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A F F I D A V I T

I, the undersigned, S.A., after being warned that I must tell the truth and that I am subject to statutory punishment if I fail to do so, hereby declare in writing as follows:

1. I am a detainee being held in Nafta Prison. I was arrested at my home on 21 January 2003 and was taken to Hawareh, where I stayed for four days. From there, I was taken to Sallem for 24 hours for a hearing to extend my detention.

At the court hearing in Sallem, my attorney told me that I was going to be moved to Jalameh. When I got to Jalameh, I was taken to a doctor who gave me a routine examination. Then they put me in a cell. I managed to do my evening prayers. Then policemen in blue uniforms told me to get ready. I thought they were going to take me to interrogation, but they took me to a doctor. The doctor asked if I had any special medical problems. I replied that I suffered from rheumatism and that I had undergone two operations and was taking special medication. He gave me aspirin.

2. Then two policemen from the Nahshon unit, whose uniforms are more like the army than the policemen's blue uniforms, blindfolded me with a black cloth and put dark glasses on me and placed a cloth sack over my head.
3. They took me outside. It was winter, and I felt that I was outside. I heard a vehicle, and I asked the policeman who was holding me where they were taking me. He said that he was forbidden to say, and that he didn't even know where they were taking me.
4. They put me on the floor of a jeep and covered me with a blanket. The jeep drove for about 50 minutes, which I measured based on verses from the Koran that I recited during the trip.
5. I heard the sound of waves, so I think that we were near the sea.
6. When we arrived at our destination, they took me into a room and removed the blindfold. The room was empty. Ten soldiers in regular army uniforms came into the room. They made me undress completely and then searched me. It was very degrading, in particular because there were ten soldiers standing around when one would have been sufficient. The soldiers surrounded me and had clubs in their hands.
7. When they finished the search, a man in a white gown came in. I asked if he was a physician, and he replied that he was a *mumrad* ("medic" in Arabic). He took my blood pressure and temperature and asked if I had any special problems. I told him about the rheumatism and the two operations.
8. Then somebody in civilian dress came into the room. He spoke with the medic.
9. They blindfolded me again, the same way that they had done it previously, and bound my hands and legs, with a chain connecting the leg and hand shackles. They took me back to Jalameh.
10. One of the doctors in Jalameh checked me and made some records. Then they returned me in the same way to the other place. When I arrived, a doctor, and not a

medic, checked me. They did not skip making me undress completely and searching me, and I underwent the same humiliation as before. I had the nasty feeling that something bad was going to happen to me.

11. They did not give me back my clothes. They gave me a blue shirt and blue pants. They were not my size. I was very cold because they did not give me underpants.
12. They took me to a cell. My eyes were covered on the way to the cell, this time with a sack made from the same material as the clothes they had given me. The sack stayed with me all my time I was in the nameless facility.
13. They took me to the cell. The door was about 30-40 cm wide and it had a small slit in it. The walls were rough and totally black (even the door). There was very little light, which struck you in the eyes whether you were lying down or sitting, which made it hard to see things. The length of the cell was about the length of a mattress.

There were no toilet facilities. Rather, the cell had a large plastic can, which was intended to serve as a toilet. That bothered greatly. I suffered from terrible stomach pains. After 15 days there, I decided not to speak with the interrogator if they didn't let me go to a regular bathroom. Only then did they take me to a regular bathroom. The stench generated by the can every time I opened it was intolerable and stayed in the air. This situation was especially grave because the cell had no windows or any opening through which fresh air could enter.

14. From speaking with the interrogator, I realized that this cell was called "the grave" and that I would be taken to a more comfortable cell if I cooperated with the interrogator.
15. The cell had no water. They would bring in a pitcher of water three times a day, with the meals, but the water was not clean. I discovered this later on when I looked into the pitcher and saw food remnants and other garbage.
16. The meals were miserable: three pieces of bread, a quarter of a tomato, a half of a cucumber, and a roasted egg for breakfast.
17. For lunch, they served me a small amount of rice, or something like groats, and yogurt. At first, I did not eat it because of the weird color, something that I hadn't seen before. Later on, though, I realized the color resulted from the defective lighting in the room.
18. Before they brought me the food, before every meal, the soldier on guard would bang and bang on the door, which upset my peace and quiet, in a pestering way, and only then announce that the food had arrived and ask me to cover my head with the sack and go to the opposite side of the cell and place my hands on the wall.
19. At night, they used to come while I was sleeping and pound and kick the door to wake me up, and then ask if I needed to go to the bathroom. No matter what my reply was, they said, "Go to sleep. No bathroom."
20. The cell had a mattress and two blankets. They were not enough because it was winter and very cold, which made it very hard for me because of my rheumatism.
21. I was cold all the time, even when they took me from the "grave" to interrogate me. The corridors were very cold for me because I did not have sufficient clothing.

22. In the interrogation room of Captain Eldad, who was in charge of interrogations, there was a team of four interrogators, and it was cold there, too.
23. I asked Captain Eldad where I was. He told me that I was in a secret location, which serves as a secret army interrogation facility, intended for special cases. They did not bring everybody there. I thought that he was trying to frighten me.
24. The interrogations during the first three days took place in that room. They did not let me sleep. I was tied to a chair in the “shabah” position. They sat me on a wooden bench about a meter long in the corner of the room so that I was unable to lean on the back. They beat me during the interrogation. One of the interrogators, and Captain Eldad, too, would put their feet on my genitals in a very annoying way. My hands were bound. I told that captain that I had undergone an operation to that area of my body, and that he was hurting me and bothering me. He said that he was aware of that fact. The entire interrogation was characterized by abuse. Every time I gave a wrong answer, they beat me. More than once, I fell from the chair. The beatings they gave me were humiliating.
25. I didn't know if it was day or night. After the first three days of interrogation, they used to take me out to interrogation and twice a week to the doctor. The doctor did not check my specific medical problems, but gave me a general check-up> He asked questions of a psychological nature: what was I thinking about and what was I doing in the cell? I felt that they were putting psychological pressure on me. I was, in fact, suffering psychologically.
26. I stayed in the secret detention installation for about 30 days, all of them in the “grave” cell.
27. After 10 days had passed, one of the interrogators was bothered by my stench and asked them to take me to shower. That was the first time they took me to shower. They did not give me soap. All they did was turn on the water. During my 30 days in the installation, the interrogator sent me to shower three times, each time without soap. They did not give me a change of clothes after the shower, so I had to put back on the same shirt and pants that they gave me in the beginning.
28. However, every time that they brought me before the judge to extend my detention, they gave me the clothes I was arrested in, and when the hearing ended, they had me change back into the blue clothes. At one of the extension of detention hearings, I asked the judge to let me say something, and told him that they do not let me shower. He shook off my complaint and changed the period of the extension of my detention from 15 to 22 days. He was the judge in Jalameh a white beard. No attorney was with me at the hearing, only the judge and prosecutor.
29. After 25 days had passed, they transferred me to Jalameh. It was about five days after the day of the hearing on extending my detention. I met with a representative from the Red Cross, a woman named Dalfin, who was light-skinned and had blond hair. I told her that I was not being held in Jalameh, but in a secret detention facility. She said that she knew that, and that she had requested several times to meet with me.
30. After I met with her, the interrogations stopped. I spent about a week to ten days in the secret detention facility without being interrogated. During that time, I met with an interrogator twice, each time for five minutes.
31. Throughout the time that I was detained, I was totally isolated. I did not see other detainees. I saw only the interrogators. They repeatedly told me that nobody knows

where I was, and that they can keep me detained as long as they want, even 100 days. I had never been detained previously, except during the invasion in April, but I was not interrogated then.

32. Those remarks affected me greatly. There were many moments that I worried about what would happen to me. I did not know if I was going to leave there dead or alive, and whether they would cause me an injury or disability. I was really afraid.
33. At the end of the detention period, they returned me to Jalameh, where a policeman asked me some questions. If I didn't answer, they would return me to the secret facility. He took a statement from me. I told him about the detention conditions there, but that did not interest him. He said we was only a clerk, and his job was to take a statement and he had nothing to do with my conditions in the secret facility.
34. After I gave the statement, I was returned to the secret facility and spent two more days in the "grave" cell.
35. Late at night, an interrogator came and took me to the interrogation room to complete my statement. They called him "Avi" or "Effi."
36. The two other interrogators were "Yoni" and "Benny."
37. After the two days passed, they took me back to Jalameh, to Cell 11. I stayed there for 20 days.

[signed]
S. H.

Confirmation

I hereby confirm that on 8 July 2003, Mr. S.A. appeared before me, attorney Manal Hazzan, in Eshel Prison, Beer Sheva and identified himself by identity card number _____ (with whom I am personally acquainted) and after I warned him that he must tell the truth and that he is subject to statutory punishment if he does not do so, confirmed the accuracy of the above affidavit.

[signed]
Attorney