

URGENT ACTION

MORSI AND HIS AIDES TO STAND TRIAL

Deposed president Mohamed Morsi and five of his aides will stand trial on 16 February on charges of “spying”. If convicted, they may face the death penalty. At least two of the men do not have access to lawyers.

Ousted president **Mohamed Morsi** will stand trial on 16 February along with 35 other men, including aides **Ahmed Abdelaty, Ayman Ali, Essam al-Haddad, Assaad al-Shikha** and **Mohamed Refa’a al-Tahtawy**. The indictment, seen by Amnesty International, lists the charges as spying for the “International Organization of the Muslim Brotherhood and its armed wing” and Hamas from 2005 to 2013 by revealing classified information, as well as committing terrorist acts against the military and police to cause chaos, overthrow the state and seize power. The Prosecution has also charged the men with helping armed groups to enter Egypt through tunnels from the Gaza Strip in order to attack the state. All of the men are detained in solitary confinement at Tora Maximum Security Prison, unofficially known as al-Aqrab (the Scorpion). The families of Essam al-Haddad and Ayman Ali stated that the men do not have access to lawyers and the Prosecution referred them to trial without investigating them. The indictment refers to the two men as “fugitives”; however, they have been in the custody of security forces since 3 July 2013.

The Prosecution has also not formally charged **Abdelmeguid Mashali, Khaled al-Qazzaz** and **Ayman al-Serafy** with any criminal offence, even though they have spent over seven months in detention. The authorities have prevented lawyers from visiting them, except to attend investigation sessions by the Supreme State Security Prosecution.

Security forces raided a number of cells in Tora Prison on 25 January, confiscating belongings, writing materials, bedding and medication. The Interior Ministry has said it will not allow the families any further visits until 1 March.

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

- Calling on the Egyptian authorities to ensure Mohamed Morsi and the five aides are tried in line with international standards for fair trial and without recourse to the death penalty;
- Calling on them to grant the detainees immediate and regular access to their families, lawyers and any medical treatment they may require;
- Urging them to release Abdelmeguid Mashali, Khaled al-Qazzaz and Ayman al-Serafy unless they are charged promptly with recognizably criminal offences by the ordinary Prosecution and tried before civilian courts in proceedings that are in line with international standards for fair trial, without recourse to the death penalty.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 28 MARCH 2014 TO:

Interim President
Adly Mahmoud Mansour
Office of the President
Al Ittihadia Palace
Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt
Fax: +202 2 391 1441
Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Defence
Field Marshal Abdel Fattah al-Sisi
Ministry of Defence
Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt
Fax: +202 2 290 6004,
+202 2 291 6227
Email: mmc@afmic.gov.eg,
mod@afmic.gov.eg
Salutation: Dear Field Marshal

Public Prosecutor
Hesham Mohamed Zaki Barakat
Office of the Public Prosecutor
Supreme Court House, 1 “26 July” Road
Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt
Fax: +202 2 577 4716, +202 2 575 7165
(switched off after office hours, GMT+2)
Salutation: Dear Counsellor

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. This is the fifth update of UA 196/13. Further information:

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE12/079/2013/en>

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



URGENT ACTION

MORSI AND HIS AIDES TO STAND TRIAL

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

On the morning of 25 January, prison security forces raided cells in Tora Maximum Security Prison and confiscated detainees' clothing and medication, personal belongings, pens, books and paper, as well as beds and blankets. The raids appeared to be a move to stop detainees communicating with the outside world. Since then, prison authorities have also not allowed the men medication on a regular basis for chronic diseases, families said.

Families have told Amnesty International that all the men are held in dark cells with poor ventilation and are only allowed out of the cell once a day for one hour. They have also said that the prison authorities do not allow families to bring food to the men. The prison authorities provide the men with only two light meals daily.

Mohamed Morsi is now standing trial in three separate cases. In September 2013, the Prosecution indicted him on charges of murder and incitement to violence, following an investigation into deadly political violence around the presidential palace in Cairo in December 2012. Defence lawyers were only able to obtain a copy of the 7,000-page case file just four days before the trial opened in November 2013 and were not able to meet with Morsi, undermining the defendants' right to prepare an adequate defence. At the first session of the trial, the authorities allowed only four members of the main defence team into the court. The trial will continue on 1 March 2014. Aides Ahmed Abdelaty, Ayman Hodhod and Assaad al-Shikha are also standing trial in the case.

Separately, Mohamed Morsi is facing trial on charges of organizing a jailbreak during the "25 January Revolution". Security forces had arrested Mohamed Morsi on 28 January 2011 and held him in prison with other leading members of the Muslim Brotherhood movement. On 30 January 2011, unidentified individuals stormed a number of prisons in Egypt, leading and in some cases forcing inmates out of detention, among them Mohamed Morsi. The trial will continue on 22 February 2014.

The former president will also face trial in another case on charges of insulting the judiciary, state media reported in January 2014.

Name: Mohamed Morsi, Ayman Ali, Ahmed Abdelaty, Assaad al-Shikha, Khaled al-Qazzaz, Essam al-Haddad, Abdelmeguid Mashal, Mohamed Refa'a al-Tahtawy, Ayman al-Hodhod and Ayman al-Serafy
Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 196/13 Index: MDE 12/007/2014 Issue Date: 14 February 2014