

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 11/01/98

12 February 1998

Further information on UA 26/96 (MDE 11/02/96, 2 February 1996) - Fear of torture/ Medical concern

New Concern: Fear of medical neglect

BAHRAIN Shaikh 'Abd al-Amir Mansur al-Jamri, aged 60  
Shaikh Hassan Sultan  
Shaikh 'Ali 'Ashour  
Shaikh 'Ali bin Ahmad al-Jeddhafsi  
Shaikh Hussein al-Deihi  
Hassan Meshema'a  
Sayyed Ibrahim 'Adnan al-'Alawi  
Abdul Wahab Hussein

---

According to reports, Shaikh 'Abd al-Amir Mansur al-Jamri, currently detained at al-Qal'a Prison in al-Manama, has at times been denied his regular supply of medicines required for his high blood pressure, back and respiratory problems. This is reportedly in order to force him to sign an undertaking that he will not engage in any political activity against the government if released. Shaikh 'Abd al-Amir Mansur al-Jamri is said to have refused to sign the undertaking. Amnesty International fears he may be at risk of further medical neglect.

Shaikh 'Abd al-Amir Mansur al-Jamri and the other seven above-named are prominent Muslim Shi'a leaders and religious figures detained without charge or trial since their arrests on 22 January 1996. Although they were originally held incommunicado it is now thought they are allowed visits from their families. Their arrests came at a time of mass arrests carried out by security forces in response to public demonstrations angry at the closure of mosques. Details regarding others detained are not available. Amnesty International considers the above-named to be prisoners of conscience.

The eight leaders were also detained during periods of unrest in 1994-1995 and held without charge or trial until their release in September 1995.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In June 1997, Shaikh 'Ali Mirza al-Nakkas, a blind Shi'a Muslim cleric, died in custody in al-Qal'a Prison. Although a spokesman for the Bahraini Ministry of the Interior reportedly attributed his death to respiratory problems there were reports suggesting medical neglect may have been the cause.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English, Arabic or in your own language:**

- expressing concern at reports that Shaikh 'Abd al-Amir Mansur al-Jamri has been subjected to medical neglect;
- seeking assurances that he and other detainees be granted access to full and proper medical care;
- calling for Shaikh 'Abd al-Amir Mansur al-Jamri and the other seven, arrested on 22 January 1996, to be released immediately and unconditionally as prisoners of conscience.

**APPEALS TO:**

His Excellency  
Shaikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa  
Prime Minister  
P.O. Box 1000, al-Manama, Bahrain  
**Telegrams: Prime Minister, al-Manama, Bahrain**  
**Telexes: 9336 PROM BN or 7889 PMPO BN**  
**Faxes: + 973 533033**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

His Excellency  
Shaikh Muhammad Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa  
Minister of Interior  
P.O. Box 13, Al-Manama, Bahrain  
**Telegrams: Minister of Interior, al-Manama, Bahrain**  
**Telexes: 9572 PSMKT BN or 8333 ALAMAN BN**  
**Faxes: + 973 276765 or 290526**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

**COPIES TO:** diplomatic representatives of Bahrain accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 27 March 1998.