

*Democratic Palestine* is an English language magazine published with the following aims:

- Conveying the political line of progressive Palestinian and Arab forces;
- Providing current information and analysis pertinent to the Palestinian liberation struggle, as well as developments on the Arab and international levels;
- Serving as a forum for building relations of mutual solidarity between the Palestinian revolution and progressive organizations, parties, national liberation movements and countries around the world.

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## Table of Contents

- 3 Editorial
- 4 Occupied Palestine
  - Mass Uprising Heads Towards Land Day
- 6 Military Operations
- 7 Fighting Occupation in Gaza
  - One Woman's Story
- 11 Highlights of Palestinian Struggle
  - 1976 Hunger Strike in Ashkelon Prison
- 14 International Peace Conference?
- 17 Striving for Palestinian National Unity
- 18 Lebanon-Palestinian Camps Still Besieged
- 21 The US-Israeli Special Relationship
  - SDI Cooperation
- 24 Non-Jewish Zionism
- 26 'International Terrorism' and the West
- 29 Soviet Disarmament Breakthrough
- 30 The Philippines —
  - Taking Stock of 'People's Power'
- 33 Fathi Gaben
  - Palestinian Artist in Jabalia

## Free Abu Issam and All Political Prisoners in Jordan

In our last issue, we wrote about the massive arrests of patriots in Jordan, including the leading militant Azmi al Khawaja (Abu Issam), who is still being held by the Jordanian Central Intelligence. We have recently been informed that Abu Issam was beaten and tortured until he lost consciousness. The interrogators are still trying to get information from him by force. However, he has resisted all their attempts and confronted his captors with high morale. Abu Issam's wife has been prohibited from visiting him since his arrest two months ago.

In another incident related to political prisoners in Jordan, representatives of Amnesty International met with the wives of some of these prisoners. The wives explained what had happened to them, especially about being prevented from visiting their husbands. The Amnesty International representative related that the authorities had told him that the prisoners detained at the Central Intelligence are still being questioned after which they will be transferred to prison for trial, then released! Obviously, this is a big lie concocted by the Jordanian authorities to trick the in-

ternational organizations working for justice for political prisoners. The process described by the authorities corresponds to the formalities of Jordanian law, but the reality is that such

prisoners are held by the Central Intelligence for an indefinite period, sometimes years. Many are never brought to trial at all, much less speedily released.

