

Gdeim Izik



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The group of 19 Saharawi Political Prisoners know as Gdeim Izik was sentenced to 20 years to life in prison on July 19th 2017. On September 16th the group was broken up in several small groups and two of the activists were left alone, in 7 different prisons in the Moroccan Kingdom (Ait Melloul; Bouzakarn; Tiflet 1; Tiflet 2; Okasha Casablanca; El Arjat and Kenitra).

The prisoners are exposed to the ill treatment and harassment of common felony detainees. Their status of Political Prisoners is not granted.

They were missing for over 24 hours before their families were informed about their whereabouts in short phone calls (1 - 3 minutes) from the prisoners from the prison phones.

All the information herein was recollectd from the family members, after their contact with the prisoners. Due to the distance of the prisons from Western Sahara and since visits are difficult and the fact that prison phone calls are monitored the information flow is very difficult and the prisoners are aware that their complaints can lead to more reprisals. The visits are heavily guarded.

During transfer some of them were ill-treated and all their belongings were taken away by the Moroccan authorities. Also all medication they need daily was taken away.

Since their transfer almost all prisoners entered a hunger strike in protest against the conditions they are currently held, sleeping on the floor, without proper blankets, no minimal hygiene in the cells (rats, vermin no ventilation), some of them were given their medication back, but not all.

Morocco signed and adhered to the 4th Geneva Convention and has therefore to respect Article 76. In accordance with the same article the ICRC should visit the prisoners.

Morocco also ratified the OPCAT (Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment) in 2014, three years have passed and the report of Morocco has still to be submitted and Morocco does not comply with the OPCAT and even

4th Geneva Convention

Article 76. Protected persons accused of offences shall be detained in the occupied country, and if convicted they shall serve their sentences therein. They shall, if possible, be separated from other detainees and shall enjoy conditions of food and hygiene which will be sufficient to keep them in good health, and which will be at least equal to those obtaining in prisons in the occupied country.

They shall receive the medical attention required by their state of health.....

Protected persons who are detained shall have the right to be visited by delegates of the Protecting Power and of the International Committee of the Red Cross, in accordance with the provisions of Article 143.



refuses to admit in court any memorandum or pleadings that mention a decision of CAT (UN Committee against Torture).

List of the prisoners of Gdeim Izik and current location:

Prison Tifelt 1

Khouna Babeit, detention number 4977 (sentence 25 years)

Abdallahi Toubali , detention number 4978 (sentence 25 years)

Made a 48h-warning hunger strike on 4th October demanding to be treated in accordance with his status as political prisoner and against the current conditions

Medication: Ulcer and breathing difficulties

Prison Tifelt 2

El Bachir Khadda, detention number 1897 (sentence 20 years)

Went on hunger strike since 19th of September and anew on 6th of November demanding his right to continue to study and transfer to a prison in his home land (Western Sahara)

Hassan Dah, detention number 1899 (sentence 25 years)

Hunger strike since 19th of September for 19 days

Hassan Dah entered his second hunger strike on the 1st of November demanding his right to continue to study and transfer to a prison in his home land (Western Sahara)

Brahim Ismaili, detention number 1898 (life sentence)

Mr. Brahim Ismaili entered two protest hunger strike starting the second on November 1st .On the 2nd of November the family informed that he was sent to a psychiatric ward inside the prison as reprisal for his protest. This method of intimidation and pressure is well known and used frequently against Saharawi Political prisoners. He demands to be treated according to the status of political prisoner, adequate health care and transfer to a prison in his homeland (Western Sahara)

Pain in the kidneys, eyes, legs, right thigh and haemorrhoids. On April 25th 2014 he was transported to Ibn Sina hospital in Rabat to make an x-ray, he was told that he has tumour in his thigh.

Medication: for rheumatism

Mohamed Lamin Haddi, detention number 1896 (sentence 25 years)

Made 3 hunger strikes demanding his right to continue to study and transfer to a prison in his home land (Western Sahara)

Medication: Ulcer

Prison Ait Melloul

Mohamed Mbarek Lefkir, new detention number unknown (sentence 25 years)

Three Hunger strikes in October and November demanding to be transferred to a prison in his home land, Western Sahara.

Medication: asthma



Mohamed Bani, new detention number 6330 (life sentence)

Kidney problems and headaches, ulcers and allergic dermatological allergy throughout the body. During his transfer on September 16th 2017 he was beaten and cannot walk upright, his hands are injured from the handcuffs.

On hunger strike for several days in September, October and November

Medication: Coversyl (Perindopril arginina); Hemofast (hemorrhoid cream); Profenid (Cetoprofeno) Spasfon (Lyophilisat) ; Nazair; Maxidrol (Dexamethasone, Neomcyne sulfate, Polymyxine B sulfate)

Sidahmed Lemjeyid, new detention number 29794 (life sentence)

Suffers from kidney disease and pain at the level of the spine, sensitivity of the eyes and the inability to move normally because of the pain located in his right foot. His hand and feet are extremely swollen. He has been victim of ill treatment and racism. On May 22nd, 2013 he took a x-ray of the spine but was not informed about the diagnosis. He suffers from intense pain in his back and spine caused by the injuries suffered during torture as well in his feet and one hand.

On hunger strike for 27 days from 19th of September to October 12 and since then made two warning hunger strikes. His medicines were taken away and until now not given to him, he has two blankets one on the floor and one to cover himself. Each Monday is allowed to call his family for 5min and on Fridays he has a 15min visit from the family that has to wait three hours to see him. During the visit he is handcuffed and surrounded by guards.

Medication: kidneys and rheumatism

This group of prisoners has been allowed one phone call per week, one visit per week, the food that they have been given has not the necessary nutrients, the cells are not according to the international minimum standards and have no hygienic conditions, no health care and they exit the cell only one time per day.

Prison Bouzakarn

Mohamed Tahlil, new detention number unknown (sentence 20 years)

Made one hunger strike

On 2nd November 2017 it was known that Mohamed Tahlil was brought to the regional Hospital nearest to Bouzakarn Prison, he suffers from extreme headaches and problems with his sight.

Prison El Arjat

Naama Asfari, detention number 767 (sentence 30 years)

Prison Okacha, Casablanca

Abdel Jalil Laaroussi, new detention number 79696 (life sentence)

Suffered extreme torture: Extreme Health situation - He has daily rectorragia (bleeding from the anus) and epistaxis (bleeding from the nose), extremely high blood pressure (18/27; 17/25) and a heart condition and needs to use diapers. Mr. Laaroussi needs the assistance of his follow group members to monitor his health and help him, but he was separated from the group and is currently alone in Okasha prison in Casablanca

He was on a 48h hunger strike, due to his continued protest an extreme peril to his health he has gotten his medicines back.

Mr. Laaroussi also explained to his family that the former chief of the guards of Sale Prison, Mr. Youness Bouzizi, is now in Okasha Prison. Mr. Laaroussi and the other members of Gdeim Izik Group presented several complaints against Mr. Bouzizi in Sale, Prison due to the ill treatment and torture they suffered at his hands.

Mr. Laaroussi said that Mr. Bouzizi continues to ill treat him in Okasha Prison as well other prison guards.



Medication: 3 pills daily for the high blood pressure and 1 for the heart disease

Mr. Laaroussi has been allowed two phone calls per week, one visit per week, the food has not the necessary nutrients, no health care and exits the cell only one time per day.

Prison Kenitra

El Bachir Boutanguiza, new detention number 29791 (life sentence)

Sidi Abdallahi Abbahah, new detention number 29795 (life sentence)

His cell has no minimum hygiene. When his sister visited him in prison she could only be around fifteen minutes with him in a room and the guard was sitting next to them so they could not even whisper.

Houcein Zawi, new detention number 29792 (sentence 25 years)

He is suffering from repeated asthma attacks since the cold of the cell is worsening his health situation.

Medication: asthma

Abdallahi Lakfawni, new detention number 29721 (life sentence)

Ahmed Sbaai, new detention number 29794 (life sentence)

Has a pre existing heart disease. During the military trial he told in his statement that the torture stopped when he was detained because the doctor that was present told the Moroccan tortures that he would die if they continued.

Medication: heart disease

Mohamed Bouryal new detention number 29793 (sentence 30 years)

Cheik Banga, new detention number 1900 (sentence 30 years)

Hunger strike since 19th of September until 7th of October when he was transferred from Tiflet1 to Kenitra prison

On the 19th and 20th September the group in Kenitra made a warning 48h hunger strike, on September 21st the vice procurator of the King in Kenitra visited them to know their demands. On October 4th they entered again in a 48h-warning hunger strike. On October 10th they entered again in a warning hunger strike since none of their demands were met. On the 8th and 9th November they made anew a protest strike. Currently some of their belongings were returned. On total they made 6 hunger strikes (4 the whole group, 2 part of the group) demanding that their status as political prisoners is respected, against the unfair trial and the demand to be transferred to a prison in their home land, Western Sahara. This group of prisoners has been allowed one phone call per week, one visit per week, the food that they have been given has not the necessary nutrients, the cells are not according to the international minimum standards and have no hygienic conditions, no health care and they exit the cell only one time per day.