

# BAHRAIN

*Issued by the "Bahrain Freedom Movement" to promote human and constitutional rights*

## **The two sides in Bahrain are irreconcilable; the regime must go**

The survival of any regime is tested by its treatment of the citizens. No political regime may remain for long if the people reject it. This is one of the factors that lead to dictatorship and repression. Once real divorce between the two sides becomes irreversible, as is the case in Bahrain, it becomes a matter of time before total disengagement takes place. The changes in the Arab world, despite the relentless support by the West of the ruling tyrannies, confirm the fact that dictators always go and the people gain the upper hand. The change may not lead to better governance, but freedoms often prevail in the aftermath of the fall of dictatorships. This is true in the case of Iraq. Saddam Hussain was a brutal dictator who was at odds with everyone in his country, including his sons-in-laws. He had formidable security agencies, several parallel armies and a strong personality cult. Yet, when the Iraqi people decided that it ought to go, it went. Of course various factors interacted to produce an environment for foreign intervention, but it is the people's will and wishes that dictated the road map to the regime's downfall. This is also true in the case of Gaddafi of Libya, Ben Ali of Tunisia, Mubarak of Egypt and Ali Abdullah Saleh of Yemen. It is clear that the counter revolution forces had learnt from the case of Iraq that had happened eight years earlier (April 2003). Those forces acted swiftly against those heads of state once it became clear that the relations with their people were irreconcilable. If they were not removed from the scene speedily the people's revolts would have led to the total collapse of the old regimes, not just their figurehead. In this case the counter revolution forces would have lost the game. Populist orders would have replaced the puppet regimes with incalculable consequences.

After seven years of undisrupted political revolt, the Bahraini regime is doomed. No power on earth can remould it and make it acceptable to the people who have lost hundreds of martyrs, thousands of torture victims hundreds of exiles and similar number of natives with revoked nationality. Furthermore, the present Alkhalifa dictator had committed crimes none of his predecessors had the courage or the audacity to do. Mosques and other political structures were destroyed on the onset of the Revolution. More than forty of these were obliterated in an act of revenge, not just against the people, but their religion, culture and heritage. Moreover, this dictator has committed heinous crimes against Bahraini women. He allowed his

henchmen to wreak havoc on hundreds of women, allowing them to abuse and rape victims. When some of them protested they were severely punished. The case of journalist, Naziha Saeed, the France 24 correspondent in Bahrain stands as an undisputed case of extreme form of torture inflicted on women. When she took her case to the regime's courts, her torturer was first given a light prison sentence and then released. The victim was subjected to horrific treatment until she was forced to flee the country. The case of Zainab al Khawaja (angryArabia) also stands as testimony to the ferocity of the Alkhalifa dictatorship. Today at least ten Bahraini women relinquish behind bars for being anti-regime peaceful activists.

The regime's crimes are countless. Journalists have also suffered immensely. Several of them were assassinated including Salah Abbas. Others have been given harsh prison sentences while others have suffered citizenship revocation. Those crimes have taken new dimensions. The present dictator has targeted the religious leadership of the native majority. Ayatullah Sheikh Isa Qassim has suffered the lion share of regime's atrocities. He has been under house arrest for almost two years, had his nationality revoked, and his home was subjected to a bloody attack last year that led to the martyrdom of five of the young people defending their leader. Scores of people from the town of Duraz where Sheikh Qassim resides, were subsequently rounded up, tortured, abused and forced to sign false statements. Some of them have been sentenced to capital punishment. The regime and its backers in Washington and London know for a fact that those victims are innocent of the charges levelled against them, but the lack of morality, human feelings or decency have prevented these powers making a stand against this blatant criminal oppression. They may think that this strategy would pay off at the end and that subsequent political arrangement would pacify the opposition to their criminal ally. They are wrong. This time, both parties are working towards a total disengagement. Neither has any wish to remain in this disastrous arrangement. It is shocking that these allies would sanction the regime's policies especially its attempt to change the demography of the country. When the natives of a country find themselves unable to run their own affairs, settle on the land of their great grandfathers, are being over-

powered by the regime employing foreign mercenaries, then any talk of reconciliations becomes hollow and void.

The next phase of the struggle will determine when the final divorce will be completed. The dictator's strategy is four folds. The first is to present a "democratic" face to the outside world, exploiting modern terms of democracy, elections, parliament and human rights. The second is to portray the native Bahrainis as Iranian agents, criminals and terrorists. The third is to drain out the opposition through imprisonment of activists or anyone who opposes the regime, torture, killing, executions, citizenship revocation and banishment. The fourth is to infiltrate the natives with a programme of recruitment of agents, spies, mouthpieces and opportunists. These people will be presented to the outside world as representative of the native population. The main support for this strategy comes from the UK government which has placed its weight behind these dictatorial regimes to continue its imperial past. This policy does not serve the interests of the British people who are suffering the negative consequences of the alliance with the Saudis. It is ironic that the opposition Labour Party under Jeremy Corbyn has been able to see through the political haze created by the petrodollars while the government officials claim not to see the real face of these dictatorships. It is hoped that the reality of the situation reveals itself to the British masses when they vote.

Bahrain's people have wholeheartedly endeavoured to present a moderate, progressive and humane opposition to replace an autocratic regime whose main values are enshrined in the tribal Bedouin heritage. The activists have all along been at the receiving end of the regime's punches, preferring to suffer themselves rather than allowing the country to sink into blood baths. Violence has been waged by one side against the other. More than 200 natives have lost their lives in the struggle for democracy, while not a single member of the Alkhalifa ruling family has suffered a scratch since they occupied the country more than 200 years ago. The occupation is illegal and cannot continue. The British had colonised Bahrain for 150 years but that reign came to an end in 1971. Before them the Persians were present in the country after the Portuguese had ruled for 80 years prior. All these foreign forces were forced out. The Alkhalifa are the weakest foreign power to occupy the land. It is time for them to go.

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## Saudis shaken by palace attack, NGOs call to stop executing Bahrainis

Fear is growing in the Western echelons of power about the ability of the present political order in Saudi Arabia to survive, following the events that happened recently in Riyadh. On Saturday evening (21st April) a drone was spotted by the security forces hovering above the king's palace at AlKhuzami district of Riyadh raising fear of an imminent attack. It was shot down. Soon afterwards, sounds of fire exchanges were heard by many as police cars rushed to the area and closed the nearby roads. It was reported that king Salman had been flown out of his palace to a remote military base "for his own safety". Nothing has been clarified about what had happened that night. The House of Saud has been in turmoil since crown prince Mohammad bin Salman imposed himself as the de facto ruler of the kingdom.

Meanwhile an international outcry against the Saudi attack on a marriage ceremony in the Yemeni capital, Sanaa, has caused severe embarrassment in London and Washington. The targeted attack on Sunday 22nd April killed sixty people including women and children and injured more than a hundred. It was a deliberate aggression in revenge for the Yemeni missiles aimed at the Riyadh and other cities. This is a war crime that has rattled the international community which has remained silent despite countless similar attacks.

The annual report of published by the US State Department has dealt severe blow to Alkhalifa regime for its gross violations of human rights. It said that the most significant human rights issues included reports of arbitrary or unlawful killings by security forces; torture of detainees and prisoners; harsh and potentially life-threatening conditions of detention; arbitrary arrest and detention; political prisoners; unlawful

interference with privacy; restrictions on freedom of expression, including by the press and via the internet; restriction of academic and cultural events; restrictions on the rights of association and assembly; allegations of restrictions on freedom of movement, including arbitrary citizenship revocation; and limits on Shia political participation. The government occasionally prosecuted low-level security force members accused of human rights abuses, following investigations by quasi-governmental institutions. Nonetheless, due to the frequently slow and ineffective nature of investigations, impunity remained a problem. The ruling family issued a statement expressing "regret over the false information contained in the US Department of State's 2017 report on human rights in the Kingdom".

Pressure is mounting on Bahrain's dictator to stop his orders to execute Bahrainis. Both Reprieve, the anti-death campaigning NGO and Amnesty International have called on the dictator to cancel his order of execution. Reprieve issued a petition for this effect. Under the heading "Bahrain: don't execute victims of torture" it said: Maher Abbas al-Khabbaz was beaten, whipped and electrocuted before he was forced at gunpoint to make a false confession to killing a police officer in 2013. His execution is now imminent, awaiting only a signed death warrant from Bahrain's King. Last week, Bahrain's Attorney General recommended that two other men facing imminent execution have their cases retried after Reprieve and other organisations exposed their mistreatment. Will you join us in calling on the Bahraini government to do the same for Maher and other victims of torture facing execution, and ensure that all retrials meet minimum fair

trial standards. On 19th April Amnesty International asked people to "write immediately in Arabic, English or your own language: Urging the Bahraini authorities to commute all death sentences and establish an official moratorium on executions; Urging them to order the full retrial of both men, in proceedings that fully comply with international fair trial standards and exclude the use of evidence obtained under torture, and without resort to the death penalty; Urging them to promptly, adequately and effectively investigate their allegations of torture and other ill-treatment."

On Monday 23rd April Alkhalifa court adjourned the case of Nabeel Rajab until 8th May to consider his appeal against an earlier conviction. Mr Rajab had been condemned to five years for peacefully expressing his opinion and criticising the Saudi-led war on Yemen. There is enormous pressure on the ruling family to cancel this conviction and release Mr Rajab. But the blood-thirsty regime refuses.

In continuation of the persecution of the families of martyrs, a regime court has revoked the nationality of six members of the family of Ali AlMo'min who was among the first to be killed by Alkhalifa in February 2011. On 19th April Alkhalifa-appointed "judge" Ali Khalifa Al Dhahrani sentenced four to life imprisonment: Qasim Abdulla Ali AlMo'min, Yasser Ahmad Abdulla AlMo'min, Ali Jaffar Abdulla AlMo'min and Hussain Ahmad Abdulla AlMo'min. Mustafa Ahmad Abdulla Al Mo'min was given five years and Ammar Ahmad Abdulla AlMo'min three years. He also ruled that Bahraini citizenship of the six natives be revoked

**Bahrain Freedom Movement**  
25th April 2018

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## Corbyn renews calls for Saudi arms embargo as Alkhalifa punish Bahrainis

On Monday 16th April UK's Labour Party leader, Jeremy Corbyn stunned many Members of Parliament when he asked the Theresa May whether she would stop arms supplies to Saudi Arabia. He was pressing her to accept that any future involvement in wars should be done only after consulting the parliament. He had objected to the attack on Syria last Saturday by USA, UK and France. "We clearly need a War Powers Act in this country to transform a now broken convention into a legal obligation." He said. Mr Corbyn added: "Her predecessor came to this House to seek authority for military action in Libya and in Syria in 2015, and the House had a vote over Iraq in 2003. Then Mr Corbyn asked: "Will the Prime Minister commit today to ending support to the Saudi bombing campaign and arms sales to Saudi Arabia?"

Human rights campaigners in UK have begun an attempt to overturn a high court judgment that allows the British government to continue to export arms to Saudi Arabia for use in Yemen. The Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT) brought the case against Liam Fox, the international

trade secretary, seeking permission to appeal against a decision last July that granting licences for the export of arms from the UK to Saudi Arabia was not unlawful. CAAT has warned that British weapons could be used to kill or injure Yemeni civilians. Since the bombing of the war-torn country began in March 2015, the UK has licensed £4.6bn of arms to the Saudi regime, including £2.7bn of ML10 licences for aircraft, helicopters and drones, and £1.9bn of ML4 licences for grenades, bombs and missiles. Last month, Unicef reported that thousands of children had been killed during the conflict. The protesters claim that the decision to grant the licences breached UK arms export policy, which states that the licences cannot be granted if there is a "clear risk" the arms might be used in a serious violation of international humanitarian law.

The behaviour of the Yemen occupiers has raised serious concerns among human rights bodies. Yesterday, Human Rights Watch issued a statement titled: "Yemen: Detained African Migrants Tortured, Raped". It said: Yemeni government offi-

cial have tortured, raped, and executed migrants and asylum seekers from the Horn of Africa in a detention center in the southern port city of Aden. Former detainees told Human Rights Watch that guards beat them with steel bars and sticks, whipped them, kicked and punched them, threatened to kill or deport them, sexually assaulted them, and fatally shot at least two men. Male guards forced women to take off their abayas (full-length robes) and headscarves. They took migrants' money, personal belongings, and documents provided by the United Nations refugee agency. "Guards at the migrant detention center in Aden have brutally beaten men, raped women and boys, and sent hundreds out to sea in overloaded boats," said Bill Frelick, refugee rights director at Human Rights Watch. "The crisis in Yemen provides zero justification for this cruelty and brutality". Meanwhile in Bahrain, human rights violation have continued unabated. On 17th April Alkhalifa courts passed harsh prison sentences on several native Bahrainis calling for democratic transformation.

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## Saudis attack Qatif, calls for moratorium on executions in Bahrain

The "reformist" face of the Saudi crown prince, Mohammad bin Salman (MBS) that appears to the West is a camouflage to a more sinister face of repression, dictatorship and state terrorism. The real face of the Saudi regime was laid bare this week when regime's troops stormed the Eastern city of Qatif, raided many houses and detained scores of innocent people. Yesterday, the district of Kuwaikeb was viciously attacked. The Hussaini congregation hall of "Ben Jum'a" was stormed and at least three of its attendants were seized at gunpoint. Another house in the vicinity was fired on. The town of Al Qudaih was also attacked. Several people were killed in recent months.

Meanwhile pressure is mounting on France to stop arming the Saudis whose crown prince has visited Paris in recent days. He was on a mission to USA, UK and France to urge them to attack Syria. The French president was under pressure to stop arming the Saudis and to ask his guest to stop his war on Yemen. MBS's ill-fated criminal adventures in Bahrain, Yemen, Lebanon, Syria and Iraq have disastrously backfired. He wants to achieve some gains in at least of these countries. Syria remains a weak spot as Saudi-backed terrorists continue to wreak havoc on the country. Donald Trump has already said openly that if the Saudis wanted the Americans to remain and fight the Syrian regime they must pay. MBS spent three weeks in USA in one of his longest trips with the aim of creating pressure on the White House to wage war on Syria. The implication of this is that such a war could also involve Iran and Hezbollah, considered by MBS to be enemies.

In a worrying development both Saudi Arabia and UAE have drawn plans to iso-

late Qatar and turn it into an island. Their evil plan is to dig up a canal parallel to the southern borders of the Qatar peninsula linking the waterways on the two sides of Qatar. The Saudis would control the new canal while the Egyptians would be hired to dig the canal. Steps have already been taken including a planned evacuation of the border post of Salwa which links Saudi Arabia with Qatar. The plan also stipulates a one kilometre buffer zone between the canal and the Qatari borders. This area will be used to dump nuclear waste from Saudi and Emirati nuclear reactors under construction. On Monday 9th April, well-wishers from various human rights bodies staged a protest outside the Bahraini Embassy in London to mark seven years of Abdul Hadi Al Khawaja's incarceration. Front Line Defenders took the initiative and invited his two daughters to attend. In the evening a seminar was held at the Free World Centre to mark the occasion with Zainab and Maryam Al Khawaja taking the stage to present a human account of the experience of the family and to remember the father.

On Thursday 5th April Britain opened its first permanent military base in the Middle East in more than four decades in Bahrain. The UK Naval Support Facility can house up to 500 Royal Navy personnel, including sailors, soldiers and airmen. British officials have described it as the first permanent British base east of the Suez Canal since 1971. "It offers us a much better base than we've had before, a much more permanent presence and a real infrastructure for our people who are working and operating here all the time," said Commander of the Joint Forces Command of the U.K. Gen. Chris Deverell. The re-establishment of the British base was announced in late 2014 following the invitation by Bahrain's dicta-

tor for UK to build a permanent presence. The costs were paid from the public purse at a time when the people face extremely harsh economic situation. Food subsidies are being phased out and many families are now unable to taste meat for long periods. The UK government is under fire for supporting this most horrific tribal dictatorship which has waged extermination war on the native inhabitants with thousands behind bars, hundreds dead and many exiled. The Foreign Office has been accused of trying to cover up its funding of a programme to train the Bahraini police in crowd control techniques, including the use of water cannon and dogs. However, it has emerged that the fund was used to pay for Bahrain's chief of police, Tariq al-Hassan, and other senior officers to travel to Belfast to learn how police in Northern Ireland deal with public protests.

Last week, Reprieve, which campaigns against the death penalty, issued a public petition calling for cancelling the death sentence on Maher Abbas al-Khabbaz who is on death row in Bahrain. It said: Maher Abbas was beaten, whipped and electrocuted before he was forced at gunpoint to make a false confession to killing a police officer in 2013. His execution is now imminent, awaiting only a signed death warrant from Bahrain's King. Last week, Bahrain's Attorney General recommended that two other men facing imminent execution have their cases retried after Reprieve and other organisations exposed their mistreatment. Will you join us in calling on the Bahraini government to do the same for Maher and other victims of torture facing execution, and ensure that all retrials meet minimum fair trial standards?

**Bahrain Freedom Movement**  
11th April 2018

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## Bahrain: When we tried to visit Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja

It was two in the morning on Wednesday 04 April 2018. The silver-haired passport official in the crisp white uniform stood behind the glass of Booth 16 at Bahrain's Airport.

He looked at my landing card, trying to decipher my appalling writing. "I'm here with this guy, a member of the Danish parliament," I explained. "We're here to visit the jailed human rights defender Abdulhadi Al-..."

"Khawaja," the officer finished for me. "Ah yes..."

Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja, founder of the Gulf Centre for Human Rights (GCHR), is one of the most famous people in Bahrain, an instantly recognised name, a veteran rights activist known across the world for his years of peaceful dissent against Bahrain's dictatorship.

The MP -Lars Aslan Rasmussen- and myself had arrived in Bahrain in an attempt to see the Danish citizen Al-Khawaja in jail, where he has been for seven years. He has been tortured, sex-

ually assaulted, given a sham trial, and sentenced to life in prison.

The passport guy, super polite and mildly panicked, told us to wait outside a small office where an animated discussion took place over the next 30 minutes as more officials piled in and occasionally came out to stare at Lars and myself as we tweeted what was happening.

Eventually one of the passport staff came out to clarify which Al-Khawaja we were hoping to visit: Abdulhadi or one of his daughters? I explained that both of his daughters, Zainab and Maryam, who had also been jailed for their peaceful dissent, were released years ago and now lived in exile in Europe. "Ooooooh..." he mouthed.

After another hour or so Lars and I were moved back behind the passport booths next to the Formula One Welcome Desk. The annual Grand Prix was a few days later, and we waited next to posters and leaflets welcoming fans for the race.

Several hours later a group of passport officials gathered in front of us. One nerv-

ously stepped forward and explained that neither Lars nor myself would be allowed into the country "for security reasons." I asked the guy his name and he said "Hussain Yousif," but refused to write it down for me. He repeated that we were being denied entry because "Security" had deemed us both a security risk.

We asked for our passports back. They refused. We were left to amble about the small airport, unclear when we would be able to leave. The incident was generating significant publicity about Al-Khawaja in Denmark, where it soon became front page news in the dailies. International news wires began to cover the story, replacing Bahrain's soft PR about the Formula One race with analysis of its horrific human rights record.

Bahrain's prisons are full with thousands of prisoners, many of whom have been tortured into making false confessions. People are jailed for tweeting criticism of the government, opposition political groups are banned, *Continued on P4*

## NGOs call for release of Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja on 7th arrest anniversary

05 Apr 2018

BY INDEX ON CENSORSHIP

Seven years ago this month, renowned human rights defender and former Index award winner Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja was dragged from his home in Bahrain, tortured, tried in a military court, and sentenced to life in prison for his peaceful role in 2011 protests. Today, 5 April, on Al-Khawaja's 57th birthday, the undersigned human rights organisations call for his immediate release and for all human rights defenders jailed in Bahrain to be freed.

Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja is an internationally-known Bahraini-Danish human rights defender who is the founder and former President of the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights (BCHR), established in 2002, and a Founding Director of the Gulf Centre for Human Rights (GCHR), established in 2011. He was Middle East and North Africa Protection Coordinator for Front Line Defenders until February 2011, when he resigned during the popular movement in Bahrain.

He was violently arrested on 9 April 2011 and charged in connection with his peaceful human rights activities. This was followed by brutal torture, resulting in a broken jaw and requiring several operations, then finally by an unfair trial grossly violating international standards for fair trials and due process. He undertook a number of hunger strikes to protest torture and poor prison conditions.

Al-Khawaja is one of a group of 13 human rights defenders and political activists (the Bahrain 13) sentenced to lengthy prison terms solely for exercising their right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly. Following a grossly unfair trial, Al-Khawaja was sentenced by the National Safety court (a military court) on 22 June 2012 to life in prison, along with seven other members of the Bahrain 13. As the sentence was being pronounced, Al-Khawaja raised his fist saying: "We will continue on the path of peaceful resistance."

The current situation in Bahrain is dire. The vast majority of human rights defenders are in jail, in exile, under travel ban, or enduring severe threats and intimidation as a result of their peaceful work. Dozens have been abused and tortured. International NGOs and journalists have been prevented from visiting Bahrain to document the government's ongoing human rights abuses.

At the same time, Bahrain continues to host events such as the Formula One 2018 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix from 06 to 08 April, during which time any protests are sure to be met with reprisals. Just two days ahead of the Formula One, on 04 April 2018 at 02am, Lars Aslan Rasmussen, a Danish Member of Parliament, and Brian Dooley, GCHR Advisory Board member, arrived in Bahrain in an attempt to visit Al-Khawaja in prison.

They were refused entry on the basis that they posed a "security risk" and deported.

We the undersigned call on the authorities in Bahrain to:

Immediately and unconditionally free Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja and all other human rights defenders from prison;

Provide proper access to medical care and sanitary conditions in prison;

Allow Abdulhadi Al-Khawaja and all prisoners proper access to families;

Allow international NGOs and journalists free access to Bahrain, including for the purposes of visiting detained human rights defenders; and

Guarantee in all circumstances that human rights defenders in Bahrain are able to carry out their legitimate activities without fear of reprisals and free of all restrictions including judicial harassment.

Signed by:

Americans for Democracy & Human Rights in Bahrain (ADHRB)

Arabic Network for Human Rights Information (ANHRI)

Bahrain Center for Human Rights

Bahrain Institute for Rights and Democracy

English PEN

European Center for Democracy and Hu-

man Rights (ECDHR)

FIDH, under the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders

Front Line Defenders

Gulf Centre for Human Rights (GCHR)

IFEX

Index on Censorship

PEN International

World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT), under the Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders



### We tried to visit Abdul Hadi

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and last year executions resumed for the first time in many years.

Later in the morning another passport official came to find us. An unpleasant little man, he said it was his job to retain our passports. We asked why we couldn't have them back. "It's my job" he kept repeating, exasperated at our failure to understand why the same people who ordered us to leave the country were holding onto our passports.

We spent over 24 hours in the airport, giving media interviews and tweeting about Al-Khawaja and other human rights defenders jailed in Bahrain, including Nabeel Rajab and Najj Fateel. It seemed a decent way to mark the 50th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther King.

The officials finally returned our passports (what were they doing with them in that office for 25 hours?), and we boarded a plane out at 3.30am on Thursday for Istanbul, and then onto Copenhagen. That night Lars was a guest on Danish TV's most popular chat show, reminding the public that one of their own is a leading human rights defender in prison in Bahrain, and that their government's policy of quiet diplomacy is failing to secure his release.

Al-Khawaja has spent the last two and half thousand days in jail. It's time for the Danish government and European Union officials to take responsibility to have him released, to stop kidding themselves that behind closed door discussions with Bahrain's violent dictatorship will work, and impose real consequences unless he is freed.

For more information see:

<http://www.gc4hr.org/news/view/1823>

### Corbyn urges arms embargo

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Sayed Majeed Al Mahfood, 16, from Al Na'a'im District was given three years in addition to two years passed earlier. Seven others from the same area were given prison terms between 3 and seven years. From AlDaih Town three natives were given seven years: Abdalla AlMutawwa', Hussain Jassim and Ammar AlSadadi. The homes of four Bahrainis executed at sea in February have been raided by regime's forces. The families of Maitham Ali Ibrahim, Sayed Mahmood Adel, Hassan AlBahrani and Sayed Qassim Khalil were subjected to horrific treatment, searched, intimidated and interrogated about their loved ones who attempted to flee Alkhalifa repression. The regime acknowledged that its coastguards had sprayed their boat with bullets. The bodies of the four victims were subsequently found by Iranian coastguards.

The health of Nabeel Rajab has deteriorated over the past few days, but the torture apparatus insists on denying him medical treatment. He has been suffering from various ailments including back and stomach pain.

Two days ago several inmates were beaten up by Alkhalifa torturers. Sadiq Al Ghasra, Mohammad Al Ghasra and Sadiq AlAsfoor were subjected to horrific ordeal of torture for urging the prisoners to stage a hunger strike in protest at the deteriorating prison conditions. They were transferred to solitary confinement as their wounds continued to bleed.

**Bahrain Freedom Movement**

18th April 2018