

**EGYPT**

# MAHMOUD ABU ZEID (SHAWKAN)

**WRITE  
FOR  
RIGHTS**

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL 

## At risk of death penalty for taking photos

Photojournalist Mahmoud Abu Zeid, known as Shawkan, was covering a sit-in on 14 August 2013 in Cairo when security forces, police and tanks swept in. As bullets and tear gas went flying, he photographed the mayhem around him.

When the police found out Shawkan was a journalist, they arrested him, tied his hands together with plastic cables that cut through his skin, and beat him. Up to a thousand people were killed on that day across Egypt, and Shawkan was among hundreds arrested. He has now been detained without charge for over three years, in contravention of Egyptian law. He has hepatitis C, but has been denied adequate medication. His health is deteriorating.

Shawkan faces nine trumped-up charges, including 'joining a criminal gang' and 'murder'. If convicted, he could face the death penalty.

### SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Free Shawkan  
Ahmed Abu Seif  
211 E. Ohio St. Apt #2523  
Chicago, Illinois  
60611, USA

- **Language:** Any
- **Suggested message:** Tell Shawkan he is not alone and that you are fighting for him. Try to include the message 'Free Shawkan'.
- **Twitter:** @ShawkanZeid. Use the hashtag #FreeShawkan.

### CAN I

- ✓ Send a religious card or message?
- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✓ Include my name and address?

**STAY INFORMED**  
[www.amnesty.org.uk/write](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/write)

### SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

**Urge Public Prosecutor Nabil Sadek to drop all charges against Mahmoud Abu Zeid and release him immediately and unconditionally.**

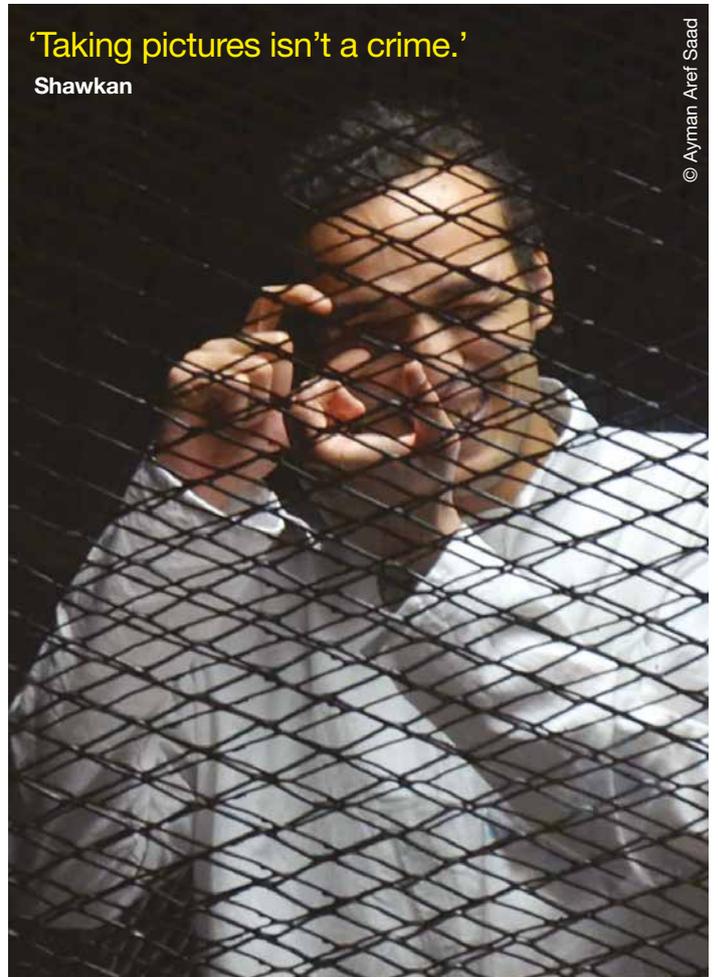
**Write to:** Nabil Sadek  
Office of the Public Prosecutor  
Madinat Al-Rihab  
New Cairo, Egypt

**Salutation:** Dear Counsellor

**In your letter:** Emphasise that Mahmoud Abu Zeid is a prisoner of conscience. Call for him to be provided with any medical treatment he needs. Demand the release of other journalists detained solely for exercising their right to freedom of expression.

**'Taking pictures isn't a crime.'**

Shawkan



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