

Daily Urgent Actions Jan 3 to Jan 10, 2015

6 January 2015

UA: 2/15

Issue Date: 6 January 2015

Country: Myanmar

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa00215.docx>

FOUR PROTESTERS DETAINED IN MYANMAR

Four human rights activists have been arbitrarily arrested and detained in Myanmar after participating in a peaceful demonstration against the shooting to death of a protester the week before. The four have been detained solely for the lawful exercise of their right to freedom of peaceful assembly and must be immediately and unconditionally released.

Name: Daw Naw Ohn Hla (f), Daw Sein Htwe (f), U Nay Myo Zin (m), Ko Tin Htut Paing (m), Daw San San Win (f), Daw Mya Nyunt (f), Ko Thant Zin (m) and Khin Win (f)

Issues: Human rights defenders, Freedom of expression, Arbitrary detention

UA: 3/15

Issue Date: 6 January 2015

Country: Tunisia

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa00315.docx>

JAILED FOR COMPLAINING OF POLICE HARASSMENT

Film director Ines Ben Othman was arrested on 19 December 2014 after lodging a complaint for harassment by a police officer. She is in custody, facing one year in prison for insulting that police officer.

Name: Ines Ben Othman (f)

Issues: Freedom of expression, Arbitrary arrest, Legal concern

7 January 2015

UA: 1/15

Issue Date: 7 January 2015

Country: Bahrain

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa00115.docx>

SENTENCED TO DEATH AFTER UNFAIR TRIAL

Two men were sentenced to death on 29 December in Bahrain. Amnesty International fears they did not receive a fair trial as the main evidence used against them was allegedly obtained under torture.

Name: Mohamed Ramadhan Issa 'Ali Hussain (m) and Hussain 'Ali Moosa Hussain Mohamad (m)

Issues: Death penalty, Torture/ill-treatment, Unfair trial

Further information on UA: 83/14 (9 April 2014) and updates (24 June 2014, 10 December 2014)

Issue Date: 7 January 2015

Country: Egypt

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f3u08314.docx>

JOURNALISTS TO BE RETRIED, BUT STILL DETAINED

Egypt's highest appeals court has overturned the conviction of Al Jazeera journalists Mohamed Fahmy, Peter Greste and Baher Mohamed. The three men, all prisoners of conscience, will now be retried before a lower court but will remain in detention.

Name: Mohamed Fahmy (m), Peter Greste (m), Baher Mohamed (m), Sohaib Saad Mohamed Mohamed (m), Khaled Mohamed Abdulraouf Mohamed (m), Shadi Abdul Hameed Abdul Azeem Ibrahim (m), Khalid Abdulrahman Mahmoud Ahmed Abdulwahab (m)

Issues: Prisoners of conscience, Freedom of expression, Health concern

UA: 4/15

Issue Date: 7 January 2015

Country: Kuwait

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa00415.docx>

FORMER MP FACING JAIL FOR TWITTER 'INSULT'

Former Kuwaiti opposition MP Saleh al-Mulla was arrested on 6 January for tweets deemed insulting to the Amir of Kuwait and the visiting President of Egypt. The next day the Public Prosecution ordered him to be detained for 10 days for investigation. He is a prisoner of conscience.

Name: Saleh al-Mulla (m)

Issues: Prisoner of conscience, Freedom of expression, Legal concern

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Further information on UA: 312/14 (11 December 2014)

Issue Date: 7 January 2015

Country: Egypt

REFUGEES FORCIBLY RETURNED TO GAZA STRIP

The two Palestinian refugees from Syria were forcibly returned to the Gaza Strip.

The Egyptian authorities had been preparing to deport the two men, K. S. and A. A., to either Syria or Gaza. The two men had been living in Syria but fled to Gaza to escape the crisis there. They tried to leave Gaza in October 2014 because of Israel's military offensive codenamed Operation Protective Edge, but were arrested when they tried to enter Egypt via the Rafah crossing.

Less than two weeks after being transferred to a "guarded room" in Cairo International Airport, where they were already detained, they were forcibly returned to the Gaza Strip in the early morning of 23 December.

Amnesty International spoke to one of the men, K. S., who said he was grateful for the organization's action and thanked Amnesty International's members and supporters for their help and support, despite the outcome.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals. This is the first update of UA: 312/14. Further information:

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE12/069/2014/en>

Names: K. S. (m) and A. A. (m)

Issues: Forced return, Fear for safety

8 January 2015

****Immediate Action Required!!!****

Further information on UA: 3/13 (4 January 2013) and updates (8 July 2013, 31 July 2013, 20 January 2014, 23 May 2014 and 1 September 2014)

Issue Date: 8 January 2015

Country: Egypt

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f6u00313.docx>

SAUDI ARABIAN BLOGGER FACES IMMINENT FLOGGING

Amnesty International has been informed that Raif Badawi, a Saudi Arabian blogger and prisoner of conscience, will be publicly flogged on 9 January. Flogging violates the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment in international law.

Name: Raif Badawi (m)

Issues: Torture/ill-treatment, Prisoner of conscience, Freedom of expression

Further information on UA: 164/14 (24 June 2014) and updates (9 July 2014, 17 September 2014 and 27 October 2014)

Issue Date: 8 January 2015

Country: Egypt

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f4u16414.docx>

EGYPTIAN ACTIVISTS' SENTENCES REDUCED

A Cairo court of appeal handed down reduced prison sentences to human rights defender Yara Sallam, activist Sanaa Ahmed Seif and 20 others on 28 December.

Names: Sanaa Ahmed Seif (f), Mohamed Ahmed Youssef Saad, Bassam Mohamed Aly El Saed, Ahmed Samir Mahmoud Mohamed, Islam Tawfik Mohamed Hassan, Yasser Samir Fadel Sayed, Ibrahim Ahmed ElSaed AbdelRahaman, Salwa Aboud Aly Mehrez (f), Karim Moustafa Yassin, Yara Sallam (f), Islam Mohamed AbdelHamid Mohamed, Nahed Sherif Abdelhamid ElSaed (f), Fekrya Mohamed Mohamed (f), Mohamed Anwar Massoud, Hanan Moustafa Ahmed Soliman (f), Moataz Mahmoud Mansour Ragheb, Mohamed ElSaed AlSayed, Ahmed Mohamed Abdelhamid Mohamed, Mahmoud Hesham Hassanien AbdelAziz, Mo'men Mohamed Radwan, Mohamed ElSayed Mohamed, Moustafa Mohamed Ibrahim, Samar Ibrahim Mahmoud Ibrahim (f)

Issues: Prisoner of conscience, Human rights defender, Freedom of expression

UA: 6/15

Issue Date: 8 January 2015

Country: Sri Lanka

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa00615.docx>

DEFENDERS THREATENED IN ELECTION CAMPAIGN

Human rights defenders Brito Fernando, Phillip Dissanayake and Prasanga Fernando have received death threats against themselves and their families.

Name: Brito Fernando (m), Phillip Dissanayake (m) and Prasanga Fernando (m)

Issues: Human rights defenders, Death threats, Fear for safety

Further information on UA: 3/15 (6 January 2015)

Issue Date: 8 January 2015

Country: Tunisia

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f1u00315.docx>

FILM DIRECTOR JAILED FOR 'INSULTING OFFICIAL'

Film director Ines Ben Othman has been sentenced to two months in prison for insulting a public official.

Name: Ines Ben Othman (f)

Issues: Freedom of expression, Legal concern