URGENT ACTION

DUTCH-YEMENI RESTAURANT OWNER ARBITRARILY DETAINED

Saudi authorities detained Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan on November 20, 2023, two days after he arrived in Saudi Arabia from the Netherlands. He was held in incommunicado detention from November 23, 2023 until January 1, 2024, and has had no access to legal representation throughout his detention and interrogation. He told officials from the Dutch embassy in Riyadh that he had sympathized online with a critic of the Saudi royal family and believed that was the reason for his detention. He is likely to be arbitrarily detained because of his online activities because according to his family, he was asked to sign a document by interrogators in May which included four of his tweets. Saudi authorities must immediately and unconditionally release Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter in your own words or using the sample below as a guide to one or both government officials listed. You can also email, fax, call or Tweet them.
- Click here to let us know the actions you took on ***Urgent Action 91.24*****.** It's important to report because we share the total number with the officials we are trying to persuade and the people we are trying to help.

Waleed Mohammed Al Samani
Minister of Justice
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Postal Code 11472, P.O Box 7775
Email: 1950@moj.gov.sa

CC: Embassy of Saudi Arabia in the United States
Her Royal Highness Princess Reema bint Bandar bin Sultan bin Abdulaziz Al Saud
601 New Hampshire Ave NW,
Washington, DC 20037
Contact Form: https://www.saudiembassy.net/contact-us

Your Excellency,

I am gravely concerned about the continued arbitrary detention of Dutch-Yemeni citizen, **Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan**, who has been detained in Dhahban Central Prison and held without any charge against him for over ten months.

On November 20, 2023, security forces arbitrarily detained Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan without giving him a reason or allowing him to contact a lawyer. According to his family, Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan was held in incommunicado detention until January 1, 2024. He has had no access to legal representation throughout his detention and interrogation.

He told officials from the Dutch embassy in Riyadh that a few years ago, he had expressed sympathy online with a critic of the Saudi royal family and believed that was the reason for his detention.

Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan suffers from health issues, which he is not receiving adequate medical care for, which he informed his family of.

Saudi authorities must immediately and unconditionally release Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan, if he is detained solely for peacefully exercising their human rights. They must otherwise produce sufficient evidence pointing to his involvement in an internationally recognized criminal offense. Pending his release, we urge you to ensure that Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan receives adequate medical care and access to the lawyer appointed by his family.

Yours sincerely,

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan was born in Saudi Arabia and had returned to the country on November 18, 2023 to gather paperwork to complete an application for citizenship in the Netherlands, where he has been granted asylum protection since 2018. He was granted Dutch citizenship in February 2024.

Amnesty International has documented the Saudi authorities' increasing crackdown on freedom of expression, targeting both citizens and foreign nationals, many of whom have been sentenced to lengthy prison terms solely for peacefully exercising their rights to freedom of expression, association, and assembly. This includes criticizing the government and its policies.

Legal proceedings in these cases fall far short of international fair trial standards. Individuals are often held incommunicado without charge, in solitary confinement, and denied access to lawyers or the courts to challenge the lawfulness of their detention.

As of July 2024, Amnesty International has documented the cases of 82 individuals who had been prosecuted solely for exercising their rights to freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly, including human rights defenders, peaceful political activists, journalists, poets, and clerics. Of those, 32 were prosecuted for peacefully expressing their opinions on social media. Amnesty International is aware that the real number of such prosecutions is likely much higher.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: Arabic, English, or your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: February 18, 2025

NAME AND PREFFERED PRONOUN: Fahd Ezzi Mohammed Ramadhan (he/him)