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JUWAN ABD RAHMAN KHALED

KURDISH RIGHTS ACTIVIST

**FORCIBLY DISAPPEARED BY AGENTS OF THE
SYRIAN STATE SINCE 3 SEPTEMBER 2012**

Juwan Abd Rahman Khaled is a member of the Union of Young Kurds in Syria, a group of Kurdish activists.

He was arrested along with several other people when persons believed to be agents of Syria's State Security carried out a raid in his neighbourhood in Wadi al-Mashari'a, a north-western suburb of Damascus, in the early hours of 3 September 2012. They did not provide any details on the reasons for his arrest or where he would be taken and until now the authorities have not given any information about his fate or whereabouts, despite requests.

A released detainee claims to have seen Juwan Abd Rahman Khaled at a State Security branch in Damascus after his arrest but his current whereabouts are unknown. His third child was born after his arrest.

The reasons for Juwan Abd Rahman Khaled's arrest are unknown. He had previously been sentenced and detained in 2004 in the context of the unrest in his hometown of Qamishly in 2004. After his release, he said that he had been tortured – he had been beaten to the point that vertebrae were damaged. Shortly after the crisis began, he was arrested again in March 2011 and detained for 50 days in the custody of Syrian Military Intelligence.

ACTION

Please write to the Syrian President through the Syria Permanent Representative to the UN to call on the Syrian authorities to:

- Release Juwan Abd Rahman Khaled unless he is charged with a recognizably criminal offence and tried in accordance with international fair trial standards;
- Urgently inform his family of his fate and whereabouts;
- Ensure that he is protected from secret detention, torture and other ill-treatment, and allowed immediate contact with his family and a lawyer of his choice.

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