



National Council for Human Rights

Visit Report: Badr Correctional and Rehabilitation Center

Date of Visit: Thursday, 22 May 2025

Visit by: National Council for Human Rights – Egypt

I. Introduction

The National Council for Human Rights (NCHR) conducted a field visit to the Badr Correctional and Rehabilitation Center in accordance with Article (16) of its enabling law, as amended by Law No. 197 of 2017, and in line with the implementation of the National Human Rights Strategy. The visit aimed to assess the Center's compliance with international human rights standards, in particular the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), the Basic Principles for the Treatment of Prisoners, and the Bangkok Rules on the Treatment of Women Prisoners.

II. Methodology and Objectives

The visit was conducted using a comprehensive human rights-based methodology that links practice with applicable international standards. Key objectives included:

- Assessing the Center's facilities and services against international norms;
- Meeting with male and female detainees, as well as their families;
- Reviewing procedures related to human dignity, healthcare, and rehabilitation.

III. Findings in Accordance with the Nelson Mandela Rules

1. Dignity and Humane Treatment (Rule 1)

The delegation observed a clear commitment to upholding the dignity of detainees, reflected in respectful staff conduct, cleanliness, and the organized layout of reception and living areas. Both detainees and their families expressed general satisfaction. These practices align with Rule 1, which affirms that "all prisoners shall be treated with the respect due to their inherent dignity and value as human beings."

2. Healthcare (Rules 24–35)



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The Center houses a fully equipped medical unit with 175 beds, 11 outpatient clinics, a cardiac catheterization unit, an intensive care unit, and modern operating theatres. A dedicated addiction treatment and psychological counseling unit is supported through cooperation with the Ministry of Health and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). These measures comply with Rule 27, which stipulates that “prisoners should enjoy the same standards of health care that are available in the community.”

3. Women’s Health (Rule 28 and Bangkok Rules 10, 18)

A women's health center within the facility is equipped with mammography and early breast cancer screening equipment, as well as a unit for osteoporosis detection. Seven confirmed cancer cases were receiving appropriate treatment at the time of the visit, reflecting compliance with Bangkok Rule 10 concerning women prisoners' healthcare.

4. Mental Health and Substance Use Treatment (Rule 31)

The Center provides comprehensive psychological and addiction treatment through a two-phase process: detoxification and rehabilitation. Sessions are conducted in a confidential environment under specialized supervision, consistent with Rule 31 on mental healthcare.

5. Contact with the Outside World (Rules 58–63)

Visitation areas are well-equipped and organized, allowing detainees to meet with family members in private settings. Relatives reported that procedures were accessible and straightforward. This reflects adherence to Rule 58, which mandates that prisoners “shall be allowed, under necessary supervision, to communicate with their family and friends.”

6. Education and Culture (Rules 104–106)

The Center offers classrooms, literacy programs, a library, and hobby centers. Detainees may pursue formal education up to the university level, in accordance with Rule 104, which encourages “comprehensive education of all prisoners, in particular young prisoners.”

7. Vocational Training and Work (Rules 96–103)

Organized labor programs, including handicrafts, bakeries, and kitchens, are available to inmates, who receive nominal remuneration. These initiatives are consistent with Rule 98, which promotes work as a means for rehabilitation and vocational training.

8. Women Prisoners and Mothers (Rule 28 and Bangkok Rules 49–52)



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The women's section includes a qualified nursery for children up to age four, with adequate healthcare and nutrition. These services uphold Bangkok Rule 49, which safeguards the rights of pregnant women, mothers, and their children.

9. Freedom of Religion (Rule 65)

The facility includes both a mosque and a church. Religious services are held regularly under the supervision of Al-Azhar and the Coptic Orthodox Church, in compliance with Rule 65 on freedom of religion and worship.

10. Right to Legal Recourse and Fair Trial (Rule 41)

An on-site court complex facilitates timely judicial proceedings without the need to transport detainees externally, thus reinforcing their right to access justice.

IV. General Observations

- The delegation was not granted access to the residential cell blocks, despite the presence of long-term detainees.
- The Center appears to adopt a rehabilitation-focused philosophy, emphasizing reformation over punishment.
- The facility represents a modern infrastructure model for correctional institutions in line with contemporary penal standards.

V. Recommendations

- Continue and expand the development plan for correctional facilities in line with international standards.
- Grant full access to residential quarters for future human rights monitoring missions.
- Enhance training for prison staff on the Nelson Mandela Rules.
- Provide transparent statistical data to the National Council for Human Rights.
- Consider geographical proximity in inmate allocation to facilitate family visits.

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