

URGENT ACTION

UNJUSTLY JAILED STUDENT DENIED PROSTHETIC LEG

Egyptian student, Oqba Hashad, has spent five years and nine months in pretrial detention as punishment for his brother's human rights activism. He is held in 10th of Ramadan Prison, where authorities continue to cruelly deny him a prosthetic leg, which he needs to walk unassisted as his right leg has been amputated above the knee since his childhood. Even though the prison administration began procedures to provide Oqba Hashad with a functional prosthetic leg in February 2025, he has yet to receive one. Egyptian authorities should release him immediately and unconditionally as his detention is solely linked to his brother's human rights activism. Pending his release, they should urgently provide him with a prosthetic leg.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter to the government official(s) listed. Use the sample letter below as a guide or use your own words.
- [Click here](#) to report your action(s) on **Fourth UA 110.23**. We share this number with the officials we are trying to persuade.

Public Prosecutor Mohamed Shawky Ayyad
Office of the Public Prosecutor, Madinat al-Rehab
Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt
Fax: +202 2577 4716
Twitter/X: [@EgyptianPPO](#)

CC: Egyptian Embassy in the United States
Ambassador Motaz Zahran
3521 International Court, NW,
Washington DC 20008
Phone: (202) 895-5400
Email: embassy@egyptembassy.net

Dear Counsellor,

I write to you to express my concern over the prolonged arbitrary detention of **Oqba Hashad**, who is being held solely for his brother's human rights activism.

On January 4, 2024, prison authorities provided Oqba Hashad with a new prosthetic leg. However, it was too small and therefore, unusable. On January 10, 2024, Oqba Hashad's family submitted a request to the prosecution for a doctor to visit him and take measurements for an appropriate prosthetic leg. However, Oqba Hashad is yet to receive a new prosthetic leg.

Oqba's physical and mental health is extremely poor after nearly six years of arbitrary detention in cruel and inhumane conditions of detention. He suffers from severe back pain and moves with great difficulty.

I urge you to ensure that Oqba Hashad is immediately and unconditionally released and all charges against him dropped as he is detained solely as a punishment for his brother's activism. Pending his release, he must be granted a suitable prosthetic leg as well as regular access to his family, lawyers, and adequate healthcare, including in outside hospitals if necessary, and held in conditions that comply with international standards for the treatment of prisoners.

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Oqba Hashad has been arbitrarily detained for five years and nine months without trial, solely due to his family affiliation, particularly the human rights activism of his brother, Amr Hashad, a human rights activist who left Egypt in 2019. Prison authorities interrogated Oqba Hashad on multiple occasions, most recently in October 2023, about his brother's human rights work and contact with his family in Egypt. They also questioned Oqba Hashad on whether he had shared any information with his brother about his prison conditions. Oqba Hashad's mother was also detained and questioned for nine hours during a visit to Shebin Al-Kom prison, where Oqba Hashad was held at the time, in relation to a Facebook post written by Amr Hashad in December 2020 about his brother being banned from accessing his prosthetic leg and the injustices suffered by their family.

Since August 2022, in violation of the absolute prohibition of torture and other ill-treatment, prison authorities have been cruelly denying Oqba Hashad access to adequate healthcare and a prosthetic leg, causing him severe physical and psychological pain and suffering. On January 9, 2024, Oqba Hashad was transferred to court without a wheelchair, hopping on one leg, and was forced to sit on the floor in front of the judge. The prison authorities are also refused to grant him specialized medical care, not available in prison, raising fears about permanent and irreversible damage to his spinal column, according to independent doctors consulted by his relatives.

On August 7, 2022, relatives of Oqba Hashad's cellmate, who had visited the Wadi al-Natroun prison that day, called Oqba Hashad's family to inform them that his prosthetic leg broke. The family did not have the financial means to replace it and therefore sought to repair it instead. On August 9, 2022, when his relatives returned to the prison with the prosthetic leg, the prison authorities insisted on carrying out a thorough inspection, attempted to dismantle it, and informed the family that they would submit it for further inspections.

In May 2019, National Security Agency (NSA) agents stormed Oqba Hashad's student residence and arrested everyone without a warrant. Following his arbitrary arrest, security forces forcibly disappeared Oqba Hashad for 77 days and subjected him to torture and other ill-treatment. On August 1, 2019, a prosecutor ordered his pre-trial detention pending investigations into charges of "joining a group formed against the rule of law" and "participating in demonstrations to overthrow the regime". Since then, his pretrial detention, which has long exceeded the two-year limit permitted under Egyptian law, has been extended.

As a state party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Egypt must fulfill its obligations to ensure that when persons with disabilities are deprived of their liberty, they are entitled to guarantees in accordance with international human rights law and are provided with reasonable accommodation and with health services specifically because of their disabilities.

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

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

NAME AND PRONOUN: Oqba Hashad (he/him).

LINK TO PREVIOUS UA: <https://www.amnestyusa.org/urgent-actions/urgent-action-unjustly-jailed-student-with-disability-rotated-egypt-110-23/>