

# WRITE FOR RIGHTS

## SYRIA

### Khalil Ma'touq



#### ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS LAWYER

Human rights lawyer Khalil Ma'touq has been missing since October 2012. He set off on his usual drive to work but never arrived.

Given his job defending hundreds of political prisoners and prisoners of conscience and the number of government-controlled checkpoints on his route, there were immediate concerns he'd been arrested.

Since then, Khalil's friends and family have been tipped off by various unofficial sources about him being held by a number of different security branches. The last reports received in September 2013 place him in the notorious Palestine Branch, a detention and interrogation centre in Damascus run by Military Intelligence.

For Khalil this detention is particularly dangerous as he suffers from advanced lung disease.

■ [www.amnesty.org.uk/matouq](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/matouq)



**'Khalil neglected his serious illness in order to pursue his cause.'**  
**Friend and colleague**  
**Anwar al-Bunni**

#### SEND AN ONLINE SOLIDARITY MESSAGE:

Please post a message on Khalil Ma'touq's Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/Freedom.for.Khalil.Matouq?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/Freedom.for.Khalil.Matouq?fref=ts)

- **Preferred language** Arabic or English
- **Salutation** Dear Khalil
- **Suggested message** I am campaigning for your release and wish you and your family strength.

#### CAN I

- ✗ **Send a religious card or message?**
- ✓ **Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?**
- ✓ **Include my name and address?**
- ✗ **Download the message in another language?**

#### SEND AN APPEAL LETTER TO:

**Urge the Syrian authorities to end the suffering of Khalil Ma'touq's family by providing information on his whereabouts.**

**Write to:** Permanent Representative to UN  
Bashar Ja'afari  
820 Second Avenue  
15th Floor  
New York  
NY10017  
USA

**Fax:** +1 212 983 4439  
**Email:** [exexec.syria@gmail.com](mailto:exexec.syria@gmail.com)

**Salutation:** Your Excellency

#### In your letter:

- State that Amnesty International believes Khalil Ma'touq is a prisoner of conscience who should be released unconditionally.
- Urge the Syrian authorities to disclose to his family his fate, whereabouts and legal status.
- Ask them to ensure that Khalil is protected from torture and ill-treatment, and granted immediate access to his family and a lawyer of his choice, and all necessary medical attention.