

# URGENT ACTION

## FEAR OF ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE OF ACTIVISTS

**Southern Yemeni political activists Anwar Ismail and Khaled al-Junaidi disappeared within days of one another. It is feared that they have been subjected to enforced disappearance by security forces and are at imminent risk of torture and other ill-treatment.**

**Anwar Ismail** (38) and **Khaled al-Junaidi** (42) disappeared on 28 and 31 August respectively. Anwar Ismail went missing after a demonstration in the southern Yemeni city of Aden on 28 August where he was seen last, while witnesses say that Khaled al-Junaidi was taken from a gas station in Aden on 31 August after being beaten and dragged into an unmarked car by unidentified gunmen believed to be security agents.

Both activists have been detained by the authorities in recent months in circumstances similar to their current disappearances. Khaled al-Junaidi was arrested by the Special Security, also known as Central Security, on 21 November 2013 and held incommunicado for most of the 21 days of his detention. His family was informed of his whereabouts six days after his arrest. Anwar Ismail was arrested at least twice in 2014, including in early March, and claims to have been tortured by security forces. Both men were held for a period of time ranging from a week to three weeks before being released without charge or trial.

Anwar Ismail and Khaled al-Junaidi are leading activists in the Southern Movement, or al-Hirak, a coalition of political opposition groups in south Yemen that has been demanding secession from the north.

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

- Urging the Yemeni authorities to reveal the whereabouts of Anwar Ismail and Khaled al-Junaidi and to ensure that they are protected from torture and other ill-treatment, and are immediately granted access to their family and a lawyer of their choice;
- Urging that they are immediately moved to a recognized detention centre and promptly charged with a recognizable criminal offence, or else released immediately and unconditionally, and stressing that the peaceful exercise of the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly are guaranteed in international law.

### **PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 17 OCTOBER 2014 TO:**

#### Minister of the Interior

His Excellency Abdu Hussein Muhsen al-Turab  
 Ministry of the Interior  
 Sana'a  
 Republic of Yemen  
 Fax: +967 1 514 532  
 +967 1 331 899  
 Email: moi@yemen.net.ye  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

#### Governor of Aden

Waheed Ali Rasheed  
 PO Box: 6013, Khormaksar  
 Aden  
 Republic of Yemen  
 Fax: +967 2 224 6996  
 Email: adengov8@gmail.com  
**Salutation: Dear Mr Waheed Ali Rasheed**

#### **And copies to:**

Minister of Human Rights  
 Her Excellency Houriah Ahmed  
 Mashhour  
 Ministry of Human Rights  
 Sana'a  
 Republic of Yemen  
 Fax: +967 1 444 833  
 Email: mshr@y.net.ye

**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

Protests in the south of Yemen have been taking place sporadically since 2007 when retired soldiers from the south launched protests complaining that they were not receiving the same treatment in employment, salary and pensions as soldiers from the north of the country. Since then, protests against discrimination against southerners gradually changed to demands for secession which continued after the ousting of the former regime in 2011.

The Southern Movement (also known as al-Hirak, a short form of its name in Arabic) is a loose coalition of political groups, many of whom call for the peaceful separation of southern Yemen, which was independent until its unification with the north in 1990. The Movement appears to have emerged following the 2007 protests and began to organize its own demonstrations over what it perceives to be the government's failure to address discrimination against people from the south of the country.

The government's response to these protests has been heavy-handed. Dozens of demonstrators have been killed in or near demonstrations; in many cases they appear to have been shot dead unlawfully when posing no threat to the lives of the security forces or others. Since the protests began in 2007, the security forces have arrested and detained, in many cases arbitrarily, thousands of demonstrators and bystanders, as well as leaders and activists of the Southern Movement.

Name: Anwar Ismail, Khaled al-Junaidi

Gender m/f: m

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