

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC STATEMENT



Date: 26 June 2015
AI Index: MDE 17/1952/2015

Kuwait: Thorough, impartial and transparent investigation needed in response to ghastly bombing of Shi'a Mosque

Amnesty International joins the Kuwaiti government and civil society in condemning the 26 June 2015 suicide bomb attack on the Imam Sadiq Mosque, in Kuwait City. At the time of writing, the death toll stood at 25, with another 202 casualties. Gruesome video footage and photos circulating on social media after the ghastly attack, which was claimed by Islamic State, showed scenes of carnage, with bloody bodies lying amidst debris and smoke.

Kuwait must respond to this atrocity within the law and in compliance with its international human rights obligations. Amnesty International urges the authorities to promptly investigate this callous act in a thorough, effective and transparent manner in line with international standards. Anyone suspected of committing an internationally recognizable criminal offense must be brought to justice in a process that ensures the right to a fair trial.

Amnesty International urges the government of Kuwait and civil society in the country to take all steps to ensure that this attack does not damage the long standing religious tolerance in Kuwait.

Today, as the explosion took place, representatives of the Kuwaiti government and Kuwait's active civil society had gathered at the United Nations' (UN) the High Commission of Human Rights in Geneva to discuss the outcome of the review of Kuwait's human rights record under the UN's Universal Periodic Review. Amnesty International urges the government to ensure that this tradition of tolerance and engagement with civil society continues and that there is no backlash.

For more information please call Amnesty International's press office in London, UK, on +44 20 7413 5566 or +44 (0) 777 847 2126

email: press@amnesty.org

twitter: [@amnestypress](https://twitter.com/amnestypress)

International Secretariat, Amnesty International, 1 Easton St., London WC1X 0DW, UK