

URGENT ACTION

QATARI NATIONAL ARBITRARILY HELD INCOMMUNICADO

Qatari national Nawaf al-Rasheed was arbitrarily arrested in Kuwait and has been detained incommunicado in Saudi Arabia since 12 May.

Nawaf al-Rasheed, a Qatari national, was arbitrarily arrested in Kuwait on 12 May and has been detained incommunicado in Saudi Arabia since then. Nawaf al-Rasheed travelled to Kuwait from Qatar on 9 May to attend a social gathering that was held in his honour. Following his three-day trip, according to two friends who travelled with him, Kuwaiti authorities detained him at the Kuwait International Airport passport control and sent him to Saudi Arabia. The Kuwaiti Ministry of Interior confirmed this in a statement dated 15 May. His whereabouts remain unknown; his family informed Amnesty International that he been denied access to a lawyer of his choosing, as well as communication with his family in Doha, and access to Qatari consular services. The reasons of his arrest remain unknown and no clear legal charges have been presented.

Nawaf al-Rasheed is a 28-year-old university student, and the son of the late Saudi Arabian poet Talal al-Rasheed. Amnesty International can confirm that he and two friends travelled to Kuwait to attend a social gathering organized by a prominent Kuwaiti poet. While Nawaf al-Rasheed previously held Saudi Arabian nationality, he currently only holds a Qatari passport.

The Saudi Arabian government has not made any public remarks on the matter; the Kuwaiti Ministry of Interior confirmed the removal in an online statement, citing bilateral security agreements between the two countries. In their statement, the Kuwaiti authorities identified Nawaf al-Rasheed as a Saudi Arabian national and to date, have not given a reason for the detention.

Please write immediately in English, Arabic, or your own language calling on the Saudi Arabian authorities:

- To release Nawaf al-Rasheed and allow him to return to his place of residency in Doha, Qatar, unless he is promptly charged with an internationally recognizable criminal offence and tried in proceedings that conform fully to international fair trial standards.
- To reveal Nawaf al-Rasheed's whereabouts, ensure he is protected from torture and other ill-treatment, and to allow him access to a lawyer of his choice, contact with his family, and access to Qatari consular services.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 30 JULY 2018 TO:

King and Prime Minister

His Majesty King Salman bin Abdul Aziz
Al Saud

The Custodian of the two Holy Mosques

Office of His Majesty the King

Royal Court, Riyadh

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Fax: (via Ministry of Interior)

+966 11 403 3125 (please keep trying)

Twitter: @KingSalman

Salutation: Your Majesty

Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency Adel bin Ahmed Al-Jubeir

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Postal Code 55937

Riyadh 11544

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Fax: +966 11 403 0645

Twitter: @AdelAljubeir

Salutation: Your Excellency

And copies to:

Human Rights Commission

Dr Bandar Mohammed Abdullah al-Aiba

North Ring Road, Exit 2

PO Box 58889

Riyadh 11515

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Fax: +966 11 4185101

Twitter: @HRCSaudi

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Nawaf bin Abdul Aziz - Ambassador of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques in London, Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia, 30 Charles Street, Mayfair, London, W1J 5DZ tel: 020 7917 3000 or 02079173288, fax 02079173113 email: ukemb@mofa.gov.sa complete the webform here: <http://embassies.mofa.gov.sa/sites/uk/EN/ContactDiplomaticMission/Pages/ContactWithDiplomaticMission.aspx>; twitter: @SaudiEmbassyUK, Salutation: Your Royal Highness **Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.**

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**

