

URGENT ACTION

EGYPTIAN NATIONAL DETAINED, RISKS TORTURE

An Egyptian national, Ahmad Mas'ad al-Ma'dawi, was arrested at Abu Dhabi's International Airport as he was leaving the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 13 January. His whereabouts are unknown and he may be at risk of torture and other ill-treatment.

Ahmad Mas'ad al-Ma'dawi, an Egyptian national, was arrested without a warrant by airport police on 13 January as he was about to board a flight to Turkey from Abu Dhabi International Airport. Two days later police took him to his father-in-law's house in Abu Dhabi and searched it. His laptop, as well as his father-in-law's computer, were confiscated. His family have not seen or heard from him since.

Ahmad Mas'ad al-Ma'dawi had arrived in Abu Dhabi in November 2013 with his wife and now 16-month-old daughter seeking a job in the UAE and stayed with his wife's parents, who had lived in Abu Dhabi for 22 years. He had also applied for a residence permit. According to his wife Eman Abdulrahim Mohammad Youssef, he has no affiliation to any political party or group either in the UAE or in Egypt. The family have submitted requests for information from numerous officials, including the UAE's Minister of Justice, Minister of Interior and Prime Minister, about the reasons for his arrest and his current whereabouts, but these have been ignored. They also appointed a lawyer for Ahmad Mas'ad al-Ma'dawi, who has been unable to meet his client to get him to sign a proxy enabling him to represent him. Eman Abdulrahim Mohammad Youssef's father was also arrested and detained without charge from 13 February until 3 June, when he was expelled to Egypt. He was never told why he had been detained.

Please write immediately in Arabic, English or your own language:

- Urging the UAE authorities to disclose the whereabouts of Ahmad Mas'ad al-Ma'dawi;
- Expressing concern about his arrest and continuing detention and urging them to immediately and unconditionally release him if he is not promptly charged with an internationally recognisable criminal offence;
- Urging them to ensure that he is protected from torture and other ill-treatment, and allowed immediate access to his family, a lawyer of his choice and any medical attention he may require.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 29 AUGUST 2014 TO:

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior

Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al-Nahyan
Human Rights Directorate
POB 398
Abu Dhabi, UAE
Fax: +971 4 398 1119
Twitter: @SaifBZayed
Salutation: Your Highness

Minister of Justice

Sultan bin Saeed Al Badi.
Al Khubirah
Sector 93, Street 5
P.O. Box 260
Abu Dhabi
United Arab Emirates
Fax: +971 2 681 0680
Email, via website:
<http://ejustice.gov.ae/portal/page/portal/eJustice%20MOJ%20Portal/HomePages/Contact%20Us/Feedback>
Salutation: Your Excellency

And copies to:

President

Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
Ministry of Presidential Affairs
Corniche Road, Abu Dhabi,
P.O. Box 280, United Arab Emirates
Fax: +971 2 622 2228
Email: ihtimam@mopa.ae
Salutation: Your Highness

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Despite certain safeguards in the UAE Constitution and laws, the rights of detainees upon arrest are routinely disregarded, especially in cases where the State Security Agency (SSA) is involved. Amnesty International has recorded other instances of foreign nationals being arrested and held in incommunicado detention for weeks or months during pre-trial detention. Such arrests are typically carried out by the SSA, which deals with national and state security cases.

Generally, people are arrested without warrants, taken to unofficial secret detention facilities where they are kept for weeks or months without trial and with no access to legal representation, and tortured or otherwise ill-treated. Their families are often not told where they are, and officials ignore families' attempts to find out.

Name: Ahmad Mas'ad al-Ma'dawi

Gender m/f: m

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