

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 11/07/94  
Distr: UA/SC

UA 271/94

Fear of Forcible Exile

18 July 1994

BAHRAIN

'Abd al-'Adhim Derwish, aged 34  
'Ali Derwish Moussa

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'Abd al-'Adhim Derwish, a Bahraini national, is at risk of being forcibly exiled from Bahrain. It is believed that he is currently being held at the airport in Bahrain.

In 1980 'Abd al-'Adhim Derwish was forcibly exiled to Iran, apparently because of his political opposition activities. He later sought asylum in Denmark with his family. On 11 July 1994 he returned to Bahrain for the first time since 1980. He was arrested at the airport and held for four days before being forcibly sent to Denmark, via Frankfurt. Because he did not have any travel documents, the authorities at Frankfurt Airport sent him back to Bahrain, via Abu Dhabi, on 17 July.

'Ali Derwish Moussa, another Bahraini national, was forcibly exiled to Iran two years ago. On 5 July 1994 the Iranian authorities sent him back to Bahrain because he did not have any identity papers. He was arrested on arrival at the airport and held for five days before being forcibly sent to Lebanon. He was refused entry to Lebanon and was sent back to Bahrain on 13 July. There he was arrested and held for one day before being forcibly exiled to Abu Dhabi.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Forcible exile of Bahraini nationals suspected of political opposition activities remains one of Amnesty International's concerns in the country. While dozens of Bahraini nationals were permitted to return to Bahrain after living abroad for many years, scores more have been denied this right during 1994 and remain victims of forcible exile apparently for exercising their right to freedom of opinion and expression.

According to information received by Amnesty International, victims of forcible exile from Bahrain are frequently given no reason for the measures taken against them and are denied the opportunity to appeal the decision to expel them or challenge its legality through the courts. Not only is such practice in contravention of international human rights standards, but it would also appear to be in violation of Article 17 (c) of Bahrain's Constitution, which states that it is forbidden to expel or to prevent Bahraini citizens from returning to Bahrain.

For further information on forcible exile, please refer to Bahrain: Banned from Bahrain: Forcible exile of Bahraini nationals (MDE 11/04/93, 16 December 1993).

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes and airmail letters:**  
- urging that measures to expel 'Abd al-'Adhim Derwish and 'Ali Derwish Moussa from Bahrain be rescinded and that they and other victims of forcible exile be permitted to return to their country, in accordance with international human rights standards and Bahrain's own constitution.

**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 29 August 1994.