



Australian Federation
of Islamic Councils

Sen the Hon Marise Payne

Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Women
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

By email

24 December 2021

Dear Minister

Re Mr Hisham Abu Hawash and other administrative detainees in Israeli prisons

I write to seek your representation for administrative detainees held in Israeli prisons without charge and without due process.

These are ordinary indigenous Palestinian citizens who had been arbitrarily arrested and administratively detained through Israeli military courts for indefinite periods without charge or due process.

In recent times, some of these unfortunate detainees have gone on extended hunger strikes, one in particular, Mr Hisham Abu Hawash who has been on a hunger strike for over 120 days in protest of the persecution he is enduring is at serious risk to his health. He must be freed immediately and treated at a civilian medical facility.

Minister, I do understand and appreciate Australia's friendship with Israel. Friends, Minister, advise their friends and check them when they are wrong, they don't just blindly endorse every action of their "friend". In this case, many respected international bodies have looked into the case of Mr Abu Hawash and have called for his immediate release and the release of other administrative detainees. I urge you minister to also call for the immediate release of these prisoners (including Mr Hisham Abu Hawash) and the facilitation of appropriate medical care at civilian facilities.

Kind regards,

Dr Rateb Jneid
President, AFIC

Australian Federation of Islamic Councils

*The peak body for Australian Muslims representing
State and Territory Islamic Councils and Societies*



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