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## AFFIDAVIT

I the undersigned, **R.N.**, after being warned that I must tell the truth, and that I am subject to punishment set by law if I do not do so, hereby declare in writing as follows:

1. I was born in 1978 and live in the Khan Yunis refugee camp. For about two years, I have been serving in the Palestinian Police in Ramallah.
2. On the morning of 30 March 2002, IDF forces arrested me and many others in Ramallah.
3. At the time of our arrest, we were ordered to empty out our pockets and put the contents on the side. I took out two cellular phones, ID card, and NIS 150. Then the soldiers conducted a body search.
4. The soldiers bound our hands behind us with plastic handcuffs and took us to a schoolyard, where they blindfolded us and sat us on the ground.
5. The cuffs were very tight, preventing the flow of blood and causing extreme pain, particularly because I had broken two fingers on my right hand before the arrest.
6. I complained to the soldiers about the fierce pain from the handcuffs being so tight, but they ignored me. When I shouted in pain, soldiers came over to me, looked at my hand, but did nothing.
7. For four hours, my pain increased and my shouts got louder. Then a soldier grabbed me by the neck and led me to one of the classrooms in the school.
8. I was still crying out in pain. My palms had turned blue. Finally, one of the soldiers who saw my hands cut the cuffs. He cuffed my hands in front of me less tight than before.
9. In the afternoon, the soldiers took us to the Beit El army camp. We were a large group. They sat us on the ground.
10. It was rainy and cold at night. Our hands were bound, as I mentioned, and we were blindfolded. It was raining hard and we got wet. I tried as best I could to cover the bandage on my hand from the rain, worrying that it would get infected, but I was unsuccessful.

11. We passed the night like that, and it was the same the next day until the afternoon. The bitter cold, the rain and the handcuffs made it impossible to sleep. We did not receive any food or cigarettes throughout this entire period. We were told to sit with our head bent over. Every time somebody raised his head, he was liable to be cursed or beaten.
12. Sometimes we were given water to drink when we asked for it. It depended on the compassion of the particular soldier. Most of our requests to go to the bathroom were not granted, certainly not within a reasonable time. Sometimes after repeated requests, they would let us go.
13. There was in fact no bathroom, and we relieved ourselves outdoors. Of course, there was no toilet paper or other hygienic means.
14. The next day, I was taken for interrogation by the Shabak. While being questioned, I asked for medical treatment on my broken hand. The interrogator called to one of the soldiers. I thought he was to accompany me to the treatment. On the way, the soldier pressed by injured fingers, saying in anger, "You want a doctor?" I did not receive any medical care.
15. After that, I was taken to Ofer Camp, near Beituniya. I was put into a tent with another fifty or so detainees. When we got to the camp, the soldiers removed our handcuffs and our blindfolds.
16. The first night there, I was given my first meal after more than two days without food. Each detainee received half a matzo, a slice of chicken breast (schnitzel) and also one apple which he had to share with two other detainees. The schnitzel was completely frozen, so we had to wait for it to defrost before we could eat it! We did not receive enough food and were left with hunger pangs.
17. The very first night in the camp, there were not enough blankets and mattresses. We complained about this through the *shawish* (one of the detainees who mediated between the detainees and the army), but we were told that we had to wait until the next morning.
18. I was kept in the camp for ten days, until 9 April 2002. The conditions were harsh and inhumane. The people in charge of the camp clearly disregarded and neglected our basic needs as human beings, as set forth below.
19. Sleeping in the tents, in the cold and heavy rain during those days, was especially hard. The few mattresses that were supplied were so thin that we felt the hard ground. The lack of sufficient mattresses and blankets forced us to lie very close to each other.

In addition, the heavy rains penetrated the tents, which reduced even further the number of mattresses and blankets that we could use.

20. We were given three meals a day. For breakfast we received *one* cup of white cheese or humus to be shared by eight people, one matzo (and sometimes two) for each detainee, an apple for two or more people. The smokers received four or five cigarettes a day. For lunch, we received a piece of frozen schnitzel, matzo, and a piece of tomato. The schnitzel was always frozen, just having been taken out of the freezer, so we had to wait several minutes until the ice defrosted and we could eat it!
21. In the evening, we received a container of [white] cheese or a piece of schnitzel, like we had in the previous meals, along with a cucumber or piece of fruit that we shared among several of us. I should note again that the meals were insufficient and always left us hungry. The meals were not served on plates, but in small bowls. We were not given any eating utensils, not even from plastic, so we had to eat with our hands. Of course, there was no coffee, tea, or any beverage other than water.
22. From what I could tell, the amount of food we were given, its quality, and the conditions in which it was served were intended to keep us alive and no more than that.
23. The sanitary conditions were also poor. There were three toilet cubicles, but they were extremely filthy, and in some of them, the water did not flush. Also, there was no toilet paper.
24. There were also three shower rooms, but the water was usually cold. Sometimes the water was lukewarm, but it was never hot. I should mention that it was a very cold and rainy week. We were not given a change of clothes (underpants and other clothes), so that throughout our detention, we wore the same clothes that we were wearing when we were arrested! One towel was provided, once, for all the detainees in the tent, that is, for 50 people!
25. Every day there was at least one line-up of the detainees. During the line-up, we had to sit outside the tents in the cold on the wet ground.
26. During our detention, we were severed from the external world. We did not receive visits by anybody from the outside, not even by attorneys. Of course, there were no newspapers, radio, or television. In addition to the harsh conditions that I described, we did not know what to expect or what was going on outside. Worst of all, we did not know why we were being held in the camp.

27. In addition, I had a special problem, that I mentioned above, with my hand, and I needed medical care. One day, a doctor did come. He listened to the detainees' complaints, but all he did was give a pain reliever. I asked him to change my bandage at least. He said that he did not have any bandages. I stayed with the same bandage all the time I was in detention.
28. After ten days had passed, I was taken along with many others to a place near the Qalandiya refugee camp, where we were released. We did not get back our identity cards and other things that had been taken from us. Since then, I have been staying in the Qalandiya refugee camp. Without an identity card and in the present situation, it is impossible for me to leave the camp.
29. I would like to sum up and mention that this was without doubt the toughest period in my life. I never thought that I would be so humiliated and held in such contempt. Being cold and hungry, staying in filthy clothes, not being provided basic medical care, for example, for days on end. All these things left me with a harsh feeling of not being treated like a human being. Such treatment is not even proper for animals. From talking with other detainees, I know that many of them feel the same way.
30. Even though it is irrelevant, I would like to point out that I was not suspected of having committed any offense, and during the interrogation, no such suspicion was ever raised against me. I still have no idea why I was arrested, and why they had to detain me for ten days.
31. I declare that this is my name, my signature, and the contents of this affidavit, which was translated into Arabic for me, is the truth.

*[signed]*

R.N.

I hereby confirm that on 13 April 2002, the above individual who identified himself by verbal declaration because he did not have an identity card in his possession, appeared before me, Attorney Hisham Shabaita, in the Qalandiya refugee camp, and after I warned him that he must state the truth, and that he is subject to punishment set by law if he does not do so, confirmed the accuracy of this said declaration and signed it.

*[signed]*

Hisham Shabaita, Attorney

Lic. No.