

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 23/02/98

23 March 1998

Further information on UA 380/97 (MDE 23/17/97, 3 December 1997) - Fear of Refoulement / Fear for Safety

SAUDI ARABIA' Amer al-J'ayed, aged 31  
'Aysha al-Barqawi, (f), aged 29  
Khayri al-Feitouri Nasrat, aged 32  
    Khayria 'Abdallah Nasrat, (f), aged 30  
Mahmoud al-Feitouri, aged 32  
    Hamida al-Wa'ir, aged 26, wife of above and their son  
    Youssef, aged about 15 months  
'Abd al-Karim al-Zawi, 27

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And at least 22 others

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"...No one has been handed over to the Libyan authorities, nor has there been any measure taken in this regard ....".

The above statement was issued on 6 January 1998 by the Saudi Arabian ambassador in Brussels in response to appeals he has received requesting that 31 Libyans, including the above-named, be prevented from being forcibly returned to Libya where it is feared they may face serious human rights abuses.

The 31 Libyans, who include women and children, have been held in the al-Ruwais Prison in Jeddah in Saudi Arabia without trial since December 1995. They were among scores of Islamists, Saudi Arabians and foreign nationals, arrested in the aftermath of the bombing of the Saudi Arabian National Guard training centre in Riyadh in November 1995. In addition, four Saudi Arabian nationals were executed in May 1996 in connection with the bombing after a grossly unfair trial.

The ambassador's statement did not clarify the position of the above-named, with respect to whether they may still be at risk of imminent refoulement, nor the reason for their arrests.

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

- welcoming the ambassador's response that the 31 Libyan nationals have not been returned to Libya;
- asking for clarification as to the legal status of the 31, the reason for their detention and details of any charges brought against them;
- requesting that no persons be forcibly returned to a country where they may face serious human rights abuses in accordance with the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.

**APPEALS TO:**

The Custodian of the Two Holy Shrines  
His Majesty King Fahd bin 'Abdul-'Aziz  
Office of H.M. The King  
Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
**Telegrams: King Fahd, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia**  
**Salutation: Your Majesty**

Minister of Interior  
His Royal Highness

Prince Naif bin 'Abdul-'Aziz  
Ministry of the Interior  
PO Box 2833  
Airport Road, Riyadh 11134  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
**Teleggrams: Minister of Interior, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia**  
**Telexes: 404416**  
**Salutation: Your Royal Highness**

Minister of Foreign Affairs  
His Royal Highness  
Prince Saud al-Faisal bin 'Abdul 'Aziz  
Nasseriya Street, Riyadh 11124  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
**Minister of Foreign Affairs, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia**  
**Telexes: 405000**  
**Salutation: Your Royal Highness**

Minister of Justice  
His Excellency  
Dr. Abdullah bin Muhammad bin Ibrahim Al-Sheikh  
Ministry of Justice  
Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
**Telegrams: Minister of Justice, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia**  
**Telexes: 405 980 MINJUS SJ**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

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

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 3 May 1998.