

# URGENT ACTION

## SYRIAN FATHER OF THREE MISSING FOR 1403 DAYS

**Today is Ali Mohammed Mostafa's 55th birthday. He is a father of three who has been forcibly disappeared for nearly four years, and his family still has no information about his fate or whereabouts. On 2 July 2013, Ali went missing after being taken from his family home in Damascus.**

On 2 July 2013, **Ali Mohammed Mostafa**, a businessman originally from Masyaf in Hama countryside, was at his family home in Damascus when he was arrested by Syrian government forces. On that morning, the neighbors informed his wife upon her arrival home that Syrian government forces raided the house, wrecked the furniture, tore clothes and papers, and arrested Ali at around 10:00 am. Since then, and despite various and continuous requests, Ali's family has not received any confirmed information about his fate or whereabouts, which remain unknown.

Ali Mohammed Mostafa was detained twice before. In 2006, he was arrested by Syrian government forces after attempting to resolve a local dispute in his town. Then, when the protests started in Syria in 2011, Ali participated in peaceful demonstrations and in a local committee created to provide aid to internally displaced people who had fled the violence in Hama. For this, he was detained in August 2011 for a month and a half.

A close family member told Amnesty: "We do not know whether he is dead or alive. It torments us every day. Our only wish is that Ali celebrates his 56<sup>th</sup> birthday among us".

### 1) TAKE ACTION

**Write a letter, send an email, call, fax or tweet:**

- Urging the Syrian authorities to immediately disclose the fate and whereabouts of Ali Mohammed Mostafa;
- Calling on them to release him immediately, unless he is to be charged with a recognizable offence, in line with international law and standards;
- Urging them to ensure that pending his release, he is protected from torture and other ill-treatment, granted access to his family and lawyers, and any medical treatment he may require.

### Contact these two officials by 16 June, 2017:

#### Permanent Representative to the UN

Bashar Ja'afari, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary  
820 Second Avenue, 15th Floor  
New York, NY 10017, USA  
Fax: +1 212 983 4439  
E-mail: syria.pr@outlook.com  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

#### President

Bashar al-Assad  
Fax: +963 11 332 3410 (keep trying)  
(If fax does not go through, please include your message to the president in an email to the Ambassador, asking for it to be forwarded)  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

### 2) LET US KNOW YOU TOOK ACTION

[Click here](#) to let us know if you took action on this case! *This is Urgent Action 101.17*

Here's why it is so important to report your actions: we record the actions taken on each case—letters, emails, calls and tweets—and use that information in our advocacy.

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Tens of thousands of people in Syria have vanished without a trace. They could be victims of enforced disappearance, which means a person is arrested, detained or abducted by government officials or agents acting for the state. Governmental officials then deny the person is being held or conceal their fate or whereabouts, placing them outside the protection of the law. In Syria, detainees are cut off from the outside world, packed into overcrowded, secret cells where torture is routine, disease is rampant and death is commonplace. Their families are forced to live in desperation with few, if any, safe ways of finding their loved ones. Amnesty International's research shows that the enforced disappearances carried out by the Syrian government since 2011 were perpetrated as part of an organized attack against the civilian population that has been widespread, as well as systematic, and therefore amount to crimes against humanity.

Name: Ali Mohammed Mostafa

Gender m/f: m

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