

"No Answers. No Body"

— from a Haaretz headline, Oct. 24, 2026



AI

Mu'taz al-Atrash

QAYD Issue 06
Prisoners in Israeli custody

21, from Hebron. Held without charge, he died Sept. 15, 2026,
in Ofer, an Israeli prison in the occupied West Bank.



AI

Sept. 16, 2026 · Kiryat Arba police station, near Hebron

Mu'taz al-Atrash's father went to an Israeli police station expecting his son's release.

By his account to Haaretz, an officer told him Mu'taz had died. Then the officer **had him sign autopsy consent forms written only in Hebrew, which he could not read.**

Source: Haaretz 2026

What happened after Sept. 15, 2026

A month later, no body and no word on how he died

Sept. 15 Mu'taz al-Atrash dies in Ofer prison.

Sept. 16 An officer promises the body back in about two days, by his father's account.

Sept. 17 An Israeli court orders an autopsy, according to the Palestinian Prisoners' Society.

Oct. 23 Haaretz: a month on, the body has not been returned. The family's lawyer says the election is delaying it. Israel votes on Oct. 27.

Sources: Haaretz 2026, The Times of Israel 2026, Amnesty 2026

Three families have waited for a body

Walid Ahmad

17, from Silwad. Died in March 2025.

Body still held as of March 2026, a year on.

Marwan Harzallah

Palestine TV technician. Died March 28, 2026, in Megiddo prison.

Body handed over on Oct. 8, 2026.

Mu'taz al-Atrash

21, from Hebron. Died Sept. 15, 2026, in Ofer prison.

No body a month after his death (Haaretz, Oct. 23).

No return reported as of Oct. 25.

Palestinian prisoners' organizations said on Oct. 8 that Israel was still holding the bodies of 99 Palestinians who died in custody.

Sources: The Times of Israel 2026, CPJ 2026, Al-Quds 2026, Haaretz 2026, Arab News 2026

The Israel Prison Service's answers

Its reply to Haaretz's questions about Mu'taz al-Atrash, published Oct. 23, 2026

The Israel Prison Service does not share details about individual prisoners. Questions should go to security officials.

"All detainees receive the rights and medical attention they deserve in accordance with the law and professional medical opinion."

— Israel Prison Service, Sept. 17, 2026, as reported by The Times of Israel, citing Haaretz

Sources: Haaretz 2026, The Times of Israel 2026

What UN guidance says about deaths in custody

No body

“Upon completion of the necessary investigative procedures, human remains should be returned to family members...”

Paragraph 37

No answers

“...the State is under the obligation to provide all relevant documentation to the family of the deceased, including the death certificate, medical report...”

Paragraph 17

From the Minnesota Protocol, the UN Human Rights Office's standard for investigating deaths that may be unlawful. A standard, not a finding about any case.

Source: UN Human Rights Office 2016

Held without charge or trial

3,101

people Israel held in administrative detention in October 2026.

Israel Prison Service figure, published by HaMoked. Administrative detention lets Israel hold people for months without charge or trial. Walid Ahmad, Marwan Harzallah and Mu'taz al-Atrash were all held this way when they died.

Sources: HaMoked 2026, The Times of Israel 2026, CPJ 2026

Also this week**Ahmad Hmeidat**

28, from the Jalazone refugee camp in the occupied West Bank. He too died in Israeli detention, Haaretz reported on Oct. 23.

Ayman Bani Owda

Social worker from Tammoun, in the occupied West Bank, held without charge since Nov. 17, 2025. On Oct. 21, Amnesty International urged his release “immediately and unconditionally.”

Also this week

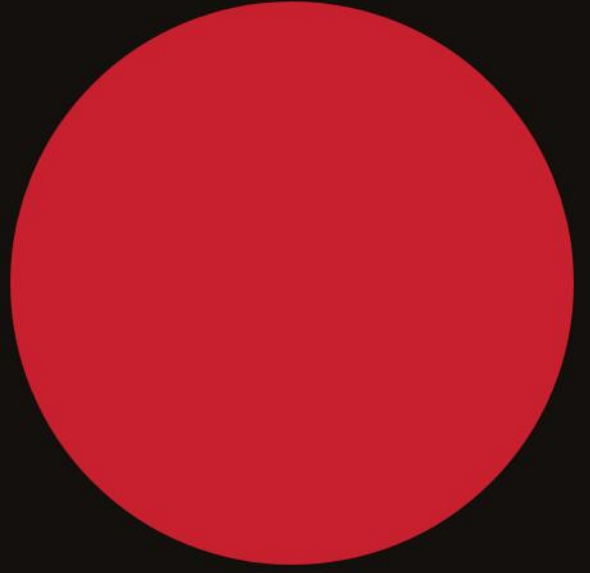
Electroshock weapons, one likely US-made

Four Palestinians freed from Israeli detention say they were tortured with electroshock weapons; one was likely tortured with a US-made Axon Taser, the Guardian and ARIJ report. The Israeli army said abuse of detainees is strictly prohibited.

Source: The Guardian and ARIJ 2026

ولا بدّ للقيد أن ينكسر

And the shackle must break.



Not an order, a request.

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