Table of Contents

Addameer’s General Assembly and Board of Directors ............................................................. 8
Staff ........................................................................................................................................ 9
Chairperson’s Statement ........................................................................................................ 11
Addameer’s vision, mission and strategic objectives ............................................................. 13
Preface ................................................................................................................................... 14
Donors ................................................................................................................................... 16
Executive Summary ............................................................................................................... 17

Part I

First General Objective:
End Israeli violations against prisoners, detainees and their families during arrest and/or detention ................................................................. 21

First Strategic Objective:
Decrease the number of cases of torture, cruel and inhumane treatment of detainees and their families ................................................................. 23

Output One: Provision of professional and specialized legal services in a timely manner and in accordance with International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law ......................................................................................................................... 24

Direct Results ......................................................................................................................... 24
Achievements and Activities .................................................................................................. 24
Conclusions ............................................................................................................................. 29

Output Two: Provision of legal and rights counseling services ........................................ 30

Direct Results ......................................................................................................................... 30
Achievements and Activities .................................................................................................. 30
Conclusions ............................................................................................................................. 32
Output Three: Palestinian lawyers build their capacity to integrate international legal standards into their work and improve the overall quality of their legal services ................................. 33

Direct Results ........................................................................................................... 33

Achievements and Activities ..................................................................................... 33

Conclusions ................................................................................................................. 35

Second Strategic Objective:

Oppose violations resulting from policies and practices during arrest, detention, or trial that are in contravention with international humanitarian law and international human rights law ........................................................................................................... 36

Output One: Monitoring, documentation, and research/publications on human rights violations against Palestinian prisoners and detainees during and after the arrest or detention/imprisonment ................................................. 37

Direct Results ........................................................................................................... 37

Achievements and Activities ..................................................................................... 37

Output Two: Build local, regional, and international networks of organizations that work on and are supportive of prisoners and detainees’ issues ............................................. 40

Direct Results ........................................................................................................... 40

Achievements and Activities ..................................................................................... 40

Conclusions ................................................................................................................. 41

Output Three: Develop local, regional, and international advocacy campaigns ........ 42

Direct Results ........................................................................................................... 42

Achievements and Activities ..................................................................................... 42

Conclusions ................................................................................................................. 45

Output Four: Generate international public support to hold Israel to account and to pressure it to change its policies and practices ......................................................................................... 46
Part II

Second General Objective:

Ensure that legislation, policies and practices of the Palestinian Authority are committed to the standards and provisions of International Human Rights Law with regard to arrest, detention, imprisonment and penalties

First Strategic Objective:

Activation of Addameer’s role in developing a Palestinian judicial system that guarantees accountability of violations of rights contained in International Human Rights law

Output One: Provide legal aid for political detainees

Direct Results

Achievements and Activities

Output Two: Participate in cooperation with others in developing relevant legislation

Direct Results

Achievements and Activities

Second Strategic Objective:

End punishment in laws and the implementation of codes that are in contravention with international human rights law and legal standards, focusing on torture and the death penalty

Output One: Monitoring, documenting and publishing materials relating to the use of torture and death penalty under the Palestinian Authority
Part III

Third General Objective:

Development of society and institutions protecting civil and political rights of individuals and groups for whom such rights have been violated

Output One: Creating groups for raising awareness in the field of civil and political rights within their communities

Output Two: Creation of local youth groups to increase their knowledge and develop their working capabilities in the field of raising political and civil rights awareness within their own communities

Part IV

Fourth general objective:

Develop the organization’s capacities to achieve its goals
First Strategic Objective:

Provision of an environment that allows the staff to work towards realizing their work plans and activities effectively and efficiently ................................................................. 66

**Output One:** Develop internal by-laws and procedures and implement regular administrative and financial procedures ................................................................. 66

Direct Results .................................................................................................................................................................................. 66

Achievements and Activities .......................................................................................................................................................... 66

**Output Two:** Develop the professional capacities of Addameer staff ................................................................. 67

Direct Results .................................................................................................................................................................................. 67

Achievements and Activities .......................................................................................................................................................... 67

Second Strategic Objective:

Develop the organization’s sustainability ................................................................................................................................................. 68

**Output One:** Develop external networks locally, regionally and internationally ................................................................. 68

Direct Results .................................................................................................................................................................................. 68

Achievements and Activities .......................................................................................................................................................... 68

Appendices

**Appendix (1) Prisons’ Visits** ........................................................................................................................................................................ 71

**Appendix (2) Selection of Addameer media coverage** .................................................................................................................................. 77
Addameer’s General Assembly and Board of Directors

General Assembly members

1. Abed Jamal
2. Abdullatif Ghaith
3. Ala’ Jaradat
4. Ata Al Khatib
5. Bashir Al Khairi
6. Dauod Der’awi
7. Fatima Da’na
8. George Abu Zolof
9. Israr Hilaneh
10. Julie Samara
11. Khalida Jarrar
12. Lamia Shalaldeh
13. Mahmoud Jaddah

General Assembly members

14. Mahmoud Safadi
15. Nabeel Abdullah
16. Nasser Abu Khdair
17. Nasser Rayes
18. Nora Maslamani
19. Nuha Al Ra’l
20. Rinad Zurub
21. Salah Hanani
22. Samah Darwish
23. Siham Rasheed
24. Suha Qatamish
25. Yaqoub Oudeh
26. Yousef Habash
Addameer’s General Assembly and Board of Directors

**Board of Directors**

1. Abdullatif Ghaith (Chairperson)
2. Khalida Jarrar (Vice-Chairperson)
3. Suha Qatamish (Treasurer)
4. Ala’ Jaradat (Secretary)
5. Siham Rasheed
6. Mahmoud Safadi
7. Nasser Rayes
8. Yaqoub Oudeh
9. Yousef Habash

**Staff**

Sahar Francis (Director)

**Legal Unit**

1. Mahmoud Hassan (Legal Unit Manager)
2. Mazen Abu Aoun (Lawyer)
3. Khalid Al Araj (Lawyer)
4. Anas Barghouthi (Lawyer)
5. Anan Oudeh (Lawyer)
6. Mohammad Ramzi (Lawyer)
7. Firas Sabbah (Lawyer)
8. Samer Sam’an (Lawyer)
9. Aouda Zbeidat (Trainee Lawyer)
10. Sumoud Sa’adat (Legal Assistant)
Addameer’s General Assembly and Board of Directors

**Research and Documentation Unit**
1. Ehteram Ghazawneh (Unit Coordinator)
2. Ayman Nasser (Researcher)
3. Murad Jadallah (Legal Researcher)
4. Muhannad Azzeh (Field Researcher)

**Advocacy Unit**
1. Clea Thouin (Unit Coordinator)
2. Shahd Bakir (Translator)
3. Gemma Houldey (International Advocacy Officer)
4. Sharif Solaiman (Local Media Coordinator)

**Administrative and Financial Unit Coordinator**
1. Ziad Suhweil (Unit Coordinator)
2. Nidaa Alawneh (Administrative Assistant)

**Awareness & Training Unit**
Azzam Sarsour (Unit Coordinator)
Addameer’s 2011 annual report coincides with the 20th anniversary of its establishment. Therefore, this year’s anniversary is an appropriate time to review the work and development of Addameer, which began all those years ago with a budget of just 500 Jordanian dinars and a small room in Jerusalem.

Looking at Addameer today, with all its capabilities and accomplishments, one cannot help but be proud and grateful. For all these accomplishments and the history which has created such a credible institution, we must express our appreciation for all the efforts and actions that have been made by so many people; employees, volunteers, friends and supporters, who have worked tirelessly together over the years on behalf of the prisoners and the local community.

As will be shown the 2011 annual report indicates the following:

- Relative progress at the level of achievements.
- The application of the strategic plan had positive results.
- The report reflects Addameer’s performance, which responded to developments and changes which have occurred during the year. Considering that the situation is constantly changing it becomes necessary that we monitor developments and anticipate events, as opposed to only reacting to them.
The consistency of the internal relations between the various components of Addameer’s work has resulted in internal stability which has improved the chances that all the required tasks are fulfilled and productivity is maximized.

Any shortcomings in Addameer’s performance have not been the result of the association as an entity, but rather from individual shortcomings which may stem from the pressures of work or other external factors, and should be addressed on the basis of accountability and good practice.

On this important occasion, we would like to once again reiterate Addameer’s principals that it adheres to, namely truth, justice, and human rights and duties. Addameer should develop its staff on the basis of these principals as Addameer works under an occupation that denies the very existence of Palestinians and therefore denies the existence of their political and human rights.

Finally, on behalf of the board of directors I would like to extend my sincere gratitude, appreciation and respect to the employees, volunteers and supporters of Addameer and to everyone that was part of achieving its goals. I wish and hope that Addameer expands its scope of work, services, objectives and capabilities.

Hoping that Addameer and the prisoners’ issue will always be supported.

Addameer’s Chairperson
Abdullatif Ghaith
Addameer’s Vision
Palestinian citizens live in a sovereign independent state, governed by rules and laws which guarantee respect for human rights, dignity and public freedoms and support individuals, groups, civil society institutions, political parties and the rule of law without discrimination.

Addameer’s Mission
We work to guarantee the rights of the Palestinian prisoners and the civil and political rights of weakened groups, based on the international human rights law and the international humanitarian law, out of our faith in the universality of human rights.  

Addameer’s Strategic Objectives:
1. Bringing Israeli violations of the detainees and their families’ rights during the term of detention to an end.
2. Ensuring Palestinian legislations, policies and practices’ are in compliance with the terms of international human rights law related to detention, imprisonment and penalties.
3. Enhancement of the institutions supportive of political and civil rights of the weakened groups.
4. Ensuring the institution’s ability of achieving its objectives and sustainability.

1. The detainees and prisoners of war are the Palestinians and Arab detainees held at the Israeli detention centers for resisting the occupation and the Palestinian prisoners that are held by the Palestinian Authority for their political activities and views.
Preface

The year 2011 witnessed a marked increase in human rights violations committed against Palestinian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (oPt), particularly through continuous arrest campaigns that included maltreatment, property destruction and intimidation. These campaigns were exemplified when the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) launched a particularly destructive arrest and search campaign in the village of Awarta, following an attack in the Itmar settlement, a settlement which is built on Awarta village’s land. The raid continued for over a month and targeted approximately 8,000 citizens of the village; men, women, children and the elderly. Harassment, intimidation and destruction of property accompanied this unjustified raid on the village, with village residents also being interrogated and forced to give blood and DNA samples.

These repressive practices were accompanied by the unjustified use of force against peaceful Palestinian demonstrations throughout 2011, particularly those protesting the Annexation Wall in Bil’in, Nabi Saleh and Ma’sara, as well as other villages. In addition, IOF responded by force to the peaceful demonstrations on the anniversary of the Nakba, killing 15 Palestinians and injuring hundreds of others. These Nakba demonstrations took place in a number of areas, including the borders with Syria, Lebanon and the Gaza Strip, as well as most cities in the West Bank. Furthermore, on the anniversary of the Naksa, 23 more Palestinians were killed during peaceful demonstrations. On both occasions IOF used excessive force, violating UN resolution number 1701.

During 2011, Israel continued to escalate its policy aimed at the Judiazation of Jerusalem through its continued confiscation of lands and houses, imposing restrictions on Jerusalemites and continuous arrests which particularly targeted children under the age of 18.

Israeli attacks against Palestinian prisoners and detainees significantly increased throughout 2011, while the Israeli media has spearheaded these attacks by issuing false reports and misleading news. Moreover, some members of the Israeli Knesset escalated their calls for enacting racist laws. These laws, which are consistent with Israeli occupation policies, aim to increase the restrictions imposed on Palestinian prisoners. The Israeli Prison Service (IPS)
implemented such policies through depriving Palestinian prisoners of their basic rights and by taking provocative measures against them. These include repeated raids of prison sections, often at night, as well as humiliating strip searches which are viewed as extremely provocative by prisoners. The IPS also imposes fines on prisoners for the slightest of reasons and often for no reason at all. There has also been an increase in the number of prisoners in isolation throughout 2011.

These continued violations led the Palestinian detainees to launch an open hunger strike on the 27th of September 2011, which lasted for 17 days. In response, additional punitive measures were implemented by the IPS collectively against the detainees throughout the hunger strike, and included: isolation, denial of family visits, imposition of fines, raids and repressive searches. The detainees ended their hunger strike following the announcement of the prisoners exchange deal and were hoping to witness radical changes in their daily lives after the deal; especially since many IPS oppressive practices were associated with the capture of Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit. However, even after implementing the second phase of the deal, the painful reality for the prisoners is that little has changed.

More broadly, the first half of 2011 also witnessed several other major developments - most notably, the political changes seen across the Arab world. These changes had a significant impact on Palestinian authorities in both the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, prompting them to finally agree to comply with public demands to end their division. An initial reconciliation deal was signed in Cairo on the 4th of May 2011.

However, 2011 also saw numerous human rights violations being committed by Palestinian security services in both Gaza and the West Bank. These violations included political detention; psychological and physical torture; and the suppression of public freedom such as the right to protest. In both Gaza and the West Bank, protests against the division were prohibited.

Palestinian courts have also sentenced a number of people to the death penalty. Earlier this year, Palestinian authorities decided to limit the jurisdiction of military courts to military personnel only.

In October 2011, Israeli authorities directly targeted Addameer by preventing its Chairman of the Board of Directors from entering the West Bank for six months. The Israeli authorities subsequently renewed the order for an additional six months in April 2012. Former Addameer
lawyer Anan Odeh was also prevented from visiting prisons and detention centers during the recent hunger strikes.

Despite these obstacles, Addameer continued to monitor the situation of Palestinian political prisoners and detainees in both Israeli and Palestinian prisons and detention centers. This report highlights the activities of Addameer’s programs, which are in line with its annual plan and strategic goals.

Addameer extends its thanks to the staff for all their efforts and the achievements accomplished in 2011, especially during the hunger strikes. Addameer also extends its thanks and gratitude to everyone who contributed to the organization’s work throughout the year, whether through volunteering or other support. Finally, Addameer would also like to express its gratitude to all the organizations and parties that have supported the organization, both morally and financially.

Donors

Christian Aid
Couite De S. Con Causa - Asturias
Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation – ICCO
Irish Aid
NGO Development Centre -NDC
Paz Con Dignidad
Solidaridad Internacional- Rivas
Solidaridad Internacional- Vitoria
Spanish Agency for Development Cooperation- AECID
United Nation Development Program- UNDP
Executive summary:

Achievements - Israeli Occupation

In 2011, Addameer received 616 new arrest cases, most of which were from Jerusalem. The focus was on both legal counseling and following up on cases of arrest, interrogation, trials and administrative detention. Addameer’s lawyers represented clients in 1,947 court hearings and submitted 102 appeals against various court orders. In total, 309 detainees were released as a result of Addameer lawyers’ interventions.

Addameer held 11 public forum meetings in order to raise awareness surrounding prisoners’ rights and violations they are subjected to in detention and trials. More than 400 people attended these meetings and a “Know Your Rights” booklet was distributed to all attendees. Addameer also participated in a number of radio and television shows highlighting prisoners’ issues and produced two radio episodes relating to isolation and the hunger strikes.

Furthermore, Addameer held a number of meetings at three Palestinian universities where the Israeli military court system was discussed with law students. In addition, Addameer conducted a number of field visits, as well as two training sessions for lawyers working on prisoners’ issues. The first training session addressed international measures that can be used to protect prisoners and detainees, while the second session addressed the Israeli military court system.

Addameer also conducted 161 routine visits to prisons, detention centers and interrogation centers in order to monitor the conditions of detention and the violations against prisoners
in various stages of detention. Addameer documented 71 affidavits, in addition to many individual stories, regarding these violations. The information collected was then used in a number of campaigns and research papers conducted by Addameer.

During the hunger strikes, which began in the fourth quarter of 2011, Addameer emerged as a main reference point for information regarding prisoners’ issues at the local, national and international level. Addameer provided dozens of international and local institutions and networks with information relating to the hunger strikes, in addition to providing information to consulates, embassies, UN offices, the European Union and dozens of international and local visual, audio and print media. Addameer emerged as one of the most important institutions for monitoring the hunger strike and related developments.

In 2011, Addameer was accepted as a member of the World Organization against Torture (OMCT). In addition, Addameer applied for membership in the Economic and Social Council at the UN, which will be considered in 2012.

Addameer continues to exert maximum efforts against the Israeli policy of administrative detention and against the targeting of human rights defenders by publishing information – mainly individual testimonies - regarding these policies. Addameer continues to provide information to several international organizations with the goal of affecting Israeli occupation policies through participating in a number of international meetings and conferences. Some of these achievements included participating in the 16th Session of the Human Rights Council and a visit to the European Parliament to develop ways to advocate prisoner’s issues.

Influencing international decision makers is a priority for Addameer, especially those that support Israel. This is to be achieved by encouraging local communities of such countries to act through meetings, publications, campaigns as well as solidarity activities with the prisoners, especially during hunger strikes. This past year, Addameer attended two international conferences in Britain and welcomed 45 international delegations of activists and jurists.

Addameer published 4 brochures in both English and Arabic. These brochures summarize the prisoners’ conditions and the main issues and statistics surrounding prisoners. Addameer also published 38 reports in English, 33 reports in Arabic and 10 reports written in partnership with Defense for Children International-Palestine.
Achievements – Palestinian Authority:

The first half of 2011 witnessed several developments, particularly the political changes in the Arab world, which had a significant impact on Palestinian reality. Many Palestinian youths were influenced by the popular protests that swept the Arab world and launched protests demanding the end of the political division in Palestine, along with the different human rights violations that had occurred during the past four years.

Through its membership in the Palestinian Non-Governmental Organization Network (PNGO) and the Palestinian Council of Human Rights Organizations (PCHRO), Addameer participated in organizing and supporting these protests. The Palestinian Authority in the West Bank and Hamas’ government in Gaza confronted these protests with repressive and, sometimes, brutal methods. Eventually, the protests led Fatah and Hamas to sign an initial reconciliation deal in Cairo. Even though the deal was not fully implemented, some of the aspects of the division and a number of illegal practices were reduced.

Earlier this year the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank announced the discontinuation of detaining civilians on the basis of military actions, although some individual cases were subjected to this type of detention during the year. Despite the fact that the PA pledged to stop the use of torture it still continues. Unfortunately political detention did not end completely as civilians continue to be detained on the basis of their political affiliation.

Addameer followed up on 40 cases of political detention during the year and documented 19 affidavits regarding torture and other violations. Addameer also conducted 7 visits to prisons and detention centers.

Furthermore, Addameer targeted 25 youth activists from a number of cities in the West Bank through the Addama’ir program. This group was given 94 hours of training in numerous fields such as International Human Rights Law, developing advocacy campaigns, managing small projects amongst others. Addama’ir also launched many activities in solidarity with prisoners on Prisoners’ Day and participated in the activities launched by the Palestinian community calling for an end to the political division.
Administrative Affairs:

The General Assembly and the Board of Directors were committed to the work of the organization through participating in the annual meeting and other periodic board meetings. Eight new members joined the General Assembly. Elections were also held for a new Board of Directors. The General Assembly and the Board of Directors also participated in in-depth discussions regarding funding policies particularly by the various institutions and bodies of the United Nations.

The Administrative and Financial Unit managed human resources in all aspects and financial measures for each unit according to the annual plan. A process of monitoring and evaluation was completed through regular meetings and monthly work reports.

Addameer staff also participated in a number of training courses which were provided by its partners and included human rights, legal and administrative issues.
PART I

ADDAMEER Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association

First General Objective:
End Israeli violations against prisoners, detainees and their families during arrest and/or detention.
The total number of detainees before the prisoners’ exchange deal was approximately 6,000. During the prisoners’ exchange deal 1,027 detainees were released. Throughout this period arrest campaigns targeted hundreds of Palestinians, mostly children from Jerusalem, which led to a significant increase in the number of detainees. The Israeli authorities released most of the detainees that were arrested during this period and such cases were not calculated with the total number of prisoners.

Palestinian prisoners and detainees suffer from extremely difficult conditions due to the systematic practices used against them by the Israeli Prison Services (IPS). This period witnessed a remarkable rise in violations against prisoners, which are in line with the policies of the occupation’s government. These policies aim to repress Palestinian prisoners after failing in completing the prisoners’ exchange deal with the Palestinian resistance in Gaza which captured Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit. A rise in repressive practices was also observed which included preventing family visits for security reasons, increasing the number of prisoners in isolation, preventing prisoners from continuing higher education, increasing section raids especially at night, and continuing policy of strip searches.

All these policies and procedures aim to undermine the prisoners and their families. In turn, Addameer, in cooperation with other Palestinian institutions working in the field, sought to address these violations through a range of activities and events such as participating in a number of international and local conferences and meetings like the International Conference held in Vienna; meetings in the European Parliament; meeting with a Special Delegation of the European Parliament during their visit to the Palestinian Territory; participating in the 16th Round of the Human Rights Council; raising the issue of female prisoners in a workshop held on International Women’s Day; and meeting with dozens of delegations and providing them with the necessary information regarding the issue of prisoners.

One significant result of the efforts of human rights organizations and general international pressure occurred in September 2011 when the Israeli military commander modified the
military order relating to the age of a Palestinian child from 16 years of age to 18\(^2\). However, unfortunately this will not provide the protection needed for detained children since the military system still lacks the foundations of criminal justice, especially in the field of juvenile justice.

Addameer played a significant role during the prisoners’ hunger strike launched on the 27\(^{th}\) of September 2011. Addameer conducted many prison visits documenting the violations that the prisoners were subjected to during the hunger strike and exposed the violations and practices by publishing such information and investigating legal issues such as prisoners’ transfer to hospitals and others. Addameer also faced direct repressive practices by Israeli authorities such as preventing our lawyers from visiting the prisoners. These repressive practices led the organization to search for volunteers and part-time lawyers to conduct prison visits.

**First Strategic Objective:**

**Decrease the number of cases of torture, cruel and inhumane treatment of detainees and their families.**

Addameer worked to reduce the punishments, torture and degrading treatment that prisoners, along with their families, are subjected to, through a range of activities, most notably, providing legal representation to the prisoners and their families. The legal representation is conducted by a team of Addameer lawyers committed to the standards of international humanitarian law and human rights law.

Addameer also conducted a series of public meetings that aimed to raise awareness among Palestinians of their legal rights while they are in detention and to introduce them to the available legal aspects they can use to address IOF violations while detained.

---

2. Military order number 1676 regarding the security instructions (Amendment number 10) Judea and Samaria 27.9.2011- which amends Article 136 of Military Order 1650 2009 that identifies the child as the one under the age of 16.
Moreover, Addameer worked on increasing the lawyers’ efficiency in defending and representing prisoners through conducting numerous training sessions. These training sessions included topics that are related to issues of prisoners, such as local laws, Israeli military orders, International Humanitarian law and International Human Rights law.

Output One:

Provision of professional and specialized legal services in a timely manner and in accordance with International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law.

**Direct results:**

1. Addameer’s legal cases had positive results.
2. Detainees and their families are satisfied with Addameer’s services.

Achievements and activities

1. **Cases and legal issues:**

Addameer received a total of 616 applications for legal aid services during 2011. It should be noted that the majority of the cases were from Jerusalem where there were 364 represented cases. The arrest campaigns were mainly concentrated in Jerusalem as part of Israel’s continued attempts to expel Palestinians from Jerusalem by confiscating more land and continuing the policy of house demolitions, resulting in subsequent protests by Palestinians for such practices.
The following table distributes these cases according to the place of residence:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Jerusalem</th>
<th>Ramallah</th>
<th>Hebron</th>
<th>Bethlehem</th>
<th>Nablus</th>
<th>Jenin</th>
<th>Tulkarem</th>
<th>Qalqilya</th>
<th>Salfit and Tubas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following table distributes these cases according to age and gender:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Number</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Addameer also followed up on 722 lawsuits for new cases received during 2011, in addition to 17 cases from previous years, making a total of 739 cases.

Addameer’s lawyers attended a total of 1,947 court sessions, including 934 detention and renewal sessions, with the remainder consisting of court procedures, reviews of administrative detention orders, appeals regarding detention-extension orders, and petitions to the Israeli High Court.

**Detention:**

Addameer followed 450 cases which resulted in some success - 287 cases resulted in the release of detainees, with most of these cases relating to Jerusalem ID holders (indictments were later submitted against 60 of them). As for the remaining cases, 90 were transferred to other legal cases, 24 were released without intervention, and 33 cases were withdrawn from Addameer and given to other lawyers, with the remainder still open.
Interrogation:

Addameer followed up on 85 cases of interrogation in 2011, 19 of those detainees were released as a result of Addameer lawyers’ interventions and 5 received a court order of extension for periods less than the prosecution’s demands. This can be considered as an accomplishment as 24 cases were successful; 38 cases were transferred to legal cases that are still being followed up by Addameer’s lawyers; 16 cases were withdrawn from Addameer and given to other lawyers; and 7 cases were released without legal intervention from our lawyers. The remainders of these cases are still open and are being followed up.

Court procedures:

A total of 243 cases of court procedures and trials were followed during 2011 (223 new cases and 20 cases before 2011); 99 of these cases were closed during the year as a result of the sentence; 31 cases had positive results, meaning a success rate of 31.3%. Furthermore, 126 cases were ongoing into 2012 and 18 cases were withdrawn and given to other lawyers. The decrease in the number of withdrawn cases indicates detainees’ satisfaction with the performance of the lawyers.

Administrative detention:

Addameer lawyers worked on 41 administrative detention cases (6 cases prior to 2011 and 35 cases in 2011). 12 cases were either released or had their detention order shortened while 32 cases were ongoing into the year 2012.

1. Appeals:

Addameer’s lawyers filed 78 appeals on various orders by Israeli courts, with 22 (28.2 %) of these cases being successful. They also represented detainees in a number of appeals filed by the prosecution on the courts’ decisions in favor of detainees (24 appeals were approved, meaning a success percentage of 33.3%). The following table summarizes these appeals and
their results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal type</th>
<th>Number of appeal sessions</th>
<th>Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative detention order</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5 rejected, 1 approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detention extension</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>12 rejected, 5 approved with a deal, 4 approved, 1 rejected with a deal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detention during trail</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4 rejected, 2 approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israeli High Court</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3 rejected, 2 approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecution appeal</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>16 rejected, 8 approved (the prosecution filed 2 appeals on administrative detention orders but they were rejected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interrogation extension</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>26 rejected, 1 approved, 7 cancelled, 2 undecided in 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sentence decision</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 released, 1 undecided in 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banning lawyers from visits</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rejected</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Complaints:

Addameer lawyers filed 57 complaints during 2011 (47 cases and 10 public complaints). A target of 90 complaints had been set for 2011; therefore, we did not reach our goal in filing complaints. This failure resulted from work pressure regarding Jerusalemite cases and the hunger strike in September. In the future we will work on overcoming such failure.

3. Visits and other issues:

The legal unit provided legal and rights counseling services to 102 cases distributed as follows: 61 relating to place of detention; 22 relating to the legal status of the detainee; 13 relating to arrest; and 6 cases referred to other parties.
During 2011, Addameer lawyers conducted 172 visits to detention centers, interrogation centers and Israeli prisons. 390 cases were visited by our lawyers, and all cases were provided with legal representation. The number of cases visited in detention centers was 93. This was a notable decrease from 2010, in which there were 166 visits conducted.

Addameer followed seven cases of ill detainees during 2011, with lawyer’s visits and medical files being copied on five of the cases. All seven cases were transferred to Physicians for Human Rights-Israel in order to review the files and provide them with the proper treatment.

**Beneficiaries’ satisfaction**

Due to the intensity of work commitments in the last quarter of 2011, linked to the open hunger strike, and later, Khader Adnan’s hunger strike that he launched in December 2011 as well as the prisoners’ exchange deal, Addameer was unable to carry out a survey regarding beneficiaries’ satisfaction as was planned. However, the legal unit conducts a periodic internal evaluation process by measuring the number of files that are withdrawn from Addameer and the reasons behind these withdrawals. The internal evaluation also depends on the received complaints regarding the performances of the lawyers. There was a decrease in the number of withdrawn files, but there were still a number of complaints regarding the legal follow-up and the internal follow-up of Addameer. These complaints were handled individually through a more dynamic follow-up with the lawyers or through suggesting practical solutions for the legal unit in order to re-distribute work efforts, taking into account work pressure and other circumstances.
Conclusions

The number of cases received during 2011 exceeded the work plan target by almost double. This demonstrates the organization’s ability to respond to changes and conditions despite their difficulty and to provide legal services for all cases received, as well as an increase in the lawyers’ achievements. It should be noted that most of these achievements were for cases of children and adults from Jerusalem in their early stages of detention. There are dozens of cases that were released without indictments and this explains the ability of one lawyer to cover more than 350 cases alone, despite their heavy workload.

An increase was also noticed in the number of cases that the lawyers followed and visited in detention centers, interrogation centers and Israeli prisons, which represents a new achievement by the legal unit (lawyers and staff).

The notable limitation of Addameer’s work in 2011 is that only 57 complaints were filed to the Israeli military courts, which is significantly less than the targeted goal of 90 complaints.

Addameer’s work in 2011 was significantly impeded by some of its lawyers being banned from prison visits during the hunger strike. This is a matter of great importance and should have serious legal follow-up in 2012, especially considering that another mass hunger strike is possible. This follow-up can be done through recruiting new lawyers to help and work on the issue of prisoners in a highly professional and pertinent manner, in addition to organizing and coordinating with partner institutions.
Output Two:
Provision of legal and rights counseling services

Direct results:
1) Increased awareness for detainees and their families regarding their rights
2) Increased demand for educational material

Activities and Achievements:

There were 102 cases that received rights counseling services during 2011. These services varied between locating the place of detention, clarifying legal procedures and legal status, identifying the most important rights of detainees, and referring the applicant to another party. We fell short of our targeted goal of providing rights counseling to 150.

Addameer lawyers provided legal counseling to 13 cases. These services included an explanation of indictments, attempts to estimate the level of punishment and expected sentence, and explanation of the legal status.
Public Forum Meetings:

During the year, Addameer organized 11 public meetings entitled “Know Your Rights’. These meetings were organized and implemented with the cooperation of local institutions and committees such as Health Work Committees, People of Silwan Committee, Shu’aa Institution, Union of Progressive Youth, students from the Arab American University, Al Quds Open University in Dura Al Khalil and other local committees, councils and municipalities. According to the work plan, 15 meetings were planned for 2011; however, a number of meetings were organized but never held due to political restrictions beyond Addameer’s control, such as the raid on the tent where the meeting was supposed to take place in Silwan.

More than 407 people attended these meetings where more than 400 copies of the “Know Your Rights” booklet were distributed and more than 200 copies of the administrative detention booklet were also distributed. In these meetings, Addameer lawyers presented the main rights of the detainees according to the law, and compared these to detainees’ rights according to international law, the court procedures in all phases, and how to address violations the detainees and their families are subjected to during detention.

When evaluating the content of the lectures and the lecturers’ methods (through a special questionnaire) the participants answered that the topics and discussions addressed by the lectures were valuable and useful, and that the lecturers’ methods were appropriate with the topics they reviewed being discussed satisfactorily.

During this year, the “Know Your Rights” booklet was updated with the changes in military orders and legal procedures in the recent years.
Raising awareness through media:

During this period, some of Addameer’s staff participated in a number of radio and TV interviews which aimed to raise awareness of Palestinians subject of detention. The total number of radio appearances was about 20, and included participation in Al Quds voice, Al Sha’b voice, Al Eman radio station in Gaza, Al Nisa’ voice, Ajyal radio, Meshwar radio, and others in the West Bank.

There were five local TV interviews with Watan TV, Palestine TV, Saudi News TV, and Al Quds TV, in addition to an interview with Al Jazeera Net. These interviews dealt with the reality, conditions and rights of Palestinian prisoners and detainees.

Throughout 2011, two radio episodes regarding isolation and hunger strikes were recorded. These episodes were broadcasted on radio stations that the prisoners have access to on a regular basis.

Conclusions:

This year witnessed a remarkable development in Addameer’s performance in building relationships with local institutions through public forum meetings. Four meetings were coordinated and implemented in Jerusalem as a response to the arrest campaigns there. There was also an increase in the number of people attending these meetings compared to recent years.

In addition to participation in programs that aim to raise community awareness of prisoners, the broadcasted radio episodes received positive feedback especially as it dealt with issues that are important to the prisoners themselves. It also raised their awareness and ability to address the violations implemented against them.
Output Three:
Palestinian lawyers build their capacity to integrate international legal standards into their work and improve the overall quality of their legal services.

Direct results:
1. Trained lawyers gain additional skills to help them represent prisoners more effectively.
2. Lawyers attended trainings to incorporate international legal standards of fair trial in their representation.

Activities and achievements:

- **Training law students:**

  A series of three lectures was carried out with law students in Palestinian universities. These lectures were designed to acquaint students with the history and origins of military courts and the procedures applied in them, as well as to compare these procedures with international law. Field visits to military courts were also arranged so the students can become familiar with the court and its mechanisms.

  In total, 65 students attended these lectures. A visit to Salem Military Court was conducted by 15 students from the Arab American University, and a visit to Ofer Military Court was conducted by 18 students from Al-Quds University. In general, through these meetings, the students gained knowledge and information necessary for Israeli military courts’ procedures, and the ability to monitor violations. They also developed knowledge of the fundamental rights that detainees are entitled to.

  Addameer also organized two training lectures for students of the legal clinic in Al-Quds University. These lectures related to special procedures within UN human rights mechanisms. The first lecture focused on international treaties and individual mechanisms of filing complaints.
regarding human rights violations, while the second lecture was a practical application that addressed the issue of violence against women, with an example complaint being prepared.

• **Training regarding international mechanisms:**

Addameer implemented a number of trainings which aimed to raise the efficiencies of lawyers working in Israeli military courts, especially regarding international mechanisms for the protection of Palestinian prisoners and their families. The participants acquired skills and tools necessary to put an end to the violations and torture that the prisoners and detainees suffer in Israeli prisons and the ability to confront these violations through available international mechanisms. The following topics were dealt with through 20 hours of training:

1. Introduction to international law and international human rights law
2. The rights of civilian populations under occupation
3. Protection of civilian properties under international humanitarian law
4. The standards of documenting human rights abuses and its importance according to protection mechanisms in international humanitarian law
5. The rights of prisoners and detainees according to international humanitarian law
6. The crime of torture under international conventions
7. Military trials between law and reality
8. Mechanisms of international protection
9. Accountability before internal courts
10. International courts
The training was carried out in April 2011 with 14 lawyers attending. Invitations were sent to human rights and legal institutions that are working on the issue of prisoners and detainees. Fourteen of the twenty invitees attended the training.

- **Training regarding military courts:**

  Through cooperation with the Palestinian Bar Association, Addameer trained 27 trainee lawyers regarding criminal procedures in military courts (15 hours of training). The training focused on the establishment and jurisdiction of military courts, administrative detention, developing indictments and presenting them in courts, detention procedures that are related to the indictments, in addition to court proceedings and submission of appeals against these procedures.

**Conclusions:**

After the evaluation, it was concluded that there would be no need to continue with the training regarding international law and protection of prisoners due to low participation and interest in the trainings among lawyers and institutions. Since law students in various universities showed interest in the field of the UN special mechanisms, Addameer will work on developing this aspect in cooperation with the various law schools.
Second strategic objective:

Oppose violations resulting from policies and practices during arrest, detention, or trial that are in contravention with international humanitarian law and international human rights law.

With increased violations against Palestinian prisoners and detainees in the Israeli prisons during this year, Addameer succeeded in monitoring many of these violations using various strategies.

One of the main tools used for monitoring these violations are regular visits to Israeli prisons by Addameer’s lawyers.

During the visits, Addameer collected information and monitored violations against prisoners and detainees in order to document them in our reports and research papers. We also rely on field visits to the families of prisoners and detainees. For example, Addameer conducted field visits to Awarta village more than once and documented the violations practiced against them by the occupation forces during the arrest process, detention, family visits, or during trials. Addameer also took into consideration the published works and research conducted by other institutions for its documentation.
Output One:

Monitoring, documentation, and research/publications on human rights violations against Palestinian prisoners and detainees during and after the arrest or detention/imprisonment.

Direct results:

1. An increase in lawyers’ visits to detention centers and prisons and improvement of documentation procedures.

2. An increase in the request for information and an increase in the dissemination of the information.

3. Increased satisfaction, positive feedback, and evaluation regarding the information provided and an increased reliability on the information.

Achievements and Activities:

In 2011 Addameer lawyers conducted 161 visits to Israeli prisons, detention centers, and interrogation centers to monitor and document violations, as well as monitor conditions in prisons, detention and interrogation centers. In 61 of these visits, Addameer visited 382 detainees and collected necessary information for research papers and publications. According to the work plan, we reached beyond our goal of 150 visits.

During these visits, lawyers were able to collect 42 affidavits regarding conditions in prisons and the violations they are exposed to. Addameer also collected 71 affidavits during the year on the subject of violations that the prisoners and detainees suffer inside the prisons and the violations that their families are exposed to throughout the arrest process. These affidavits
include 13 affidavits relating torture, 12 affidavits relating to conditions of detention, three affidavits relating to violations against prisoners’ families, and 4 affidavits relating to exposure to beatings during the arrest process. Addameer also followed and documented 60 cases where prisoners suffer from health conditions and visited some of these prisoners more than once to monitor their health conditions and treatments.

There was a significant development this year concerning the legal units’ field visits to villages subjected to arrest campaigns. Addameer visited Awarta village, Beit Omar, and Al Dheisha refugee camp where 21 affidavits were collected on violations that accompanied the arrest process. Addameer also visited the homes of released prisoners Nael and Fakri Al-Barghouthi, both released in the October 2011 prisoner exchange, in order to document abuses and violations that they were exposed to during the raid on their house by the Israeli soldiers. Addameer also documented eight affidavits through individual interviews at Addameer’s offices with released prisoners and families of prisoners.

Information was collected, categorized and compiled to be used by Addameer in reports and studies which it regularly publishes. The annual violations report for 2010 was also completed this year.

Twenty case studies of prisoners and detainees in Israeli prisons were prepared during 2011, with some of these case studies being published on Addameer’s website.

Addameer continued to collect and monitor violations through the media and other organizations while continuing to work on updating all the various lists of statistics. These lists included female prisoners, human rights defenders, administrative detainees, isolated prisoners, and Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) members.

Addameer also began collecting information and conducting surveys among detainees for a paper titled “prisoners as an economic project”. A total of 35 released prisoners and 41 families of prisoners were interviewed. Addameer will continue working on this study in 2012. In addition, a paper on “Nahshon unit” and “Metzada” was prepared, and a special
questionnaire was developed with information from various prisons being collected.\textsuperscript{3} This paper will be published in 2012.

The hunger strike accounted for the vast majority of Addameer’s work in the last quarter of 2011. Most visits were focused on documenting violations imposed on the prisoners during the hunger strike which lasted for 21 days. This information will be included in the annual violations report. A fact sheet on the 2012 hunger strikes was also prepared.

The Documentation Unit also prepared daily updates regarding the hunger strike, and the Advocacy Unit provided these updates to all those concerned about the prisoners’ issue and hunger strike.

Moreover, in October 2011, the Documentation Unit provided support during the prisoner’s exchange deal, in which 1027 prisoners were released, by documenting the names of released prisoners, and organizing data of prisoners with special conditions such as women, children, prisoners of 1948, prisoner’s detainees before Oslo, among others. Our compilations proved to be an important source for media, especially for conducting interviews with prisoners and their families for local and international publication.

\textsuperscript{3} The Nashson and Metzanda are special units of the Israeli Prison Service responsible for the transfer of prisoners from prison to courts and other prisoners. They are also responsible for searches and the suppression of prison disturbances and are notoriously violent towards Palestinian prisoners and detainees.
Output Two:

Build local, regional, and international networks of organizations that work on and are supportive of prisoners and detainees’ issues.

Direct results:

1. An increase in the activities within existing networks and coalitions.
2. Expansion of solidarity networks.
3. Building new networks based on needs and potential needs.

Activities and Achievements:

Addameer continued to build relationships with international organizations and cooperated with international and local partner organizations. At the local level, Addameer continued to provide the PNGO with information on prisoners and detainees’ issues, and participated in their activities and events. Addameer also provided information to the Palestinian Council of Human Rights Organizations’ (PCHRO) especially during the open hunger strike and the prisoners exchange deal.

In addition, Addameer coordinated with a number of organizations that work on Palestinian prisoners and detainees issues such as Hurriyat, the Prisoners’ Club and the Palestinian Ministry of Prisoners Affairs. A number of meetings were conducted aiming to develop a national committee that supports prisoners with health problems and highlights the medical neglect that they suffer. The work of the committee focused on a number of activities such as creating a list with the names of ill prisoners in Israeli prisons and preparation for a report relating to the prisoners’ health conditions. A meeting was held with a doctor and officer from International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) who are responsible for visiting prisoners inside the prisons. Addameer and the committee presented the health conditions of the prisoners to the ICRC and asked them to fulfill their responsibilities. In the same context a meeting was held at the Palestinian Ministry of Foreign Affairs where they were called to raise the issue of medical neglect that the prisoners suffer from within their institutions.

Addameer also participated in the activities and events held by PNGO including the annual
prisoners’ day and the weekly solidarity protests in front of the ICRC.

Furthermore, at the international level, Addameer applied for membership to The United Nation’s Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and The World Organization Against torture (OMCT). Addameer was admitted to the OMCT, and thus far, has been able to provide them with information regarding administrative detention. Addameer’s membership in ECOSOC will be discussed in 2012. Addameer was also active with international donors, including the Spanish Organizations Network, Christian Aid, ICCO and others. The relationship with such organizations strengthened throughout this period, especially during the hunger strike, where Addameer provided them with the relevant information, documents and updates.

Moreover, Addameer highlighted prisoner issues through the PCHRO and published eight press releases during this period as part of a collective effort for international and local advocacy.

**Conclusions:**

The effort to build a wider support network for Addameer continues, which will further our goals to raise awareness and support for prisoners rights. In this regard, we can say that we are making tangible progress. Due to our advocacy efforts, Addameer is now considered a main reference for local and international organizations who rely on the information we provide to contribute effectively in raising the issue of prisoners and the human rights violations against Palestinians in general. A significant development was witnessed during the hunger strikes in September regarding organizing and collaborating with local and international partners, which we will continue into 2012.
Output Three:
Develop local, regional, and international advocacy campaigns

Direct results:
1. Increase in the number of campaign participants.
2. Increase in requests for information and campaign material.

Activities and achievements:

- Stop Administrative Detention campaign:

Addameer continued working on the Stop Administrative Detention campaign to highlight the IOF’s practices of holding detainees without charge or trial. This included distributing campaign materials to all participating organizations, updating previous case studies and documenting new cases, including that of Ahmad Qatamish, who is considered a prisoner of conscience by Amnesty International. Addameer collaborated with Amnesty International on their report providing information and legal decisions regarding his condition. The legal analysis report was also updated and an Arabic version released.

In addition, Addameer presented a paper regarding administrative detention at the International Conference for the Support of Prisoners, which was held in Morocco on the 23rd of January 2011. In March 2011, Addameer raised the issue of administrative detention at a conference held in Vienna by the International Committee on Palestinian rights at the UN. The issue was also raised to all of the official parties that Addameer met with during 2011, such as the European Parliament and especially in the
EU’s meetings with the Ministry of Prisoners in December.

Addameer also filed four international complaints for administrative detainees to the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention.

Addameer was successful in raising the issue of administrative detention through its special role in the solidarity campaign for Khader Adnan, who launched an open hunger strike that lasted 66 days, during which Addameer was able to recruit the solidarity of many international officials to pressure the occupation to release him. Some of these international officials included the European Parliament, most of the European consulates and representatives, various bodies of the UN, in particular Richard Falk, the Special Rapporteur on Palestine, as well as many other international human rights organizations.

These efforts were made with the cooperation of many local human rights organizations, especially Physicians for Human Rights–Israel and members of the PCHRO.

- **Prisoners at Risk Campaign:**

  This year, Addameer launched a new campaign called ‘Prisoners at Risk’, in which four prisoners’ cases with special conditions are highlighted each year in our broader advocacy campaigns. The launch of the campaign, 17 April 2011, coincided with the annual Palestinian Prisoner’s Day.

  The first case highlighted was Ayed Dudeen, an administrative detainee, whose detention was renewed over thirty times. The campaign was launched through a press release and a letter campaign to the occupation’s government. Briefings were also sent to EU governments to introduce them to the case. Addameer also produced a video clip with interviews with his family members and created a Facebook page for him where 37 people joined in the first 10 days.
On the 9th of June 2011, Ayed Dudeen was released which demonstrated only a partial success of the campaign as Ayed Dudeen was re-arrested less than four months later.

Ahmad Qatamish was chosen to be the second case of the ‘Prisoners at Risk’ campaign. Ahmad’s case was raised as an example of arbitrary detention that affects freedom of expression since he is a writer and a university lecturer. The material for the campaign was prepared and distributed to all concerned parties, as in Ayed Dudeen’s case.

- **Human rights defenders campaign:**

  Addameer worked on pressuring the EU through the British consulate to adopt and implement a clear strategy to protect human rights defenders. In addition, the Documentation Unit and the Advocacy Unit at Addameer presented a case study of Nabi Saleh village at a conference in Britain. This presentation highlighted the popular resistance and subsequent arrests in the village in both the English and Arabic language.

- **Letter writing campaign:**

  Addameer’s long-standing letter writing campaign is still providing necessary information to citizens who send letters to female prisoners, children, and administrative detainees. Addameer provides monthly updated contact information to solidarity groups in France, Canada, Holland, and Britain.

  These solidarity groups regularly send solidarity letters to prisoners and to the government of the occupation to advocate for their release.

- **Special focus on arrests in Jerusalem:**

  Addameer worked on collecting information on the continuous arrest campaigns in Jerusalem, where regular arrest campaigns target hundreds of citizens, children in particular. Addameer also prepared a fact sheet on the arrests in Jerusalem that took place on the anniversaries of
the Nakba and the Naksa. The fact sheet was included in the quarterly newsletter published by Addameer.

- **Special efforts on isolation, children and female prisoners:**

  During the year Addameer worked on updating isolation case studies to include in the quarterly newsletter, and compiled information on new cases of isolated prisoners.

  During the previous period, Addameer monitored the arrests of children, especially in Jerusalem. A fact sheet regarding this matter was prepared and sent to the EU.

  Addameer also regularly updates the list of female prisoners and sends the information to organizations which regularly send letters of solidarity to the prisoners. On March 8th, a number of activities were held in France and Holland highlighting the issue of prisoners, and activists collected over 1,000 signatures on a petition demanding the release of all Palestinian prisoners immediately. In addition, a number of activities were organized for Women’s Day at the UN at the time of the 16th session of the Human Rights Council.

**Conclusions:**

The number and size of international action for prisoners’ rights have increased remarkably this year, particularly in terms of activities that have been implemented in various countries on several commemoration days including Women’s Day and Prisoners’ Day. These actions were also evident during the hunger strike, which reflects the success of Addameer’s campaigns and spotlighting the issue of prisoners at the international level.
Output Four:

Generate international public support to hold Israel to account and to pressure it to change its policies and practices.

Direct results:

1. An increase in reports and individual complaints distributed to concerned international organizations, including UN bodies.
2. An increase in information requests to Addameer by international official institutions.
3. An increase in decisions and statements by international official institutions condemning the Israeli occupation and demanding it to change its policies.

Activities and Achievements:

On the 16th of March 2011, Addameer participated in the Human Rights Council at the UN, where it presented an oral statement to the Council.

A group of meetings were also held with the Arbitrary Detention Committee, which was very supportive of the administrative detention issue and promised to apply for a visit in this regard to the Occupying Authority, the Special Rapporteur and the Human Rights Defenders Rapporteur.

Addameer also endorsed 10 statements published by the PCHRO. It also participated in a meeting with the High Commissioner of Human Rights at the UN, along with a group of Palestinian institutions, providing both written and oral statements and a comprehensive report about the reality of Palestinian prisoners and detainees. Addameer also met with the Special Rapporteur, Richard Falk, in Amman and raised the issue of Palestinian prisoners and arrests of children in particular. These meetings played an important role in supporting the issue of the prisoners during the hunger strike.
Seven international complaints were filed, four regarding administrative detention, two regarding torture and one regarding a human rights defender.

Addameer updates information regarding human rights defenders and child arrests in Jerusalem on a regular basis. Such information is used in meetings with the EU and the UN. The Belgian Parliament was also provided with a paper about child arrests in Jerusalem, which was presented in a meeting with the parliament. Addameer also provided the International Parliamentary Union and Amnesty International with information regarding Palestinian detainees.

Moreover, Addameer prepared for a speaking tour in Britain which included videos recorded by Addameer on administrative detention and other issues concerning both male and female prisoners and human rights defenders’ issues.

Addameer consistently updated the website throughout the year by uploading reports, research papers, press releases and other publications prepared by Addameer. We also launched a new website in both English and Arabic. Addameer continued to publish updates on its Facebook and Twitter accounts, which led to the widespread reach of the organization’s updates.

Addameer also published four copies of the quarterly electronic newsletter in English and Arabic. This newsletter included stories and updates on cases Addameer follows, as well as information about the conditions of prisoners, and in prisons and detention centers.

Addameer also issued 38 statements in English and 33 in Arabic and endorsed numerous statements issued by partner coalitions such as the PCHRO. The organization also organized a number of interviews with prisoners’ families. Addameer staff participated in dozens of local and international radio interviews including Aljazeera Arabic, Aljazeera English, Russia Today, France Radio, Shams Radio, Ajyal, Al Quds TV, Al Arabiyya and others. It also prepared 19 news briefings and distributed them to media including Reuters, Associated Press, CNN and the Independent.

Addameer published and distributed a female prisoners’ brochure in English, which was then translated into both French and Spanish. Preparations for the brochure and the Military Courts booklet were started in 2011 and will be printed in 2012.

During 2011, Addameer met with 45 delegations from several countries including the United
States, France, Britain, Belgium and others and provided official parties like the EU Council with resources on the prisoners exchange deal. This occurred after the meeting of Mr. Mahmoud Abbas’ with Mrs. Ashton, the EU’s foreign policy chief.

In December 2011, Addameer participated in an international conference held in Morocco and presented a paper regarding administrative detention. Addameer also participated in an international conference held in the UN and raised the issue of administrative detention, military courts and violation of international law regarding these two issues. Board member, Mr. Nasser Al Rayes, participated with the Palestinian Committee, which emerged from the first Palestinian prisoners’ conference, held in Jericho in 2010.

Addameer conducted two field tours in Britain in cooperation with our partners, Christian Aid, which included meetings with university students, solidarity groups, local institutions and networks, as well as a meeting with the officer of the Middle East office of the British Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Addameer also participated in a visit to Brussels along with the Ministry of Prisoners, DCI, Al-Haq and other human rights institutions. The visit included meetings with the Belgian parliament, Al Mashreq group in the EU, representatives from the office of foreign affairs in the EU, as well as members of the European Parliament.

**Conclusions:**

Addameer continued with its efforts to build an international and local supportive environment which pressures the occupation regarding the issue of prisoners.

Moreover, the continuous demands and requests for information by different parties such as media, official institutions, and international activists and human rights organizations indicate that we are moving in the right direction and that we must intensify our efforts and develop them in order to push toward changing the current situation.

This is indeed what happened in Khader Adnan’s campaign where Addameer was in constant contact with the Palestinian representative office at the EU, through which, information was provided to the foreign affairs office in the EU, Al Mashreq Group, and the chairman of the Parliament. There was direct pressure on the occupation by the European side in Khader Adnan’s case, which eventually led to his release.
Second General Objective:
Ensure that legislation, policies and practices of the Palestinian Authority are committed to the standards and provisions of International Human Rights Law with regard to arrest, detention, imprisonment and penalties.
The year 2011 witnessed crucial changes in Palestine, the most important change being the signing of the reconciliation deal between Fatah and Hamas, which came as a result of the political changes in the region and after the leaders of both parties, responded to public pressure which emerged across a range of mass activities in the West Bank and Gaza.

The Palestinian public with the participation of civil society and the political forces launched a campaign that aimed to end this division. Addameer participated immensely in this campaign through its membership in PNGO and the PCHRO as well as its relationship with the Independent Youth Movement. The participants in these activities were exposed to repressive acts by security forces in both Gaza and the West Bank. Many activists were arrested by the Palestinian Authority during their participation in these activities and Addameer played a role in defending these activists.

Unfortunately, the case of political detention has not ceased completely despite the signing of the reconciliation deal. Not all political prisoners have been released, and the security forces are still practicing torture against prisoners, while other violations of human rights have also continued. For example, after the reconciliation deal, security forces in the West Bank have regularly called many citizens in for interrogation and have also banned many activists in Gaza from travelling.

Although the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank announced its intention not to use military procedures against civilians, Addameer has not witnessed any changes. The PA continues to arrest civilians on the basis of their political affiliation bringing them before civil courts based on a procedure that flagrantly violates Palestinian Basic Law.
First Strategic Objective:
Activation of Addameer’s role in developing a Palestinian judicial system that guarantees accountability of violations of rights contained in International Human Rights law.

Output One:
Provide legal aid for political detainees.

Direct Results:
1. An increase in the number of cases brought to the judicial system and an increase in the success of these cases.
2. An increase in the number of complaints filed against the violations of rights and an increase in positive results.
3. An increase in the number of visits to detention and interrogation centers, and an increase in the documentation of violations.

Activities and achievements:
This year witnessed a significant decrease in the number of political prisoners due to several reasons, the most important being the reconciliation deal and the political changes in the region.

According to Addameer’s work plan for 2011, 200 cases of political detention were supposed to be provided with legal aid but as a result of the decreased number of political prisoners, Addameer provided legal aid for only 40 prisoners. A total of 24 petitions were brought to the Palestinian High Court on illegal arrests and Addameer lawyers attended 47 court sessions and succeeded in receiving 11 release orders.
Addameer applied for 27 visits to PA prisons but was only able to visit five prisoners in seven visits. Addameer also filed 26 complaints to the Attorney General regarding the issue of illegal detention yet he did not acknowledge that the detention procedures are illegal.

Addameer represented five prisoners before Palestinian civil courts, with Addameer attending 9 sessions concerning these cases. Addameer also filed three release requests and received a release order for Mohannad Issa while all the others were rejected.

Addameer received an order of innocence in the case of Saleem Muletat, which Addameer had been following since 2009. The court released him on bail at the time. Addameer represented this case in courts from 2009 until February 2011, when he received an order of innocence.

Addameer also collected 19 affidavits relating to torture from released prisoners and families of political detainees. These affidavits included cases of torture, pressuring family members, ill treatment and other violations.

Three case studies for political detainees that were on hunger strike for 50 days and subsequently released, were completed in Arabic. These detainees include Majd Obeid, Ahmad OwioWi and one case study was completed in English for Walid Hasayneh.
Output Two:
Participate in cooperation with others in developing relevant legislation.

Direct Results:
1. Propose amendments to existing law and draft new laws and procedures in related topics.
2. Actively participate in workshops organized for this purpose.

Activities and Achievements:
No new laws or amendments have been passed in recent years because the PLC has been paralyzed as a result of political division. Addameer is still monitoring the Presidential Decrees that replaced the PLC. It is also participating in some of the workshops specialized in this aspect (such as military law).

The organization participated, through its membership in PNGO, in reviewing the amendment issued by the Council of Ministers concerning the Institutions Act and the transfer of funds to the state treasury in the case of issuing a decision to close an institution. This contradicts with the Institutions Act and the Basic Law and is also a serious violation of the institution’s work. A statement was issued and a press conference was held regarding this matter.

Second Strategic Objective:
End punishment in laws and the implementation of codes that are in contravention with international human rights law and legal standards, focusing on torture and the death penalty. Addameer continued to monitor and document uses of torture and violations of human rights in the Palestinian territories. In the absence of the Legislative Council as a legislative authority and the political reality imposed as a result of political division, Addameer was not able to influence the change of laws and legislation or to push in the direction of enactment of laws that take human rights into consideration. However, Addameer was able to work with a number of Palestinian institutions in order to change this reality such as working to end political division through the PNGO.
Output One:

Monitoring, documenting and publishing materials relating to the use of torture and death penalty under the Palestinian Authority.

Addameer continues to monitor and document human rights violations and death penalties in the Palestinian territories.

Direct Results:

1. An increase in the number of regular visits to detention centers and prisons.
2. An increase in the number of affidavits collected.
3. Issuance of papers and reports on torture and the death penalty.
4. An increase in the distribution and publications of these reports, as well as an increased public satisfaction with the publications.

Activities and Achievements

Addameer conducted only seven visits to PA detention centers and prisons during 2011 even though according to the work plan 50 visits were planned to be conducted. The reasons of this failure relates to the ban on visits imposed on our lawyers by the security forces, and the decline of the Document of Understanding between Coalition Against Torture and the Ministry of Interior which would allow the Coalition Against Torture to conduct regular visits to detention centers and prisons.

Nevertheless, Addameer documented the use of torture through interviews with released detainees or with families of detainees that were subjected to such violations. Three of the affidavits included being subjected to torture, four related to violations against families, four related to detention conditions, three to ill treatment, one related to being subjected to threats, one related to interrogation conditions and one related to the violation of the right to receive medical treatment.

During this period, Addameer published the PA violations report, which monitored torture throughout the years 2009 and 2010. Addameer also monitored death penalty orders issued against Palestinians during this period where three penalty orders were issued in courts in Gaza and one death penalty order was implemented which is a flagrant violation of the Palestinian Basic Law as it was not signed by the Palestinian President.
Output Two:

Build lobbying and Advocacy Campaigns.

Addameer did not independently build any campaign on the issue of PA violations such as torture or the death penalty. However, it continued to work on these issues in cooperation with PNGO, PCHRO and others that worked on the subject of political division. This coalition held many activities during 2011 such as participating in protests against the division, holding seminars and TV episodes that address topics related to freedom and violations committed by many official parties.

PNGO organized a conference entitled “The role of NGO’s in promoting the reconciliation deal.” Many representatives of political forces, NGO’s and human rights activists participated in the conference which concluded with a number of recommendations including the necessity of moving quickly to deal with the impacts of the division on democratic life, closing the political detention file and the reopening of closed associations.

The results of this campaign were positive on some levels such as the practice of torture, military courts and ending some practices like targeting various institutions. However, this change was not fundamental as it was not accompanied with serious accountability and it was not connected with related amendments. This means that such practices are connected with the political situation and other issues and does not reflect a democratic political system that respects the individual and their freedom in an equal society.
Output Three:
Actively participate in local, regional and international coalitions.

Direct Results:
1. Addameer plays an active and effective role with the Coalitions against Torture and Death Penalty.
2. Addameer plays an active and effective role in the PCHRO and the National Campaign for Defending Freedoms.
3. Addameer increases its participation in activities demanding an end to torture and the death penalty.

Activities and Achievements

With regards to the Coalition against Torture, a work plan was prepared at the beginning of the year. Through the first four months of the year the Coalition’s work plan focused on achieving a document of understanding with the Ministry of Interior to allow regular visits to PA detention centers, but after numerous meetings with the Human Rights Unit in the Ministry, they declined to allow visitation rights without providing concrete reasons.

Amongst the most prominent activities that were completed during this period was participating in a seminar on torture held in Salfit where Addameer presented a paper about torture. In total, 80 citizens and security forces participated.
Addameer also produced a brochure that introduces the Coalition and it was distributed at the conference held on the World Day against Torture.

Addameer was unable to work directly with the Coalition Against the Death Penalty. However, the effort was limited to monitor and document the courts decisions and implementation of the death penalty. It should be noted that this Coalition is no longer active.

Addameer participated in the coordinating committee of the PNGO and through this Addameer was a part of the networks movements and followed up some fundamental files regarding political and civil rights in the occupied territory. Examples include following up on issues relating to division, elections, freedom of expression, political detention, and freedom of forming assemblies.

The PCHRO monitored these fundamental issues directly and it also intervened on the level of networking and pressuring the Palestinian political leadership at international level, as it held a number of meetings with officials such as the UN, and consulates and embassies of different countries in the occupied Palestinian territories.

**Conclusions:**

There are still political divisions despite the resolves in the Cairo Agreement, and therefore the agreed upon unity government has not been formed thus far, nor have prisoners been released. By the end of 2011 it was clear that there are some practices that indicate that we are moving in the direction of a police state rather than to a democratic system, such as an attempt to intervene with the work of civil society institutions. This calls for strengthening the coordination and joint action at the level of local networks and coalitions.
It was agreed as part of PNGO’s framework to form a legal committee to defend NGO’s in case of governmental violations against them.

It was also agreed on strengthening the role of the PCHRO through building a joint annual work plan that considers all of the areas in which the council can be effective and active as a political and civil rights defender in Palestinian society. Hence, a convening of council members will be held at the beginning of 2012.
Third general objective:
Development of society and institutions protecting civil and political rights of individuals and groups for whom such rights have been violated.
Recognizing the role of civil society in protecting and promoting a democratic culture and safeguarding the rights and freedoms to build a Palestinian state based on respecting the individual as a human being and as an effective member in his/her community, Addameer believes that it must play a role in supporting this process through its relationships and membership in different local coalitions with the civil institutions and through direct intervention with youth, who are the key to change in the Palestinian community. For this reason, Addameer has been seeking throughout the last two years to develop Addama’ir program that targets young leaders to develop their capabilities in the field of political and civil rights.

**Output One:**

*Creating groups for raising awareness in the field of civil and political rights within their communities.*

Addameer has developed a program that targets young leaders who are prepared to take an active role in bringing about change to society. Of course, the Israeli occupation and its crimes are the first fundamental obstacle in the way of an independent Palestinian state that respects human rights. But unfortunately, the PA has also practiced violations of rights against Palestinians throughout the years through political and media repression. Therefore, there is an urgent need to spread awareness regarding basic citizen’s rights and the ways to protect them and confront these violations through a variety of tactics such as media, lobbying campaigns, and using modern techniques of social networking.

Addameer realizes that there are dozens of awareness raising educational programs in the field of human rights that target Palestinian youth. For this reason the program was built on two levels; the first is the theoretical level which provides knowledge and information regarding political and civil rights, how to build advocacy and lobbying campaigns, fundamental principles of organizing, such as project management and fundraising, leadership patterns, amongst others. The second level entails practical activities as an application of the lessons learned at the first level. Addameer accompanies these groups through this phase in order to provide them with guidance and experience.

Addameer also conducted a periodic evaluation by consulting experts in the field in order to evaluate all aspects of the program. This evaluation will be our guide to develop the program.
Output Two:

Creation of local youth groups to increase their knowledge and develop their working capabilities in the field of raising political and civil rights awareness within their own communities.

Direct results:

1. Establishment of youth groups that have the knowledge and ability to work on political and civil rights issues within their communities.

2. Public support and satisfaction of the work of their groups.

3. Participants’ satisfaction and commitment to the program.

Activities and achievements:

The introductory meeting in December 2010 was attended by 37 young men and women. Following this initial meeting, 25 were selected to receive training after identifying their needs based on a questionnaire that was distributed in the first meeting.

Addameer implemented 94 training hours in different fields such as training skills, facilitation and identification of needs, resource management, activity management, and management and implementation of campaigns, in addition to participating in a number of events and activities.

These trainings aim to provide the participants with knowledge and skills needed to reach out to the community and influence them so they can mobilize a supportive public movement on their issues. Reaching out to an active supportive base should make a change in the community and direct it to a better reality.

After identifying the needs, the theoretical training began by identifying the needs of the community, facilitation skills, and training the trainers. Following this training, the group was divided into three working groups to carry out practical training in order to identify specific
needs in the area chosen by the group. For example, the Nablus group chose the theme of children’s right to education and preventing the children from dropping out of schools. On this matter, they met with the office of Ministry of Labor in Nablus, and obtained the title of monitors to participate in reducing this phenomenon.

The Jenin group chose the subject of freedom of expression and an activity was coordinated to be held in Arab American University in Jenin. The Tul Karem group chose the theme of public freedom.

The trainings included an introduction to international humanitarian law and international human rights law as well as the international mechanisms to protect rights and freedoms. In addition, the training included the subject of project management, budgeting, and fundraising. This was followed by the implementation of activities on the issue of prisoners on Prisoners’ Day, where the Tul Karem group implemented a day of entertainment to the children of prisoners in cooperation with the youth development association and the women’s programs center. The event was attended by 50 children and their families.

The Jenin group built a tent that displayed vignettes on 100 prisoners from Jenin that are serving a life sentence. Their pictures were displayed as well as a brief description of their lives. Some of the prisoner’s handcraft and artwork were also displayed. The exhibition included a wall containing the names of 500 prisoners from Jenin. They also participated in the central Prisoner’s Day demonstration during which they lit 5,770 candles representing the number of prisoners in Israeli prisons.

The Nablus group conducted a number of field visits to the homes of prisoners in the city in solidarity with them and their families on Prisoner’s Day.
The group was trained to build campaigns, which included an analysis of the political status quo, as well as a review and evaluation of local and international campaigns in support of the Palestinian cause. The group also received training on the principles of motivating adults, the recruitment and leadership, public participation, communication skills, and others.

The last workshop emphasized evaluation where we used a team of experts in the field. The meeting concluded with a number of recommendations such as the need of creating groups that focus their work on issues related to the work of Addameer so that Addameer will be able to direct the group in a more effective manner.

**Conclusions:**

The program was successful although the groups were unable to work on bigger issues as was expected. Most of their activities were limited and focused on the issue of detention. The evaluation highlighted the importance of better communication between the groups and Addmeer. Therefore, the program requires constant monitoring by Addameer to better support and guide the groups.

One of the most important recommendations of the evaluation team was that there must be an emphasis on the basic concepts of building a community group and developing its identity. Once this is established, the emphasis can move to a specific issue such as the prisoner’s issue which is the core of Addameer’s work, and thus the organization guarantees the ongoing process of monitoring and follow-up, and creates groups of solidarity surrounding the issue of prisoners.
Fourth general objective:
Develop the organization’s capacities to achieve its goals.
First strategic objective:
Provision of an environment that allows the staff to work towards realizing their work plans and activities effectively and efficiently.

Output One:
Develop internal by-laws and procedures and implement regular administrative and financial procedures.

Direct Result:
1. Appropriate procedures and regulations are in a place and are being utilized.
2. Procedures and regulations adhere to the relevant laws.

Activities and Achievements
The General Assembly held its annual meeting on 18/06/2011 where new members were added to the body and a new Board of Directors was chosen. The administrative and financial reports were approved. The Board of Directors held their regular meetings and followed-up the implementation of the strategies and work plans of the organization.

Addameer held monthly meetings to evaluate the implementation of the work plan and strategic goals of the organization. In addition, bi-annual and annual evaluations took place.

The Administrative and Financial Unit conducted a human resource management follow-up for the organization in a professional and effective manner through implementing all the financial and administrative procedures as planned. A comprehensive review of the work plans of each unit was completed and edited. Regarding the administrative and financial work directory, the implementation of suggested changes is delayed for 2012 when professional training by the NGO Development Center will take place.
Output Two:
Develop the professional capacities of Addameer staff.

Direct results:
1. Recruitment of professional staff.
2. Staff participation in training programs and workshops.
3. Staff satisfaction.

Activities and Achievements

Addameer added a new staff position in May, entitled local media coordinator, to manage and facilitate local media relations. The organization also employed a replacement worker for the coordinator the Documentation Unit while the coordinator was on maternity leave. A new lawyer was also employed to work on Salem Court cases and to follow-up the political detention file in the north. The Board of Directors also approved a new position entitled “Administrative and Financial Affairs Coordinator”.

To facilitate the development of the staff’s capacities, Addameer sponsored several staff members to attend professional courses. Two of the staff members participated in a course with Al Haq entitled: “Application of the International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law.” One of the staff members participated in a course with Al Bireh Municipality on the subject of Archiving Libraries to contribute to developing the internal archiving system of the organization. One of the staff members participated in a project-writing course with the British Academy. Three staff members participated in a course on the subject of measurement and evaluation indicators with our partners Christian Aid, in cooperation with Diakonia.

A new internal mechanism was developed to exchange information through periodic meetings for each unit where the most important news and changes are discussed as well as developing work mechanisms.
Second Strategic Objective:
Develop the organization’s sustainability.

Output One:
Develop external networks locally, regionally and internationally.

Direct Results:
1. An increase in requests for information from the organization.
2. An increase in requests and invitations for the organization to take part in activities and conferences, locally and internationally.
3. An increase in the number of funding partners.
4. An increase in the overall funds and individual contribution.

Activities and Achievements
The organization’s professional performance on the issue of political prisoners in particular, and human rights in general, strengthened its relationships at the local and international levels and reflected the trust of the local community, international human rights institutions and official parties.

Addameer was invited to participate in most of the activities related to human rights by official Palestinian parties like the Ministry of Prisoners, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice and the different human rights organizations and coalitions. Furthermore Addameer was invited to participate in a number conferences, workshops and meetings at the international level.
Through its membership in the PCHRO and PNGO, Addameer was able to play a significant role in the fundamental discussion regarding the funding policies and the main conditions imposed by donors. Addameer also played a role in discussing Israeli institutions attacks that target local Palestinian institutions, especially during the BDS campaigns. For example, the Israeli NGO Monitor tried to pressure the Dutch government by questioning its funding and support of Palestinian human rights organizations like Addameer, Al-Haq, DCI and others.

The board of directors also discussed the economic situation at the international level and the effects of the economic changes on the future of funding as well as supporting the organization’s vision and goals in respect to Addameer’s independence. Furthermore, these changes would not impose any kind of conditions on Addameer unless they are compatible with the organization’s principles, human rights as well as international law.

The Board of Directors and the General Assembly recommended working on creating new relationships with the Arab world and reactivation of some of the local relations to guarantee the development of future of financial support.

The organization was successful in building new relationships with new international organizations, such as OXWOR and Ipala but the future of these relationships is not clear to this moment despite presenting joint projects with these institutions. Addameer also gained the trust of new supporters, such as the UNDP.
Appendices
### Appendix (1)

#### Table 1: Number of visits by type of detention facility

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Appendix (2)
Selection of Addameer Media Coverage


- MWC News (Internet) ‘Commemorating Palestinian Political Prisoners’ 24/04/11 http://aljazeera-news.net/focus/analysis/10237-palestinian-political-prisoners.html

- PRESS TV (TV & Internet) ‘Rallies Held to Show Solidarity with Palestinian Prisoner’s’ 06/10/11 http://www.presstv.ir/detail/203159.html


- The Electronic Intifada (Internet) ‘Children not except from widespread torture in Israeli Detention’ 06/07/11 http://electronicintifada.net/content/children-not-exempt-widespread-torture-israeli-detention/10143

richard-goldstone-report-gaza


Addameer Prisoner Support and Human Rights Association

Addameer (Arabic for conscience) is a Palestinian non-governmental, civil institution that focuses on human rights issues. Established in 1992 by a group of activists interested in human rights, the center offers support to Palestinian prisoners and detainees, advocates for the rights of political prisoners, and works to end torture through monitoring, legal procedures and solidarity campaigns.

Addameer is surrounded by a group of grassroots supporters and volunteers, Addama’er, who share Addameer’s beliefs and goals, actively participate in its activities, and endeavor to support Addameer both financially and morally.

Addameer is a member of the Palestinian NGO Network, the Palestinian Coalition for the Defense of Civil Rights and Liberties, and the Regional and International Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty. Addameer is also a member of the International Network against Torture.

Addameer believes in the importance of building a free and democratic Palestinian society based on justice, equality, rule of law and respect for human rights within the larger framework of the right to self-determination.

Addameer strives to:
- End torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
- Abolish the death penalty
- End arbitrary detention and arrests
- Guarantee fair, impartial, and public trials
- Support political prisoners by providing them with legal aid and social and moral assistance and undertaking advocacy on their behalf
- Push for legislation that guarantees human rights and basic freedoms and ensure its implementation on the ground
- Raise awareness of human rights and rule of law issues in the local community
- Ensure respect for democratic values in the local community, based on political diversity and freedom of opinion and expression
- Lobby for international support and solidarity for Palestinians’ legitimate rights

Addameer’s programs:
- Legal Aid: Addameer provides free legal counseling and representation to Palestinian detainees and their families. Services include legal defense; regular visits to prisons, detention and interrogation centers; submission of petitions and complaints against cases of torture, ill-treatment and other violations.
- Research and Documentation: Addameer documents violations committed against Palestinian detainees, monitors their detention conditions through regular lawyers’ visits, and collects statistics and lists of detainees, providing the basis for the publication of research papers and reports.
- Advocacy and Lobbying: Addameer publishes statements and urgent appeals on behalf of detainees, submits alternative reports and complaints to the United Nations and other international forums, and briefs international delegations as well as the media on the situation of Palestinian prisoners. The advocacy and lobbying unit also works towards building local, Arab and international solidarity campaigns to oppose torture and arbitrary detention while supporting the rights of Palestinian prisoners.
- Training and Awareness: Addameer raises local awareness regarding prisoners’ rights on three levels: by training Palestinian lawyers on the laws and procedures used in Israeli military courts to improve their efficiency; by increasing the prisoners’ own knowledge; and by reviving grassroots human rights activism and volunteerism and working closely with community activists to increase their knowledge of civil and political rights from an international humanitarian law and international human rights perspective.

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email: info@addameer.ps    Website: www.addameer.info