

# Write for Rights

## JAILED FOR EXPRESSING THEIR OPINIONS

NAME: 13 JAILED OPPOSITION ACTIVISTS  
LOCATION: BAHRAIN



Being a government critic can be dangerous in Bahrain. Thirteen men have been behind bars since 2011 for their activism and expressing their opinions. Across the political and religious spectrum, whether they called for democracy, the end of corruption or opposed the monarchy, they dared to challenge the authorities. None of them used or advocated violence.

The men were mainly arrested during the night when their homes were raided, following mass anti-government protests. Some said they were tortured. Ebrahim Sharif, leader of the secular party Wa'ad, said he was beaten and kicked in detention. When he told the Military Prosecutor, he was beaten again and threatened.

Following an unfair trial in a military court, the 13 activists were sentenced to between five years' and life imprisonment. In January 2013 the Cassation Court upheld their convictions. They are all prisoners of conscience.

## Write a letter – change their lives

### Show solidarity with the families of the 13 jailed opposition activists

Send the families a letter or a card.

Suggested message: "We will speak out against your imprisonment. Your voice has not been silenced."

Send your card via:

Bahrain Team  
Amnesty International  
1 Easton Street  
London, WC1X 0DW  
United Kingdom

### Write to the King of Bahrain:

Call on him to ensure the release of the 13 jailed opposition activists immediately and unconditionally. Urge him to order an investigation into the alleged torture and other ill-treatment of some of the prisoners, and to hold accountable those responsible.

Shaikh Hamad bin 'Issa Al Khalifa  
Office of His Majesty the King  
P.O. Box 555  
Rifa'a Palace  
Manama  
Bahrain

Fax: +973 1766 4587 (keep trying)

Email: [geneva.mission@mofa.gov.bh](mailto:geneva.mission@mofa.gov.bh)

Start your letter: Your Majesty

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL



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Amnesty International  
International Secretariat  
Peter Benenson House  
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[amnesty.org/individuals-at-risk](http://amnesty.org/individuals-at-risk)