

SCHOLARS AT RISK

N E T W O R K

His Highness Shaikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa
Prime Minister
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
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June 22, 2011

Re: Dr. Abdul Jalil Al-Singace

Your Excellency:

I write on behalf of the Scholars at Risk Network to express grave concern about reports that Dr. Abdul Jalil Al-Singace, a professor of mechanical engineering at the University of Bahrain, Isa Town, has been sentenced to life in prison on allegations stemming from his exercise of internationally recognized rights of free expression and association, as protected in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Bahrain has acceded.

We also remain deeply concerned—as we noted in our earlier letters of August 27, 2010, October 14, 2010 and March 18, 2011—by continuing reports that Dr. Al-Singace is being held incommunicado, without regular access to medical care—which is of particular concern given that Dr. Al-Singace is partially paralyzed from poliomyelitis—and without regular access to his family or to legal representation.

We write today to again respectfully urge you to intervene to ensure Dr. Al-Singace's well-being while in custody, including ensuring regular access to legal counsel of his choosing, to family and to medical treatment. We urge you to ensure that Dr. Al-Singace receives a fair opportunity to appeal this most recent sentence before an impartial tribunal, that any charges or convictions related to his protected expressive activities are lifted, and that in the interim, his case is addressed in a manner consistent with internationally recognized standards of due process, fair trial and detention, in accordance with Bahrain's obligations under international law.

We appreciate your immediate attention to this important matter and look forward to your earliest reply as we continue to monitor Dr. Al-Singace's case.

Sincerely,



Robert J. Quinn
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Hillary R. Clinton
United States Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State

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