

December 14

Country: Egypt

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-update-prisoner-of-conscience-s-trial-adjourned-to-27-december-egypt-ua-24314>

SHAWKAN'S TRIAL ADJOURNED TO 27 DECEMBER

The trial of Egyptian photojournalist and prisoner of conscience Mahmoud Abu Zeid ("Shawkan") has been adjourned to 27 December. The prison doctor's report on Shawkan has yet to be made available in order to secure his release on health grounds.

Name: Mahmoud Abu Zeid ("Shawkan")

Gender m/f: m

Country: Israel/OPT

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-update-end-administrative-detention-of-circus-performer-israelopt-ua-1216>

END ADMINISTRATIVE DETENTION OF CIRCUS PERFORMER

On 11 December the Israeli military renewed the administrative detention of Palestinian circus performer Mohammad Faisal Abu Sakha for another six months. He has been held without charge or trial by the Israeli authorities for a year.

Name: Mohammad Faisal Abu Sakha

Gender m/f: m

Country: Israel/OPT

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-update-human-rights-defender-s-trial-postponed-israelopt-ua-27613>

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER'S TRIAL POSTPONED

A hearing on 6 December should have been the last opportunity for the Israeli military prosecution to produce the witnesses in the case against Palestinian lawyer – and former prisoner of conscience – Anas Barghouti. The hearing was again adjourned until 24 January despite the prosecution failing to bring the witnesses to court.

Name: Anas Barghouti

Gender m/f: m

Good News!

Country: Nicaragua

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/latest-victories/urgent-action-victory-police-return-human-rights-defender-s-seized-vehicles-nicaragua-ua-27616>

POLICE RETURN DEFENDER'S SEIZED VEHICLES

On 10 December Nicaraguan police returned two vehicles that they had taken possession of from human rights defender Francisca Ramírez 10 days before. The vehicles showed signs of damage and no reason was given for their seizure. Francisca Ramírez mentioned that international pressure helped her gain justice.

Name: Francisca Ramírez

Gender m/f: f

Country: South Sudan

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-fate-of-two-detained-unmiss-staff-unknown-south-sudan-ua-22616>

FATE OF TWO DETAINED UNMISS STAFF UNKNOWN

Anthony Nyero and James Lual, staff members of the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS), may have been subjected to enforced disappearance by South Sudan's National Security Service (NSS). Family members have not had any contact with them since January 2016. Their last known place of detention was an NSS facility in Juba town, along the bank of the Nile River.

Name: Anthony Nyero and James Lual

Gender m/f: Both male

Country: Yemen

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-update-detained-journalists-need-urgent-medical-care-yemen-ua-2716>

DETAINED JOURNALISTS NEED URGENT MEDICAL CARE

Journalist Abdelkhaleq Amran is in urgent need of medical attention after being tortured or otherwise ill-treated, according to his family. Nine other journalists arbitrarily detained with him also require medical attention.

Name: Abdelkhaleq Amran, Hisham Tarmoom, Tawfiq al-Mansouri, Hareth Hamid, Hasan Annab, Akram al-Walidi, Haytham al-Shihab, Hisham al-Yousefi, Essam Balgheeth and Salah al-Qaedi

Gender m/f: m

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Country: Bahrain

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-update-jail-sentence-against-opposition-leader-upheld-bahrain-ua-2215>

JAIL SENTENCE AGAINST OPPOSITION LEADER UPHELD

On 12 December the Appeal Court in Bahrain issued its verdict against opposition leader Sheikh Ali Salman and sentenced him again to nine years in prison after a retrial. He is a prisoner of conscience imprisoned for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression.

Name: Sheikh Ali Salman

Gender m/f: m

Country: Iran

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-update-prisoner-of-conscience-targeted-for-teacher-union-activities-iran-ua-17115>

TEACHER UNION ACTIVIST MUST BE RELEASED

Iranian teacher union activist Esmail Abdi, the Secretary General of the Iranian Teachers' Trade Association (ITTA), was arrested on 9 November and taken to Tehran's Evin Prison to begin serving a six-year prison sentence. He is a prisoner of conscience targeted solely for his peaceful trade union activities.

Name: Esmail (Ismail) Abdi

Gender m/f: m

December 12

Country: Iran

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-update-anti-death-penalty-activist-violently-arrested-iran-ua-12715>

ANTI-DEATH PENALTY ACTIVIST VIOLENTLY ARRESTED

Iranian human rights defender and anti-death penalty campaigner Atena Daemi was violently arrested on 26 November and taken to Evin Prison to begin serving a seven-year prison sentence. She is a prisoner of conscience held for her human rights work.

Name: Atena Daemi

Gender m/f: f

Country: Philippines

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-halt-plans-to-reinstate-the-death-penalty-philippines-ua-28216>

HALT PLANS TO REINSTATE THE DEATH PENALTY

The House of Representatives and Senate of the Philippines will consider and vote on draft legislation to reintroduce the death penalty from as early as 13 December. If adopted, the draft law would allow for the imposition of the death penalty for a wide range of crimes, against international law obligations on this issue.

Name: n/a

Gender m/f: n/a

Country: Saudi Arabia

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-update-human-rights-defender-faces-11-years-in-prison-saudi-arabia-ua-8616>

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER FACES 11 YEARS IN PRISON

On 1 December, human rights defender Issa al-Hamid's prison sentence was increased by two years on appeal, bringing his total prison sentence to 11 years. If detained he will be a prisoner of conscience.

Name: Issa al-Hamid

Gender m/f: m

9 December

Country: Algeria

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-prisoner-of-conscience-sentenced-to-one-year-for-denouncing-corruption-algeria-ua-280>

ONE YEAR IN PRISON FOR DENOUNCING CORRUPTION

An Algerian court sentenced journalist Hassan Bouras to a year in prison and fines for a video denouncing corruption of local officials in the city of El Bayadh. He is a prisoner of conscience.

Name: Hassan Bouras

Gender m/f: m

Country: Egypt

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-update-worrying-escalation-in-the-crackdown-on-ngos-egypt-ua-8116>

WORRYING ESCALATION IN THE CRACKDOWN ON NGOS

A spurious investigation into Egyptian human rights organizations has escalated. On 7 December, prominent women's rights defender and lawyer Azza Soliman was arrested and charged. On 12 December, a court hearing is expected to decide on the freezing of her assets. Separately, a new draconian NGO bill is awaiting the President's signature.

Name: Azza Soliman (f), Hossam Bahgat (m), Gamal Eid (m), Bahey el-Din Hassan (m), Mostafa al-Hassan (m), Abdel Hafez Tayel (m), Mozn Hassan (f), Hoda Abd el-Wahab (f), Mohamed Zaree (m), Ahmed Samih (m), Malek Adly (m), Ahmed Ragheb (m), Aida Seif El Dawla (f), Mozn Hassan (f), Mohamed Zaree (m), Nasser Amin (m), Hoda Abd el-Wahab (f), Mohamed Lotfy (m), and many other human rights defenders.

Gender m/f: both

Country: Israel/OPT

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-two-palestinian-human-rights-defenders-on-trial-israelopt-ua-27816>

TWO PALESTINIAN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS ON TRIAL

Palestinian human rights defenders Farid al-Atrash and Issa Amro face charges in an Israeli military court relating to their rights to freedom of expression and assembly. Both face time in prison if found guilty. At a hearing on 23 November their lawyer asked for a number of the charges to be dropped and the hearing was adjourned until 21 December.

Name: Farid al-Atrash and Issa Amro

Gender m/f: m

Country: Myanmar

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/urgent-action-health-concern-for-prisoner-of-conscience-myanmar-ua-28116>

HEALTH CONCERN FOR PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE

Aung Win Hlaing, a member of the National Democratic Force party in Myanmar, has been sentenced to nine months in prison for a Facebook post critical of the President. He is a prisoner of conscience who must be immediately and unconditionally released.

Name: Aung Win Hlaing

Gender m/f: m