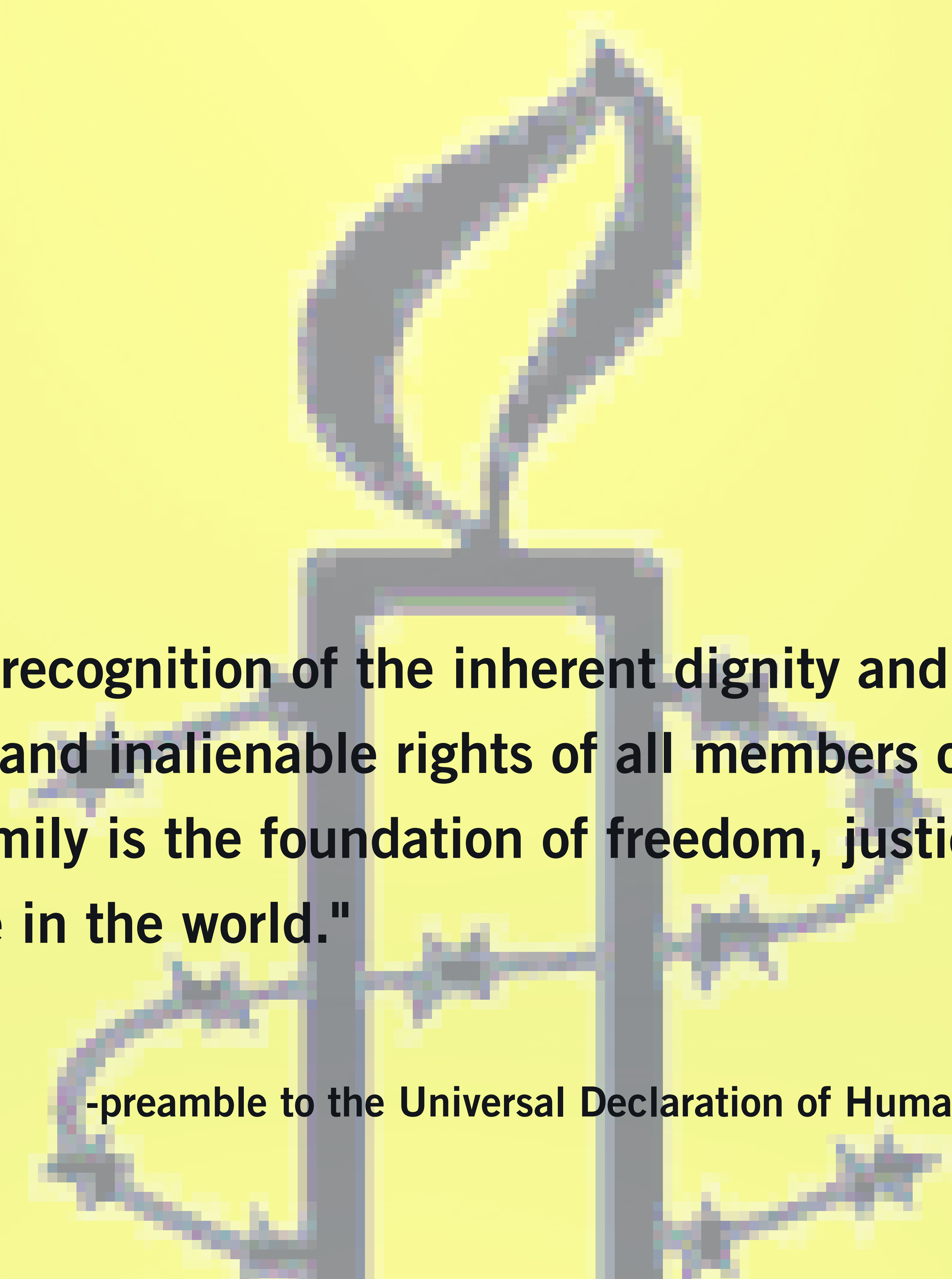


# **Amnesty International USA's Faith in Action Network**

Ramadan Action  
April 12-May 12, 2021



**“Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.”**

**-preamble to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction to AIUSA's Faith in Action Network and Ramadan Action

2. What are Human Rights?

3. 2021 Weekly Focus Cases

4. Taking Action on Social Media

6. Organizing In Your Community



# Introduction to Amnesty International USA's Faith in Action Network and Ramadan Action

Promoting and Protecting  
Human Rights

**Engaging with faith  
communities across the  
country**

Throughout the year, faith-based groups across the country and around the world come together to strengthen their neighborhoods and serve the needs of their wider communities.

During Ramadan, this year from about April 12th to May 12th, Muslim communities focus on the practical application of faith in daily life, upholding the rights of fellow human beings, and serving their communities.

As Muslims around the world are celebrating Ramadan, AIUSA invites faith-based groups, and all communities, to join us in taking action to protect the human rights of Muslims.

Each week of Ramadan, AIUSA will feature cases of human rights abuses experienced by Muslim individuals and communities around the world. Join us as a faith-based group, or as an individual, and take action for human rights this month!

AIUSA's Faith in Action Network is open to all faith communities that are interested in grassroots activism for human rights. To learn more you can email us at [communitynetworks@aiusa.org](mailto:communitynetworks@aiusa.org).

Amnesty International is a global movement of millions of people demanding human rights for all people – no matter who they are or where they are.

Amnesty International's movement of activists work to protect people wherever justice, freedom, truth, and dignity are denied. Join us.



# What are human rights?

Human rights are the basic freedoms and protections that belong to every single one of us

Human rights are based on dignity, equality and mutual respect – regardless of your nationality, your religion or your beliefs.

Human rights are:

- **Universal** They belong to all of us – everybody in the world
- **Inalienable** They cannot be taken away from us
- **Indivisible and interdependent** Governments should not be able to pick and choose which are respected

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a historic document which outlined the rights and freedoms everyone is entitled to. It was the first international agreement on the basic principles of human rights.



## UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Article 1 Right to Equality

Article 2 Freedom from Discrimination

Article 3 Right to Life, Liberty, Personal Security

Article 4 Freedom from Slavery

Article 5 Freedom from Torture and Degrading Treatment

Article 6 Right to Recognition as a Person before the Law

Article 7 Right to Equality before the Law

Article 8 Right to Remedy by Competent Tribunal

Article 9 Freedom from Arbitrary Arrest and Exile

Article 10 Right to Fair Public Hearing

Article 11 Right to be Considered Innocent until Proven Guilty

Article 12 Freedom from Interference with Privacy, Family, Home and Correspondence

Article 13 Right to Free Movement in and out of the Country

Article 14 Right to Asylum in other Countries from Persecution

Article 15 Right to a Nationality and the Freedom to Change It

Article 16 Right to Marriage and Family

Article 17 Right to Own Property

Article 18 Freedom of Belief and Religion

Article 19 Freedom of Opinion and Information

Article 20 Right of Peaceful Assembly and Association

Article 21 Right to Participate in Government and in Free Elections

Article 22 Right to Social Security

Article 23 Right to Desirable Work and to Join Trade Unions

Article 24 Right to Rest and Leisure

Article 25 Right to Adequate Living Standard

Article 26 Right to Education

Article 27 Right to Participate in the Cultural Life of Community

Article 28 Right to a Social Order that Articulates this Document

Article 29 Community Duties Essential to Free and Full Development

Article 30 Freedom from State or Personal Interference in the above Rights

# 2021 Weekly Focus Cases

April 11-18

## Human Rights Defenders in the United Arab Emirates

Since at least 2011, UAE has slapped peaceful critics and activists with arbitrary arrests, torture or other ill-treatment, trials that fell short of fair trial standards, and lengthy sentences.

April 18-24

## Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh

Bangladeshi authorities relocated Rohingya refugees to a remote island called Bhashan Char, despite UN concerns about the safety of the island. Bangladesh must immediately halt the relocation of more people to Bhashan Char, return those already on the island to their community in Cox's Bazar, and follow due process for any relocation.

April 25-May 1

## Detention of Muslims in Sri Lanka

Hejaaz Hizbullah, a prominent lawyer, and Ramzy Razeek, a social media commentator are Muslim human rights defenders who have criticized the government and have been targeted.

May 2-May 8

## Close Guantanamo Bay

The US government opened the detention center at Guantanamo Bay almost 20 years ago and has since imprisoned hundreds of Muslim men and boys outside the reach of the law. It is an egregious violation of international human rights.

May 9-15

## Detention of Uyghurs in China

Uyghurs, and other predominately Muslim ethnic minorities in Xinjiang, have long suffered violations of their human rights including the rights of freedom of religion and association. It is estimated that up to one million or more Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims have been sent to so-called “transformation-through-education” centers, which the Chinese government claims are providing “vocational training,” since 2017.





Photo Credit © Martin Ennals Foundation

“There is no way that we can measure the public opinion here [the UAE] because there is no free will. People are afraid to talk. At the same time, people are not going to stop. We are not going to stop, we have to continue [...] Removing one stone from the mountain is better than keeping the mountain as it is...”

-Ahmed Mansoor, while filmed for the 2015 Martin Ennals Award

# Free Prisoner of Conscience Ahmed Mansoor

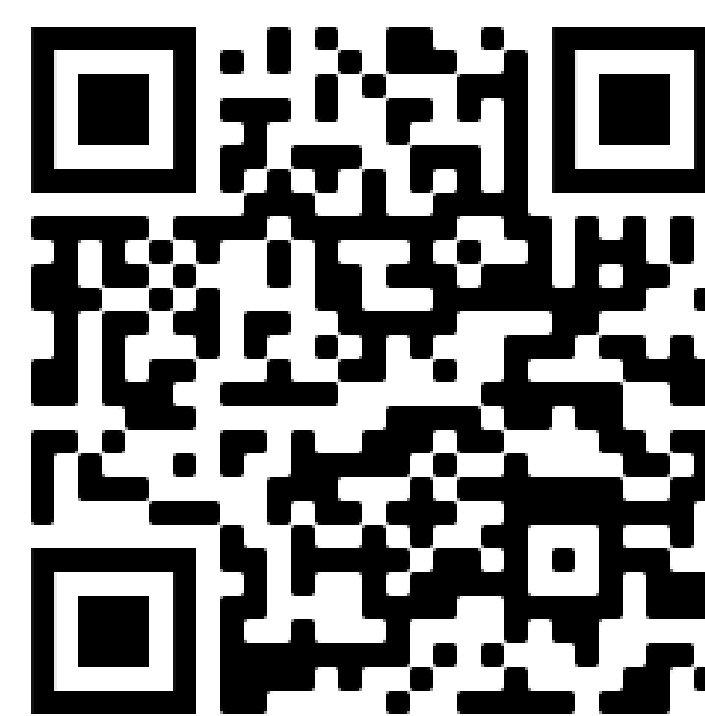
Ahmed Mansoor, recipient of the Martin Ennals Award for Human Rights Defenders in 2015, has been in detention since March 20 2017. Before dawn on March 20th, about a dozen security officers raided the home in Ajman, UAE, where Ahmed Mansoor lives with his wife and four young children, seizing all the family’s laptops and mobile devices, and taking Ahmed himself. Ahmed Mansoor is serving a 10-year sentence following his May 2018 conviction by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) State Security Chamber of the Federal Appeal Court. He was convicted on charges including "insulting the status and prestige of the UAE and its symbols", including its leaders, "publish[ing] false information to damage [the] UAE’s reputation abroad” and “portray[ing] the UAE as a lawless land.” He has been kept in solitary confinement since his arrest in March 2017.

Mansoor, an engineer by profession and a poet, has a reputation as one of the leading human rights defenders in the Gulf region, and serves on the advisory boards of Human Rights Watch’s Middle East division and the Gulf Centre for Human Rights. He has publicly spoken out in defense of human rights on his blog, via social media and in interviews with international media.

In addition to 10 years imprisonment and a fine of 1,000,000 Emirati Dirham (approximately USD \$270,000), the court also ordered placing him under surveillance for three years following his release.

## TAKE ACTION

<https://act.amnestyusa.org/page/79406/action/1>



Hold your smartphone camera device so that the QR code appears in the viewfinder and click!

**Prisoners of conscience in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) must not be forgotten. Scores who peacefully expressed their opinions and struggled for human rights during the 2011 “Arab Spring”, are now serving long prison terms in the United Arab Emirates (UAE)**

**Ahmed Mansoor has been the only independent voice still speaking out through his blog and Twitter account against human rights violations from inside the country. As a result, he has faced repeated intimidation, harassment, and death threats from the UAE authorities or their supporters.**



"An activist might be praised, might be congratulated for his work, might be clandestinely supported, but there will be no uproar if something happens to him."

-Mohammed al-Roken, In 2007, speaking about the life of political activists in the UAE

# Free Prisoner of Conscience Mohammed Al-Roken

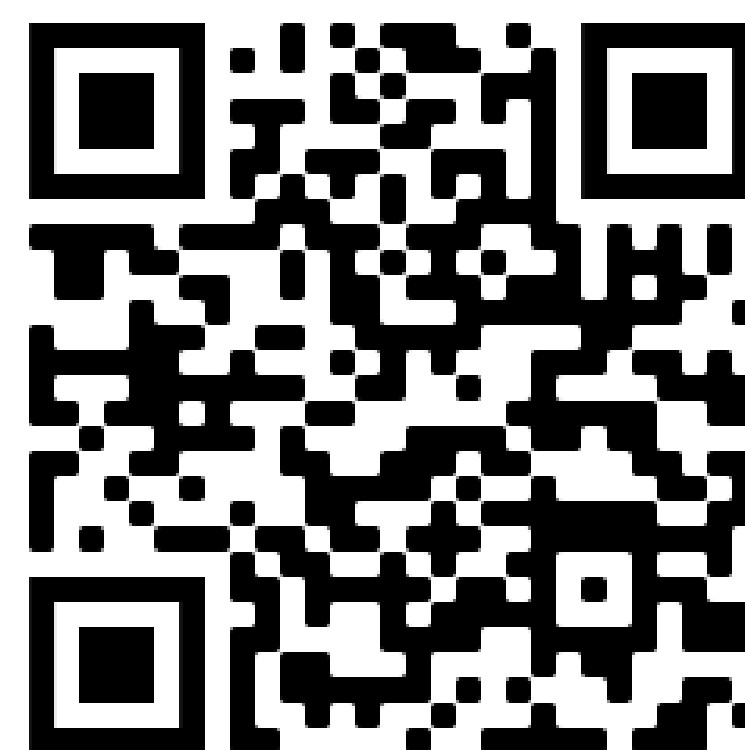
Dr. Mohammed Al-Roken, a prisoner of conscience, is a prominent academic, a former professor of constitutional law, and human rights lawyer. State Security officials arrested him on July 17, 2012. On July 2, 2013, the highest court of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) sentenced him to a 10-year prison sentence following an unfair, mass trial of 94 activists. It became widely known as the "UAE 94" trial.

For around two decades before his imprisonment, human rights groups, including Amnesty International, frequently called upon Mohammed Al-Roken, who is from Dubai, for analysis and expertise they used to inform their work on the UAE and other Gulf countries. Mohammed Al-Roken is former president of the UAE's Jurists Association and holds a PhD in Constitutional Law from the UK's University of Warwick. He had been harassed for a number of years because of his human rights work. He is a member of the International Bar Association and has written several books on human rights, counter-terrorism laws and freedom of expression. He also represented the UAE government in several legal conferences.

He has spent over eight years of his 10 years sentence in a UAE jail. In the UAE often activists are kept in jail even after serving their prison term.

## TAKE ACTION

<https://act.amnestyusa.org/page/79406/action/1>



Hold your smartphone camera device so that the QR code appears in the viewfinder and click!

State security officers arrested Dr Mohammed al-Roken in July 2012. For three months, his family had no knowledge of his whereabouts. The State Security Chamber of the Federal Supreme Court in Abu Dhabi convicted 69 of the 94 individuals on trial, including eight tried in absentia, and imposed prison sentences ranging from seven to 15 years. The trial was marred by serious procedural irregularities.

The court accepted prosecution evidence that consisted largely of "confessions" made by defendants in pre-trial detention. The trial failed to conform to international fair trial standards including because this court's judgments were final and the law at the time denied the defendants a right to appeal. He is now serving a 10-year prison sentence.

# Halt the Relocation of Rohingya Refugees to Bhashan Char



Photo Credit © KM Asad/LightRocket via Getty Images

Most of the million Rohingya who have fled Myanmar began arriving three years ago, starting in late August, when more than 740,000 Rohingyas fled Myanmar, after their homes were burned, and at least 10,000 Rohingya men, women and children were killed in the Myanmar military's crimes against humanity.

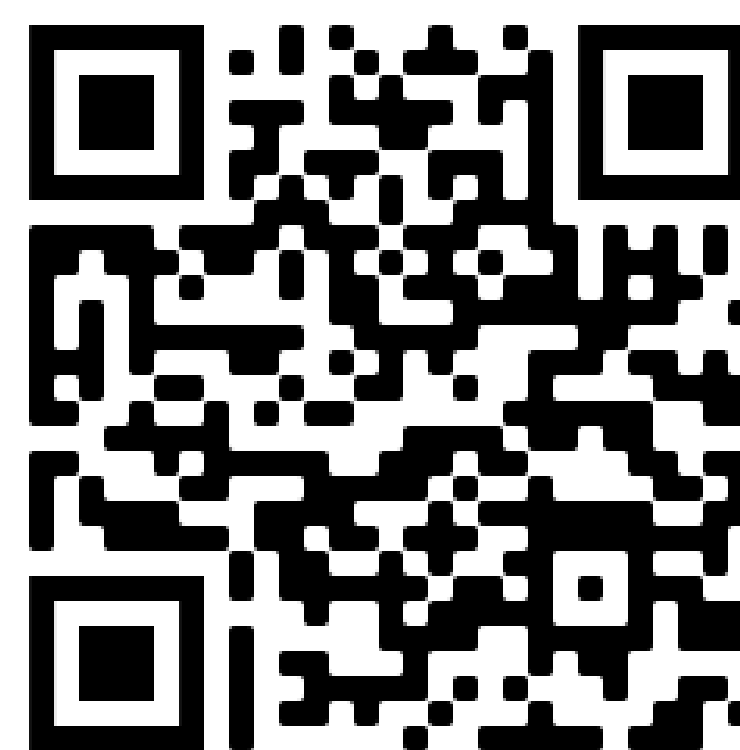
In September 2020, two Rohingya refugees said that they heard accounts of sexual harassment at the hands of police and Navy officials on the island. The authorities vehemently refused to commission a prompt and impartial investigation into the allegations.

Two weeks prior to the relocation in December 2020, five family members, who represent 23 Rohingya refugees, told Amnesty International that they were forced to sign up to relocate to Bhashan Char (which in English translates to "floating island"). A Rohingya woman on the list for relocation told Amnesty International that she registered to go to the island because her husband is there. Two Rohingya families were put on the list for relocation after they reported partial damage of their shelters to government officials. Instead of having their shelters repaired, they were told that they must relocate to Bhashan Char.

Humanitarian staff in the healthcare sector have expressed grave concerns about the relocation. A Rohingya patient expressed "complete panic" ahead of the relocation, saying he was being forced to go to Bhashan Char. Staff of the prominent healthcare facility told Amnesty International that some of these refugees are on regular medications. Healthcare is a serious concern because there is no healthcare facility on the island except for a mobile clinic operated by the Navy that is open for only four hours a day between 8am and 12pm.

## TAKE ACTION

<https://act.amnestyusa.org/page/79533/action/1>



Hold your smartphone camera device so that the QR code appears in the viewfinder and click!

**Most of the million Rohingya who have fled to Bangladesh, began arriving three years ago, starting in late August 2017, when more than 740,000 Rohingyas fled Myanmar, after their homes and villages were burned, and at least 10,000 Rohingya men, women and children were killed as a result of the Myanmar military's crimes against humanity.**

**Humanitarian staff in the healthcare sector have expressed grave concerns about the relocation. A Rohingya patient expressed "complete panic" ahead of the relocation, saying he was being forced to go to Bhashan Char.**

# Release Muslim Lawyer in Sri Lanka



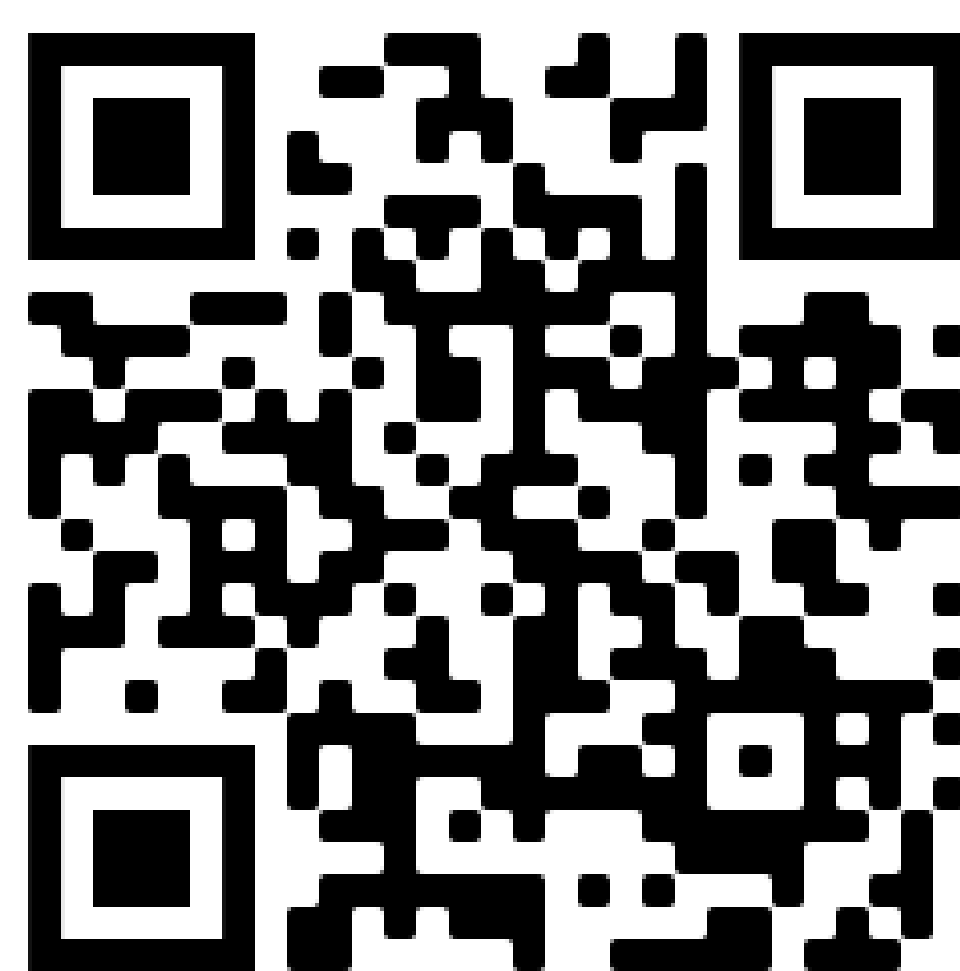
Image © [Mahesh Shantaram](#)

Hejaaz Hizbullah is a prominent lawyer and member of Sri Lanka's Muslim minority. On April 14, 2020, he was arrested under the draconian Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA) and held without charge or trial for a year, without proper access to his family or legal counsel. The day before his arrest, he had joined in a statement opposing the government's forced cremation policy for COVID-19 victims, a policy which violated Muslim religious practices. He is also known for being a strong advocate on human rights and Constitutional law.

In March 2021, the Attorney General's department announced that he would be indicted for speech-related offences, despite the government's own promises to amend the PTA, recognizing that its provisions fall short of international standards on anti-terror legislation. He remains in detention to date without such an indictment being served. We need your help to pressure the Sri Lankan government to release him since no credible evidence of wrongdoing has been produced before a court in the one year the authorities have kept him in detention.

## TAKE ACTION:

<https://act.amnestyusa.org/page/79787/action/1>



Hold your  
smartphone  
camera device so  
that the QR code  
appears in the  
viewfinder and  
click

Islamophobia is a serious problem around the world. In Sri Lanka, mobs from the Sinhalese Buddhist majority community have attacked Muslim-owned shops, homes and mosques on multiple occasions in recent years, with the attackers rarely being held accountable.

Following the Easter Sunday bombings in 2019 by a small religious Islamic extremist group, the Sri Lankan government temporarily banned face coverings, which stigmatized Muslim women who wear the burqa or niqab. The government also arrested up to 1,800 Muslims, some despite having no connection with the bombers.



# Sri Lanka: Release Ramzy Razeek

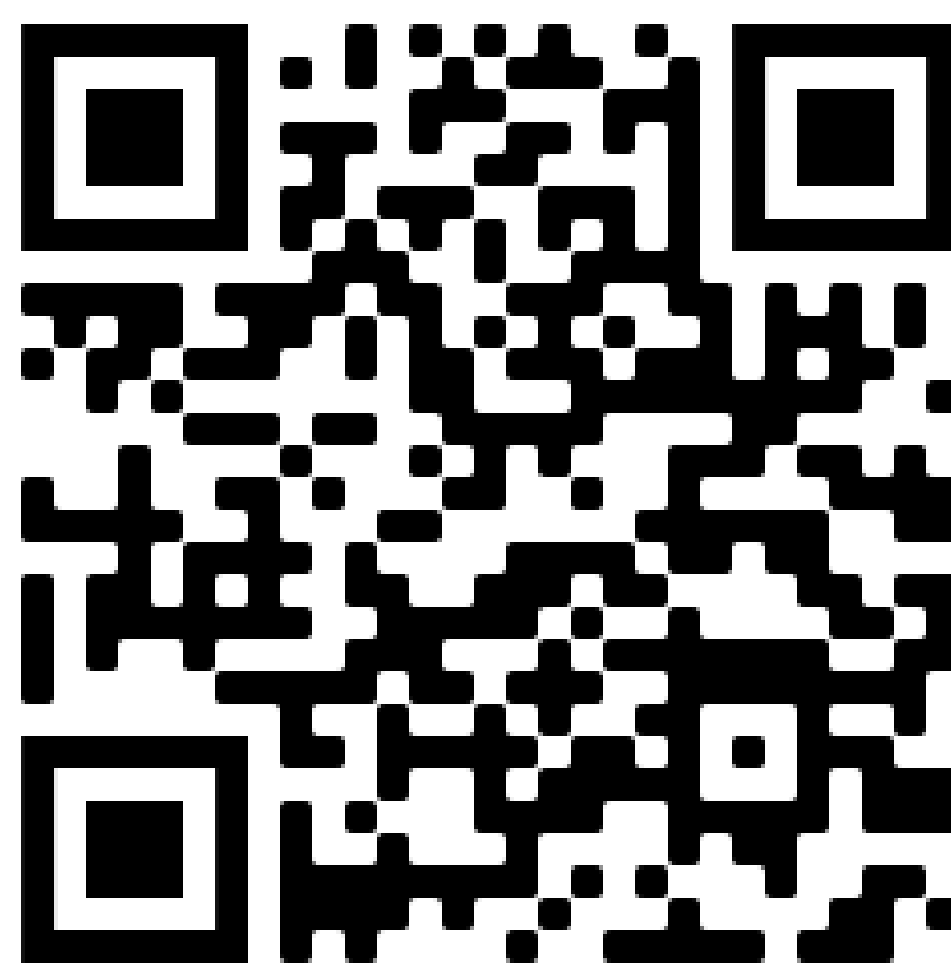
Ramzy Razeek is a social media commentator and a member of Sri Lanka's Muslim minority. On April 2, 2020, he posted on his Facebook page that Muslims in Sri Lanka should engage in an "ideological jihad," using the pen and keyboard weapons, to counter hate propaganda against Muslims by extremists from the Sinhalese Buddhist majority community. A week later, he was arrested by the police who cited the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) Act and the Computer Crimes Act as grounds for his arrest.

The ICCPR Act was passed by the government to implement its obligation to protect civil and political rights under the ICCPR, to which Sri Lanka is a party. He was released on bail on September 17 but the criminal investigation against him has not been closed. If convicted under the ICCPR Act, he could face up to 10 years in prison.

Ramzy's case is one of several in which the government has misused the ICCPR Act to restrain freedom of expression instead of protecting the right to it. We need your help to get the Sri Lankan government to drop all charges against Ramzy Razeek and to cease this misuse of the ICCPR Act.

## TAKE ACTION:

<https://act.amnestyusa.org/page/79791/action/1>



Hold your  
smartphone  
camera device so  
that the QR code  
appears in the  
viewfinder and  
click!

When COVID-19 reached Sri Lanka last year, the government mandated cremations of all COVID-19 victims, despite WHO guidelines which allow burial or cremation. Muslim religious practice does not permit cremation.

The Sri Lankan government only began allowing burials again in March of this year. However, the sites earmarked for burials were in remote parts of the country, inaccessible to many.

# Tell President Biden: Close Guantanamo Now!



Since January 2002, 780 Muslim men and boys have been imprisoned at Guantanamo. Forty remain there today. Most have never been charged with a crime. None has received a fair trial. Many were tortured.

The military prison at Guantánamo Bay is a glaring, longstanding stain on the human rights record of the United States. Today, it continues to hold 40 Muslim men, most without charge, and none having received a fair trial. Many, like Toffiq al-Bihani, were tortured by the U.S. government. And al-Bihani, along with five other prisoners, has been cleared for transfer to other countries, yet remains behind bars without charge or trial.

When President Trump revoked President Obama's order to close Guantánamo, he opened the door for a whole new era of human rights violations to take place. Now, President Biden has an opportunity to end these ongoing abuses by closing the detention center once and for all.

Help us close Guantánamo and ensure the transfer of all cleared detainees to countries that will respect their human rights. Act Now to tell President Biden to shut down the Guantánamo Bay detention facility once and for all!

## TAKE ACTION

<https://act.amnestyusa.org/page/73907/petition/1?ea.tracking.id=Ram2021Gitmo>



Hold your smartphone camera device so that the QR code appears in the viewfinder and click!

Torture holds a special status in international human rights law, as it is completely prohibited under all circumstances. This prohibition cannot be set aside for any reason, including during declared states of emergency or wartime.

The United States' actions at Guantánamo Bay violate its obligations under the Third Geneva Convention, the International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the Convention Against Torture (CAT), and customary international law.

# China: Free Yiliyasijiang Reheman and other Uyghurs locked up in secret camps



Map of China showing the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region



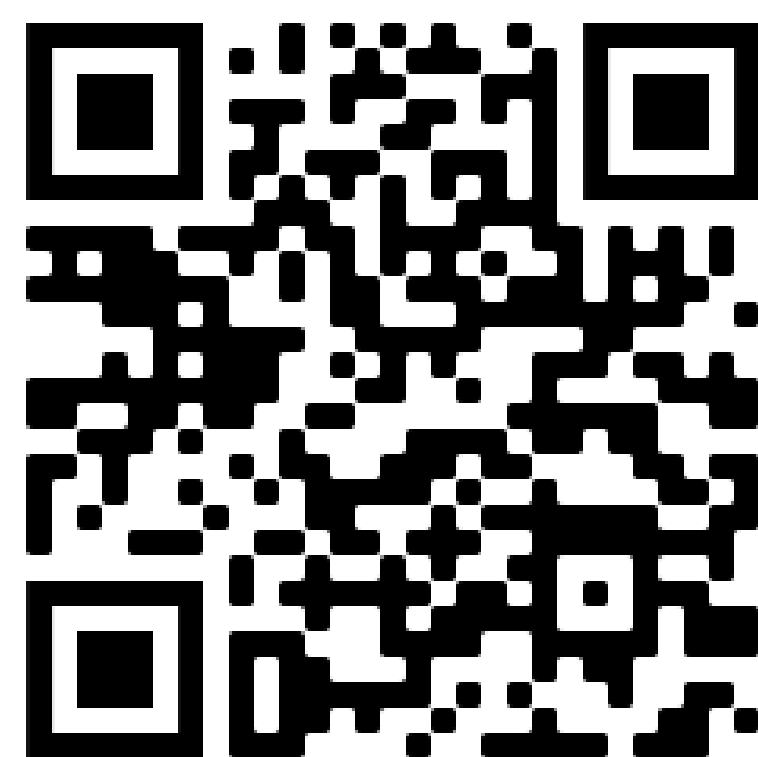
Yiliyasijiang Reheman was among 16 Uyghur (pronounced wee-gur) students who are believed to have been deported by the Egyptian authorities to China in 2017, when about 200 Uyghurs were detained at the request of the Chinese authorities. He is from Kashgar city, in China's northwest Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. In 2017, he was a student at Egypt's prestigious Al-Azhar Islamic University.

In early July, he and his wife, Mairinisha Abuduaini, heard that Egyptian authorities were rounding up Uyghurs. They decided to flee to Istanbul, Turkey, but to fly separately. Mairinisha Abuduaini, who was pregnant at the time with their second child, left first with their daughter. Yiliyasijiang Reheman went to the airport on July 7 but was taken into custody there. According to his lawyer, he was transferred to Tora Prison in Cairo. The last time his wife was in touch with him was September 1, 2017, the day after the end of the Islamic month of Ramadan, when she was able to call him at the prison.

Twenty-five days after Yiliyasijiang Reheman was detained by Egyptian authorities, Mairinisha Abuduaini gave birth to their second daughter. She learned from her friends in Xinjiang in mid-2018 that her husband was sent back to Kashgar and detained. She is still living in Istanbul, and Yiliyasijiang Reheman's whereabouts remains unknown. Over one million Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims have been sent to so-called "transformation-through-education" centers in Xinjiang or otherwise imprisoned.

## TAKE ACTION

<https://act.amnestyusa.org/page/79795/action/1>



Hold your smartphone camera device so that the QR code appears in the viewfinder and click!

Up to one million predominantly Muslim ethnic minority people are being arbitrarily detained in "transformation-through-education" camps in China's north-western Xinjiang.

The detentions appear to be part of an effort by the Chinese government to wipe out religious beliefs and aspects of cultural identity to enforce political loyalty. Uyghurs living overseas are suffering from harassment and intimidation by the Chinese authorities.

# Amplify On Social Media

Join Amnesty International USA in taking action during Ramadan by defending the human rights of Muslim individuals and communities around the world. Use the graphics and messaging here to mobilize everyone you know to take action on AIUSA's featured cases.

**Download Amnesty's Ramadan social media graphics**

[Shareable Facebook and Instagram Graphics](#)

[Shareable Twitter Graphics](#)

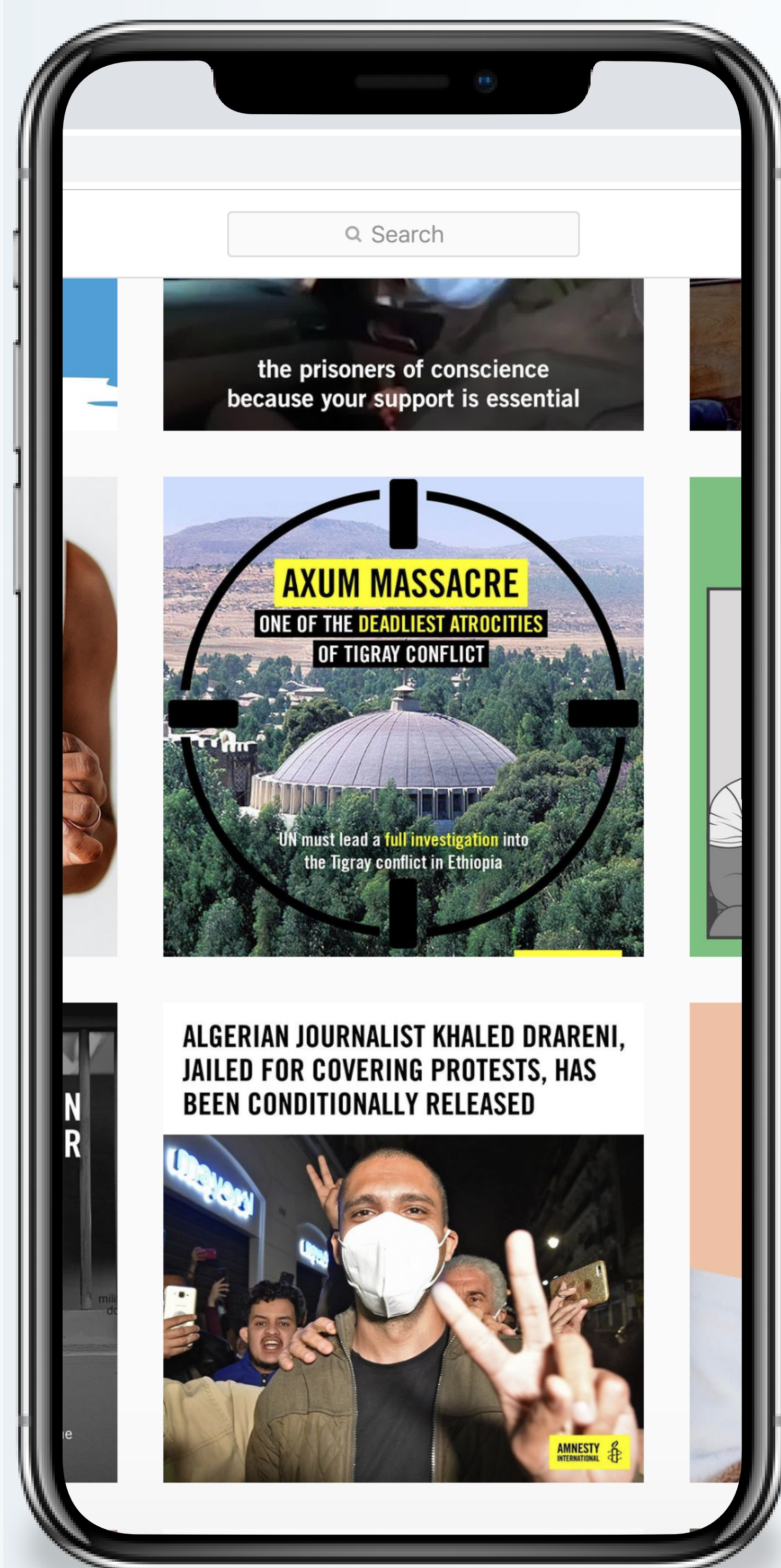
**Use the graphic for the case(s) featured each week, copy one of the messages below onto Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter!**

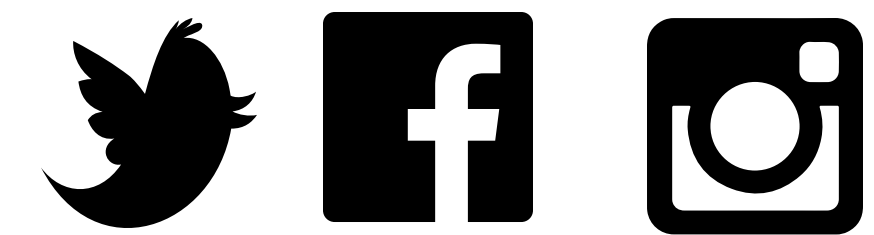
@AmnestyUSA to take action to protect #MuslimsHumanRights around the world [www.amnestyusa.org/ramadan](http://www.amnestyusa.org/ramadan)

During the month of #Ramadan, Muslim communities around the world will be fasting and serving their communities. Take action with me and @AmnestyUSA to protect #HumanRights this month [www.amnestyusa.org/ramadan](http://www.amnestyusa.org/ramadan)

**Tag your faith community, friends, colleagues, family and anyone you know, asking them to share, post and take action too! Make the post your own, be sure to tag @AmnestyUSA and use our hashtags:**

- #AIUSA
- #HumanRights
- #Ramadan
- #MuslimsHumanRights
- #PrisonerOfConscience
- #HRDefender





# Sample Posts

## April 11-18: United Arab Emirates

The right to freedom of expression is guaranteed under international law. The #UAE's government is violating human rights by arbitrarily detaining [@DrAIRoken](#) and [@Ahmed Mansoor](#). They must be released now. [@UAEEmbassyUS](#) [@HHshkMohd](#) [@SaifBZayed](#) #FreeAIRoken #FreeAhmed. <https://bit.ly/3fSxkHY>  
<https://bit.ly/31UwD8H>

#UAE government should show respect for human rights during #Ramadan and release all #PrisonersOfConscience including [@DrAIRoken](#) and [@Ahmed Mansoor](#). [@UAEEmbassyUS](#) [@HHshkMohd](#) [@SaifBZayed](#)  
<https://bit.ly/3fSxkHY> <https://bit.ly/31UwD8H>

### **Ahmed Mansoor**

#PrisonerOfConscience and #HRDefender [@Ahmed Mansoor](#) has spent over 3 years in solitary confinement in a #UAE jail after an unfair trial and 10 year sentence. He must be released NOW! [@UAEEmbassyUS](#) [@HHshkMohd](#) [@SaifBZayed](#) #FreeAhmed <https://bit.ly/3fSxkHY>

The right to freedom of expression is guaranteed under international law. The #UAE government is violating human rights by arbitrarily detaining #HRDefender [@Ahmed Mansoor](#) for over 3 years. He must be released now. [@UAEEmbassyUS](#) [@HHshkMohd](#) [@SaifBZayed](#) #FreeAhmed <https://bit.ly/3fSxkHY>

### **Mohammed al-Roken**

[@DrAIRoken#HRDefender](#) [@DrAIRoken](#) has been in a #UAE jail for over 9 years, solely for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression. He is not forgotten and must be released now. [@UAEEmbassyUS](#) [@HHshkMohd](#) [@SaifBZayed](#) #FreeAIRoken <https://bit.ly/31UwD8H>

[#HRDefender](#) [@DrAIRoken](#) is spending another #Ramadan in a #UAE jail solely for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression. He must be released now. [@UAEEmbassyUS](#) [@HHshkMohd](#) [@SaifBZayed](#) #FreeAIRoken <https://bit.ly/31UwD8H>

---

## April 18-24: Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh

This #Ramadan, tell #Bangladesh government to stop transfers of #Rohingya refugees to Bhashan Char and reunite families <https://bit.ly/3fNvuYN>

#Rohingya families fled #Myanmar to safety in #Bangladesh. But now, the #Bangladesh government wants to transfer them to a "floating island" called Bhashan Char. Tell the #Bangladesh government not to transfer refugees there <https://bit.ly/3fNvuYN>

The #Bangladesh government relocated #Rohingya refugees to the remote island of Bhashan Char, despite UN concerns about safety. Ask the #Bangladesh government to halt the relocation to Bhashan Char and return those already on the island to Cox's Bazar <https://bit.ly/3fNvuYN>





**April 25-May 1**

## **Detention of Muslims in Sri Lanka**

Support Muslim #humanrightsdefenders targeted by the #SriLanka government. Take action for Hejaaz Hizbullah and Ramzy Razeek! <https://bit.ly/2PCFsSe> <https://bit.ly/3cYJ1uQ>

### ***Hejaaz Hizbullah***

Why is the #SriLanka government detaining Hejaaz Hizbullah? Defending victims of #HumanRightsViolations is no crime! Release him now. #JusticeForHejaaz #LKA <https://bit.ly/2PCFsSe>

Lawyer Hejaaz Hizbullah has been arbitrarily detained in #SriLanka since April 2020. The government must release him now. #JusticeForHejaaz #LKA <https://bit.ly/2PCFsSe>

### ***Ramzy Razeek***

Social media commentator Ramzy Razeek was arrested and charged last April in #SriLanka. He is facing 10 years in prison for a Facebook post! The government must drop all charges against him now! #LKA <https://bit.ly/3cYJ1uQ>

Last April, Ramzy Razeek called on Muslims in #SriLanka to nonviolently resist the hate campaign against them. For that, he faces up to 10 years in prison. Drop the charges against him now! #LKA <https://bit.ly/3cYJ1uQ>

---

**May 2-May 8**

## **Close Guantanamo Bay**

The US is imprisoning 40 Muslim men indefinitely at #Guantanamo Bay. Most have never been charged with a crime. Many were tortured. None have received a fair trial. Tell @POTUS to #CloseGuantanamo <https://bit.ly/3uBAynj>

The military prison at #Guantanamo Bay is a shocking betrayal of Muslim's human rights by the U.S. government. Today, #Guantanamo continues to hold 40 Muslim men, most without charge, and none having received a fair trial. Many were tortured. Tell @POTUS to #CloseGuantanamo Now: <https://bit.ly/3uBAynj>

Toffiq al-Bihani was tortured by the U.S. government. He's been at #Guantanamo without charge or trial for 18 years. He, along with 5 other Muslim men, have been cleared for release since 2010. #Guantanamo is a travesty of justice. #CloseGitmo <https://bit.ly/3uBAynj>

The US opened the #Guantanamo Bay detention center in 2002 to imprison Muslim men beyond the reach of US law. To this day, 40 Muslim men remain detained there without due process. Most have never even been charged with a crime. Indefinite detention and #Guantanamo must end. #CloseGitmo <https://bit.ly/3uBAynj>

---

**May 9-15**

## **Detention of Uyghurs in China**

#YiliyasijiangReheman, a #Uyghur student missing since 2017, is believed to have been sent back to Xinjiang. Call on #China's government to release him now and reunite him with his wife and two children. <https://bit.ly/3dMTCIg>

Mairinisha Abuduaini is a #Uyghur mother raising her two young children alone after the forcible return of her husband to #China in 2017. #XiJinping must release #YiliyasijiangReheman and end the detention of more than a million #Uyghurs in Xinjiang. <https://bit.ly/3dMTCIg>

Where is #YiliyasijiangReheman? Rounded up along with other #Uyghur students in Egypt in 2017. At Chinese government's request, he has disappeared. #China's government must reunite these separated families. <https://bit.ly/3dMTCIg>



# Organizing In Your Community

Now that you have learned about the cases and taken the online actions, what's next? Let's get more people in your community involved so that we can flood these offices with messages! The following actions are just a few options for you to consider. Get as creative as you can and look for opportunities in your own community that will make your human rights action unique!

## Human Rights Iftar

Those that observe fasting during Ramadan refrain from eating and drinking from sunrise to sunset. This serves as a time of realignment, building empathy in the community and a reminder to be thankful. Muslim communities focus on the practical application of faith in daily life, upholding the rights of fellow human beings, and serving their communities. In that spirit, AIUSA is hosting a special, virtual Human Rights Iftar, a meal shared at the end of fasting, to bring folks together and highlight a human right issue that has affected Muslims here in the US post 9/11.

**Join us for this special, virtual Human Rights Iftar on Tuesday, May 4 at 6 PM ET/3 PM PT.**

Mohamedou Ould Slahi, a former Guantanamo detainee of 14 years, who was held without charges, will share his experience of fasting in detention and what steps we can take to ensure the 40 remaining men are released and receive justice. Learn more and [register here](#)!

**You can also use these instructions, sample agenda, and scripts (see next page) to host your own in-person, socially distanced or virtual Human Rights Iftar any time this month:**

### Step 1

Consult with your family, faith community or broader network to pick a day between April 12 and May 12.

Choose a time that works well for your group and guests, preferably an hour prior to sunset to give space for those observing in Ramadan time to prepare for their iftaar.

Next set up a Zoom link for your meeting. If you need assistance with this step please reach out to [communitynetworks@aiusa.org](mailto:communitynetworks@aiusa.org)

### Step 2

You can use the sample agenda below or feel free to make the event your own.

1-2 minutes: **Active Welcome:**  
Greet folks as they come into the space.

2-3 minutes: **Why are we here? Overview of Faith-Based Action Network** (use the sample script below, or your own version).

1-2 minutes: **Why Now? Overview of Ramadan** (use the sample script below, or your own version).

10-15 minutes: **Case Descriptions**

Use the human rights webinar on the [Ramadan campaign page](#) or the case descriptions in this toolkit to share more about each of the featured cases, or a selection that resonates most with you and your community.

2-3 minutes: **Call to Action:**

Invite everyone to take and share the online actions for all of the cases featured during Ramadan.

### Step 3

Use Social Media to Amplify Your Event

Post on your group or personal social media pages and invite friends and fellow activists to take part in this action. Remember to tag @AmnestyUSA and use the hashtags and guidance in the social media toolkit!

- [Download graphics for Facebook and Instagram here](#)
- [Download graphics for Twitter here](#)

### Step 4

Add Your Human Rights Iftar to the Amnesty Events Calendar [here](#)!



# Sample Scripts

## Overview of Faith in Action Network

Many faith communities across the country and around the world come together to strengthen their neighborhoods and serve the needs of their wider communities. Amnesty USA’s Faith in Action Network is open to all faith communities that are interested in grassroots activism for human rights. Faith Network members are invited to participate in human rights activism and receive resources to support community learning and action.

Amnesty International is a global movement of millions of people demanding human rights for all people – no matter who they are or where they are. Amnesty International’s movement of activists work to protect people wherever justice, freedom, truth, and dignity are denied.

## Overview of Ramadan:

During Ramadan, Muslim communities focus on the practical application of faith in daily life, upholding the rights of fellow human beings, and serving their communities. As Muslims around the world are celebrating Ramadan, faith communities, and all communities, are invited to join AIUSA in taking action to protect the human rights of Muslims.

## Hosting Community Conversations

Talking to members of your community about the human rights challenges facing Muslim human rights defenders and prisoners of conscience is a powerful way to raise awareness and inspire action. You can use the talking points that are included in the case details to build understanding of the human rights challenges communities are facing. Before you begin, share the community agreements below, or modify them to meet the needs of your community, to create a safe space for talking about global issues that may be new, challenging, or personally affecting depending on each person’s experience.

We hope these conversations inspire members of your community to act on the cases Amnesty International USA is featuring this month!

## Community Agreements:

- Manage your biases and behaviors
- Inclusion is intentional - listen for different perspectives and ask questions with a sense of curiosity instead of judgement.
- Manage speaking time and make space for different voices
- Respect and learn from different perspectives
- Understand the difference between intent and impact (assume good intent and take responsibility for your impact)
- Listen to understand, rather than to just respond



# Mother's Day Action

On Sunday, May 9, while families across the United States celebrate mothers and motherhood, you and your community can raise awareness and send hope to mothers impacted by human rights violations.

- Bring together members of your community, virtually or somewhere where you can follow health guidelines in your state, to take all of the [featured actions for Ramadan](#).
- Learn more about Yiliyasijiang Reheman and his family.
- Write and send Mother’s Day cards and messages of solidarity to Mairinisha Abuduaini, Yiliyasijiang’s wife and mother of two.
- You can take photos of the cards and messages you create, and share them on social media to raise awareness and encourage members of your community to take action too. Be sure to tag @AmnestyUSA and include a link to the Ramadan campaign page so your friends can take action:

## Sample Messages for Mairinisha Abuduaini (in English and simplified Chinese):

We are thinking about you! 我們想念你！

We support you from afar, courage! 我們在遠方支持你，加油！

You are not alone. We stand with you. 你不孤單。我們和你并肩而立。

We continue to call for the release of Yiliyasijiang Reheman. 我们继续呼吁释放依力亚江·热合曼。

**Cards with Islamic themes may be sent, but other religious content should be avoided. You may write in English, Uyghur, Turkish, or simplified Chinese.**



**Send your messages for Mairinisha Abuduaini to:**

Amnesty International Turkey  
Hacımimi Mh.  
Kemeraltı Cd.  
Ada Han No.31  
Kat:2 Daire:2 3  
4425 Karaköy,  
Beyoğlu/Istanbul  
Turkey

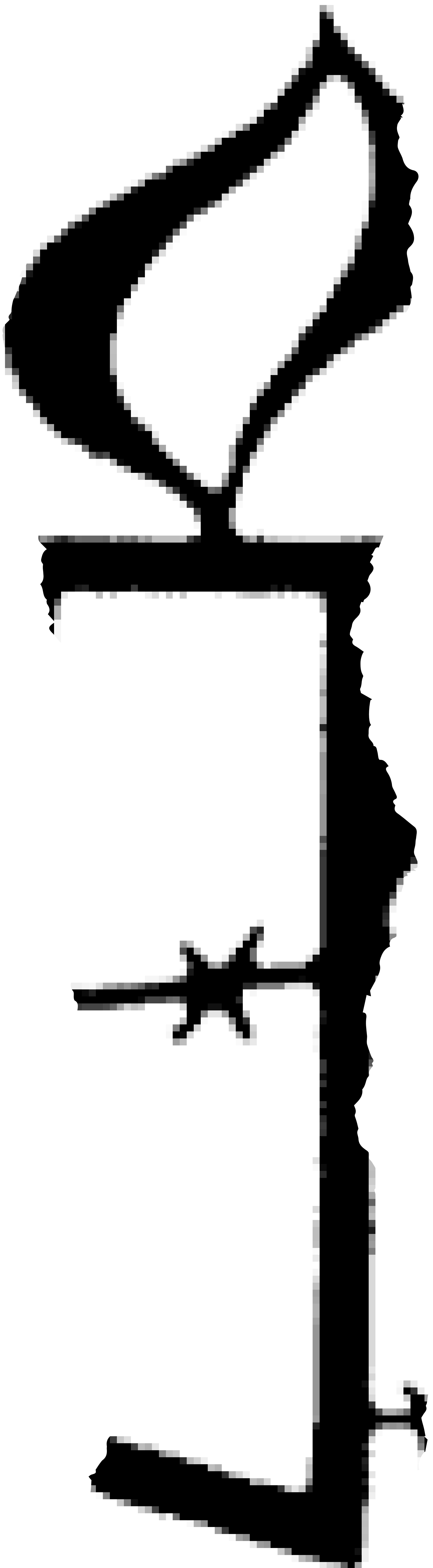
# Eid and Family Reunion Action

When the month of Ramadan comes to an end, and Muslim families and communities are coming together to celebrate Eid al-Fitr, this creative action combines human rights with a celebration of family togetherness.

Rohingya and Uyghur families have been torn apart, Muslim men are being detained in Guantanamo and separated indefinitely from their families, and Muslim individuals around the world are suffering human rights violations. During the week of May 9-15, bring your family or larger community together to take action for the human rights of Muslim families and communities around the world.

- Bring your family or members of your faith, or broader, community together to make a difference for human rights. This could be when you are gathering for an evening meal, or at a virtual gathering online.
- Use the case materials and talking points in this toolkit to lead a conversation with your family or community about the importance of human rights, the cases Amnesty has featured during Ramadan, and the impact these violations have on families around the world.
- Take all of the [featured actions for Ramadan](#)!
- Take a photo of your family or community taking action and share it on social media to encourage more people you know to stand up for human rights. Be sure to tag @AmnestyUSA and include a link to the Ramadan campaign page so your friends can take action: [www.amnestyusa.org/ramadan](http://www.amnestyusa.org/ramadan)





# Thank You!

However you decide to take action, let us know by reporting back to us! We want to celebrate your activism and count your efforts as we work together, across faiths and communities, to defend human rights around the world. Use this link to share what you have done with us:

[amnestyusa.org/ramadan-2021-action-reporting-form/](https://amnestyusa.org/ramadan-2021-action-reporting-form/)

Or Scan this QR code:

