

Supplementary Material: Thematic quotes

Arrest, transfer and detention procedures

A soldier called my name, handcuffed my hands in front of me, and took me to a nearby room. As soon as I entered the room, the soldier said, 'You're in court now,' and sat me down on a chair. In front of me was a screen, and a Zoom meeting was in session. A judge was sitting behind a desk with files in front of him, and another person was standing, wearing a black robe and a small cap, like those worn by settlers. As soon as I sat down, the judge said, 'You're in court now.' Then he asked me, 'Do you have a lawyer?' I said, 'No.' The judge then said, 'You will remain detained here until the war ends, according to the secret file.' I asked the judge, 'What charges do I have?' He replied, 'None.' Then the soldier immediately pulled me out and returned me to the tent where I had been detained. (22-year-old male interviewee)

Detention conditions

My hair was infested with lice, and fleas were everywhere. The bedding we slept on was extremely filthy; it was soaked in water in the winter, and in the summer the soldiers ordered us to keep the bedding in a closed room, so it was not aired. This led to lice, scabies, and bed bugs spreading among the detainees, causing severe itching. We were not provided with soap for washing, and even when allowed to bathe, there wasn't enough time. (59-year-old male interviewee)

I saw a doctor... He said 'You are the ones who kidnapped our children and carried out terrorist acts inside Israel. We do not provide care to terrorists.' I asked for treatment for the cuts and wounds on my body, but he refused to provide any treatment. (30-year-old male interviewee)

All the time [during prayer] they were deliberately making noise and insulting our Prophet Mohamed. They would suddenly come and hit our heads, kick us, and beat us. (26-year-old female interviewee)

Ill-treatment and torture methods

They wrote something on my back and then led me to another detention place, during which, I was repeatedly insulted by a soldier telling me 'You are an animal,' but I told him, 'No, I am not an animal.' Suddenly, he and another soldier

dragged me away from the others, threatened me, kicked me and punched me all over my body; to force me to say I was an animal. I then caved and told him as he wished to avoid the beating and ill-treatment. (36-year-old male interviewee)

She then threatened to bomb my house, and I told her that there were innocent people inside. She told me, 'We will bomb them all and wipe off Gaza; we will bomb the innocents and non-innocents. (31-year-old female interviewee)

In the remaining three days, I was placed in a large refrigerator like a meat cooler and kept in it for about 10 hours, and every 10 minutes the soldiers would open the doors to let some air in and then close it. The second day, I was placed in a room with air conditioners that produce very hot air and kept there for 10 hours. (43-year-old male interviewee)

The soldiers then ordered me to take off all my clothes except for my underwear. They led me with others about 100 meters away where we were severely beaten with their guns' butts on our backs and repeatedly slapped in our faces, not to mention the continuous insults. Afterwards, the soldiers ordered me to take off my underwear and gave me a light white overall to wear. I was then handcuffed, blindfolded, and detained with others amid constant beating. (33-year-old male interviewee)

The soldiers ordered us to drop all our belongings and take our clothes off, except the underwear. I obeyed the orders... Afterwards, the soldiers ordered us to divide into groups of five, and for each group to step forward separately. They took pictures of me and others with a camera, forced us to wear white gowns, blindfolded us, and tied our hands so tightly that it hurt me severely. (32-year-old male interviewee)

[T]he [female] soldiers ... pulled us from our hair since we were stripped of our hijab. They dragged us on the floor like we were dogs. Afterwards, they strip-searched us. Each part of our body was thoroughly searched while fully naked. Then, they gave us the prison uniforms... and immediately led us to interrogation. [After the interrogation], the warden pulled me hard by my hair out of the room, took my clothes off again in the room, strip searched me, and gave me underwear ordering me to take a shower. (26-year-old female interviewee)

One of the soldiers kicked me so hard with his foot on my waist that it made me vomit. He then dragged me to a room surrounded by barbed wire, ordered me to strip naked, grabbed my genitals and lifted me up, so I fainted. I woke up from the severe beating I had been subjected to while I was unconscious, and this was repeated three or four times, after which, he ordered me to put on my clothes while the beating continued. I have never been as broken and humiliated in my life as at that time. (33-year-old male interviewee)

While I was inside the container [for interrogation], I could hear screams of someone being tortured nearby, or the soldiers were playing a sound like that on a loudspeaker just to frighten me. (24-year-old female interviewee)

On that difficult night, there was a detainee sitting next to me while I was handcuffed and blindfolded. He fell on my feet due to the severe torture to which he was subjected. I heard him screaming and saying, 'I'm going to die, I'm going to die,' but the soldiers continued beating him more and more and of course we were beaten as well. Moments later, I heard the detainee's death rattle, and he died. After that, the soldiers took him away and told us: 'We threw him out and you will all face the same fate.' That detainee took his last breath below my feet, but I could not identify him because I was blindfolded, and the soldiers took him out, I do not know where. (52-year-old male interviewee)

On the day of my arrest, I was stripped of all my clothes except for my boxers at the Netzarim checkpoint, in front of dozens of young men and Israeli soldiers. The feeling of humiliation

and degradation was indescribable. After that, inside the prison, we were ordered daily by the new duty officers to lower our pants to our knees. On one occasion, when I was asked to lower my pants and boxers, one of the soldiers attempted to insert a stick into my rectum, causing me significant injury and resulting in a wound in that area. (30-year-old male interviewee)

Health and social consequences

We were left in confusion, not knowing where to go or what to do. We began walking south and sat on the sidewalk, exhausted. A man driving a jeep passed by, and he asked us why we were in that area. It was clear from our pajamas and our exhausted state that we had been through a difficult time—we were extremely hungry, thirsty, and cold. We explained to him that we had been detained, that we had no family there, and that we did not know what to do. He took us with him to Rafah. (15-year-old interviewee)

Afterwards, I tried to call my family to tell them I was released, and I could only remember my own mobile number. I called it and was surprised that it was ringing and my brother, [name redacted], picked up. I was so happy to hear his voice... I burst into tears and then told him I was released and was now at the Kerem Shalom crossing. They came and took me to [name redacted] School, where my family was seeking shelter....I am now displaced along with my family in the school shelter, where we don't feel safe at all. After our house was bombed by the Israeli occupation forces and was damaged, we have become homeless. (19-year-old interviewee)