For immediate release
October 20, 2025

Released Gaza doctor describes torture and medical neglect in detention as Israel continues to incarcerate at least ninety-five Palestinian healthcare workers

Dr Ahmed Muhanna, the director of Al-Awda Hospital in Gaza, told Healthcare Workers Watch (HWW) that **'doctors have been singled out as targets for detention'** and are treated with particular brutality while detained. In a video testimony, Dr Muhanna described how several of the Palestinian detainees died 'as the [...] Israeli jailers looked on'. He added that the detained healthcare workers were prevented from helping other detainees, even those injured during violent interrogations. Dr Muhanna's own health suffered from the protracted starvation and unsanitary conditions, and he lost almost a third of his body weight while in detention.

As of today, HWW has been able to verify that 95 Palestinian healthcare workers are still being held in Israeli detention. This includes Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya – whose lawyers announced a six-month extension to his incarceration last week – and 79 other healthcare workers from Gaza. A further five healthcare workers have died or been killed while in detention, and five more are missing, their whereabouts unknown.

The detained Gazan healthcare workers include 31 nurses, 17 doctors and 14 paramedics. In a pattern consistent across the hundreds of healthcare worker detentions verified by HWW, most of the Gazan healthcare workers currently in detention were abducted by the Israeli military from their hospitals or ambulances while they were working. Testimonies collected by HWW and other organisations catalogue the torture and abuse that Palestinians endure in Israeli detention.

Today HWW organised a joint event with Amnesty International UK to call for the immediate and unconditional release of all the detained healthcare workers currently held in appalling conditions in Israel.

Dr Rebecca Inglis, of HWW, says: **'Israel's continued detention of nearly one hundred healthcare workers is in clear contravention of International Humanitarian Law. We are gravely concerned for their welfare given the extensive evidence that Palestinian detainees are being tortured while in Israeli detention.'**

Media Enquiries:

For more information contact Healthcare Workers Watch on info@healthcareworkerswatch.org

Dr Tanya Haj Hassan and Dr Rebecca Inglis are both available for interviews.

Event photos are available here.

Data regarding the detained Palestinian healthcare workers since October 7, 2023:

- As of October 20, 2025, Healthcare Workers Watch (HWW) has documented a total of 431 cases of detained Palestinian healthcare workers since October 7, 2023.
- 309 of the 431 detained healthcare workers are now confirmed to have been released; 67 of them were released as part of the latest exchange deal on October 13, 2025
- We have not yet received a status update from the families of 22 detained healthcare workers so these are not included in the 'confirmed detained' or 'confirmed released' figures
- Five healthcare workers are still missing (3 senior physicians, an UNRWA pharmacist, and a senior physiotherapist). Their fate is unknown, with no evidence if they have been killed or detained.
- Five HCWs are reportedly killed/died in Israeli detention, their bodies have not been returned to their families (2 senior physicians, a senior nurse, a senior paramedic, and an administrative staff, all are Gazans).

- **95 healthcare workers are confirmed as 'currently detained':**

    - 95 Palestinian healthcare workers have been confirmed by HWW to currently be in Israeli detention by contacting their families, lawyers and released detainees.
    - The 'currently detained' healthcare workers have spent a total of 48570 days in Israeli detention. On average, each of them has so far spent 511 days in detention (ranging from 18 days to 714 days)
    - Fifteen 'currently detained' healthcare workers are from the West Bank (7 physicians, a nurse, 2 paramedics, 4 students, and a community health worker)
    - Eighty 'currently detained' healthcare workers are from the Gaza Strip, distributed as follows:

        - Gender: 1 female and 79 male
        - Mean age: 38.7 years (range: 23-62 years)

- Profession category: 17 physicians, 31 nurses, 14 paramedics, 15 hospital management and support staff, 2 pharmacists, and 1 technician.
- Level of seniority: 25 seniors, 50 mid-level, and 5 juniors
- Work status: 66 full time workers, 3 in-training jobs, and 12 volunteers
- Place of usual residence: 36 from North Gaza, 18 Gaza City, 24 Khan Younis, and 3 Rafah
- Place of detention: 66 were detained from inside healthcare facilities, 2 from in front of a healthcare facility, 6 from an organised convoy to transfer patients, 2 from their homes or place of displacement, and 4 unknown.

Missing healthcare workers:

1. **Dr Mohammed Khaled Mohammed Al-Derdisawi** (57 years old), Paediatrics Gastroenterology and Endoscopy Specialist, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
   Missing for 636 days

2. **Mr. Hammouda Salem Moustafa Shaat** (78 years old), Consultant of Paediatrics, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis (retired)
   Missing for 133 days

3. **Dr. Talal Akram Ismail Al-Shawwa** (72 years old), Consultant of Paediatrics, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza (retired)
   Missing for 639 days

4. **Ms. Salwa Talal Akram Al-Shawwa** (44 years old), Pharmacist, UNRWA Jabalia Health Centre, North Gaza
   Missing for 639 days

5. **Mr. Ehab Khalil Wajeeh Badra** (48 years old), Physiotherapist, Military Medical Services, Gaza.
   Missing for 639 days

Healthcare workers killed/died in Israeli detention

1. **Dr Iyad Ahmed Mohammed Al-Rantisi** (age on death: 53 years), Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, and Head of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department at Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza

2. **Mr. Hamdan Hassan Hamdan Ennaba** (age on death: 45 years), Senior Paramedic, Nasser Medical Complex in Khan Younis City

3. **Dr Adnan Ahmed Attia Al-Bursh** (age on death: 50 years), Consultant Orthopaedics Surgeon, Head of Orthopaedics Department, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza (and other hospitals)

4. **Dr Ziad Mohammed Saleh Al-Dalou, PhD** (age on death: 65 years), Chief Nurse, Internal Medicine Department, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza.

5. **Mr Mosaab Hani Ghazi Haniyeh** (age on death: 35 years), administrative staff, Al-Shifa Medical Complex, Gaza.

Palestinian healthcare workers confirmed to be in Israeli detention:

Healthcare workers from Gaza Strip:

Physicians

1. **Dr Akram Hassan Mohammed Abu-Odeh** (61 years old), Consultant of Orthopaedics Surgery, Head of Orthopaedics Department, The Indonesian Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 698 days

2. **Dr. Sulieman Zuhdi Sulieman Abu-Shareea** (37 years old), Volunteering General Practitioner, Jabalia Ambulance Centre, Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS), North Gaza.
In detention for 670 days

3. **Dr Ahmed Ibrahim Hassan Mousa** (43 years old), General Surgery Specialist, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 612 days

4. **Dr Ghassan Ihmaidan Musallam Abu-Zuhri** (52 years old), Chief of Orthopaedics Surgery, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 612 days

5. **Dr Nahed Zaki Ismail Abu-Taima** (49 years old), Chief of Surgery, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 612 days

6. **Dr Mosab Fakhry Atia Samaan** (28 years old), In-training physician, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis. Former teaching assistant, IUG Faculty of Medicine, Gaza.
In detention for 612 days

7. **Dr Hamza Mohammed Hussien Abu-Sabha** (31 years old), In-training physician, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
   In detention for 612 days

8. **Dr Raed Yaqoub Salam Mahdi** (52 years old), Consultant Paediatrician, Al Durra Children Hospital, Gaza.
   In detention for 682 days

9. **Dr Khalid Abdul-Aziz Abdallah Seiyam** (30 years old), In-training General Surgeon, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza.
   Detained twice, the last for 580 days

10. **Dr Murad Waleed Murad Al-Qouqa** (47 years old), Orthopaedics Surgery Specialist, Head of Orthopaedics Surgery Department, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza.
    In detention for 580 days

11. **Dr Mahmoud Ahmed Khalil Al-Hallaq** (37 years old), In-training Intensive Care Physician, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
    In detention for 612 days

12. **Dr Ahmed Mahmoud Mohammed Shehada** (52 years old), Cardiology Specialist, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
    In detention for 627 days

13. **Dr Mohammed Hassan Ali Obaid** (42 years old), Consultant Orthopaedics Surgeon, Head of Orthopaedics Department at Al-Awda Hospital (and other hospitals), Al-Awda Hospital, North Gaza.
    In detention for 359 days

14. **Dr Hassan Khalil Hassan Al-Moqayyed** (53 years old), Consultant Vascular Surgeon, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
    In detention for 359 days

15. **Dr Medhat Asaad Mahmoud Abu-Tabanja** (45 years old), Consultant Intensivist, Head of Intensive Care Department, The Indonesian Hospital, North Gaza.
    In detention for 697 days

16. **Dr Hussam Idrees Amer Abu Safiya** (52 years old), Consultant Paediatrician, Acting Director of Kamal Adwan Hospital, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
    In detention for 297 days

17. **Dr Marwan Shafeeq Ali Al-Hams** (53 years old), Consultant of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care. Director of Field Hospitals, Ministry of Health, Gaza Strip. Director of Abu-Youssef Al-Najjar Hospital in Rafah (before its wanton destruction)
In detention for 91 days

Nurses

18. **Dr Ahmed Mohammed Hassan Al-Kahlout, PhD** (53 years old), Director General, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 678 days

19. **Mr. Anas Abdulkareem Mohammed Al-shaikh** (40 years old), Head of Infection Control Unit, The Indonesian Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 580 days

20. **Mr. Rawhi Fayez Mohammed Al-Labban** (38 years old), Chief Nurse, Orthopaedics Department, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza.
In detention for 580 days

21. **Mr Mahmoud Mohammed Awad Al-Shaweesh Lubbad** (43 years old), Chief Nurse, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

22. **Mr. Moayad Ismail Darwish Al-Ron, MSc** (43 years old), Chief of Infection Control, Palliative Care and Rehabilitation Nurse, The Indonesian Hospital, North Gaza. Masters in Healthcare Management, IUG
In detention for 297 days

23. **Mr. Mohammed Adham Abdullah Matar** (24 years old), Volunteering nurse, Palestinian Ministry of Health (PMoH), Gaza.
In detention for 634 days

24. **Mr. Hamza Mansour Abdulkareem Nayfa** (28 years old), Nurse, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

25. **Mr. Hossam Waleed Abdulhameed Daher** (28 years old), Volunteering nurse, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

26. **Mr. Ahmed Ramadan Hassan Abu-Riala** (29 years old), ICU Nurse, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza.
In detention for 701 days

27. **Mr. Ahmed Amin Mohammed Abdelhadi** (27 years old), Nurse, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 612 days

28. **Mr. Rami Hasan Abdulqader Al-Kurdi** (34 years old), Volunteering nurse, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza.
In detention for 580 days

29. **Mr. Azzam Khalid Motleq Eissa** (34 years old), Volunteering nurse, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza.
In detention for 580 days

30. **Mr. Ezz-Elddin Moustafa Hussein Al-Za'anin** (27 years old), Volunteering nurse, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza.
In detention for 580 days

31. **Mr. Majed Jamal Roubin Al-Jaish** (26 years old), Volunteering nurse, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza.
In detention for 580 days

32. **Mr. Louai Majed Darwish Harara** (36 years old), Volunteering nurse, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza.
In detention for 580 days

33. **Mr. Fayez Zaghloul Abdulrahman Abu-Anza** (42 years old), ER Nurse, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 612 days

34. **Mr. Ahmed Abdulrahman Salem Sadeq** (26 years old), Nurse, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 612 days

35. **Mr. Mohammed Abdulrahim Shaaban Al-Arbeed** (34 years old), Nurse, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza.
In detention for 626 days

36. **Mr. Ahmed Mousa Ismail Mousa** (34 years old), Nurse, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 633 days

37. **Mr. Hatem Hussien Ibrahim Al-Jamal** (48 years old), Nurse, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

38. **Mr. Moataz Nabeel Nathmi Nassar** (37 years old), Nurse, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

39. **Mr. Al-Hassan Nabeel Nathmi Nassar** (34 years old), Nurse, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

40. **Mr. Anwar Muneer Anwar Al-Shorbaji** (24 years old), Nurse, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

41. **Mr. Zakariya Moneer Kamel Al-Draimli** (38 years old), Nurse, Military Medical Services, North Gaza.
In detention for 297 days

42. **Mr. Hussien Mostafa Hussien Al-Zaaneen** (43 years old), Nurse, Biet Hanoun Clinic, North Gaza.
In detention for 316 days

43. **Mr. Ameer Khalil Mohammed Shehada** (36 years old), Nurse, MSc Community Mental Health, IUG, Ministry of Health, Gaza.
In detention for 357 days

44. **Mr. Ahmed Atef Hassan Shaheen** (30 years old), Nurse, The Indonesian Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 699 days

45. **Mr. Ibrahim Wajeeh Ismail Al-Ayoubi** (35 years old), Nurse, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

46. **Mr. Saleh Hashem Hassan Abu-Al-Aish** (33 years old), Nurse, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

47. **Mr. Moayyad Mounir Fahmi Al-Masri** (36 years old), Nurse, Infection Control Unit, Palestinian Ministry of Health, Gaza. Volunteered at Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza
In detention for 359 days

48. **Ms. Tasneem Marwan Shafeeq Al-Hams** (23 years old), Nurse, MoH Medical Point at Al-Ard Al-Tayba displacement camp, Al-Mawasi, Khan Younis
In detention for 18 days

Paramedics

49. **Mr Anees Al-Dunia Abdulhamid Al-Astal** (46 years old), Head of Paramedics Department in Southern Area, Palestinian Ministry of Health, Khan Younis.
In detention for 688 days

50. **Mr. Mohammed Bassam Ahmed Al-Nahhal** (32 years old), Paramedic, Martyr Mohammed Yousef El-Najar Hospital, Rafah.
In detention for 697 days

51. **Mr. Tamer Mahmoud Hussien Abu-Shahin** (48 years old), Paramedic, Al-Amal Hospital, PRCS, Khan Younis.
In detention for 623 days

52. **Mr. Abdulaziz Moustafa Salman Kali** (39 years old), Paramedic, Military Medical Services, North Gaza.
In detention for 297 days

53. **Mr. Mohammed Bassam Ismail Al-Qedra** (34 years old), Paramedic, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 612 days

54. **Mr. Waleed Hammad Saleh Abu-Haddaf** (34 years old), Paramedic, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 612 days

55. **Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Adel Abu-Draz** (40 years old), Paramedic, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 612 days

56. **Mr. Wesam Essam Abu-Nada** (37 years old), Paramedic, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

57. **Mr. Abdullah Abdulhafez Abdullah Awkal** (45 years old), Paramedic, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

58. **Mr. Maher Mohammed Mohsin Al-Ajrami** (52 years old), Paramedic, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 297 days

59. **Mr. Abdallah Khamis Abdallah Abu-Taha** (45 years old), Ambulance Driver, Ministry of Health, Khan Younis.
In detention for 697 days

60. **Mr. Mohammed Mahmoud Mohammed Abu-Saqer** (40 years old), Paramedic, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

61. **Mr. Ali Hassan Khader Al-Rantisi** (31 years old), Paramedic, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

62. **Mr. Hatem Ismail Abdullatif Rayyan** (58 years old), Paramedic, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

Pharmacists

63. **Dr. Iyad Ibrahim Hussien Shaqoura, PhD** (43 years old), Pharmacist, PhD in Health Administration, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 612 days

64. **Mr. Ahmed Kamal Hamdan Al-Najjar** (26 years old), Volunteering Pharmacist, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 612 days

Technician

65. **Mr. Mahmoud Ali Younis Al-Nairab** (34 years old), Radiology Technician, The Indonesian Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 699 days

Hospital management and support staff

66. **Mr. Samer Mohammed Moeen Shaat** (45 years old), Administrative Staff, International Cooperation Department, Palestinian Ministry of Health, Gaza.
In detention for 708 days

67. **Mr. Yousef Khalil Mohammed Abu-Afesh** (29 years old), Secretary of Director General, Al-Shifa Hospital, Gaza.
In detention for 580 days

68. **Mr. Ahmed Mosaad Mahmoud Abu-Tabanja** (24 years old), Hospital Security, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 612 days

69. **Mr. Ahmed Ibrahim Hussien Tabasi** (38 years old), Secretary, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 627 days

70. **Mr. Ali Yousef Mohammed Rostom** (59 years old), Administrative staff, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 633 days

71. **Mr. Nidal Fayez Jibreel Al-Moqayyad** (32 years old), Administrative staff, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days
72. **Mr. Mohammed Eid Abdulqader Sabbah** (32 years old), Public Relations Specialist, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 297 days

73. **Mr. Hammouda Riyad Asaad Shamallakh** (33 years old), Web and Software Engineer, General Administration of Computer and Information Systems, Ministry of Health, Gaza.
In detention for 581 days

74. **Mr. Saleh Maher Mahmoud Abu-Ammona** (32 years old), Web and Software Engineer, General Administration of Computer and Information Systems, Ministry of Health, Gaza.
In detention for 581 days

75. **Mr. Jaber Moustafa Ahmed Al-Fairi** (62 years old), Morgue worker, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

76. **Mr. Bahaa-Al-Din Hosni Mahmoud Ashour** (30 years old), Administrative staff, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

77. **Mr. Haroun Abdulfattah Mahmoud Al-Moqayyad** (42 years old), Administrative staff, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

78. **Mr. Omar Mohammed Eid Al-Hawajri** (54 years old), Morgue worker, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

79. **Mr. Abdullah Omar Ali Abu-Rayya** (42 years old), Administrative staff, Kamal Adwan Hospital, North Gaza.
In detention for 359 days

80. **Mr. Rezeq Essam Rezeq Abu-Azab** (31 years old), Maintenance Technician, Nasser Medical Complex, Khan Younis.
In detention for 627 days

Healthcare workers from West Bank:

81. **Dr Alaa-Al-Din Mohammed Ali Shalaldeh** (47 years old), Emergency Medicine Resident, Hebron Governmental Hospital (Alia), Hebron, West Bank.
In detention for 688 days

82. **Dr Aysar Al-Barghouthi**, Consultant Anasthesiologist, Palestine Medical Complex, Ramallah.
In detention for 652 days

83. **Dr Khaled Kharouf**, Physician, Palestinian Ministry of Health, Al-Bireh.
In detention for 652 days

84. **Dr Momin Raed Abdulhameed Mesk** (25 years old), Intern Physician, Hebron Governmental Hospital (Alia), Hebron, West Bank.
In detention for 582 days

85. **Dr. Ahmed Ramzi Nemer Seder** (33 years old), General Practitioner and Medical Manager at Medicare Medical Centre, Jericho, Private.
In detention for 410 days

86. **Dr. Bassam Ouda Al-Shabaan (Al-Awaysa)** (49 years old), General Practitioner, Abu-Al-Hassan Al-Qasem Governmental Hospital, Hebron
In detention for 102 days

87. **Dr Rashad Murshid Rashad Al-Zarou** (49 years old), Plastic and reconstructive surgery specialist, Al-Ahli Hospital, Patient Friends Society, Hebron.
In detention for 579 days

88. **Dr. Salah Ziad Al-Kharraz** (23 years old), Medical Student (4th year), Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Al-Najah National University, Nablus.
In detention for 547 days

89. **Mr. Ahmed Ali Abdulqader Ateeq** (22 years old), Veterinary Medicine Student, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Al-Najah National University, Nablus.
In detention for 592 days

90. **Mr. Mohammed Jamal Mousa Al-Rayyan** (22 years old), Nurse Student, Ibn Sina College for Health Sciences, Nablus.
In detention for 714 days

91. **Mr. Osaid Waleed Mahmoud Amro** (25 years old), Final Year Medical Student, Faculty of Medicine, Al-Quds University, Abu Dis, Faculty of Medicine, Al-Quds University, Abu Dis.
In detention for 489 days

92. **Mr. Murid Al-Attari (Dahadha)**, Nurse, Palestine Medical Complex, Ramallah.
In detention for 652 days

93. **Mr. Jamal Hikmat Mahmoud Qandil** (28 years old), Paramedic, Jenin Ambulance Centre, Jenin.
In detention for 630 days

94. **Mr. Ahmed Saeed Jamal Abu-Roumi** (41 years old), Paramedic, PRCS, Jerusalem.
In detention for 445 days

95. **Mr Mahmoud Taiseer Al-Mashayekh** (30 years old), Community Health Worker, 1for3 Palestine, West Bank.
In detention for 529 days

Healthcare Workers Watch

www.healthcareworkerswatch.org

Website:

www.healthcareworkerswatch.org

Email:

info@healthcareworkerswatch.org

X (Twitter):

https://twitter.com/HCWWatch

Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/healthcareworkerswatch/

LinkedIn:

https://www.linkedin.com/company/healthcare-workers-watch-palestine/

Instagram:

https://www.instagram.com/healthcareworkerswatch/

Fill out this form to be included in our mailing list

https://forms.gle/vYiPLdENkso94KZm7

Volunteer with us:

https://forms.gle/yqPDTg9s6p7ifw4r7