

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 156/94 (MDE 11/05/94, 20 April 1994) - Torture /
Medical concern New concern - Forcible exile

BAHRAIN: Mohammed Jamil 'Abd al-Amir Al-Jamri
'Abd al-Jalil Khalil Ibrahim
Seyyid Ja'far Al-Alawi
Ali Ahmed Jassim Al-Dayri
Nabeel Baqir

and new name: Ahmad Hussain Mirza

Amnesty International has received reports that Nabeel Baqir has been forcibly exiled to Iran. He is one of the political prisoners reportedly tortured following the discovery of a radio during a cell inspection in Jaw Prison No. 1 on 9 April 1994. He was deported on 15 June, together with Ahmad Hussain Mirza. They had been imprisoned on political grounds since 1987, and had reportedly served their respective seven-year sentences.

Forcible exile of Bahraini nationals suspected of political opposition activities remains one of Amnesty International's main concerns in the country. While dozens of Bahraini nationals were allowed to return to Bahrain after living abroad for many years, scores more have been denied this right during 1993 and remain victims of forcible exile, apparently for exercising their right to freedom of opinion and expression.

According to information received by Amnesty International, victims of forcible exile from Bahrain are frequently given no reason for the measures taken against them and are denied the opportunity to appeal the decision to expel them or challenge its legality through the courts. Not only is such practice in contravention of international human rights standards, but it would also appear to be in violation of Article 17 (c) of Bahrain's Constitution, which states that it is forbidden to expel or to prevent Bahraini citizens from returning to Bahrain.

For further information on forcible exile, please refer to Bahrain: Banned from Bahrain: Forcible exile of Bahraini nationals (MDE 11/04/93).

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

- expressing regret that Nabeel Baqir and Ahmad Hussain Mirza have been forcibly exiled in contravention of international human rights standards;
- urging that the practice of forcible exile of Bahraini nationals be stopped;
- seeking clarification of the current situation of the other prisoners reportedly tortured following the discovery of a radio during a cell inspection in Jaw Prison No. 1 on 9 April.

APPEALS TO:

His Highness
Al-Shaikh 'Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa
Office of His Highness the Amir
P.O. Box 555
The Amiri Court
Rifa'a Palace, Rifa'a
Bahrain
Telexes: 8666 Qasar, BN 8500 Qasar BN
Telegrams: His Highness the Amir, Manama, Bahrain
Faxes: +973 668884
Salutation: Your Highness

His Excellency
Al-Shaikh Mohamed Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa
Minister of Interior
PO Box 13, Manama
Bahrain
Telexes: 9572 PSMKT BN or 8333 ALAMAN BN
Telegrams: Minister of Interior, Manama, Bahrain
Faxes: +973 276765 or 290526 or 754303
Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

His Excellency
Al-Shaikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa
Prime Minister of Bahrain
PO Box 1000, Manama
Bahrain
Faxes: +973 533033

and 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 4 August 1994.