

URGENT ACTION

PREGNANT WOMAN RELEASED ON BAIL

Nadia 'Ali Yousef Saleh, a 37-year-old pregnant woman, was released on bail on 2 October from a women's detention centre in 'Issa Town in central Bahrain. The High Criminal Court has scheduled a hearing into her case for 31 October.

Branch 4 of the High Criminal Court in Bahrain ordered the release on bail of **Nadia 'Ali Yousef Saleh** on medical grounds. She is due to give birth at the end of October. The court also scheduled a hearing into her case for 31 October 2013. Nadia 'Ali Yousef Saleh is charged with "insulting" three policewomen, a charge she denies.

On 29 May Nadia 'Ali Yousef Saleh was travelling in a car with her husband and her mother when they were stopped at a checkpoint near Beni Jamra village, north-west of Bahrain. The police arrested her husband and when she asked for the reasons of his arrest, one of the policemen reportedly started insulting her. According to information received by Amnesty International, the police took her identity card and asked her to go to al-Budaya' Police Station in Manama, the capital, the following day. She went to the police station, where three policewomen tied her hands behind her back, took her to the bathroom and beat her. She was later transferred to a women's detention centre in 'Issa Town. She was brought before the Public Prosecution three times, and each time her detention order was renewed for a month, pending further investigation.

Nadia 'Ali Yousef Saleh has a three-year old son and is due to give birth to her second child at the end of October. On 15 September she was admitted to al-Salmaniya Medical Complex in Manama, under police surveillance. According to her family, she suffers from psychological problems and prior to her detention she had been receiving treatment in the Psychological Medicine Hospital in Manama. This treatment stopped following her arrest. Nadia 'Ali Yousef Saleh also suffers from dizziness and fainting. Her husband 'Abd 'Ali Ibrahim Yousef Saleh is in Jaw Prison serving a six-month prison term, reportedly for financial irregularities.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Amnesty International will keep monitoring the situation and will take action when necessary. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

This is the first update of UA 251/13. Further information: <http://amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE11/039/2013/en>

Name: Nadia 'Ali Yousef Saleh

Gender m/f: f

Further information on UA: 251/11 Index: MDE 11/050/2013 Issue Date: 11 October 2013

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