

# Youth Urgent Action



**WHERE:** Manama, Bahrain  
**WHO:** Ali Muslim Ebrahim  
**WHAT:** UNFAIR IMPRISONMENT OF A DIABETIC BOY



Manama, Bahrain's capital



## CASE OVERVIEW

Ali Muslim Ebrahim is a 15 year old diabetic Bahraini boy. On 8<sup>th</sup> September he was arrested and reportedly beaten during interrogation. Now, he is being detained in an adult prison until his next hearing on 25<sup>th</sup> October. Ali suffers from diabetes and needs regular insulin injections and a special diet. It is unknown whether he is receiving regular and adequate medical care in prison.

## BACKGROUND

Ali Muslim Ebrahim was arrested at his home in Northern Bahrain at 2:45am on 8<sup>th</sup> September. The Police said the boy's name was on a list of people to be arrested, but they did not show an *arrest warrant*. He was taken to his local Police Station where he was forced to "confess" to taking part in "illegal gatherings", "throwing petrol bombs" and "rioting".

On 10<sup>th</sup> September Ali was taken to court, where he stated he made his *confessions under duress*. His case is now being investigated and Ali is being held in an a prison for adults in the country's capital. He will remain there until his next court hearing on the 25<sup>th</sup> October.

### About Bahrain:

**Language spoken:** Arabic

**Religious communities:** Shi'a and Sunni Muslims

**Brief History:** Shi'a and Sunni Muslims different historical and political experiences have led to complex disagreements between these two communities. In Bahrain the government is Sunni Led. Shi'a Muslims say that discrimination stops them from getting jobs and enjoying the same opportunities as Sunni Muslims.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/>

### Amnesty's concerns:

In recent years the Bahrain government has cracked down on any form of public protest and anti-government demonstrations have ended violently.

Worryingly, Amnesty has been receiving more and more cases of children being arrested for "rioting". We are concerned that they are being unfairly imprisoned, ill-treated and kept in prisons for adults.

## TAKE ACTION: Appeal Action

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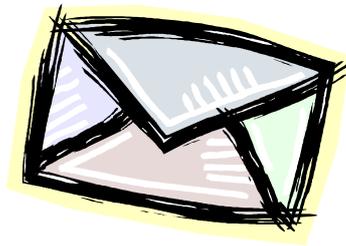
Please write immediately in Arabic or English or your own language to the King of the Kingdom of Bahrain:

- Urging the Bahraini authorities to ensure Ali Muslim Ebrahim receives the regular and adequate medical care he needs.
- Urging them to ensure that Ali Muslim Ebrahim is treated in accordance with the international standards of *juvenile justice*
- Ensure that Ali Muslim Ebrahim is protected from torture and other ill-treatment.
- Ensure that his allegation of ill treatment is independently investigated and that the people found responsible are brought to justice.

**Start your letter:** Your Majesty

**Send your letter to:**

Shaikh Hamad bin 'Issa Al Khalifa  
Office of His Majesty the King  
P.O. Box 555  
Rifa'a Palace, al-Manama, Bahrain



**IF POSSIBLE PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 31 OCTOBER 2013**

## DISCUSSION POINTS

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- How important is a person's age when deciding on what type of sentence to give them?

## MORE INFORMATION

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For more information on human rights issues in Bahrain go to:

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/region/bahrain/report-2013>

A country profile of Bahrain:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-14540571>

## GLOSSARY

### **Juvenile justice:**

The area of law which deals with how young people or children are treated if they have committed or are accused of committing a crime.

### **Arrest Warrant:**

A document written by a legal or government official which authorises the police to arrest someone.

### **To make a confession under duress:**

When someone confesses to doing something as a result of pressure, threats or violent treatment.