

"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.

About this file

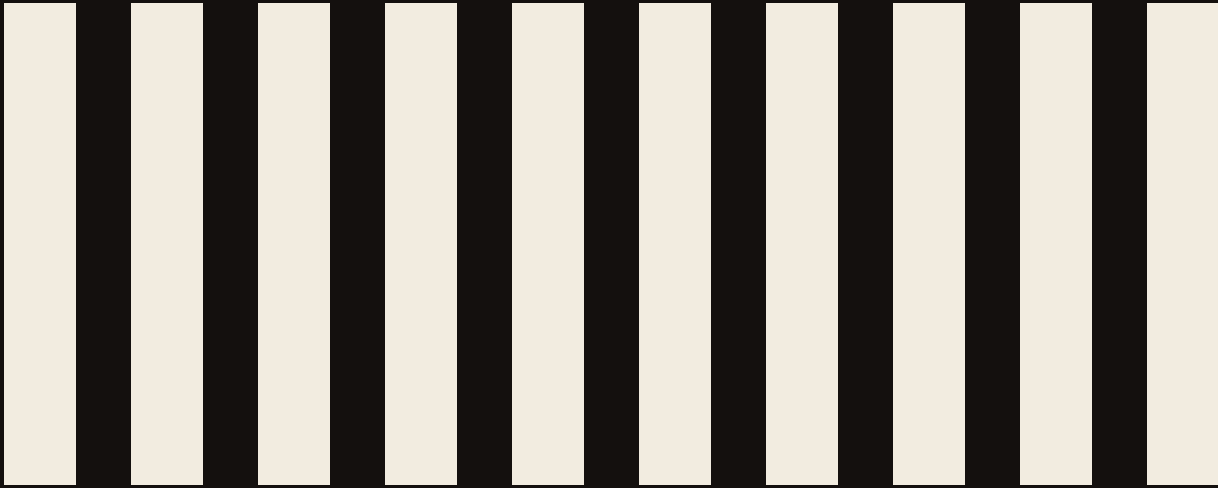
Qayd is a weekly newsletter on Palestinian prisoners in Israeli custody.

Issue 06, “No Answers. No Body,” was published on social media as ten cards on Oct. 26, 2026.

This file brings the ten cards together, with more detail than the cards had room for. Each section opens with the card as it was published, with a small image of the card in the margin, followed by the witnesses’ fuller accounts.

After the cards come the quote page published with the issue and material from the same week that did not fit on the cards.

Sources and links are at the end of the file, with the story of the quote page, followed by notes on what we published.



Issue



Ten cards

6

No Answers. No Body

A month after Mu'taz al-Atrash, 21, died in Ofer prison, his family still had no body and no word on how he died, Haaretz reported on Oct. 23. Asked by Haaretz about his case, the Israel Prison Service replied that it does not share details about individual prisoners.

10 cards

This issue reflects information available before publication on Oct. 26, 2026.

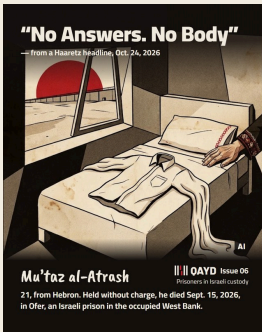
1 of 10

No Answers. No Body

“No Answers. No Body”

— from a Haaretz headline, Oct. 24, 2026

Mu'taz al-Atrash, 21, from Hebron. Held without charge, he died Sept. 15, 2026, in Ofer, an Israeli prison in the occupied West Bank.



The card as published

IN DETAIL

Mu'taz al-Atrash was 21 and from Hebron. The Times of Israel reported on Sept. 17, 2026, that he died early on Tuesday, Sept. 15, at Ofer prison, in the occupied West Bank. The Palestinian Commission of Detainees and Ex-Detainees Affairs and the Palestinian Prisoners' Society said he had no known health problems before he was placed in administrative detention on Oct. 5, 2025.

Haaretz's English page introduces its report with this line: "Moataz al-Atrash, 21, had never been suspected of wrongdoing. Israeli soldiers seized him in the dead of night a year ago and detained him without charge. His family heard nothing from the authorities until last month, when they were told he had died."

Some outlets spell his name Moataz al-Atrash. Qayd reported his death in Issue 02, in September. This issue picks up the story a month later.

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Kiryat Arba police station, near Hebron

Sept. 16, 2026

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](#) ↗



The card as published

3 of 10

Sources

Haaretz 2026 ↗; The Times of Israel 2026 ↗; Amnesty 2026 ↗



The card as published

IN DETAIL

The account comes from the father, Nizam al-Atrash, in a Haaretz report by Gideon Levy and Alex Levac, published in Hebrew on Oct. 23, 2026. On Sept. 16, the day after his son died, the father received a phone call from the Kiryat Arba police. He was sure he was being called in ahead of his son's release.

The officer checked and came back with the news: his son was dead. The officer said the body would be taken to the Abu Kabir forensic institute, and had the father sign consent to an autopsy. The forms were in Hebrew only, and the father signed documents he could not read.

The officer asked the father to stay reachable, so that he could be told when the family would receive the body after the autopsy. It would take about two days, the officer promised, once the autopsy was done.

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.

IN DETAIL

On Sept. 17, the Palestinian Commission of Detainees and Ex-Detainees Affairs and the Palestinian Prisoners' Society said an Israeli court had ordered an autopsy, to be carried out in the presence of a representative appointed by the family, The Times of Israel reported.

A month after the death, Haaretz reported on Oct. 23, the body had still not been returned. It had joined the hundreds of bodies that Israel holds, the report said, without giving any explanation. No one had bothered to tell the family what exactly their son died of.

The lawyer who represents the family for the Palestinian Prisoners' Society explained that the return of the body was being delayed because of the election, Haaretz reported.

Amnesty International states that Israel's parliamentary elections will be held on Oct. 27, 2026.

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Sources

The Times of Israel 2026 ↗; CPJ 2026 ↗; Al-Quds 2026 ↗; Haaretz 2026 ↗; Arab News 2026 ↗

Three families have waited for a body

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.

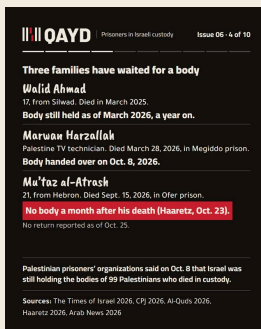
IN DETAIL

All three were held in administrative detention, without charge or trial, when they died: Walid Ahmad and Mu'taz al-Atrash according to The Times of Israel, Marwan Harzallah according to the Committee to Protect Journalists.

Walid Ahmad was 17 and lived in the village of Silwad, in the occupied West Bank. The Times of Israel reported on March 24, 2026, that he was held under administrative detention and "collapsed and was pronounced dead in March of last year." The report adds: "Even though over a year has passed since his death, Israel still continues to hold on to his body." We found nothing newer than March 2026 on the body.

Marwan Harzallah worked as a technician at Palestinian Authority-affiliated Palestine TV, the Committee to Protect Journalists says. Israeli forces arrested him on Jan. 8, 2026, at his home in the town of Zawata, near Nablus, and he was held in administrative detention, without being sentenced, according to CPJ. He died in Megiddo prison on March 28, 2026, according to information from Palestinian officials obtained by the family. The Palestinian news site Al-Quds reported on Oct. 8, 2026, that Israeli authorities released his body that day.

Mu'taz al-Atrash's father was told of his death on Sept. 16. A month later, Haaretz reported, the body had not been returned. We found no report of its return as of Oct. 25.



The card as published

Arab News reported on Oct. 8, 2026, that after Harzallah's body was returned, Palestinian prisoners' organizations said Israel continued to withhold "the bodies of 99 Palestinians who died in custody, including 88 who died since the start of the war in Gaza in October 2023." The organizations described them as part of a broader total of hundreds of Palestinian bodies held by Israeli authorities.

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Sources

Haaretz 2026 ↗; The Times of Israel 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."

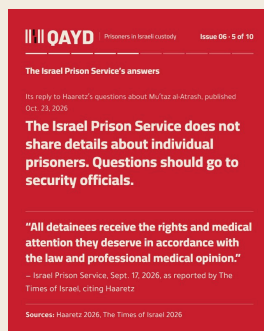
— Israel Prison Service, Sept. 17, 2026, as reported by The Times of Israel, citing Haaretz

IN DETAIL

In Haaretz's Oct. 23 report, the Israel Prison Service replied that, for reasons of privacy and security, it does not give out information on the identity, status or place of holding of prisoners or detainees, or personal details about any one inmate. Questions about the circumstances described in Haaretz's inquiry, the Israel Prison Service said, should go to authorized security officials. Haaretz noted that the reply ignored the fact that the detainee had died.

On Sept. 17, 2026, The Times of Israel reported a statement by the Israel Prison Service after the death, citing Haaretz: the Israel Prison Service refused to discuss individual prisoners "out of privacy and security concerns," but said "all detainees receive the rights and medical attention they deserve in accordance with the law and professional medical opinion." The statement gave no circumstances of the death.

The Israel Prison Service gave the Committee to Protect Journalists a similar answer about Marwan Harzallah. That reply is set out in this file under "What the Israel Prison Service told CPJ about Marwan Harzallah."

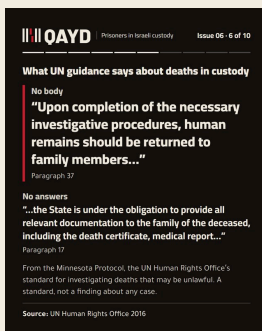


The card as published

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Source

UN Human Rights Office 2016 ↗



The card as published

What UN guidance says

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.

IN DETAIL

The Minnesota Protocol on the Investigation of Potentially Unlawful Death was published by the UN Human Rights Office in 2016. It sets out how states should investigate deaths that may be unlawful, including deaths in custody. It is a standard. It is not a finding about the cases in this issue.

Paragraph 17 reads in full: "In any event, the State is under the obligation to provide all relevant documentation to the family of the deceased, including the death certificate, medical report and reports on the investigation held into the circumstances surrounding the death."

Paragraph 37 reads in full: "Upon completion of the necessary investigative procedures, human remains should be returned to family members, allowing them to dispose of the deceased according to their beliefs."

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Sources

HaMoked 2026 ↗; The Times of Israel 2026 ↗; CPJ 2026 ↗

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.

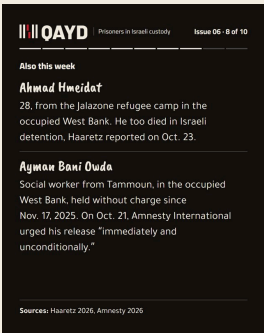


The card as published

8 of 10

Sources

Haaretz 2026 ↗; Amnesty 2026 ↗



The card as published

IN DETAIL

HaMoked: Center for the Defence of the Individual describes itself as a human rights organization that assists Palestinians living under the Israeli occupation. It publishes the Israel Prison Service's monthly figures. For October 2026 it gives 3,101 administrative detainees "held without trial." The full count is set out in this file under "The whole count, October 2026."

The Times of Israel describes administrative detention as the procedure that "allows Israeli forces to hold Palestinians in custody for months on end with no charge or trial in cases where the forces suspect intent to commit a security crime but don't have enough evidence to bring the case to court." The newspaper used that description when it reported Mu'taz al-Atrash's death.

That Walid Ahmad and Mu'taz al-Atrash were in administrative detention is reported by The Times of Israel; for Marwan Harzallah, by the Committee to Protect Journalists.

Also this week

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."

IN DETAIL

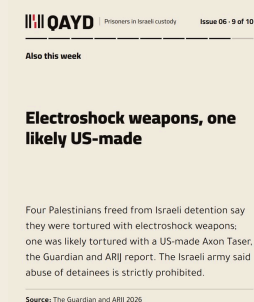
Haaretz reported on Oct. 23 that Ahmad Hmeidat, 28, from the Jalazone refugee camp, died in detention. According to Palestinian media, cited by Haaretz, he was last heard from on Sept. 30. His family received no information about him until they were told of his death.

Amnesty International said on Oct. 21, 2026, that Ayman Bani Owda, a social worker from Tammoun, "has been arbitrarily detained by Israeli forces since 17 November 2025." Amnesty called on the Israeli authorities to release him "immediately and unconditionally."

Amnesty also reported a court step: "On 24 September 2026, an Israeli military court upheld the order but reduced the detention period from four months to three."

9 of 10

Source

[The Guardian and ARIJ 2026](#)

The card as published

Electroshock weapons

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.

IN DETAIL

The Guardian and Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism (ARIJ) reported on Oct. 22, 2026, that one detainee, Essa, was likely to have been tortured with a Taser electroshock weapon manufactured by the American company Axon Enterprise. “A spokesperson for the Israel Defense Forces said the abuse of detainees was strictly prohibited,” the Guardian wrote. What the other three detainees allege is set out in this file under “Electroshock weapons: the other three detainees.”

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Not an order, a request.

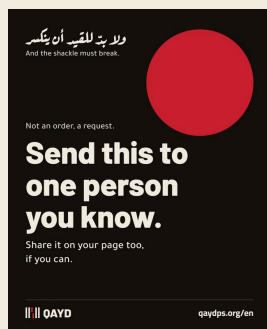
Send this to one person you know.

ولا بدّ للقيد أن ينكسر

And the shackle must break.

Not an order, a request.

Share it on your page too, if you can.

qaydps.org/en

The card as published

**“Find out just what any
people will quietly submit to
and you have found out the
exact measure of injustice and
wrong which will be imposed
upon them...”**

Frederick Douglass · Canandaigua, New York · 1857

II:II QAYD



Appendix



From the same week



What did not fit on the cards

Material from the same week that the ten cards had no room for, with its sources.

3 items

This issue reflects information available before publication on Oct. 26, 2026.

1 of 3

Source

[HaMoked, October 2026 ↗](#)

The whole count, October 2026

HaMoked's figures from the Israel Prison Service put the number of Palestinians held as "security" inmates in Israel at 9,265 in October 2026.

IN DETAIL

HaMoked's page is headlined "9,265 'Security' Inmates Are Held In Prisons Inside Israel." It reads: "As of October 2026 Israel holds 1,509 sentenced prisoners, 3,236 remand detainees and 3,101 administrative detainees held without trial. Israel also holds 1419 people as 'unlawful combatants.'"

The four groups add up to HaMoked's total of 9,265.

2 of 3

Source

[Committee to Protect Journalists ↗](#)

What the Israel Prison Service told CPJ about Marwan Harzallah

Asked by the Committee to Protect Journalists about Marwan Harzallah's death, the Israel Prison Service declined to discuss his case.

IN DETAIL

CPJ wrote that, in response to its email requesting comment, the Israel Prison Service said it does "not comment on individual cases or provide details regarding specific detainees." It added that "any incident involving the death of a prisoner is handled in accordance with established procedures and examined by the competent authorities."

3 of 3

Source

[The Guardian and ARIJ, Oct. 22, 2026 ↗](#)

Electroshock weapons: the other three detainees

The Guardian and ARIJ investigation rests on four released detainees. Three of them allege that Axon weapons were used on them.

IN DETAIL

"Three other detainees since released allege they were tortured using Axon weapons between 2024 and 2025," the investigation says.

Two video clips produced by the Israel Prison Service over the past year show a gun that appears to be an Axon Taser, the investigation says, and the four detainees say it was the weapon used to torture them. Axon Enterprise and the Israel Prison Service were approached for comment. The Guardian prints no reply from Axon.

Sources

Sources are listed by section. The numbers beside each source are the items in this file that rest on it. The links work when clicked.

06

The ten cards

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8

Haaretz — Gideon Levy and Alex Levac, "Twilight Zone," on the family of Mu'taz al-Atrash (in Hebrew) · Oct. 23, 2026
haaretz.co.il/news/twilightzone/2026-10-23/ty-article/.premium/000001a1-6507-d5c9-adad-f75733c40000

1

Haaretz — "Their Son Died in Israeli Prison. No Answers. No Body," English edition · Oct. 24, 2026
haaretz.com/israel-news/twilight-zone/2026-10-24/ty-article-magazine/.highlight/their-son-died-in-israeli-prison-no-answers-no-body/000001a1-63d8-da9a-a7e5-f7dfdbf30000

1, 3, 5, 7

The Times of Israel — Noam Lehmann, liveblog entry on the death of Mu'taz al-Atrash (spelled Moataz al-Atrash) · Sept. 17, 2026
timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/pa-says-palestinian-detainee-21-dies-after-a-year-behind-bars-despite-no-prior-medical-issues/

3

Amnesty International — Statement that gives the date of Israel's parliamentary elections · Oct. 23, 2026
amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2026/10/israel-opt-elections-must-not-deflect-attention-from-israels-international-crimes/

4, 7

The Times of Israel — Liveblog entry on Walid Ahmad and the continued holding of his body · March 24, 2026
timesofisrael.com/liveblog_entry/judge-palestinian-teen-apparently-starved-in-detention-before-his-death-body-still-being-held-by-israel/

4, 7

Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) — Marwan Harzallah
cpj.org/data/people/marwan-harzallah/

4

Al-Quds — Report on the handover of Marwan Harzallah's body (in Arabic) · Oct. 8, 2026
alquds.com/ar/posts/261139-israel-returns-martyr-body-west-bank-arrests-settler-attacks

4

Arab News — Israel returns body of Palestinian who died in custody but 99 others still withheld · Oct. 8, 2026
arabnews.pk/middle-east/israel-returns-body-of-palestinian-who-died-in-custody-but-99-others-still-withheld-3003596

6

UN Human Rights Office — The Minnesota Protocol on the Investigation of Potentially Unlawful Death, paragraphs 17 and 37 · 2016
ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Publications/MinnesotaProtocol.pdf

7

HaMoked — 9,265 "Security" Inmates Are Held In Prisons Inside Israel (Israel Prison Service figures) · October 2026
hamoked.org/prisoners-charts.php

7

HaMoked — About HaMoked
hamoked.org/about_new.php

8

Amnesty International — Call for the release of Ayman Bani Owda · Oct. 21, 2026
amnesty.org/en/documents/mde15/1594/2026/en/

9

The Guardian and ARIJ — Investigation into US-made electroshock weapons used on Palestinian detainees · Oct. 22, 2026
theguardian.com/global-development/2026/oct/22/israel-us-made-electroshock-weapons-palestinian-detainees-axon-taser

+

Appendix

What did not fit on the cards

1

HaMoked — 9,265 "Security" Inmates Are Held In Prisons Inside Israel (Israel Prison Service figures) · October 2026
hamoked.org/prisoners-charts.php

2

Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) — Marwan Harzallah
cpj.org/data/people/marwan-harzallah/

3

The Guardian and ARIJ — Investigation into US-made electroshock weapons used on Palestinian detainees · Oct. 22, 2026
theguardian.com/global-development/2026/oct/22/israel-us-made-electroshock-weapons-palestinian-detainees-axon-taser

13

Quote page

Frederick Douglass

“Find out just what any people will quietly submit to and you have found out the exact measure of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them...”

Frederick Douglass said this in August 1857 in Canandaigua, New York, at a West India Emancipation Day celebration. The quotation stops before the end of his sentence.

Two Speeches by Frederick Douglass — West India Emancipation, Canandaigua; Rochester, 1857 (scan of the pamphlet)

archive.org/details/ASPC0001937700

Wikisource — West India Emancipation (transcription)

en.wikisource.org/wiki/West_India_Emanicipation

Notes

We edit published posts only to correct factual errors. Anything that needs explaining is noted here.

Notes on what we published

His name. Haaretz’s English page and The Times of Israel spell his name Moataz al-Atrash. We use Mu’taz, the spelling in our earlier issues.

Marwan Harzallah’s hometown and the date of the handover. CPJ places Harzallah’s arrest in the town of Zawata, near Nablus. Al-Quds describes him as coming from the al-Ein refugee camp in Nablus. We name Nablus and the Megiddo prison. One agency report dated the handover of his body a day earlier than Al-Quds; we use Al-Quds’s date, Oct. 8.

Reporting in Hebrew and Arabic. Haaretz’s account of the al-Atrash family, its report on Ahmad Hmeidat and the Israel Prison Service’s reply of Oct. 23 were read in Hebrew. Al-Quds is in Arabic. Their contents are given in English in our own words, without quotation marks. Quotation marks surround only English wording on the source page.

The election. The lawyer’s explanation that the election was delaying the return of the body is reported by Haaretz and has not been confirmed by any other source. The election date is from Amnesty International.

Administrative detention. We use the terms “administrative detention” and “without charge or trial” only for people whose sources use them. For Ahmad Hmeidat, the source Haaretz gives no detention status, and we do not state one.

The Israel Prison Service’s statement of Sept. 17. The Times of Israel reported the statement and says Haaretz quoted it. We did not see the statement in Haaretz itself, so we credit it to The Times of Israel, citing Haaretz.

The quote page. The 1857 pamphlet dates Douglass’s speech Aug. 4; the Wikisource transcription dates it Aug. 3. We give the year only.

Method and images

On method. Every sentence in this file rests on a published source we read before the issue was published; the sources and links are on the preceding pages. Where two sources differ on a number or a date, we note the discrepancy where it arises rather

than choose between them. A serious event reported by only one source is attributed to that source in the same sentence.

On the images. The issue carries two AI-generated illustrations, expressive rather than documentary, each marked “AI” on the card; it has no photographs. The other images in this file are the cards as published and the quote page.

Contact. qaydps@gmail.com · qaydps.org · Legal information (Impressum) is on the website.

ولا بدّ للقيد أن ينكسر

And the shackle must break.



Not an order, a request.

**Send this to
one person
you know.**

Share it on your page too,
if you can.