deprivation, and threats of detaining and torturing family members.*

Despite the unimaginable brutality and dehumanization of the Israeli carceral regime, Palestinian detainees have turned the prison into a site of confrontation where they assert their political agency and will to live.

Hunger strikes, collective actions to improve prison conditions, escape, and the smuggling of political writings are some of the means through which Palestinian prisoners resist their confinement, challenge the status quo of the prison system, and join the wider struggle for liberation.

**We stand with Palestinian political prisoners – we demand their freedom. Join the campaign here in Sheffield and wear a red ribbon on your lapel with pride.**

