

Date: May 29th 2014

Urgent appeal

UAWC calls upon the international community to interfere to save the lives of the Palestinian administrative detainees

Administrative detainees have been on an open hunger strike in the Israeli prison since 24 April 2014, calling for ending administrative detention against them. Dozens of prisoners joined the strike in solidarity with the administrative detainees.

The Israeli prison authorities refuse to listen to the detainees' demands and imposed retributive measures against them, including transferring them to solitary confinement, depriving them of necessary health care in addition to beating them.

The Strikers refused to end their hunger strike and recently took escalatory steps as they have stopped taking the vitamins and supplements for 10 days, and threatened to abstain from drinking water in case the Israeli prison service continues to ignore their demands.

Many of the strikers are in a critical health conditions; on the 28th of May 2014, around 40 of them were transferred to a number of hospitals. Upon these strikers is the **Administrative and Financial Director of UAWC Abdul-Razeq Farraj**.

Farraj was arrested on February 25th 2014 and was sentenced with six months of administrative detention. On the 30 April 2014, Farraj joined the mass hunger strike launched by the administrative detainees to protest the policy of arbitrary arrest and detention.

Immediately after announcing his strike, Farraj was transferred to solitary confinement in Ayalon Prison in a cell that lacks basic standards of humanitarian conditions. Farraj was moved from Ayalon's isolation to Meir hospital on a wheel chair along with other hunger strikers. The history of injustice against Farraj started in 1985, where he was charged for six years from 1985 till 1991 and then he

was under administrative detention for almost five times spending almost eight years in jail at intervals.

The Israeli military is holding our colleague in administrative detention indefinitely, based on secret information without charging him or allowing him to stand trial.

UAWC is highly concerned for the lives of the administrative detainees, and highly concerned for the life of Abdul-Razeq Farraj, who has been a leading civil society actor defending the rights of Palestinian farmers.

In review of the above:

1. UAWC calls upon human rights organizations and international solidarity organizations to combine their efforts in order to end the policy of administrative detention adopted by Israel, a policy that violates the basic right to fair trial.
2. UAWC calls upon the international community to put pressure on the Israeli authorities to immediately release the administrative detainees to save their lives.

The Union of Agricultural Work Committees