

The Rt Hon. James Cleverly MP,  
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Affairs,  
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office  
King Charles St, London SW1A 2AH

10 July 2023

Dear James Cleverly,

We are writing to express our grave concerns about the health and well-being of imprisoned Bahraini academic and human rights defender Dr Abduljalil AlSingace whose detention was recently declared arbitrary by a UN watchdog.

8th July marked two years since Dr AlSingace began his hunger strike in protest against the confiscation of his book on Bahraini dialects of Arabic by prison authorities. For the past two years, he has sustained himself only on multivitamin liquid supplements, tea with milk and sugar, water, and salts.

Since July 2021, Dr AlSingace has been held in defacto solitary confinement at Kanoo medical centre where he has been prohibited from going outside and subjected to the deliberate denial of medical care he urgently requires.

The UK has a unique opportunity to intervene in this case owing to the UK Government's close relationship with Bahrain demonstrated by your recent meeting with the Crown Prince and the continued funding of training to the ministry responsible for his imprisonment.

In line with the government's commitment to supporting UN-recognised human rights defenders, we urge you to do all that you can to ensure Bahrain's authorities return Dr AlSingace's research to his family to end his hunger strike, provide the necessary medical treatment, and ensure his unconditional release.

Yours sincerely,

Sir Peter Bottomley MP

Wendy Chamberlain MP

Baroness Stern

Claudia Webbe MP

Jeremy Corbyn MP

Lord Scriven

Kenny MacAskill MP

Baroness Bennett

Martyn Day MP

Apsana Begum MP

Richard Burgon MP

John McDonnell MP

Zarah Sultana MP