

URGENT ACTION

STUDENT VOLUNTEER MISSING SINCE ARREST

Student Salaheddin al-Tabbaa, who does voluntary work for the Red Crescent, has been subjected to enforced disappearance by the Syrian authorities. He was arrested, on 5 September 2014, at the Syrian-Lebanese border. He is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment.

Salaheddin al-Tabbaa was on his way to Lebanon from his home in the Syrian capital, Damascus, when he was stopped on the Syrian side of the border crossing. A relative who lives outside Syria told Amnesty International that the border officials told Salaheddin al-Tabbaa that there was a warrant for his arrest from Military Intelligence Branch 227.

He was transferred to the Military Intelligence Branch the following day and has not been heard from since then. Torture and other ill-treatment are rife in facilities run by this and other security and intelligence agencies in Syria.

His family have sought clarification on where he is and why he was arrested from Military Intelligence, other security forces and judicial authorities, but have received no information to date. Salaheddin al-Tabba is studying to be a dental technician and has been providing assistance to people in need as a volunteer with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent. According to his relative, he is not known to be a political activist.

Please write immediately in Arabic, English or your own language:

- Urging the Syrian authorities to reveal where Salaheddin al-Tabba is and what has happened to him, give him immediate access to his family, lawyer and any medical attention he may require, and ensure he is protected from torture and other ill-treatment;
- Asking them to explain Salaheddin al-Tabba's legal status, and release him if he is not to be charged with an internationally recognizable criminal offence, and tried according to international fair trial standards.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 27 JANUARY 2015 TO:

Permanent Representative to the UN

Bashar Ja'afari, Ambassador
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
820 Second Avenue, 15th Floor
New York, NY 10017, USA
Fax: +1 212 983 4439
E-mail: exesec.syria@gmail.com

Salutation: Your Excellency

President

Bashar al-Assad
Fax: +963 11 332 3410 (keep trying)
(If fax does not go through, please
include your message to the president in
an email to the Ambassador, asking for it
to be forwarded)

Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Defence

General Fahd Jassem al-Freij
Fax: +963 11 223 7842 (keep trying)
+963 11 666 2460 (keep trying)
(If fax does not go through, please
include your message to the Minister of
Defence in an email to the Ambassador,
asking for it to be forwarded)
Salutation: Your Excellency

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For an insight into the widespread torture and other ill-treatment in Syria's detention centres, see *I wanted to die: Syria's torture survivors speak out* (<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE24/016/2012/en>). Thousands are reported to have died in the custody of the Syrian security forces since unrest began in 2011. Amnesty International documented this practice in the report *Deadly detention: Deaths in custody amid popular protest in Syria* (<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE24/035/2011/en>). For further information on detention conditions in some of the branches of Syria's security forces, please also refer to Amnesty International's current campaign against enforced disappearances: <https://campaigns.amnesty.org/campaigns/conflict-in-syria>

Name: Salaheddin al-Tabbaa

Gender m/f: m

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