

# URGENT ACTION

## AHMAD MSHAIMA' RELEASED

**Ahmad Mshaima' has been released, after completing a one-year sentence for “publicly insulting the King of Bahrain”.**

**Ahmad Mshaima'** was released on 12 November after serving a one-year sentence in Jaw prison, south-eastern Bahrain. He had been convicted in December 2014 of “publicly insulting the King of Bahrain” after reading a poem on 1 November during the religious festival of Ashura in al-Muharraq island, north-east of the capital, Manama. The poem cited growing injustice in Bahrain and described “an unjust ruler who breaks promises and sheds blood”.

Ahmad Mshaima' is still on trial, as another case was brought against him in December 2013 after he had taken part in a public gathering on 14 February that year to mark the second anniversary of the start of the uprising. He was charged with “illegal gathering with an intent to commit crimes and disturb public security”. On 12 January 2016 the Lower Criminal Court in Manama adjourned his hearing for this other charge to 15 May.

Ahmed Mshaima' told Amnesty International that he wanted to express his thanks to the organization's supporters and members for defending human rights. He said that highlighting and following up on his case helped ease his pain and suffering.

**No further action is requested by the UA Network. Amnesty International will continue to monitor Ahmad Mshaima's situation. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.**

This is the sixth update of UA 5/14. Further information: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde11/1636/2015/en/>

Name: Ahmad Mshaima'

Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 5/14 Index: MDE 11/3369/2016 Issue Date: 3 February 2016

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