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# **Palestinian Social Movements Documentation Form**



## **The Unified Palestinian Movement**

## Section One: Identifying Information

1. Name of the Movement: The Unified Palestinian Movement
2. Year of Establishment: 2018
3. Geographical Location/Spread: Governorates of the Occupied West Bank
4. Nature of the Movement (Multiple options can be selected):
  - Human Rights
  - Social
  - Economic
5. Does the movement have an official name or logo?
  - Yes, The Unified Palestinian Movement

## Section Two: Background and Foundation

Motivations and context that led to the launch of the movement (event/crisis/issue/demand):

The Unified Palestinian Movement began as a popular response to the rejection of the Social Security Law, which sparked widespread opposition among workers and employees due to the lack of transparency and weak trust in public fund management. Despite the government's agreement to amend the law, the movement emerged as a collective popular protest against policies affecting citizens' economic and social rights.

Over time, it evolved from a specific reaction into a general struggle framework addressing several key issues, including:

- Opposing financial and administrative corruption,
- Defending social and economic rights,
- Supporting other grassroots movements.

The movement is characterized by its independent and non-partisan nature, committed to collective action and peaceful civil pressure. It works to promote the concept of public accountability and the role of the street in influencing public policy.

6. Founding parties or groups (independents, activists, unions, institutions, etc.):  
Activists, unionists, and workers

7. Organizational structure (if any – leadership, coordination, committees, etc.):  
The movement has a spokesperson but no vertical structure; it relies on a horizontal network for managing its affairs.
8. Decision-making mechanism within the movement:  
Consultation and voting among founding members.
9. Is the movement officially registered?  
No, it is not officially registered, though it was registered as an electoral list before the general elections were canceled at the end of April 2021.

## Section Three: Goals and Mission

10. Short-term goals:
11. Amend the Social Security Law to ensure fairness, transparency, and real public oversight over the fund, without imposing burdens on citizens without real guarantees.
12. Combat financial and administrative corruption by exposing corruption cases in public institutions, demanding accountability, and halting the exploitation of public resources.
13. Advocate for social justice by raising the minimum wage to reflect the cost of living.
14. Reclaim public space and basic freedoms by ensuring the right to peaceful protest, stopping security harassment of activists, and reviving public debate on economic and social policies.
15. Long-term goals:  
To form an independent popular framework that represents the voice of the people and resists unjust policies through peaceful struggle. The aim is to demand social justice, reform unjust laws, fight corruption, and restore the citizen's role in shaping public decisions, thus enhancing freedoms and protecting dignity and fundamental rights.
16. Core message/vision of the movement:  
We are an independent, grassroots youth movement that believes in the right of citizens to express, organize, and hold others accountable. We strive to empower people with tools for collective influence through peaceful protest and to create public awareness capable of confronting injustice, corruption, and political division, while achieving social and political justice.

17. Target group(s) (youth, women, workers, marginalized areas, etc.):  
The general Palestinian population

## Section Four: Activities and Impact

18. Types of core activities:
- Demonstrations / Protests
  - Media campaigns
  - Community and educational meetings
  - Advocacy and lobbying
19. Examples of key activities implemented:
20. Cancellation of the Social Security Law: Led a series of large-scale protests that forced the government to withdraw the unjust version of the law, which had threatened workers' and employees' economic rights.
21. Support for the case of martyr Nizar Banat: Actively organized vigils and marches demanding accountability for the killing of human rights activist Nizar Banat, viewing the case as a test of respect for human rights in Palestine.
22. Support for doctors' and teachers' rights: Organized actions to back demands for improved working conditions and fair treatment in job structures.
23. Support for released prisoners whose salaries were cut: Advocated for the rights of ex-prisoners whose salaries were stopped for political reasons, emphasizing their struggle must not be used as a tool for internal blackmail or elimination.
24. Forcing ministers to return undeserved salaries: Filed documented complaints with the Anti-Corruption Commission about retired ministers receiving illegal salaries, which led to the recovery of funds and demonstrated the effectiveness of legal and public pressure in fighting corruption.
25. Impact of the movement (local, national, media, legal, etc.):
- The movement successfully influenced the public sphere, particularly through massive peaceful demonstrations demanding the repeal of the Social Security Law. This strengthened its role, broadened its grassroots base, and attracted individuals who later pushed for the movement to take part in general elections with a platform focused on political, social, and economic reform.

26. Key achievements/changes achieved:
27. Stopping the implementation of the unjust Social Security Law and enforcing amendments to labor laws, including raising the minimum wage.
28. Securing workers' rights and improving working conditions through public mobilization and sit-ins.
29. Contributing to the defense of freedom of speech through mass mobilization, advocacy, and solidarity with activists.
30. Revoking decisions to grant certain ministers illegal salaries through official complaints and prompting action from the Anti-Corruption Commission.

## Section Five: Challenges and Sustainability

31. 20. Main obstacles faced by the movement:
32. Security challenge: Constant security rejection of the movement's protests, which are labeled by authorities as attempts to destabilize public order. This leads to restricted civic space and limits peaceful expression and assembly.
33. Questioning of credibility: Due to the movement's newness and independence, it faced periods of skepticism from political actors and the public, necessitating efforts to build trust and connect with the community.
34. Lack of financial and moral support: The movement needs more support to cover organizational needs and to encourage volunteer participation.
35. Limited organizational experience at the beginning: Initial lack of campaign and protest management experience led to coordination challenges, although these experiences later strengthened the movement's capacity.
36. Is the movement still active?
  - Yes.
37. Are there attempts to reactivate it or transform it into ongoing initiatives?
  - Yes, but security and political conditions, along with the attacks on Gaza and the West Bank, have disrupted its activities.

## Section Six: Relationships and Support

38. Does the movement have partnerships with local or international organizations?

The movement has no formal institutional partnerships with external or governmental parties but maintains informal relationships with several local organizations that provide moral and media support and assist in field activities.

39. Has the movement received any support (financial/moral/technical) from any party?

Yes, it has received moral, legal, and media support, including specialized training for some founding members.

40. Has it faced rejection or attacks from any party?

Yes, the movement has been subject to monitoring and pursuit by entities linked to the official establishment.

## Section Seven: Additional Information

41. Name of the person filling this form: Amer Ezzedine Khalil Hamdan

42. Role in the movement: One of the founding members

43. Contact information (optional):

Phone Number: +970598988395