

PUBLIC

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Further Information on UA 362/03 (MDE 24/047/2003, 10 December 2003) and follow-up (MDE 24/072/2004, 20 October 2004) - Fear of torture and ill-treatment/unlawful detention/incommunicado detention/possible prisoner of conscience

SYRIA **Arwad Muhammad 'Izzat al-Boushi**

Arwad Muhammad 'Izzat al-Boushi was released on 3 November.

A Syrian-born Canadian national, he was jailed in July 2002, on his return to Syria after 23 years living abroad, apparently because he was a member of the outlawed opposition group the Muslim Brotherhood. He maintained that he had been a peaceful member of the organization more than 24 years ago, and had severed all links with it before he left Syria for Canada in about 1980.

Arwad Muhammad 'Izzat al-Boushi was one of the 190 political prisoners released under a presidential amnesty to mark the Muslim 'Eid holiday. He was one of the prisoners of conscience in this group, whose unconditional release Amnesty International had been demanding for years.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.