



ACTION GUIDE: FREE DR. ABU SAFIYA

BACKGROUND

On December 27, 2024, Israeli forces raided Kamal Adwan Hospital in Beit Lahia, Gaza and arbitrarily detained its director, Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya. He is a respected pediatrician who had been leading efforts to provide care amid bombardment and shortages at the last functioning major medical facility in the north of the occupied Gaza Strip. Before he was arbitrarily arrested, he was interviewed by the New York Times for an op-ed about Israeli attacks on hospitals. Israel continues to arbitrarily detain Dr. Abu Safiya without charges or trial using the abusive [Unlawful Combatants' Law](#). This case is yet another example of Israel's systematic targeting of Palestinian health workers and decimation of the healthcare system in Gaza to deliberately inflict conditions of life calculated to bring about the physical destruction of Palestinians as part and parcel of its genocide. A lawyer who visited Dr. Abu Safiya and other detainees recently reported that Dr. Abu Safiya has been subjected to torture and other ill-treatment while in Israeli detention.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO FREE DR. ABU SAFIYA

Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya's continued imprisonment violates international humanitarian and human rights law. An Israeli court recently **extended his detention** under the “unlawful combatant” law **for six more months**. You can make an immediate difference by taking action and urging others to do the same. Every call, email, and online post helps build pressure and demand the immediate and unconditional release of Dr. Abu Safiya and the protection of Palestinian medical workers.

TAKE ACTION

1. Call and/or Email the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C.

a. Contact Information

- i. Tel: 202-364-5500 (Press 8 for the Ambassador's Office)
Consular Department Telephone Answering Hours:
Mondays – Thursdays: 14:00 – 16:00
Fridays: 12:30 – 14:00
- ii. Email: consular@washington.mfa.gov.il

b. Script

- i. Feel free to use the following suggested script:

Hello, my name is [Your Name], and I'm [calling/emailing] from [City, State]. I am reaching out to urge the Ambassador to do everything in his power to ensure the immediate and unconditional release of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya, a pediatrician and the director of Kamal Adwan Hospital in Gaza. He was detained on December 27, 2024, while caring for his patients and performing his medical duties, and has been detained without charge or trial. Many human rights organizations have called for his immediate and unconditional release. His detention violates international humanitarian law and the principle of medical neutrality. Again, I urge the Ambassador to ensure that the Israeli government immediately and unconditionally releases Dr. Abu Safiya and all other arbitrarily detained Palestinians.

c. Report Action

- i. After you have made your call and/or sent an email to the Embassy, please report your action by emailing us at campaigns@aiusa.org. Please include a summary of your call or any email response you receive. Your feedback helps us track our collective impact and strengthen our advocacy.

2. **Email Ambassador Huckabee at the U.S. Embassy in Israel**

a. Contact Information

- i. Email: JerusalemACS@state.gov

b. Email Template

- i. Feel free to use the following suggested script:

Dear Ambassador Huckabee,
I am writing to the U.S. Embassy to call on the Israeli authorities to immediately and unconditionally release of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya, a pediatrician and hospital director from Gaza who was arbitrarily detained by Israeli forces on December 27, 2024, along with other hospital staff and patients, following a deadly raid on the hospital, which put it out of service, and following an interview with him in the New York Times describing the attacks on hospitals in Gaza.
Dr. Abu Safiya has been held without charge or trial. His detention was recently extended for six more months under the "unlawful combatant" law. Testimonies collected by many human rights groups reveal a dreadful reality inside Israeli prisons and detention centers, where Palestinian detainees, including health workers, face systematic torture and other ill-treatment.
His continued detention violates international humanitarian law and human rights law, and I respectfully ask the United States to urgently raise this case with Israeli authorities and call for the immediate and unconditional release of Dr. Abu Safiya's and all arbitrarily detained Palestinians.

*Yours Sincerely,
[YOUR NAME]*

c. Report Action

- i. Please report your action by emailing us at campaigns@aiusa.org. Please include a summary of any email response you receive. Your feedback helps us track our collective impact and strengthen our advocacy.

3. Sign & Share Digital Petition

- a. We also urge you to sign and share this digital petition to Israeli authorities to immediately release Dr. Abu Safiya [HERE](#).

4. Write & Mail/Email a Letter to Government Authorities

- a. Write and send a letter or email to the Israeli authorities, using our Urgent Action guidance [HERE](#).

5. Post on Social Media

- a. Help amplify the call to free Dr. Abu Safiya! Share the actions on your social media and urge others to join in demanding his release. Every post helps to increase pressure and raise awareness.
 - i. Amnesty International USA's Post on Instagram:
<https://www.instagram.com/amnestyusa/p/DRcDpqGjXEO/?hl=en>
 - ii. Amnesty International USA's Post on X:
<https://x.com/amnestyusa/status/1992996406399771093?s=20>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. **Read:** New York Times Op-ed Featuring Dr Abu Safiya:
<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/12/02/opinion/gaza-hospital-kamal-adwan.html>
2. **Watch:** CNN Video About Dr Abu Safiya Before His Arbitrary Arrest:
<https://www.cnn.com/2024/11/26/world/video/gaza-hospital-eyewitness-account-digvid>

CONTACT US

Reach out about the Campaign, Action, Activism, Collaborations, Reporting, and Safety concerns:
campaigns@aiusa.org.