No indication

HaMoked, an Israeli rights organization, asked where people from Gaza were being held. 2,015 times, the answer was “no indication.”

Source: HaMoked 2026

The answer she got

Um Khaled al-Akhras, a mother from Rafah in Gaza, says every human rights organization she asked about her son told her:

“He is not detained…”

“We ask released prisoners, they tell us:

‘We saw him.’”

– Um Khaled al-Akhras to The New Humanitarian, Feb. 26, 2026

Source: The New Humanitarian 2026

Asking where

2,015

of the 5,991 times HaMoked, an Israeli rights organization, asked where a person from Gaza was being held, October 2023 to October 2026, the answer was "no indication."

HaMoked also filed 114 habeas corpus petitions with Israel's High Court of Justice. **Following 76 of them, the Israeli military located the person in its detention facilities. It had first reported "no indication" of their detention.** In 38 cases, the person was not located.

Source: HaMoked 2026

A list of prisoners

Gaza's Ministry of Health had issued a death certificate for Malak Abu Mady. Months later, released detainees shared a list of prisoners in Israeli custody.

Beside her name, three words:

"No information available."

– Al Jazeera English, March 31, 2026

Source: Al Jazeera English 2026

The rule

FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION, ARTICLE 106

one week

"...not more than one week after his arrival in a place of internment, ... every internee shall be enabled to send direct to his family ... an internment card ... informing his relatives of his detention, address and state of health."

"The said cards ... may not be delayed in any way."

Source: Fourth Geneva Convention 1949

Told he was dead

Hamada al-Banna

- His family searched for him for six months.
- Then a lawyer told them he had been killed.
- They held a three-day wake for him.
- Months later, he was released from Israeli detention, alive.

> **"I said, 'Dad, it's Hamada.' He replied, 'Who is Hamada? My son was killed.'"**
>
> – Hamada al-Banna to Al Jazeera English, July 23, 2026

Source: Al Jazeera English 2026

Who can tell them

"...we are not able to confirm to families those who are detained, like we used to."

– Pat Griffiths, ICRC spokesperson in Jerusalem, to Al Jazeera English, August 2026

"You will not get the exact numbers anywhere except from the Israeli authorities."

– Ajith Sunghay, head of the UN Human Rights Office in Palestine, to +972 Magazine, July 2026

In January 2024, Israel's State Attorney's Office told Israel's High Court that "the military has no obligation to give HaMoked any information concerning Gaza Strip residents who were arrested in the course of the war."

Sources: Al Jazeera English 2026, +972 Magazine 2026, Israel's State Attorney's Office 2024

A father asks

"If he's been detained, let them tell us."

– Mohammed, father of Manar, who went missing in Gaza in November 2024.

Source: Mondoweiss 2026

AI

This week · Oct. 25–31, 2026

Oct. 25	The Red Cross said it had recently received a list of detainees from Israel and was updating families.
Oct. 25	The families of 127 of 828 detainees from Gaza had not known their relative was still alive until Red Cross teams called, the Palestinian Center for the Missing and Forcibly Disappeared said.
Oct. 26	HaMoked reported that on Oct. 12 Israel's High Court of Justice struck out three of its petitions without deciding whether, and how, Israel must disclose where it holds a person under its "Unlawful Combatants" Law. Israel had told the court that families could now get information through the Red Cross.
Oct. 28	The Palestinian Commission of Detainees' Affairs said its lawyers had received replies on which Israeli prisons hold some detainees from Gaza.
Oct. 30	Manar's father had contacted the Red Cross and had not heard back, Mondoweiss reported.

Sources: The Times of Israel 2026, PCMFD 2026, HaMoked 2026, Commission of Detainees' Affairs 2026, Mondoweiss 2026

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