UYGHUR SONGWRITER SENTENCED TO THREE YEARS FOR HIS RAP LYRICS AND BOOKS IN HIS POSSESSION

Yashar, also known as Yaxia'er Xiaohelaiti（亚夏尔·肖合拉提）is a 27-year-old Uyghur songwriter and rap artist who goes by the stage name "Uigga." He was residing in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, when he was detained on August 11, 2023. Authorities charged him with "promoting extremism" and "illegally possessing extremist materials," reportedly for his music published on the Internet and his possession of Uyghur-language books. It appears he is being punished solely for exercising his right to explore his own culture and freely express his views.

CALL ON CHINA'S PARTY SECRETARY OF XINJIANG, MA XINGRUI, TO IMMEDIATELY RELEASE YAXIA'ER XIAOHELAITI, ALSO KNOWN AS YASHAR.

YOUR NAME **EMAIL: TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THIS ACTION** **ZIP CODE**

Send Petitions to AIUSA, 89 South Street, LLO1, Boston, MA 02111 (Send by Nov. 1, 2025)

Amnesty International's 2025 Banned Books Week Action: Freedom of Expression is a Human Right

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

PHOTOJOURNALIST SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS IN PRISON FOR REPORTING ON A CYCLONE

Media freedoms in Myanmar remained severely restricted. At least six journalists and other media workers were arrested or sentenced to prison terms during 2024. They included photojournalist **Sai Zaw Thaike**, who was accused of disseminating information that could cause public alarm or misunderstanding towards the military authorities. He was found guilty on a bogus charge of sedition by a military tribunal in Yangon's Insein Prison in September and sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment with hard labor. Sai Zaw Thaike had worked for the online news outlet Myanmar Now, which was banned by the military after the February 2021 coup.

CALL ON MYANMAR AUTHORITIES TO RELEASE SAI ZAW THAIKE IMMEDIATELY AND UNCONDITIONALLY.

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

TRANS MAN RECEIVES 12-YEAR PRISON SENTENCE FOR ANTI-WAR ACTIVISM

Mark Kislitsyn, a human rights and LGBTI activist from Moscow, protested against Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and was arrested on July 12, 2023 for "high treason." Hours after the invasion, he sent about $10 to a Ukrainian bank account, which Russian authorities said funded Ukraine's Armed Forces. Mark maintained that he made the transfer for humanitarian reasons and didn't know about the account's purpose. On December 23, 2023, the Moscow City Court sentenced Mark Kislitsyn to 12 years' imprisonment in a penal colony. Mark, a transgender man, was sent to a female colony enduring inhuman and degrading conditions including prolonged solitary confinement and numbing cold.

CALL ON THE RUSSIAN AUTHORITIES TO RELEASE MARK KISLITSYN IMMEDIATELY AND UNCONDITIONALLY.

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LAWYER AND MEDIA PERSONALITY JAILED FOR SPEAKING OUT AGAINST RACISM

Sonia Dahmani is a lawyer and media commentator who has dedicated her life to defending human rights, standing up for the marginalized. She is a vocal critic of inhumane prison conditions and racism, regularly addressing these issues on television and radio shows. On May 11, 2024, masked policemen violently raided the Tunisian Bar Association in Tunis and arrested Sonia. They detained her in Manouba prison, where she has been held ever since. The Tunisian authorities have convicted and sentenced Sonia for "spreading false news", with more politically motivated investigations still pending. She faces up to 25 years in prison. Her imprisonment is a clear attempt to silence her.

CALL ON THE TUNISIAN AUTHORITIES TO RELEASE SONIA DAHMANI IMMEDIATELY AND UNCONDITIONALLY.

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30 YEARS IN PRISON FOR SOCIAL MEDIA POST

Mohammad bin Nasser al-Ghamdi, a 55-year-old retired teacher, was sentenced to death by Saudi Arabia's Specialized Criminal Court (SCC) for his online social media posts in which he called on the Saudi King and Crown Prince to release detained religious clerics and protested increased prices.

Although his death sentence was commuted, Mohammed was resentenced to 30 years in prison, a ludicrously harsh punishment for exercising his right to free expression.

CALL ON THE SAUDI MINISTER OF JUSTICE TO RELEASE MOHAMMED IMMEDIATELY AND UNCONDITIONALLY.

YOUR NAME **EMAIL: TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THIS ACTION** **ZIP CODE**

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

STOP THE CRACKDOWN: STOP REVOKING VISAS OF FOREIGN STUDENTS AND PROTECT STUDENT RIGHTS TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

No one should be ripped away from their family and sent to detention just for exercising their right to freedom of expression or be punished for peacefully protesting. No one should be threatened for exercising free speech by speaking at a protest or for publishing an op-ed, and no one should be deported for speaking out for human rights. All students should feel like they belong on their campuses and are free to be themselves without being harassed or singled out. Universities must fight to protect students' rights and refuse to collaborate in the government's attacks on campuses.

CALL ON SECRETARY KRISTI NOEM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY TO STOP REVOKING THE VISAS OF FOREIGN STUDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES.

YOUR NAME	EMAIL: TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THIS ACTION	ZIP CODE

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