

Human rights activist Mazin Qumsiyeh has been arrested by Israeli soldiers

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Human rights activist, Dr. Mazin Qumsiyeh, was arrested by Israeli soldiers along with two other Palestinians on early May 15, 2011 (Israel time) as he took part in non-violent, peaceful civil disobedience with people from many countries. Mazin's newsletter is one of the most valuable sources of information about the Palestinian struggle for justice I've come across. I think his courage, integrity, and empathic way of discussing the terrible treatment of the Palestinian people is a model for social justice activists throughout the world. Elsewhere in the West Bank, East Jerusalem, Gaza, and Golan Heights, dozens of people were wounded, including more than 150 at Qalandia checkpoint, during the Nakba events. (Nakba marks the creation of the state of Israel and is the occasion for protests against Israel's brutal treatment of Palestinians.) The Israeli government is now debating legislation that would ban Nakba protests.

We are asked to contact the US State Department, Senators, and Congresspersons about Israeli violations of human rights during Nakba and Mazin's continued detention. A video of Mazin being arrested is on youtube.