

Hassan al-Tamimi: Sightless Freedom

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*A few days ago, the inhabitants of Deir Nizam village, north of Ramallah, were shocked when they heard the news that one of the children of the village, **Hassan al-Tamimi**, 17, had lost his sight in Israeli jails as a result of deliberate medical negligence.*

Al-Tamimi's mother said that her son since childhood has been suffering from kidney and liver problems due to a major disturbance in protein absorption and he constantly needs a special diet and treatment program.

On 17th June, the Israeli occupation authorities decided to release al-Tamimi after his health deteriorated and he lost his sight, provided that his trial sessions continue as planned.

Mahmoud al-Tamimi, a relative of Hassan al-Tamimi, said that Hassan, who is one of the most loved boys in his village, used to play football before his detention, adding that the village residents were shocked by the news that he lost his sight.

"The Israeli occupation, which kills and imprisons children, does more than that," he continued.

Medical negligence

The lawyer at the Palestinian Prisoner Society **Ahmad Safiyya** said that the administration of the Israeli hospital **Shaare Zedek** decided to discharge Hassan al-Tamimi, and he is supposed to be transferred later to Palestine Medical Complex in Ramallah to complete his treatment.

Safiyya explained that this decision came despite the fact that Hassan needs a very special treatment program, especially after he lost his sight as a result of the deliberate medical negligence he was subjected to by the Israel Prison Service.

Evasion of responsibility

According to the Palestinian Prisoner Society, since he was arrested on 7th April, al-Tamimi has not been provided with the necessary drugs and food. He was transferred from Ofer jail to Shaare Zedek hospital after his health deteriorated on 27th May.

When al-Tamimi was admitted to the hospital, the Israel Prison Service informed his lawyer that it decided to release him but his trial sessions will be held as scheduled.

For its part, the Palestinian Prisoner Society said that this decision is an attempt to evade

responsibility for the crime committed against al-Tamimi.

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