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# The occupation continues to punish the Abu Khdeir family in the mother's prison on Women's Day

Mohamed Mohsen \_ Occupied Jerusalem

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Prisoner Abeer Abu Khdeir bids farewell to her children (The New Arab)

Line

This year, like many years before, the Israeli occupation interferes in the details of the life of the Abu Khdeir family, from the town of Shuafat, north of occupied Jerusalem, where the family's punishment has worsened, since the death of the child martyr Muhammad Abu Khdeir, who was burned to death by a group of extremist settlers, four years ago.

The occupation detained the Jerusalem feminist activist Abeer Abu Khdeir, the wife of the prisoner Nasser Abu Khdeir, in Ramle prison, in implementation of the decision of the occupation courts, which continue to abuse the family, whose members are divided between saying goodbye to the mother at the prison door, and visiting the father in another prison.

The farewell moments were difficult between the mother and her two sons, Asala (27 years old) and "Diyar" (14 years old). The mother hugged her two sons warmly and did not hide her tears, while the daughter hid the tears as she watched her mother, whom the occupation decided to miss on International Women's Day, and in the absence of the captive father, as if the family was destined to reunite, whenever they met or almost met under one roof, each of them parted on a way to the occupation prisons.

Mother Abeer has experienced the occupation prisons previously, as this is not the first time she has entered the prison. Previously, they would come to the family home at night sneaking in with their usual brutality. But this time, Abeer goes to them with her feet to turn herself in, after the judge of the occupation court decided to imprison her for two months, on charges of confronting the occupation soldiers and trying to prevent them from brutally assaulting her son.

On the journey to prison, her second daughter, Samoud Abu Khdeir, was not with her to say goodbye, as she left home early to visit her father in another Israeli prison, where he is serving a 14-month prison sentence.

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One night before turning herself in, the "New Arab" was in Beit Abeer, who spoke about another sentence, earlier, on her daughter Asala in public service in the occupation institutions for two months, while "Samoud" was sentenced to volunteer work for three hundred hours, and fines of 7, <> shekels in Israeli currency.

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According to Abeer, the case for which she was convicted dates back about seven years, against the background of the occupation soldiers storming the family home, and assaulting her eldest son Anan, and his two sisters, Asala and Samoud, and the mother was detained in the corner of the house and forcibly prevented from stopping the soldiers' assault on her two daughters, and they tried to arrest Samoud, so the mother and her daughter Asala intervened to prevent them, and here the soldiers assaulted them, and they dragged the mother until she lost consciousness, and only died inside the Russian Compound prison, where they were all detained for two days, before being released on bail, The family believed the case was over.

She says: "The occupation did not forget the incident, and we were surprised, more than a year after it happened, by reopening the file, and I was charged with assaulting a female soldier and obstructing the work of the occupation soldiers, and we entered into a lawsuit with them for years that ended with the issuance of sentences against us."



Abeer's husband, a leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), spent a total of fifteen years in Israeli prisons at varying intervals, interspersed with Abeer's arrest twice, in an attempt by the occupation to pressure the husband to extract confessions from him, and during her detention she spent weeks in prison cells.

During the past few years, she was arrested about 7 times for participating in popular activities

against the occupation, and in 2013, an Israeli court issued a decision against her to work for free and compulsory work in the occupation institutions for a period of 6 months, as well as to work in an institution to graduate training courses for occupation soldiers.

The unjust sentences of the occupation against the Jerusalem family have not yet ended, as there are still sentences issued and awaiting implementation, this time against the daughter Asala, a lawyer, who will serve the sentence of working free of charge next month in one of the occupation public institutions.

When we left the family home in Shuafat, the mother was still gathering her belongings with Samoud and Diyar, while the other daughter, who was ready to visit her father in prison and convey the mother's greeting and the family's longing for him, said goodbye to her father's morale, and his will was for his children to keep them steady, and that the prison doors would not be closed forever.

The sadness of Asala and Steadfastness and their brothers Anan and Diyar is deepened by the absence of both parents behind prison bars. Perhaps all of them will be deprived this year of celebrating their mother on Women's Day, and will not prepare gifts for her on Mother's Day, on the twenty-first of this month.

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