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Her Excellency Ms Alice Thomas Samaan
Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain
c/o Amnesty International UK
17-25 New Inn Yard
London EC2A 3EA



Mahdi Abu Dheeb, former
president of the Bahrain
Teachers' Association, 2009
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FREE MAHDI ABU DHEEB

Defend workers rights in Bahrain

Amnesty International

Mahdi Abu Dheeb, former president of the Bahrain Teachers' Association (BTA), is serving a five-year sentence in Jaw prison for exercising his human rights.

Mahdi Abu Dheeb was arrested on 6 April 2011 at his uncle's house. The men who arrested him threw him from the second storey, then beat him. His family did not know where he was for 24 days.

For 64 days he was held in solitary confinement. During that time, he said, he was tortured by security officials, who beat him with a hose and made him stand for long periods. They forced him to sign documents and 'confess', in front of a camera, to 'calling on teachers to participate in strikes and demonstrations' and 'inciting hatred towards the regime'. Even after that, the beatings continued.

Amnesty International believes he has been imprisoned solely for the exercise of his legitimate rights to freedom of association and because of his trade union activism.

Please sign and return the appeal card to Amnesty International UK. We will deliver it to the Bahrain Ambassador in the UK.



Her Excellency Ms Alice Thomas Samaan
Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain
c/o Amnesty International UK

Dear Ambassador,

I urge the Bahrain authorities to release Mahdi Abu Dheeb immediately and unconditionally, as he is a prisoner of conscience, held solely for peacefully exercising his rights, as a citizen and trade unionist, to freedom of expression and association.

I call on the authorities to investigate Mahdi Abu Dheeb's allegations of torture and other ill-treatment and bring to justice anyone found responsible.

I further urge the authorities to ensure that he is immediately given access to specialised health care, including outside the prison.

Yours sincerely,

Name

Country
