

Amnesty Southend Group

Saudi Arabia action 11th February 2016

UK Arms sales - sign on line petition

Write to the PM The Rt Hon David Cameron MP
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 2AA

and Foreign Secretary The Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP
Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
King Charles St,
London SW1A 2AN

Dear Prime Minister/ Foreign Secretary

The bloody conflict in Yemen has been raging for months – but largely ignored by the rest of the world. Devastating air strikes, led by Saudi Arabia, have killed thousands of Yemeni civilians and destroyed homes, schools and hospitals. Meanwhile, the UK government has been providing weapons to those committing these horrific war crimes.

I call on you to:

- *Suspend all arms transfers, to members of the coalition carrying out attacks in Yemen, including weapons, arms, munition and ammunition, parts and components and other equipment that pose a substantial risk that they could be used to commit or facilitate serious violations of international humanitarian law in this conflict;*
- *Condemn the use of cluster munitions in the Yemen crisis;*
- *Call for an international investigation into the human rights violations committed by all sides.*

Raif Badawi - Tweet or e-mail the Syrian embassy

Write to

HRH Prince Mohammed bin Nawaf Al Saud
The Embassy of the King of Saudi Arabia,
30 Charles Street,
London W1J 5DZ

Your Excellency HRH Prince Mohammed Bin Nawaf Bin Abdulaziz al-Saud,

I am extremely concerned for the welfare of the blogger Raif Badawi, currently imprisoned in Saudi Arabia.

I ask you not to flog him at any time - flogging is torture and should never be used as a punishment.

I implore you to free Raif Badawi - he is a prisoner of conscience who has committed no crime. He must not be punished for peacefully exercising his human right to freedom of expression. Please ensure that his conviction and sentence are quashed immediately

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Ashraf - Death Penalty

Ashraf, a 35-year-old poet and artist, is sentenced to be executed by Saudi Arabian authorities for his art.

On 17 November, the General Court in Abha, southwest Saudi Arabia, found Ashraf guilty of 'apostasy' – renouncing Islam – for his poetry and sentenced him to death.

Ashraf was initially arrested on 6 August 2013 following a complaint registered against him by another Saudi citizen, who said that the poet was promoting atheism and spreading blasphemous ideas among young people. Ashraf was released the following day, but then rearrested on 1 January 2014, when he was charged with apostasy – he had supposedly questioned religion and spread atheist thought with his poetry. He was at the same time charged with violating the country's Anti-Cyber Crime Law for allegedly taking and storing photos of women on his phone.

On 30 April 2014, Ashraf was sentenced to four years in prison and 800 lashes for the charges relating to images of women on his phone. The General Court accepted Ashraf's apology for the charges of apostasy and found the punishment to be satisfactory.

However, the court of appeal recommended that Ashraf should still be sentenced for apostasy, and his case was sent back to the General Court, which in turn sentenced him to death for apostasy.

Throughout this whole process, Ashraf was denied access to a lawyer – a clear violation of international human rights law, as well as Saudi Arabia's national laws

1. Please sign the [on-line petition](#).
2. Write to the King and Ambassador and call on the Saudi authorities to release Ashraf immediately and unconditionally, to overturn his sentence and quash his conviction.

King Abdullah 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
Salutation: Your Majesty

His Excellency HRH Prince Mohamed Bin
Nawaf Bin Abdulaziz
Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia
30 Charles Street
London W1J 5DX
Salutation: Your Excellency