

URGENT ACTION

MAHDI SAHWAN RELEASED

Bahraini political activist Mahdi Sahwan was released on 8 July after serving a one-year prison sentence for “insulting” the King and “calling for and participating in an illegal gathering”.

Mahdi Sahwan, a 44-year-old Bahraini Islamist activist, was released from Jaw Prison on 8 July after serving his one-year prison sentence. He had been arrested on 7 July 2013 over speeches he had given two days earlier during political rallies and in which he was said to have “insulted” the King and called for and participated in an illegal gathering.

On 30 September 2013 he was sentenced by Branch 3 of the Lower Criminal Court to 15 months’ imprisonment which was later reduced to one year on appeal.

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 275/13. Further information: <http://amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE11/049/2013/en>.

Name: Mahdi Sahwan

Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 275/13 Index: MDE 11/020/2014 Issue Date: 10 July 2014