

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 11/02/94

Distr: UA/SC

UA 22/94 Fear of torture/Legal concern

24 January 1994

BAHRAIN

Mohammad Hassan

'Abd 'Ali Sengais

'Ali Said Ja'far 'Alawi Shabib

'Abbas Hamid Mohammad 'Ali

'Isa 'Abd 'Ali 'Abd al-Hadi Muhsin

Faisal Shakhouri

Hassan Ahmed al-'Ikri

Ridha Jawad

Hussein Mansour

'Abbas Ahmed Jassim

Ra'ed al-Khawaja

Mohammad Mansour al-Mahari

Mohammad al-Sayrafi

Mansour al-'Ikri

Amnesty International has received reports of arrests at al-Mu'min Mosque in Manama on 19 January 1994. Those named above are believed to be among those detained, but the total number of those arrested is not known. They are being held in incommunicado detention, and there are fears that they may be subjected to torture. Their whereabouts are unknown.

The arrests allegedly took place on the evening of 19 January as members of the majority Shi'a community were gathered at al-Mu'min mosque for the 40th day commemoration ceremony of the death of Ayatollah Golpayegani. The gathering was reportedly a peaceful one. According to reports the mosque was surrounded by police and those inside given five minutes to leave. The police then entered the mosque using teargas and rubber bullets to disperse the crowd.

An unknown number of arrests took place at the mosque while others were arrested later at their homes. Some were allegedly beaten at the time of their arrest.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes and airmail letters either in English, Arabic or in your own language:

- requesting the authorities to initiate a thorough and independent inquiry into the reports of arrests and beatings by police during what appears to have been a peaceful ceremony on 19 January at al-Mu'min Mosque in Manama, and to make the findings public;
- urging that the whereabouts of all those detained be made known to their families immediately;
- seeking assurances that all detainees are now being humanely treated in accordance with international human rights standards, and that they are being granted access to lawyers and relatives;
- expressing concern at reports that some of those arrested have been beaten

and seek assurances that they have received medical attention, where necessary;
- urging the immediate and unconditional release of any who are held solely
for the non-violent expression of their conscientiously held beliefs.

APPEALS TO

His Highness
Al-Shaikh 'Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa
Office of His Highness the Amir
P.O. Box 555
The Amiri Court
Rifa'a Palace, Rifa'a, Bahrain
Telexes: 8666 Qasar, BN 8500 Qasar BN
Telegrams: His Highness the Amir, Manama, Bahrain
Faxes: +973 778884
Salutation: Your Highness

His Excellency
Al-Shaikh Mohamed Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa
Minister of Interior
PO Box 13
Manama, Bahrain
Telexes: 9572 PSMKT BN or 8333 ALAMAN BN
Telegrams: Minister of Interior, Manama, Bahrain
Faxes: +973 276337 or 290526 or 754303
Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

His Excellency
Al-Shaikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa
Prime Minister of Bahrain
PO Box 1000, Manama, Bahrain
Faxes: +973 533033

and to diplomatic representatives of Bahrain accredited to your country

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 7 March 1994.