



A joint project of
Defense for Children International – Palestine
and American Friends Service Committee
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CASE STUDY

Name: Ahmad M, 16
Date detained: September 7, 2017
Accusation: Throwing stones and homemade grenades
Location: Askar refugee camp, Nablus
Sentence: TBD

At approximately 3:30 a.m. on September 7, 2017, around 20 Israeli soldiers entered and searched Ahmad M.'s home, breaking household items in the process. A soldier identified Ahmad, tied his hands behind his back and pushed him out of the home to a military vehicle. Israeli forces did not answer repeated requests by Ahmad's father for the reason for arrest.

Ahmad in a sworn statement said: "One of them pushed me and I slammed my head against the ladder of the truck. Another one threw me inside the truck and kept me on the metal floor. They blindfolded me and beat me. They did not tell me where they would take me."

He was transferred to Huwarra detention center, located south of the West Bank city of Nablus, where he was verbally insulted, strip searched, and was asked general questions about his health. Ahmad was detained alone in a room from around 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., when he was transferred handcuffed and shackled to Megiddo detention center inside Israel, where he was strip searched upon arrival and detained with other children.

Ahmad appeared in Salem military court on September 10, 2017. He was accused of stone throwing and weapons possession. His detention was extended until September 14.

On September 12, Israeli police forces transferred Ahmad to Petah Tikva interrogation and detention center, where he was held in isolation for interrogation purposes for three days.

Ahmad, in a sworn statement, described the solitary cell: "The cell was small and had a tiny toilet. I slept on a mattress and could not lean against the wall because it had a coarse surface. The lighting was dim and harmful to the eyes. The smell was unpleasant, and the cell had room for barely one person."

Ahmad was first taken for interrogation around 5 p.m. on September 12. He was interrogated with his hands and feet tied to a low metal chair that was attached to the floor. While the interrogator informed Ahmad of his right against self incrimination, he was interrogated without the presence of a family member or lawyer and without access to legal consultation prior to the interrogation.

Ahmad confessed to throwing stones and homemade grenades on after three days of isolation for interrogation purposes. He told DCIP: "I confessed on the third day of interrogation because I no longer could live in harsh conditions in the cell. I had the flu and I wanted the interrogation to end."

He was then transferred back to Megiddo detention center, where he was strip searched upon arrival. He appeared in Salem military court where his detention was extended five separate times and military prosecutors filed an indictment against him. His next court session will take place on November 14, 2017.

The *No Way to Treat a Child* campaign seeks to challenge and end Israel's military occupation of Palestinians by exposing widespread and systematic ill-treatment of Palestinian children in the Israeli military detention system. It is a project of *Defense for Children International - Palestine* and the *American Friends Service Committee*.

Learn more at: www.nowaytotreatachild.org | www.dci-palestine.org | www.afsc.org