



ACTION GUIDE: FREE DR. ABU SAFIYA

BACKGROUND

"This is the last time you'll see me. They brought me here to kill me."

These are the reported words of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya, a Palestinian pediatrician and director of Kamal Adwan Hospital in northern Gaza, as relayed by his lawyer following a recent prison visit. Arbitrarily detained by Israel for more than 18 months without charge or trial under the abusive [Unlawful Combatants' Law](#), Dr. Abu Safiya has reportedly endured torture and other cruel treatment, including severe beatings, psychological abuse, prolonged solitary confinement, and deliberate food deprivation. His lawyer reported seeing fresh bruises and other visible signs of torture that left him barely recognizable and on the verge of losing consciousness. Dr. Abu Safiya was arbitrarily detained on December 27, 2024, when Israeli forces raided Kamal Adwan Hospital in Beit Lahia, Gaza. A respected pediatrician, he had been leading efforts to provide lifesaving care at one of the last functioning major hospitals in northern Gaza amid relentless attacks and severe shortages. His case exemplifies Israel's systematic targeting of Palestinian health workers and the broader destruction of Gaza's healthcare system.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO FREE DR. ABU SAFIYA

Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya's continued imprisonment violates international humanitarian and human rights law. You can make an immediate difference by taking action and urging others to do the same. Every call, email, and online post helps build pressure and demand the immediate and unconditional release of Dr. Abu Safiya and the protection of Palestinian medical workers.

TAKE ACTION

1. Call Your Members of Congress

- a. Call your two U.S. Senators and your U.S. Representative. Ask them to publicly call for the release of Dr. Abu Safiya. If they have already done so, call to thank them for their leadership and encourage them to keep speaking out until he is released.
 - i. You can find your Members of Congress [HERE](#).
 - ii. You can call via the United States Capitol Switchboard: (202) 224-3121
- b. Script
 - i. Feel free to use the following suggested script if your Member of Congress **has not yet spoken out**: *"Hi, my name is _____ and I'm calling from [City, State] and I*

am asking [Senator/Representative NAME] to publicly call for the immediate and unconditional release of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya, a Palestinian pediatrician and hospital director from Gaza who has been arbitrarily detained by Israel for more than 18 months without charge or trial. Dr. Abu Safiya has reportedly been subjected to torture and other ill-treatment while in detention. I urge [Senator/Representative NAME] to call on the Israeli government to immediately and unconditionally release Dr. Abu Safiya as well as urge Secretary of State Marco Rubio to use all available diplomatic channels to press for his release. Thank you."

- ii. If your Member of Congress **has already spoken out**, please call to thank them:
"Hello, my name is _____, and I'm calling from [City, State]. I wanted to thank [Senator/Representative NAME] for speaking out in support of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya and calling for his release. Their leadership on this issue is deeply appreciated. I encourage them to continue advocating until Dr. Abu Safiya and all other arbitrarily detained Palestinians are released, and to continue pressing Secretary of State Marco Rubio to prioritize this case through U.S. diplomatic engagement. Thank you."
- iii. Find the list of Members of Congress who have spoken out [HERE](#).

c. Report Action

- i. After making your call, please report your action by emailing campaigns@aiusa.org.

2. Email the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C.

a. Contact Information

- i. Email: consular@washington.mfa.gov.il

b. Script

- i. Feel free to use the following suggested script:

"Hello,

I am writing to urge the Ambassador to do everything in his power to ensure the immediate and unconditional release of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya, a pediatrician and the director of Kamal Adwan Hospital in Gaza. He was detained on December 27, 2024, while caring for his patients and performing his medical duties, and has been detained without charge or trial. Dr. Abu Safiya has reportedly been subjected to torture and other ill-treatment while in detention. Many human rights organizations have called for his immediate and unconditional release. His detention violates international humanitarian law and the principle of medical neutrality. Again, I urge the Ambassador to ensure that the Israeli government immediately and unconditionally releases Dr. Abu Safiya and all other arbitrarily detained Palestinians.

*Yours Sincerely,
[YOUR NAME]"*

c. Report Action

- i. After you send an email to the Embassy, please report your action by emailing us at campaigns@aiusa.org. Please include a summary of any email response you receive. Your feedback helps us track our collective impact and strengthen our advocacy.

3. Email Ambassador Huckabee at the U.S. Embassy in Israel

a. Contact Information

- i. Email: JerusalemACS@state.gov

b. Email Template

- i. Feel free to use the following suggested script:

*“Dear Ambassador Huckabee,
I am writing to the U.S. Embassy to call on the Israeli authorities to immediately and unconditionally release of Dr. Hussam Abu Safiya, a pediatrician and hospital director from Gaza who was arbitrarily detained by Israeli forces on December 27, 2024, along with other hospital staff and patients, following a deadly raid on the hospital, which put it out of service, and following an interview with him in the New York Times describing the attacks on hospitals in Gaza.
Dr. Abu Safiya has been held without charge or trial and has reportedly been subjected to torture and other ill-treatment while in detention. Testimonies collected by many human rights groups reveal a dreadful reality inside Israeli prisons and detention centers, where Palestinian detainees, including health workers, face systematic torture and other ill-treatment.
His continued detention violates international humanitarian law and human rights law, and I respectfully ask the United States to urgently raise this case with Israeli authorities and call for the immediate and unconditional release of Dr. Abu Safiya’s and all arbitrarily detained Palestinians.*

*Yours Sincerely,
[YOUR NAME]”*

c. Report Action

- i. Please report your action by emailing us at campaigns@aiusa.org. Please include a summary of any email response you receive. Your feedback helps us track our collective impact and strengthen our advocacy.

4. Sign & Share Digital Petition

- a. We also urge you to sign and share this digital petition to Israeli authorities to immediately release Dr. Abu Safiya [HERE](#).

5. Write & Mail/Email a Letter to Government Authorities

- a. Write and send a letter or email to the Israeli authorities, using our Urgent Action guidance [HERE](#).

6. **Post on Social Media**

- a. Help amplify the call to free Dr. Abu Safiya! Share the actions on your social media and urge others to join in demanding his release. Every post helps to increase pressure and raise awareness.
 - i. Amnesty International USA's Post on Instagram:
 1. <https://www.instagram.com/p/DawdA8iFwKV/?igsh=bWZ1YjVhMmk4ZnE2>
 2. <https://www.instagram.com/p/DadymEPiaZh/?igsh=ajE1ejlqaDIzNWto>
 - ii. Amnesty International USA's Post on X:
 1. <https://x.com/amnestyusa/status/2076792812935196757?s=46>
 2. <https://x.com/amnestyusa/status/2074957970098585993?s=46>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. **Read:** New York Times Op-ed Featuring Dr Abu Safiya:
<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/12/02/opinion/gaza-hospital-kamal-adwan.html>
2. **Watch:** CNN Video About Dr Abu Safiya Before His Arbitrary Arrest:
<https://www.cnn.com/2024/11/26/world/video/gaza-hospital-eyewitness-account-digvid>

CONTACT US

Reach out about the Campaign, Action, Activism, Collaborations, Reporting, and Safety concerns:
campaigns@aiusa.org.