

URGENT ACTION

UNJUSTLY JAILED FATHER APPEALS PRISON TERM

On December 22, the Criminal Circuit of the Court of Cassation will examine Badr Mohamed's appeal against his unjust conviction and five-year prison sentence. He was convicted in January 2023 in a grossly unfair trial in connection to the Ramsis Square protests on August 16, 2013, when he was 17 years old. He is held in Badr 1 prison in cruel and inhuman conditions of detention without access to adequate medical care. The Egyptian authorities must quash Badr Mohamed's unjust verdict and immediately release him.

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 **Third Urgent Action 73.23**. 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.

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CC: Egyptian Embassy in the United States
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3521 International Court, NW, Washington DC 20008
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Your Excellency,

I am writing to you to express my grave concern over the prolonged arbitrary detention of **Badr Mohamed**. He was arrested on May 11, 2020 from his home in front of his wife, Elena Pichler, an Austrian national. On January 12, 2023, the Cairo Criminal Court, following a grossly unfair trial, unjustly convicted and sentenced him to a five-year prison term in connection to 2013 protests in Ramsis Square. During the trial hearings, which commenced following his arrest in May 2020, Badr Mohamed was kept inside a glass cage where he could not fully observe, hear, or speak during proceedings. He was banned from communicating with his lawyer privately through the pretrial and trial phases.

Badr Mohamed is detained in Badr 1 prison, known for its cruel and inhuman detention conditions. He is held in a small, crammed cell with three other people. None of them have beds, blankets, or access to heating. Badr Mohamed is only allowed short family visits once a month, leaving little time for contact with his three-year-old daughter, Amina, which is severely impacting his mental health. Prison visits are extremely exhausting for the family, who travel 60 km to the prison from Cairo and then wait hours only to be allowed 30 minutes together. Prison authorities refuse to allow more than two visitors at the same time, further restricting his contact with the outside world.

I urge you to immediately release Badr Mohamed from arbitrary detention and quash his unjust conviction and sentence. Pending his release, he must be granted access to his family, lawyers, and adequate healthcare and held in conditions that meet international standards for the treatment of prisoners.

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Security forces arrested **Badr Mohamed** on August 16, 2013, in connection to the Ramsis Square protests, when he was 17 years old. Amnesty International [documented](#) the excessive force used by security forces against protesters and bystanders during these protests, resulting in the death of 97 protesters. According to information gathered by Amnesty International, Badr Mohamed was in the vicinity of Ramsis Square when violence erupted, and he ran to the nearby Al-Fath mosque for safety. The security forces then raided the mosque, where tens of protesters and bystanders were trapped, including many who were injured, and arrested Badr Mohamed and many others. According to the casefile, reviewed by Amnesty International, Badr Mohamed was named as a suspect in case 8615 / 2013 and interrogated before Al-Azbakeya prosecution on August 19, 2013 without a lawyer present. Badr Mohamed was arbitrarily detained with adults in Wadi al-Natron prison and transferred to a juvenile detention facility three months later, where he remained until his release on bail in November 2013. Under international law and standards, the arrest, detention, or imprisonment of children should only be used as a measure of last resort; must be subject to regular review and be for the shortest appropriate duration; and alternatives to detention should be used whenever possible. According to his relatives, after his release, he has been suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and has been living in hiding fearing re-arrest. On August 18, 2017, Badr Mohamed was sentenced to five years in prison in his absence on charges of murder of police officers, attempted murder, “destroying public property”, “protesting without authorization”, “attacking the security forces”, and “hindering the work of national institutions”, among other charges. He was tried in a [grossly unfair mass trial](#) that included 494 defendants, 43 of whom were sentenced to life imprisonment, while 399 were sentenced to between five and 15 years in prison, including eight children. The verdict, examined by Amnesty International, heavily relied on investigations and eyewitness accounts by security forces and other government officials.

Security forces arrested Badr Mohamed in front of his wife, an Austrian national, during a Ramadan breaking of the fast (Iftar) on May 11, 2020. He was referred to retrial before a terrorism circuit of a Cairo Criminal Court in July 2020. On January 12, 2023, Badr Mohamed was convicted of “participating in an illegal gathering”, “displaying force associated with the crime of premeditated murder”, “attempted murder”, “destruction of public property”, “attempted use of explosives and possession of firearms and knives”, among other charges and sentence to five years in prison. Lawyers raised concerns that no material evidence was presented in relation to Badr Mohamed’s alleged participation in protests or violent acts. Amnesty International learned from Badr Mohamed’s lawyers that the court dismissed statements by defense witnesses that he did not take part in the protests.

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

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: June 12, 2025

NAME AND PRONOUN: Badr Mohamed (he/him)

LINK TO PREVIOUS UA: <https://www.amnestyusa.org/urgent-actions/urgent-action-father-unjustly-jailed-in-relation-to-protests-egypt-second-ua-73-23/>