



Victims



Abdulhadi Al Khawaja

Dano-bahreini human rights defender, founder of the Bahraini Center for human rights and former coordinator of the international NGO Frontline. He is currently serving a life sentence in the prison of Jaw.

Abdulhadi Al Khawaja was arrested without a warrant on April 9th, 2011. Abused during his arrest, he was later detained "incommunicado" and tortured before appearing in front of a judge for the first time on May 8th. On the day of the hearing, he was completely disfigured. According to his family, they noticed stitches above the left eye. The left side of his face was swollen and bloated. He explained how he had to undergo surgery on April 4th due to a broken jaw.

On June 22nd, 2011, the National Security Court, relying on confessions extorted while under torture, sentenced him to life in prison for attempting to overthrow the monarchy and incite hatred against the regime. 12 other members of the oppositions and Bahraini human rights defenders were sentenced alongside him, all pursued because of their commitment to the movement of protest, which started in mid-February 2011 in the context of the Arab Spring.

The verdict was confirmed several times by the National Security Court and then by civil courts. No investigation was ever launched following the allegations of torture, which were confirmed by the independent Bahraini Commission's inquiry, created by the king in 2011 and comprising of international experts.

After six years of incarceration in inhumane and degrading conditions, the state of Abdulhadi Al's Khawaja health is deteriorating. He has already led long hunger strikes in order to denounce the conditions in which prisoners are held as well as the harassment defenders of human rights in Bahrain undergo. Each one of these strikes were followed by reprisals. He needs our support now more than ever.

What can you do?

You can send letters of support to Abdulhadi Al Khawaja, preferably in English. Send your letters to ACAT-France, and we will send them to his family:

ACAT-France
Action Abdulhadi Al Khawaja
Responsable Maghreb / Moyen-Orient
7, rue Georges Lardennois
75019 Paris

PRAY FOR HIM. PRAY FOR HIS FREEDOM.

ACTION DES CHRETIENS POUR L'ABOLITION DE LA TORTURE
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