



MAKE RIGHTS REAL FOR #ALLCHILDREN

MONTHLY ACTION: MARCH 2019

ERITREA: HELD WITHOUT CHARGE SINCE AGE 15

Ciham Ali Ahmed has been held in incommunicado detention since she was arrested in 2012 when she was just 15 years old.

Ciham is a dual Eritrean and US national, having been born in California and raised in Eritrea. She and her uncle were arrested in 2012 after attempting to cross from Eritrea into Sudan. People who are caught crossing the border are usually imprisoned for four to six months. Ciham has been held for over 5 years. She has not been charged with a crime and no explanation has been given for her detention. It is believed that Ciham and her uncle's prolonged detention is because her father, Ali Ahmed Abdu, defected from his ministerial position in November 2012.

Ciham's grandfather was also arbitrarily detained after he questioned authorities about Ciham and her uncle's detention. He has since died in detention.

Ciham's family claims that when they ask about her detention they are told the case is being handled personally by President Isaias Afwerki. Neither the US government nor anyone else in the international diplomatic community has publicly spoken out about Ciham's disappearance.

TAKE ACTION

Please write to the President of Eritrea calling for Ciham's release. A template letter is attached.

Please also send copies of your letters to:

His Excellency Estifanos Habtemariam Ghebreyesus
Embassy of the State of Eritrea
96 White Lion Street
London
N1 9PF

**Please let us know about any actions taken on this case by contacting:
childrensnetwork@amnesty.org.uk. Thank you.**

