

Dear [Insert Name of official]

An Urgent Call to Release Independent human rights lawyer, Buzurgmehr Yorov, in Honour of Nelson Mandela

To honour Nelson Mandela, civil society organisations across the globe call on you to release **Independent human rights lawyer, Buzurgmehr Yorov.**

Like Nelson Mandela who spent 27 years in prison for his opposition to apartheid, there are thousands of human rights defenders and prisoners of conscience wrongfully accused and in jail around the world. They have been imprisoned for advocating for the rights of women, children, indigenous groups and excluded communities or for speaking out against corruption, torture, abuses of power and other human rights violations. Many of these human rights defenders and prisoners of conscience are serving prison sentences for crimes they never committed, after being convicted in flawed judicial processes. **Buzurgmehr Yorov** is one of them!

We urge you to:

- Immediately and unconditionally release **Buzurgmehr Yorov** and human rights defenders and prisoners of conscience in jail solely for their peaceful human rights activities, identity and opinions and stop all judicial persecution against them.
- Prioritise and release detainees who have not been charged, and those held in pretrial detention in jails, detention centers and police stations.

Sincerely,

[Insert Name]

Use the details below by writing to the Tajikistan authorities and call for the release of **Buzurgmehr Yorov**

Ministry of Internal Affairs

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