SUPPORT THE HUNGER STRIKERS

When the prison doors are opened the real dragon will fly out.

prisonersforpalestine.org/support

End All Censorship *Immediate Right to a Bail* *Deproscribe Fair Trial* *Shut Elbit Down*

prisonersforpalestine.org/

with whatever weapons at hand

Support the Hunger Strike

We put specific calls to action on our social media so keep an eye out for them, but there are many other ways you can show solidarity with Prisoners for Palestine. Getting some friends or comrades together to organise autonomous actions is a great way to get involved and support the prisoners.

This helps to grow awareness and fosters a stronger and more decentralised movement, as well as giving the prisoners a great morale boost. We are all connected through the prison walls as part of the international resistance, with one aim – the liberation of Palestine. The prisoners are the center of our struggle, and show us that state repression cannot stop us from acting for truth, justice and freedom.

1. End all censorship

We demand to be able to send and receive communications without restriction, surveillance, or interference from the prison administration. Freedom of expression is a fundamental human right that is vital for prisoners, whose voices are already systematically silenced. Censorship inside prisons is a tool of control used to punish resistance. Letters, phone calls, political statements, books and all other forms of expression must be respected.

2. Immediate bail

We demand that we be released from custody while awaiting trial. Holding people on remand, in some cases indefinitely, is a deliberate abuse of power, used to punish prisoners before they have even faced a court or been convicted of any crime. Some of us will have been imprisoned for nearly two years without a conviction. The right to a fair trial must include the right to prepare for it in freedom, not behind bars.

3. Right to a fair trial

We demand the right to a fair trial, which cannot happen until all relevant documents related to our cases are released in full. This includes all meetings between British and Israeli state officials, the British police, the attorney general, Elbit Systems representatives, and any others involved in coordinating the ongoing witch-hunt of actionists and campaigners.

We also demand the release of government records of all Elbit Systems UK exports from the last five years. We have the right to know what arms are being made and exported from the UK, especially when they are used to commit genocide.

4. Deproscribe

We demand the immediate dropping of all terror-related charges and 'links', and an end to the use of the Prevent strategy. The government's use of counter-terror laws to target those engaged in protest and direct action is unjustified and unprecedented, and must be stopped.

In light of this, we demand that the British government deproscribe Palestine Action. Direct action is not terrorism. It is a legitimate tactic deployed when democratic channels fail to reflect the will of the people. When the government breaks the law, citizens have the moral responsibility to act in defence of life, human rights, and collective dignity.

We also demand an apology from Yvette Cooper for spearheading a smear campaign in a cynical attempt to justify her decision to proscribe Palestine Action. Her claim that Palestine Action was a violent organisation "possibly funded by Iran" has no basis in fact.

5. Shut Elbit down

Many of us are imprisoned for allegedly taking action against Elbit Systems, Israel's largest weapons manufacturer. Since 2012, Elbit has won 25 public contracts in the UK totalling more than £355m. Now, the Ministry of Defence is preparing to sign a £2.7 billion contract with Elbit that would designate it as a "strategic partner" and see the company train 60,000 British troops each year.

We demand that the government does not use taxpayer´s money to fund the machinery of genocide, and scrap this contract. Furthermore, we demand that all Elbit systems' sites and its subsidiaries in the UK are permanently shut down.

For many of us, letter-writing is a lost art, or maybe even one we never acquired, but for prisoners, receiving a letter can be the highlight of their day. Writing a letter to someone you don't know may seem a bit daunting, so here are a few things to consider before putting pen to paper (or fingers to keyboard). Get yourself some writing paper or a postcard. Greetings cards are often only allowed in from 'approved suppliers' such as Moonpig. You could make a card, but if you do, don't stick anything to it, such as stickers or pictures. You can write to as many prisoners as you want, but you need to send each letter separately, you can't put letters to 2 prisoners in one envelope for example. Don't reuse envelopes or stamps, and ensure you affix the correct postage.

Write your name and address on, along with the date. The mail won't be issued without the details of a sender, and adding the date helps prisoners track delays with their letters. Now you just have to think of something to say! Start by introducing yourself, just as you would when meeting anyone for the first time. You already have something in common with these prisoners – they're comrades – so tell them why you're writing. Be aware though, that letters are read by prison staff, so don't endanger yourself, or the prisoner you're writing to. The letter will be blocked if you write about their alleged action. Feel free to tell them about your interests, your musical tastes, what you enjoy doing. Don't go overboard in your first letter, but think of something entertaining to say- nobody likes reading a boring letter! Things like poems, drawings, book recommendations, fun facts, and news about what's going on in the movement are good to include. Keep questions to a minimum, they can be exhausting to answer, particularly as many correspondents will ask the same ones. If you can't think of much to say, don't worry, the fact that you've reached out is the most important thing. Writing will get easier, and your letters will hopefully become a source of pleasure, both to you, and the prisoner you're writing to.Not all mail gets through to prisoners, even if you send it by Recorded Delivery. Enclose a Stamped Addressed Envelope with your letter, to give the prisoner the option to write back, but don't worry if you don't hear back from them. They may be swamped with letters, exhausted, feeling a bit down, or your letter may not have reached them. Don't be dissuaded from writing again. If they get your letter, it will make their day.

Our Prisoners

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"Probably the easiest and arguably most important aspect of supporting prisoners is writing to them. One of the hardest things for many prisoners to cope with is the feeling of isolation – being cut off from friends and family and everything they know in their normal lives. A letter or postcard from the real world, even from a complete stranger, helps to maintain a connection with the outside and relieves the infernal tedium of a regime that often involves spending 23 hours of the day in the same cell. For a first-time prisoner, especially in the early stages of a sentence, this type of support can make a huge difference, helping them cope with the unfamiliar and often intimidating surroundings. For those fighting back from within, it's a simple message of solidarity – you're not on your own!"

Statement from Qesser Zuhrah

بِسْمِ ٱللَّهِ ٱلرَّحْمَٰنِ ٱلرَّحِيمِ
In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

We who are imprisoned by the British state for Resisting the genocide of our beloved Palestinian people declare the beginning of our Hunger Strike, as we reaffirm our commitment to our struggle from within these Prison walls.

For 15 months, we who are imprisoned for Palestine have tested this "justice system", and for 15 months we have watched Elbit Systems, the zionist entity and our Government abuse justice and prolong our imprisonment, demanding that we forsake our cause in exchange for our freedom. And so now, we're forced to confront those that refuse to look us in the eyes with the very foundation of the humanity they deny recognising in us – our life, and our right to life.

On this day in 1917 is when our British state effectively began its colonisation of Palestine. Our British state is the origin of the zionist entity, and while it now likes to act as secondary in the zionist project, we remember and reiterate it's shameful role in founding one of the most racist and genocidal settler-colonies to exist.

Elbit Systems is the despicable arm of the zionist entity, entrenched here in our British soil, that is manufacturing the weapons that are being used to ethnically cleanse Palestine.

Elbit Systems is the despicable entity that supplies 85% of the land-based weaponry that is being used to colonise the land of Palestine.

Elbit systems is the despicable entity that reaffirms its commitment to and facilitation of the colonisation of Palestine and Holocaust of our beloved Palestinian people in its sloganeering of its weapons as "battle tested on Palestinians".

And this is the entity that has ordered our imprisonment. And so:

- On count 1 of the genocide of the Palestinian people;
- On count 2 of the starvation of the Palestinian people;
- And on count 3 of the brutal colonisation of Palestine;

On all counts, we who are Prisoners for Palestine, find Elbit Systems: Guilty.

As a result of this criminality, we demand:

1. **End all censorship**
2. **Immediate bail**
3. **Right to a fair trial**
4. **Deproscribe**
5. **Shut Elbit down**

Until our demands are met, we will Resist. We ask our Government now: Are you willing to let us die before you stop arming a genocide?

As we take on this struggle, we follow in the honoured legacy of Prisoners throughout time, from Ireland to Guantanamo to Palestine. The Resistance has always been banished by the oppressors to the Prisons in the hopes that this is where they will send it to die. But now, it is from within these Prison walls that we will use the Prisoners tools to disarm the master's house.

As a Nation, we have made a shameful mockery of Resistance.
It is from our Palestinian people that we learn what Resistance truly entails.
It is from our Palestinian Prisoners, whose captivity and unspeakable torture could not extinguish their desire for the liberation of their homeland, that we learn.
It is from our Resistance whom we have cowardly forsaken, that we learn.

—perhaps production has resumed, perhaps new drones are being tested, perhaps the machinery hums on despite everything. The activists cannot know. They are behind bars, waiting for their trials, waiting for justice, waiting to see if their sacrifice will mean anything at all.

world—your body remains. And your body, you can refuse to sustain. It is the ultimate assertion of agency, the final act of defiance available to those rendered powerless by every other measure.

Bobby Sands wrote from his cell in the Maze: 'They will not criminalise us, rob us of our true identity, steal our individualism, depoliticise us, churn us out as systemised, institutionalised, decent law-abiding robots. Never will they label our liberation struggle as criminal.' The Prisoners for Palestine website quotes these words on its homepage. The echo across four decades is deliberate.

In their cells, the Filton 24 carry what prisoners always carry – photographs going soft at the edges from handling, letters read and reread until the creases threaten to tear the paper, memories of the moment before the arrest when they were still free, and the future was still open. They carry the weight of their choice—to risk everything, to sacrifice years of their lives to resist a genocide. Inadvertently, they became test cases in the UK's expanding definition of terrorism and the unchecked over-policing of its citizens.

They carry, too, the knowledge that their action allegedly cost Elbit Systems over £1 million, that facilities have closed, that suppliers ceased working with the company, that the campaign was working. Whether that knowledge sustains them through the fifteenth month, the seventeenth month, the twentieth month of waiting, only they can say.

With the hunger strike underway the British government remains unyielding. In the cells, the waiting continues, as it has for over a year, as it may for months more, the fluorescent lights humming their monotonous note, the doors clanging shut at count time, the letters arriving or not arriving, the phone calls permitted or denied, the bodies growing thinner, the resolve hardening into something that might be courage or might be desperation or might be both at once.

In Filton, the dawn still breaks over the industrial estates, indifferent to politics and protest. The Elbit facility sits quiet now, or perhaps it doesn't

It is from them that we learned, O Palestine, that we can do more for you than bang our pots and pans! And it is in their footsteps we follow as we determine to put our bodies on the line in Resistance to the zionist project, its manifestation as Elbit Systems, and its implementation by the British State.

We seek to do this in service of the Palestinian Cause; in service of our duty to humanity; and in service of our duty to justice, entrusted to us by our Lord,

Al-Shaheed, The Witness. Because in the words of martyred Palestinian Journalist Hossam Shabat, this struggle is the "highest honour" of our lives.

We seek fulfilment and triumph only from Allah, with full certainty and the fact that it is He who presides over all matters. In this matter, we seek the support of Allah, certain that victory is only from Al-Adl, The Most Just. Ya Allah, we ask that you purify our intentions, makes sincere our actions and forgive us for our sins, so that we may earn through this struggle Your Mercy and Your Favour upon us. Ameen.

Elbit, while you boast of how your weapons have been "*battle tested on Palestinians*", our Resistance will inform you that your tests have failed. Because Gaza will rise and Palestine will never die.

I do not have words that are more comforting than the words of our Lord. So, to my fellow prisoners, "*Persevere and endure and remain stationed and fear Allah so that you may be successful*" (Quran, 3: 200).

And to my dearest people of the Land that is Palestine, "*Be Patient, indeed the promise of Allah is true. Do not let those with no certainty weaken your firmness*" (Quran 30:60). And please, forgive us for our failures, Ya Gaza.

And to the free people of this world, we, your Prisoners, urge you as our martyred Palestinian Journalist Anas Al-Sharif urged us all: "*Not to let chairs silence you, nor borders restrain you*", and join us in pursuit of justice by

Resisting the war machine in any and every capacity you can! Because "*Whoever does Righteousness, it is for his own soul; and whoever does evil does so against it*" (Quran 41:46).

So, from your Prisoners to you: Shut Elbit Down!

Sincerely,

Qesser Faryal Zuhrah

Statement from Amu Gib

The killers aren't here in jail, they're on TV, so don't sit on the sofa, crocheting yourself a noose. Resist! We don't need more evidence, more UN resolutions. As long as these factories run, resist! In the streets, the prisons, the courtrooms, the docks. Until the leaders of the free world are not shareholders in genocide, resist! Until Gaza is rebuilt, and Palestine is free, resist! It's not the time to write a little note for the suggestion box of the zionist entity, it's time to stop it! All we can do is resist, there is no question. But there are still questions, right?

Is the question – should Palestine be free?

Is the question,

Is Palestine?

Or

Do its people get to fight back?

Is the question

Is this my problem?

Then on October 20, came the announcement that would transform individual acts of refusal into something larger. On November 2, 2025 – the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, that 1917 document that promised Palestine to the Zionist movement – a coordinated hunger strike would begin. Thirty-three people held on remand for actions against the genocide in Palestine would refuse food simultaneously, in prisons across the UK.

Prisoners for Palestine, the campaign group coordinating the action, issued demands to Home Secretary Shabana Mahmood – the right to a fair trial, release on bail, the dropping of terror-related charges, an end to censorship of prisoners whose words are deemed too dangerous for publication. The demands were specific, practical, the kind of things that should not need to be demanded but apparently do.

The strike marks the largest coordinated prisoners' hunger strike in Britain since 1981, when Bobby Sands and his fellow Irish republican prisoners starved themselves to death in the Maze Prison, their bodies transformed into weapons against a state that claimed to be impervious to moral argument. Ten men died that year before the British government relented on some demands. The hunger strikers of November 2025 will hope for a swifter resolution, but they are prepared, if necessary, to follow the same path to its conclusion.

The tactic is well-established. Suffragettes used it in Holloway Prison, refusing food until they were force-fed through tubes thrust down their throats, a procedure so brutal it amounted to torture. Irish republicans used it repeatedly throughout the twentieth century. Palestinian prisoners in Israeli detention have used it hundreds of times, individual strikes and collective ones, some lasting months, a few ending in death. Guantánamo Bay inmates used it, and were force-fed in medieval restraint chairs, the procedure condemned by medical ethicists worldwide but defended by the US government as necessary.

The logic of the hunger strike is simple and terrible: when the state has taken everything else—your freedom, your voice, your ability to act in the

tested on Palestinian bodies, men, women and children.

In the UK, Elbit operates multiple facilities. Or operated – the five-year long campaign against the company has proven remarkably effective. From London to Bristol to Oldham to Tamworth, Elbit or Elbit suppliers have either vacated properties or ceased trading with the arms manufacturer.

Each closure potentially represent thousands of drones that would not fly, thousands of targeting systems that would not guide missiles, thousands of surveillance feeds that would not track Palestinian movement. The Filton raid was part of this broader campaign – a campaign that was winning, which may explain why the response has been so severe and disproportionate.

On August 11, 2025, Hoxha stopped eating. The decision was not impulsive. She had lost her library job without explanation, her recreational classes cancelled, her mail still withheld after months. The prison had taken everything it could take except her body, and so she reclaimed her body in the only way available to her – by refusing to sustain it.

The medical staff at HMP Peterborough responded with a curious strategy. They refused to acknowledge the hunger strike was happening. They declined to provide electrolytes. They noted her deteriorating condition in their logs but offered nothing to slow the decline except food, which was the one thing she would not accept.

In Santa Rita Jail in California, a thirty-five-year-old political prisoner named Casey Goonan heard about Hoxha's strike. He and his cellmate joined her, issuing a statement about cross-border solidarity in the Palestinian liberation movement. The hunger strike was spreading, cell to cell, prison to prison, across oceans. Hoxha ended her 28-day hunger strike on September 9, after securing several of her demands. Goonan and his cellmate ended their strike shortly afterwards.

Or

What can I do about it?

Is the question

What could happen to my loved ones, to me, to my farm?

Is the answer

I'm afraid?

I'm afraid of hunger, of losing people, of having nothing to lose, of rivers running dry, of poisoned land, of forest fires, of the invention, manufacture, and release of bombs that can evaporate people and leave holes in the earth where they stood. I'm scared of our silence, and what its apparently possible to normalise. I'm scared of what we can stomach. I'm scared of how easily you can be put in prison for not having money. I'm scared of war, of no one coming when we need them.

But our silence, our fear, our productivity will not protect us.

"*There is no such thing as someone else's children*". – Omar El Akad

Amu Gib

Statement from Heba Muraisi

Today, I join my comrades and begin my hunger strike. I want to make it abundantly clear that this is not about dying, because unlike the enemy I love life, and my love for life, for people, is the reason why I have been incarcerated for 349 days now.

The horrors and suffering that I have witnessed coming out of Gaza will always be sewed into my memory. And while the world stood by and

spoke empty words we've collectively condemned our brothers and sisters in Palestine to a life of misery and death. And with the ongoing systematic genocide, the state has been complicit and a participant from the very start. These tyrants now want to sign a 2 billion dollar contract with Elbit, a monstrous establishment who reap the benefits from the blood of our brothers and sisters in Palestine.

Elbit is a terrorist zionist state-made weaponry provider here in the UK, with multiple sites up and down the country. It is right here on our doorstep where these deadly suppliers are manufactured to be tested on the Palestinians and then sold to war pigs globally. The Palestinian suffering is what makes Elbit richer and statistics prove just that.

In a pathetic attempt to wash the blood off his hands, Starmer has now recognised the State of Palestine once Palestine has become unrecognisable. We will never forget and we will never forgive. I knew that in order to win this fight, we had to engage the enemy's main force, and here in the UK, that would be Elbit. It wasn't a recruitment, but rather a conscious incorporation from my part: I became Palestine Action.

And now, from behind these steel walls and sensors, I will continue the fight and to resist. This is for the mothers who can't bury their children, for the fathers who had to bury all of theirs. For the children who have no family left and too young to understand why. And for my family – who I don't even know if they've made it out of Rafah.

I will not compromise until all demands are met. Long live the intifada.

Heba Muraisi

Statement from Jony Cink

Over the past two years, and ever since mostly European settlers began to claim control over their land, Palestinians, especially those confined to Gaza, have demonstrated what determination, resilience and sacrifice look

The charges are criminal damage, aggravated burglary, violent disorder. Serious, certainly. But the prosecution has done something curious – they have alleged a "terrorist connection", a legal designation that carries no formal definition but profound consequences. It permits harsher detention conditions. It justifies longer remand periods. It transforms protesters into something darker in the public imagination, something easier to forget behind prison walls. It also restricts what can be reported to public.

After their arrests, all twenty-four were detained without charge under the Terrorism Act. The law permits this for up to fourteen days, though most were held for approximately one week – long enough for the interrogations to acquire a certain rhythm. The questions came in waves, sometimes gentle, sometimes pointed, always circling back to the same territories – who planned this, who funded this, who else was involved? The activists, trained in the protocols of non-cooperation, mostly remained silent.

Six were arrested at the scene that August morning, tackled as they emerged from the facility or pulled from the modified van still idling outside. Four more were arrested in coordinated raids across the country, armed counter-terrorism police arriving at their doors at dawn, the kind of operation usually reserved for threats more serious than property damage. Eight more in November, another six in July 2025. With each wave, the same theatre repeated – the pre-dawn raids, the terrorism detention, the interrogation rooms, the eventual charges devoid of terrorism offences but laden with terrorism associations.

Elbit Systems' drones circle above Ghazzah, its targeting systems guide missiles into apartment buildings, its surveillance technologies track Palestinians through the occupied territories. According to Israeli media reports, Elbit provides up to eighty percent of the Israeli military's land-based equipment and eighty-five percent of its military drones. The Iron Sting munition, recently developed and deployed for the first time against Palestinians, came from Elbit's laboratories. The company markets their merchandise as battle-tested, a euphemism that translates more bluntly –

n some office, examined by some official for some reason the prison authorities couldn't adequately explain.

In HMP Lewes, another prisoner (27) discovered one morning that their phone list had been wiped clean – family and friend were now unreachable. The prison staff offered no explanation, or rather, they offered the only explanation that mattered – new security protocols. The system had changed. They would have to reapply, resubmit, re-justify why a prisoner awaiting trial might need to speak to the people who loved them.

At HMP Peterborough, guards informed Filton 24 prisoners that they had been reclassified. The word they used was 'terrorists.' Not accused of terrorism – they have never been charged with terrorism, a fact that sits awkwardly in official documentation – but terrorists nonetheless, at least for the purposes of determining which privileges they would keep, and which would be stripped away. The reclassification came in July 2025, when the UK government added Palestine Action to the terrorist proscription list.

Some of the Filton 24 have now been behind bars for over a year, held on remand, which is to say held without conviction, which is to say held in the space between accusation and judgment where the law permits a kind of temporal suspension. The first of three connected trials begin in November 2025, with the second in April 2026, and the third in June 2026. By the time they stand before a jury, some will have spent more time in prison awaiting trial than many convicted offenders serve for their entire sentences.

T Hoxha (29) has been on remand since November 2024. Her trial is scheduled for April 2026. She will have been in prison for seventeen months when she finally hears the charges read in open court. Seventeen months of fluorescent lights and morning counts and meals delivered through slots in steel doors. The system moves at its own pace, indifferent to the lives suspended in its machinery.

like. What other options does one have when faced with genocidal maniacs in tanks and war planes? When artificially manufactured hunger, grief and displacement become synonyms with every-day? What does it teach those of us in the imperial core about choice?

Every child born in Palestine is seen as a threat in the eyes of zionism, not because of anything they might do (and they have a right to do anything to resist occupation), but because the child stands in the way of expansionist policies that are fundamental to settler-colonialism and, therefore, the existence of the occupying power. Zionism then materialises as a giant military base cloaked in a complex web of lies legitimising its existence. It is a global laboratory using genocide and occupation to test weapons, develop surveillance technology and export know-how in violence. Palestinians fighting for the liberation of their homeland teach us that all pillars of zionism need to be dismantled, many of which are outside the boundaries of so-called Israel. The weapon factories on the outskirts of our towns and cities, their ties to the state, and the economic, political and military support for the occupation by the elite. An increasingly militarised world relies on the zionist occupation as much as the zionist entity relies on military support from the imperial core.

Therefore, we in the Global North and benefiting from the status quo in some shape or form, must aspire to embody the steadfastness of Palestinians. Not to simply consume and iconise their resistance. We must strive to be as principled as Gaza's old and young, proudly claiming they would rather accept martyrdom than abandon their land. We have a duty to resist wherever we are, weaponising everything at our disposal. The sacrifices I pay, for allegedly disrupting the genocidal system, are incomparable to the sacrifices paid by Palestinians and all people directly exposed to imperial violence. My whiteness and class status protect me from the worst of the British prison system. I often think of Palestinian prisoners in zionist torture dungeons, of my comrades punished for their faith, with imprints of fascist tendencies, that mature in British prisons, on their skin. We stand united by our desire for freedom. Shared, collective freedom, One that can only be achieved through relentless struggle. One that demands nothing short of justice.

It is with these principles in mind that I join a collective, open-ended hunger strike demanding cessation of all operations by Elbit Systems UK; immediate unconditional bail for all Prisoners for Palestine imprisoned before trial; right to a fair trial which can't be conducted without the disclosure of all foreign and political interference in our cases; complete end to the use of terrorism legislation against those acting to stop a genocide; and an immediate end to censorship of all communication to and from prisons.

The establishment, our jailers, and even some people I hold close to my heart might call out hunger strike unreasonable. They might say it's an escalation that is crossing a line. The same line that gets brought up every time the status quo is threatened. The line allegedly crossed on the 6th August when six people smashed up drones and other military equipment inside Israel's largest weapons manufacturer Elbit Systems, in Filton, Bristol. The line that was said to be crossed on the 20th of June, after two military aircraft were put out of commission at RAF Brize Norton. Military aircraft that were regularly departing for RAF Akrotiri, from where British planes were (/are?) send to gather intelligence over Gaza. The line that gets crossed every time Palestinians dare to resist their occupiers. Let me be clear, there is nothing unreasonable about demanding justice. The line has been crossed many times, not by those isolated in prison cells. It was crossed on the 2nd of Nov 1917 when the then British Foreign Secretary, Lord Balfour, promised Palestine to foreign settlers. It has been crossed by so-called leaders with monopoly on power, by people sitting on boards of weapon factories. By every surveillance flight sent over Gaza and every weapon shipped to massacre Palestinians.

Our struggle is moral and righteous. There is a long history of collective hunger strikes in prisons and many comrades inside and outside prisons by our side. I begin my hunger strike with love in my heart, love for the cause, for Palestine, for my co-defendants, the Filton 24, the PMJ prisoners, the Ulm 5, Casey Goonan and Malik Muhammad imprisoned in the US, the thousands of Palestinian prisoners and millions imprisoned globally. Our victory will be a collective one.

The Prisoners for Palestine Hunger Strike – A Primer

In the early hours before dawn breaks over Bristol, while the sodium lights still cast their orange pallor across the industrial estates of Filton, a modified prison van sat idling outside the perimeter fence of Elbit Systems' research and development facility. Inside, six activists checked their watches, their breath visible in the August cold of 2024, their hands steady despite what was to come. Within minutes, the van would crash through chain-link and steel, and within hours, production machinery would lie in twisted heaps, quadcopter drones – that Israeli forces programme to mimic the cries of women and children, luring Palestinian civilians from rubble to their deaths in Ghazzah – would be rendered inoperable. The reported damage? Over £1 million. And the cost to the activists and those alleged to have assisted them? That will be known in the coming months.

Today, in cells scattered across England's prison system, twenty-four activists sit in a limbo that has stretched from weeks into months into years. They are known as the Filton 24, and they have become what many now call Britain's first political prisoners of the Palestine solidarity movement.

One prisoner turned twenty years old in a cell at HMP Bronzefield. For the first six days, they saw only walls—solitary confinement, they called it, though they had committed no infraction within the prison itself. They are a university student, or were before the arrest.

Two weeks passed before they heard their mother's voice on the telephone. Three weeks before they could see her face across a visitors' table, their hands unable to touch except in the brief, monitored embrace at the beginning and end. The letters came—dozens of them, postcards decorated with flowers and solidarity slogans, paintings from supporters they had never met—but were delayed for months. They sat somewhere, i

comrade Sakîne Cansiz:

"On the other hand, facing the enemy on your own is also a special thing. Revolutionary will gathers in you. You can feel within yourself conviction, determination, the pure desire to fight. It is the most beautiful part of revolutionary struggle. Nothing distracts you, and you demolish the enemy with the strength of your personality. It is something to do with you, but also with the enemy's image reflected in you. In your defense, it recognizes its impotence."

Luca Dolce, known as Stecco, anarchist comrade
Sanremo prison

Statement from Teuta Hoxha

I join my dear comrades in the hunger strike, returning to this position with more patience and determination than previous. You need energy to fight your case. Prison tried to dissuade me last time. I remind them this is a witch hunt, not a fair fight, and that behind the arrests of dissenting voices under counterterrorism powers, holding us on remand without trial for nearly two years and targeting protesters who condemn Palestinian suffering, is the palpably desperate attempt to force us all under the imperial boot of submission. But not even these threats and abuse of powers can undo the awakening we've had and the deep-rooted solidarity with our Palestinian brothers and sisters. Labelling us as terrorists only adds salt to the moral injury forced upon us all by Britain's complicity in the ongoing genocide in Palestine.

In 2009, Elbit Systems Ltd. spooled continuous footage of a simulated attack on a Palestinian village in order to showcase its unmanned drone surveillance and attack aircraft. Last year, its CEO, Bezhalel Machlis, boasted, the fact that our systems are in operational use in Israel helps us because our customers prefer 'mature solutions'. 'Mature solutions' are a weasel phrase for tried, tested, proven to kill and dangerously lethal, the systematic genocide of Palestinians for profit. And our government, the MOD, is entertaining a £2.7 billion contract with Elbit Systems UK, rewarding them for an efficient and effective genocide. Its subsidiary, Elbit Systems UK, continues its manufacturing operations here in our country under our noses, and we demand that the government release the export licences for the last five years.

Our demands are simple and I want it stated for the record that our collective strike should only be interpreted as a will to live, using nothing but our hunger to resist the imperial war machine. We are prepared to push to the very end for these rights. Any harm we sustain lies at the door of the government.

Please act.

Statement from Kamran Ahmed

This is not a speech, it's some thoughts. As I battle myself in chess I actually wonder whether the movement for Palestinian liberation is at a stalemate. With the ceasefire supposedly holding, I question whether it means if I should silently see my time through prison? But would that mean that I agree that anyone who opposes the government when they are wrong, should not only be imprisoned, but subject to an unfair trial?

And if some of my comrades positions be further stripped, not in the clothing sense, although that happened to one*, but stripped of what basic prisoner rights we have, does that mean that in the future an alleged protestor should be held in remand in the same breath as the Manchester bomber? If so, then I refuse to set the precedence with my silence.

On the 10th November, I plan to commence my hunger strike, insha'Allah, in line with the demands sent to the home office but also in solidarity with those who are having a harder time on remand than me, as it fills me with a sense of guilt, due to my time being relatively peaceful compared to others, alhamdulilah.

I remind myself that many Palestinians sit in Israeli jails unlawfully detained, namely Siham Abu Salem, a 71 year old woman ripped from her hospital bed and declared an unlawful combatant (Recently released after a 2 year detention).

You are not forgotten, along with all the other political prisoners who are voices for the oppressed. I hope my hunger strike acts as a symbol for people in the future so they remain undeterred to stand up for what's right.

I finish with, I hope they do not silence our voices, like I feel we are being silenced in court. Perhaps for the government committing the genocide is one big chess game but it is only their game when we refuse to play.

A message of solidarity from Stecco who has joined the hunger strike

Yesterday, November 4th, I received news of the start of a hunger strike called by tens of political prisoners imprisoned in the United Kingdom for their struggles in solidarity with and for the liberation of Palestine.

In recent months, I read about comrade Teuta "T" Hoxha's hunger strike, and was able to follow her story and that of comrades Casey Goonan and Malik Muhammad. I had time to ponder in case, as I expected, another chance presented itself to join a struggle which I feel an affinity for, which I feel deeply is my own.

The struggle against prison and the military techno-industrial system is essential for a struggle of broader scope, of revolutionary and internationalist resistance.

I am joining in the hunger strike, starting on November 8th, and will carry it out with an eye to the tactics and approach proposed by the comrades who initiated it. If it continues indefinitely, I will go on while paying attention to my body's limits, deciding for myself whether and when to stop and continue the protest by other means.

I will take the time I need to share further thoughts as the protest continues. The reasons for this struggle, the actions for which these comrades are now imprisoned, speak for themselves.

I stand by their side with serenity and resolve.

Currently, I do not know whether the Palestinian comrade Anan Yaeesh, imprisoned in Melfi, is still on hunger strike. Regardless, my solidarity with him, Ali, and Mansour is vivid and strong.

With humility and respect, I close these lines by quoting the Kurdish