

Thaer Abu Asab

38, a Palestinian prisoner from Qalqilya

Israel's Channel 13 - 23 September 2026

A TV investigation aired material from the case file, including footage from Ketziot of him being carried out on a stretcher.

According to the indictment, he was beaten in his cell at Ketziot prison in the Negev. The blows killed him that evening, 18 November 2023.

On 1 September 2026, prosecutors charged 12 Israel Prison Service guards with **reckless homicide** over his death.

Channel 13 (Israel) 23 Sep 2026 ·

Israeli prosecution statement 1 Sep 2026 · ynet 8 Feb 2026 ·

WAFA 19 Nov 2023



According to the indictment

18 November 2023 · around midday

Thaer asked the shift sergeant whether there was a truce in the war.

The evening count

Unusually, the shift commander ordered the accused guards into the cell

**“to show the prisoners
that there is
no ceasefire”.**

Israeli prosecution statement 1 Sep 2026 (our translation)



According to the indictment · 18 November 2023

- The accused guards punched and kicked Thaer and the eight other prisoners in the cell. Some used batons.
- Then they left. None of them reported it.
- Thaer collapsed. He was pronounced dead at Soroka hospital.

The blows caused his death.

The indictment says the blows seriously injured his heart and respiratory system.

Israeli prosecution statement 1 Sep 2026 (our translation)



Where the charge sits in Israeli law

Murder, with intent or indifference
up to life

Reckless homicide

THE GUARDS' CHARGE

up to twelve years

Causing death by negligence
up to three years

Reckless homicide: the offender is aware that death may result, yet takes an unreasonable risk, hoping to prevent it.

Israeli Penal Law as amended in 2019, sections 20, 300, 301C and 304



From police inquiry to charges

■ December 2023

Israeli police question 19 guards.

■ September 2026

Prosecutors charge 12 guards with reckless homicide.

“Although it is a drop in the ocean, we welcome the decision.”

The Public Committee Against Torture in Israel (PCATI), an Israeli rights group, on the indictment

Times of Israel 21 Dec 2023 · prosecution statement 1 Sep 2026 ·

PCATI statement via Walla 1 Sep 2026 (our translation)



**A law the Knesset passed on 30 March 2026,
and a minister pushing to use it**

Itamar Ben Gvir

Israel's National Security Minister. His ministry oversees the Israel Prison Service.

■ 20 Sep 2026

A Palestinian is held on suspicion of killing Netanel Shukrun, an Israeli, in the West Bank. Ben Gvir calls it the **"first case that meets the criteria of the Death Penalty Law"**.

■ 22 Sep

"The gallows are an important tool in this struggle".

■ 27 Sep

He posted a video, filmed about two weeks earlier, in the cell of another prisoner, one serving life sentences. He tells him:

**"I want to kill you.
I want to put you to death."**

Al Jazeera 20, 28 Sep · The New Arab 22 Sep · Jerusalem Post 22 Sep · his X account 27 Sep · Times of Israel 1 and 28 Sep



What the law says, as passed on 30 March 2026

In a West Bank military court

A Palestinian convicted of murder in an act classed as terrorism: **a mandatory death sentence**. Life imprisonment only if the court finds special circumstances.

In an Israeli court

Anyone convicted of terror-related murder committed with intent to eradicate the State of Israel: **the death penalty or life imprisonment**.

Execution

By hanging, carried out by an Israel Prison Service guard whose identity is kept secret.

Not retroactive

It applies only to offences committed after it came into force.

As of 28 September 2026, no death sentence has been carried out under this law.

Association for Civil Rights in Israel 30 Mar 2026 · WAFA 30 Mar 2026 · Times of Israel 28 Sep 2026



Qusay Alayan **Has lost 16 kg**

From Issawiya in Jerusalem, held in Gilboa prison. He has asthma and lung disease.

According to the Palestinian Commission of Detainees' Affairs, 27 Sep 2026

Gaza prisoners in Ketziot **Treatment requests unanswered**

They told a Commission lawyer that a number of them had lost significant weight.

According to the Commission, via WAFA, 23 Sep 2026

Baraa Abu Khadija **Pregnant, she bled after her arrest**

From Tulkarm, held in Damon prison.
She was strip-searched twice.

According to the Commission, via WAFA, 23 Sep 2026



*“This part of Syria, and all the region
extending from hence to Egypt,
is known by the name of Palestine.”*

Herodotus, Histories 7.89 · 5th century BCE

trans. George Rawlinson

οἰκέουσι τὰ παρὰ θάλασσαν. τῆς δὲ Συρίας τοῦτο τὸ χωρίον 20
καὶ τὸ μέχρι Αἰγύπτου πᾶν Παλαιστίνη καλέεται. Αἰγύπτιοι

Oxford edition, 1908 (ed. Karl Hude)



WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

Publish one name

With its source and date.

Thaer Abu Asab

From Qalqilya. Died in Ketziot prison, 18 November 2023.

Twelve guards are charged with reckless homicide.

Israeli prosecution statement, 1 Sep 2026

Qusay Alayan

From Issawiya in Jerusalem, held in Gilboa prison. He has lost 16 kg and has asthma and lung disease.

Commission of Detainees' Affairs, 27 Sep 2026

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