

URGENT ACTION

PROTECT DETAINED LIBYAN MEN FROM TORTURE

At least ten Libyan men, some with dual nationality, were detained in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) between 13 August and 3 September. The authorities have not told four of the men's families where they are detained. By withholding information about their whereabouts from the men's families or legal representatives, the UAE has subjected them to enforced disappearance. All are at risk of torture or other forms of ill-treatment.

Businessman **Kamel Eldarat** was summoned for questioning at Dubai's Bur Dubai police station on 26 August. Later that day around 20 officers in six police vehicles returned him to his house, searched it and detained him. His son **Momed Eldarat**, also a businessman, was detained the following day. Both men are US citizens. Officials have not told their families where they are.

Mohamed el-Aradi, 50, was summoned by police on 28 August, questioned for several hours at a police station and then taken back to his house. It was searched until around midnight and then he was detained. His brother **Salim el-Aradi**, 46, was arrested at a hotel two hours later, on 29 August at around 2am. The officers did not say why they were arresting him. Both have lived without restriction in the UAE for around 20 years. All the men are thought to have been detained by the UAE's State Security Agency (SSA).

Family members of some of those detained have told Amnesty International that the Libyan embassy in the UAE has been unable or unwilling to provide consular support to the families. At least five other men have been detained. They are: **Bashir al-Shabah**, **al-Tahir al-Qulfat**, **Mohammad al-Fighi**, **al-Sadiq al-Kikli**, **Mahmoud bin Gharbeia** and a sixth man named **Raf'at Hadaga**. Amnesty International does not have any further information about the circumstances of their arrests.

Please write immediately in Arabic, English or your own language:

- Urging the authorities to disclose the whereabouts of all the detained men to their families and to clarify the legal basis for their detention;
- Calling on them to publicly guarantee that all the men will be protected from torture and other ill-treatment and ensure that all are given prompt access to a lawyer and to any medical attention they may require;
- Urging them to ensure that all the men are promptly charged with a recognizably criminal offence or else released.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 4 NOVEMBER 2014 TO:

President

Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
Ministry of Presidential Affairs
Corniche Road
Abu Dhabi, P.O. Box 280
United Arab Emirates
Fax: +971 2 622 2228
Email: ihtimam@mopa.ae
Salutation: Your Highness

Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi

Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan
Crown Prince Court Bainunah Street
Abu Dhabi, P.O. Box 124
United Arab Emirates
Fax: +971 2 668 6622
Twitter: @MBZNews
Salutation: Your Highness

Copies to:

Minister of Interior

Lt General Sheikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan
Zayed Sport City, Arab Gulf Street,
Near to Shaikh Zayed Mosque
Abu Dhabi POB: 398
Fax: +971 2 4414938 / +971 2 4022762 / +971 2 4415780
Email: moi@moi.gov.ae
Twitter: @SaifBZayed

And copies to: Mr Khalifa Saif Ahmad Humaid ALMAZROOEI, Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of the United Arab Emirates, 12 Bulwarra Close, O'Malley ACT 2606, Fax: (02) 6286 8804, Email : uaeembassy@bigpond.com, Salutation: Dear Sir

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



URGENT ACTION

PROTECT DETAINED LIBYAN MEN FROM TORTURE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Despite certain safeguards in the UAE Constitution and laws, the rights of detainees upon arrest are routinely disregarded, especially in cases where the State Security Agency (SSA) is involved. Amnesty International has recorded other instances of foreign nationals being arrested and held incommunicado for weeks or months during pre-trial detention. Such arrests are typically carried out by the SSA, which deals with national security cases.

SSA officials generally arrest people without warrants, then take them to unofficial secret detention facilities where they are kept for weeks or months without charge or access to legal representation. Detainees are often tortured or otherwise ill-treated. In cases taken up by Amnesty International, for months officials ignore families' attempts to find out where detainees are held.

All the detained Libyan men are understood to have supported, in 2011, Libyan opposition groups that toppled Colonel Mu'ammer al-Gaddafi.

Family members have sought the assistance of the US embassy and raised the enforced disappearance of Kamel and Salim Eldarat, but have said that US consular staff have not been allowed to meet with the men, both of whom are US nationals. Kamel Eldarat suffers from back and leg problems for which he has undergone surgery three times, and for which he is reliant on medication.

Names: Kamel Eldarat, Momed Eldarat, Mohamed el-Aradi, Salim el-Aradi, Bashir al-Shabah, al-Tahir al-Qulfat, Mohammad al-Fighi, al-Sadiq al-Kikli, Mahmoud bin Gharbeia, Raf'at Hadaga

Gender m/f: m

If sending appeals after the date given in the section "PLEASE SEND YOUR APPEALS BEFORE...", then please check with urgentaction@amnesty.org.au. Otherwise, please do not send your appeal.

If you receive a response to your appeal there is no need to reply. Please send it on to the Individuals at Risk Program (IARP).

Post: IARP - Urgent Actions, Locked Bag 7, Collingwood, Victoria, 3066

Email: urgentaction@amnesty.org.au

Fax: 03 9412 0720

Please note with your response which Urgent Action (UA number eg UA 123/10) the response relates to.

Your response will be sent directly to the staff in Amnesty International's International Secretariat in London working for that particular case.

The responses you receive to your appeals are important for our ongoing work for individuals at risk.