

# URGENT ACTION

## DISCLOSE WHEREABOUTS OF DETAINED EGYPTIAN

**Egyptian national, Mosaab Ahmed 'Abdel-'Aziz Ramadan was detained on 21 October 2014 after being summoned by the Preventive Security Services in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates (UAE). His whereabouts remain unknown and he is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment.**

An executive manager of an energy company in Dubai, Egyptian national **Mosaab Ahmed 'Abdel-'Aziz Ramadan**, who is the son of the media advisor of ousted Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi, was summoned by phone at about 2pm on 21 October 2014 to appear at the headquarters of the Preventive Security Services in the emirate of Sharjah. He phoned his sister and informed her of the summons for which he was given no reason. He immediately went to the headquarters and was detained. His sister went to the headquarters the next day and was told that her brother had been transferred to the State Security department in Abu Dhabi. She was not allowed to visit him nor hand in clothes she had brought him. On the evening of 24 October Mosaab Ahmed 'Abdel-'Aziz Ramadan called his sister stating that he was fine and that he would be released soon. Since then, the family, who resides in Turkey, has sent several letters via the UAE embassy in Istanbul to the UAE's President, its Vice-President, as well as the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, requesting information about his whereabouts and the reasons for his arrest. The letters have remained unanswered.

The family has contacted several lawyers in Abu Dhabi, but they have all declined to help. Following the imprisonment of a number of prominent lawyers in the UAE, very few lawyers are now willing to defend people perceived as having links to the Muslim Brotherhood and arrested by the country's State Security apparatus for fear of harassment and intimidation by the UAE authorities.

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

- Urging the UAE authorities to immediately disclose the whereabouts of Mosaab Ahmed 'Abdel-'Aziz Ramadan and to clarify the legal basis for his detention;
- Calling on them to ensure that he is protected from torture and other ill-treatment and given prompt access to his family, a lawyer of his choosing, and to any medical attention he may require;
- Urging them to ensure that he is promptly charged with a recognizable criminal offence or else released.

### **PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 11 MARCH 2015 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**

#### **And 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

**Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:**

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Mosaab Ahmed 'Abdel-'Aziz Ramadan is the son of the media advisor of the ousted president of Egypt, Mohamed Morsi. His sister Habiba Ahmed 'Abdel 'Aziz, a journalist in her 20s, died after being shot in the neck with a live bullet by the security forces during the violent dispersal of the Rabaa Al-Adaweya protest in Egypt on 14 August 2013. At least 500 protestors were killed on that day in Rabaa Al Adaweya Square. The Egyptian public prosecutor and a National Fact Finding Committee failed to carry out genuine investigations of the killing of protestors on 14 August and until now no security officer has been referred to trial or held accountable for them. Since former president Mohamed Morsi was ousted on 3 July 2013, the Egyptian security forces cracked down on Muslim Brotherhood members and supporters. At least 16,000 persons are in prison with the majority of them Muslim Brotherhood members or supporters. At least 3,000 are top and middle level members of the Muslim Brotherhood. Muslim Brotherhood members and supporters held in Egyptian prisons face unfair trials that in many cases led to imposing the death sentence in trials that lack the minimum standards of fair trial guarantees. Among them was the General Guide of the Muslim Brotherhood who was sentenced to death at least twice since the ousting of Mohamed Morsi.

The UAE authorities have arrested dozens of foreign nationals in recent years. Many have been subjected to enforced disappearance, held in secret locations by officials who refused to acknowledge their detention or give any information to their families – such as the reasons and legal basis for their imprisonment, where they were being held, and in what conditions. The authorities have also denied them access to legal counsel. Such conditions breach the UAE's own laws, as well as international law. Many of those arrested have been held in solitary confinement and have claimed they were tortured or otherwise ill-treated while under interrogation.

Since 2012, dozens of Egyptian nationals have also been subjected to enforced disappearance in the UAE. In November 2013, 20 Egyptian nationals who had been held for months in unknown locations were taken out of secret detention to face trial before the State Security Chamber of the Federal Supreme Court on charges including establishing an "international" branch of Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood organization and stealing and distributing secret state documents. In court, many of the defendants complained that State Security officials had subjected them to torture and other ill-treatment during their lengthy pre-trial detention in secret locations, when they were held incommunicado. Officers had subjected them to torture and other ill-treatment to force them to sign "confessions", which they repudiated in court. However, despite the seriousness of their allegations, the presiding judge failed to order an investigation, and accepted as evidence the "confessions" they had repudiated and said interrogators had extracted from them through torture or other coercion.

Amnesty International documented some cases of Egyptian nationals detained in its November 2014 report, *"There is no freedom here" – Silencing dissent in the United Arab Emirates*, which is available here: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE25/018/2014/en>.

Name: Mosaab Ahmed 'Abdel-'Aziz Ramadan  
Gender m/f: m

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