

URGENT ACTION

FOUR MINORS RELEASED UNDER JUDICIAL SUPERVISION

On 11 March, Bahrain's Branch Four of the High Criminal Court issued its verdict in the case of four minors tried as adults on charges including arson and handling Molotov cocktails. The court sentenced them to six months in prison but replaced the penalty by placing them in a rehabilitation program. All four were released the same day.

NO FURTHER ACTION IS REQUESTED. MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO SENT APPEALS.

On 11 March, four minors, **Husain Abdulrasool Salman Abdulla Husain (16)**, **Sayed Hasan Ameen Jawad Abdulla (16)**, **Faris Husain Habib Ahmed Salman (17)** and **Mohammed Jaafar Jasim Ali Abdulla (16)**, appeared before Branch Four of the Criminal Court to hear the ruling in their case. The court convicted them of arson, handling and using Molotov cocktails on 14 February 2020 in Karrana, a village north west of the capital Manama, and sentenced them to six months' imprisonment. However, taking into consideration Law No.4 of 2021 regarding Corrective Justice Law for Children – due to come into force in August 2021 – the court ordered that the four minors be released and for them to follow a rehabilitation program for the next six months instead. All four minors returned to their families the same day.

Based on Amnesty International's recommendations, the Ombudsman of the Ministry of Interior immediately [announced](#) the opening of an investigation into the case of the four boys. The statement also addressed Human Rights Watch, following a report it issued about minors the previous day.

On 14 March, the Ombudsman published a [statement](#) refuting Amnesty International findings and not acknowledging the lack of due process in at least two instances and that being under the age of 18, the four boys are children and should have been treated in accordance with the principles of a child justice system.

Amnesty International understands that the four boys' families do not wish to lodge complaints with the Ombudsman, including the family of Husain Abdulrasool Salman Abdulla Husain, in relation to his allegations of being slapped in the face at the Criminal Investigations Department, in February 2020.

NAME AND PRONOUN: **Husain Abdulrasool Salman Abdulla Husain** (he/him/his), **Sayed Hasan Ameen Jawad Abdulla** (he/him/his), **Faris Husain Habib Ahmed Salman** (he/him/his), and **Mohammed Jaafar Jasim Ali Abdulla** (he/him/his)

THIS IS THE SECOND AND FINAL OUTPUT FOR UA 30/21

LINK TO PREVIOUS UA: www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde11/3766/2021/en/

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