

URGENT ACTION

HUSSAIN JAWAD TORTURED, FORCED TO ‘CONFESS’
Hussain Jawad was brought to the Public Prosecution on 21 February after six days in Criminal Investigations Directorate custody where he said he was tortured and otherwise ill-treated. He was forced to “confess” to charges he has since denied.

Hussain Jawad was brought to the Public Prosecution on 21 February for interrogation, after spending six days at the Criminal Investigations Directorate (CID). He was charged with “collecting money for terrorist groups”, “supporting and financing terrorist groups” and “collecting money without permission”, under Article 14 of Law 21 of 2013, regulating fundraising for public interest. He “confessed” to all charges before the Public Prosecution and was transferred to Dry Dock Prison, northeast of the capital, Manama. He could face up to life in prison.

He was able to phone his wife the next day, and told her that during interrogation at the CID, he was slapped and kicked all over his body, kept in a very cold, cramped cell, prevented from going to the toilet and denied sleep. He was also sexually assaulted while blindfolded. He was ordered to memorize his “confession” and threatened with more torture if he changed it.

He was brought to the Public Prosecution again on 23 February: he said he had been tortured, denied all charges against him and said he had been forced to “confess”. The Public Prosecution ordered a medical examination and psychiatric assessment for him. Hussain Jawad had been arrested on 16 February, brought to the Public Prosecution two days later and questioned about the charges of “illegal gathering”, “rioting” and “throwing Molotov cocktails”. He denied all charges and the Public Prosecution ordered his release. He also said he had been tortured and otherwise ill-treated. Instead of being released, he was then taken back to the CID where he said he was subjected to further torture.

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

- Calling on the Bahraini authorities to order a prompt, independent and thorough investigation into Hussain Jawad’s torture allegations, bring those responsible to justice and publish the results;
- Urging them to ensure he is not subjected to further torture or other ill-treatment or reprisal as a result;
- Calling on them to release him immediately and unconditionally if he is being detained solely for his human rights work.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 7 APRIL 2015 TO:

King
 Shaikh Hamad bin ‘Issa Al Khalifa
 Office of His Majesty the King
 P.O. Box 555
 Rifa’a Palace, al-Manama
 Bahrain
 Fax: +973 1766 4587
Salutation: Your Majesty

Minister of Interior
 Shaikh Rashid bin ‘Abdullah Al Khalifa
 Ministry of Interior P.O. Box 13, al-
 Manama
 Bahrain
 Fax: +973 1723 2661
 Email via website:
www.interior.gov.bh/contact_en.aspx
 Twitter: @moi_Bahrain
Salutation: Your Excellency

And copies to:

Minister of Justice and Islamic Affairs
 Shaikh Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa
 Ministry of Justice and Islamic Affairs
 P. O. Box 450, al-Manama
 Bahrain
 Fax: +973 1753 1284
 Email via website:
<http://www.moj.gov.bh/en/>
 Twitter: @Khaled_Bin_AI

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. This is the first update of UA 34/15. Further information: www.amnesty.org/en/documents/MDE11/0009/2015/en

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Hussain Jawad, Chairman of the European-Bahraini organization for Human Rights was arrested at around 1.30am on 16 February by masked plainclothes police officers. They searched his house and then took him to the CID. They did not say why they were arresting him. Around 10 hours after his arrest, he phoned his wife and said that he was fine. She asked him whether the police had hurt him: he said "yes" and the line was cut off.

He had been arrested before, after giving a speech during a protest rally in 2013. He was charged with "criticizing government institutions", "insulting the flag and emblem of the country", "attempting to disrupt public security" and "illegal gathering". He is on trial on those charges and the next hearing is scheduled for 25 February.

Name: Hussain Jawad

Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 34/15 Index: MDE 11/1066/2015 Issue Date: 24 February 2015