

URGENT ACTION

AHMAD MSHAIMA' REARRESTED

Ahmad Mshaima was rearrested on 13 November. He has not had access to his lawyer since his arrest. He may have been detained for exercising his right to freedom of expression.

Ahmad Hassan Ali Mshaima' was rearrested on 13 November when he was trying to leave Bahrain via the causeway that links the country to Saudi Arabia. He was held incommunicado for the first day he was detained, but managed to phone his family the next day. When his lawyers tried to attend his interrogation before the Public Prosecution they were told that Ahmad Hassan Ali Mshaima's name was not on the list of those to be interrogated that day. However when he spoke to his family, Ahmad Hassan Ali Mshaima' told them the Public Prosecution had questioned him the previous day without his lawyer present.

The legal team representing Ahmad Hassan Ali Mshaima' have had no access to him or to any of his case files since his arrest, but in a phone call to his family he told them he had been accused during the interrogation of insulting the King of Bahrain after he read a poem during a religious festival.

Ahmad Hassan Ali Mshaima' was previously arrested in December 2013 and charged with "illegal gathering with an intent to commit crimes and disturb public security" but he was released on bail in June while his trial was still underway. It will resume in December. He is now held at the Dry Dock prison in the capital, Manama.

Please write immediately in English or Arabic:

- Urge the authorities to allow Ahmad Hassan Ali Mshaima immediate access to his lawyers;
- Urge them to release him if he has been detained solely for exercising his right to freedom of expression.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 6 JANUARY 2015 TO:

King

Shaikh Hamad bin 'Issa Al Khalifa
Office of His Majesty the King
P.O. Box 555
Rifa'a Palace, al-Manama, Bahrain
Fax: +973 1766 4587 (keep trying)
Salutation: Your Majesty

Minister of Interior

Shaikh Rashid bin 'Abdullah Al Khalifa
Ministry of Interior
P.O. Box 13, al-Manama, Bahrain
Fax: +973 1723 2661
Twitter: @moi_Bahrain
Salutation: Your Excellency

And copies to:

Minister of Justice and Islamic Affairs
Shaikh Khalid bin Ali bin Abdullah Al
Khalifa
Ministry of Justice and Islamic Affairs
P. O. Box 450, al-Manama, Bahrain
Fax: +973 1753 1284
Email: minister@justice.gov.bh
Twitter: @Khaled_Bin_Ali

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the second update of UA 5/14 Further information:

<http://amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE11/013/2014/en>

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Ahmad Mshaima's father, Hassan Mshaima' is serving a life sentence in Jaw Prison on the outskirts of Manama, as one of 13 jailed opposition activists. In 2013, Hassan Mshaima' was denied adequate medical care and family visits for refusing to wear the prison uniform. See UA 139/11, <http://amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE11/025/2013/en> and follow-up.

Ahmad Mshaima' was arrested on 28 December 2013 and charged with "illegal gathering with an intent to commit crimes and disturb public security" following protests on 14 February 2013 to mark the second anniversary of the start of the uprising. His trial started before the Lower Criminal Court in Manama on 13 March 2014. He denied all charges.

He had told his family when they visited him that he had been tortured when he was interrogated during the first hours he had been detained. This had included being beaten, kicked in the legs, forced to insult his father and his religion, and coerced into signing documents.

Name: Ahmad Hassan Ali Mshaima'
Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 5/14 Index: MDE 11/046/2014 Issue Date: 25 November 2014