



HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT No. 434
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S PEACE SERVICE
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Date: 14 April 2011

Two children arrested while tending sheep

Date of incidents: 03. 05. 2011

Place: Qusin, Nablus District, occupied Palestine

Witnesses: Father of children

Note: *IWPS withholds this information as a courtesy to those involved. However, we will do our best to furnish you with the information you may require, on request.*

Description of Incident:

At 5pm on 12.04.11 the Israeli army arrested 2 minors, a boy aged 14 and his 17 year old brother. The boys were taking care of their sheep in their field, near the family home in Qusin village (Nablus district).

When their father saw the army jeep he rushed to the field and spoke with the soldiers. There were four soldiers, who claimed the boys had been throwing stones. The father informed IWPS volunteers that he asked the soldiers when and where this had happened. The soldiers replied "7 minutes ago on the main road". The father told IWPS volunteers that the main road is 2km from his field, and tried to reason with the soldiers that it was not possible that his sons could have thrown stones 7 minutes ago and be back in the field by the time the army arrived.

The army handcuffed and blindfolded the 2 minors and drove away with them in the jeep.

At 1am and 3am the father received phone calls from Ariel Police in Ariel settlement, who said if he paid 1200NIS his sons would be freed. The father arrived at Ariel settlement at 5am, paid 1200NIS to the police, but said he received no paperwork or receipt for his payment. He left Ariel with both his sons and returned to the family home.

At approximately 12.30pm on 13.04.11 the father received another phone call from Ariel police saying his sons would have a court case, and that he would be informed of the date. He informed IWPS volunteers that the police told him he would have to pay a 10,000NIS fine at court.

Background notes: According to the **Convention on the Rights of the Child**, adopted on 20 November 1989 and entered into force on 2 September 1990 (to which Israel is a signatory), and to relevant Israeli law, a child is defined as every human being under the age of 18 years. This is reiterated in the **UN Rules for the Protection of Juveniles Deprived of their Liberty**, adopted by General Assembly Resolution 45/113 of 14 December 1990. However, Palestinian children from the age of 16 years are considered adults under Israeli military regulations governing the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Report written by: Ali



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Edited by: Marie

- See more at: <http://iwps.info/reports/hrr-2011/#sthash.PUJcEQ2F.dpuf>

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