

BANNED BOOKS WEEK 2011

Concerned readers can help Amnesty International assist writers, editors, publishers, librarians and others who suffer human rights abuses because of their work.



Amnesty International focuses impartially worldwide on preventing and ending grave abuses of the rights to physical & mental integrity, freedom of conscience & expression, and freedom from discrimination, while promoting all human rights.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Article 19: *Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.*

[please sign, detach and mail the postcard below]

Your Excellency,
I am concerned about university student Aayat Alqormozi, who is being punished because she read her poem at a rally. She was sentenced (12 June 2011) to one year in prison and already has spent several months in detention between March and July 2011. Although her release is most welcome, her legal status requires clarification. Please advise your government to remove any conditions that have been attached to her release, to annul her conviction, and to drop any pending charges against her. It is also important for the authorities to make public the results of investigation into her allegations of torture or other ill-treatment and to bring to justice anyone responsible.
People around the world are eager for evidence that your country's authorities will uphold the rights to freedom expression, movement, and assembly in Bahrain, including the right to peaceful protest.
Thank you for assistance with this important matter.

Sincerely,

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Selected Amnesty International Cases for Action:

BAHRAIN: Aayat Alqormozi, poet at risk of prison

CHINA: Nurmemet Yasin, poet & story writer in prison

IRAN: Isa Saharkhiz, imprisoned editor & commentator

SRI LANKA: Prageeth Eknaligoda, disappeared writer

SUDAN: Abuzar Al Amin, detained newspaper editor

VIET NAM: Nguyen Van Ly, imprisoned publisher

PAST BANNED BOOKS WEEK (1990-2010)

prisoner releases:

62 men and women —

bloggers, commentators, critics, dramatists, editors,
journalists, leafleters, novelists, poets, readers, scholars,
songwriters, sportswriters —

in Azerbaijan, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, China, Cuba,
Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indo-
nesia, Iran, Kuwait, Liberia, Malawi, Maldives, Mexico,
Morocco, Myanmar, Nigeria, Peru, South Korea, Sri Lanka,
Syria, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and
Vietnam . . .

For information about how you can help:

AIUSA - 5 Penn Plaza, 16th Flr, New York, NY 10001

Tel: 212-807-8400

www.amnestyusa.org/bannedbooks/

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