

URGENT ACTION

CHILDREN RELEASED ON BAIL IN BAHRAIN

Two young Bahraini cousins were released on bail on 26 December 2013.

The Juvenile Prosecution ordered on 26 December that 13-year-old cousins Sayed Tameem Majed Ahmad Majed and Sayed Hashim Alwai Ahmad Majed should be released on bail. Both are still facing charges of “illegal gathering” and “throwing Molotov cocktails at a police patrol”.

They had been arrested on 7 December in the north-western village of Bani Jamra, and taken to the police station in al-Budaya, Manama, in two separate incidents. Sayed Tameem was arrested in front of his grandparents’ house about 15 minutes after he had arrived with his family for a visit, and while he was playing with a younger cousin. He had run away after seeing a police patrol approaching, but his family did not see him being arrested. They were later told by eyewitnesses that Sayed Tameem had been taken away by a police patrol. Sayed Hashim was arrested at about 3.45pm near his grandparents’ house while on his way to a nearby shop.

The families of the two boys met at the police station when they went to inquire about their sons. Sayed Tameem’s family were told that he had been found with a stone in his hand.

Both boys said they had been shouted at during questioning. Sayed Hashim was threatened with being burned on the head with a cigarette butt if he did not “confess” to rioting. They were released the same day and brought before the Juvenile Prosecution, with their lawyer, on 8 December. The prosecutor ordered them to be detained for five days for investigation. The detention order was renewed twice, on 12 and 19 December.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Amnesty International will keep monitoring the situation and will take action when necessary. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

This is the first update of UA 344/13. Further information: <http://amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE11/060/2013/en>

Name: Sayed Tameem Majed Ahmad Majed, Sayed Hashim Alwai Ahmad Majed
Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 344/13 Index: MDE 11/001/2014 Issue Date: 6 January 2014

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