

H. E. Muhammad Ashraf Ghani
President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
ARG Presidential Palace
Akber
KABUL
AFGHANISTAN

Amsterdam, August 2020

H.E. President Muhammad Ashraf Ghani,

I am writing you to express my grave concern over the deteriorating situation of **human rights defenders** in Afghanistan. They continuously face intimidation, harassment, threats, and violence, from both the authorities and armed groups. Amnesty International, in collaboration with 32 human rights organizations, presented the "Afghanistan Human Rights Defenders Protection Strategy" on January 2020. It is intended as a roadmap for the government to adopt an independent, effective and implementable protection mechanism for the protection of human rights defenders. The establishment of this mechanism can respond to the immediate protection, investigation, referral, relocation and psychosocial support to human rights defenders in Afghanistan.

I therefore call on you and the Afghan government to:

Immediately establish the Human Rights Defenders Protection Joint Commission as proposed in the Afghanistan Human Rights Defenders Protection Strategy;

Establish special measures to provide protection support to human rights defenders facing threats, intimidation and violence;

With support of the international community, secure and allocate specific funds for human rights defenders' protection through the establishment of a basket fund.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am looking forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

Name:
Address:
City:
Country:

Director Li Dengquan
Linyi Shi Public Security Bureau
7 Shanghai Lu
Lanshan Qu
Linyi Shi
Shandong Sheng
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Amsterdam, August 2020

Dear Director Li,

I am writing to express my concern about former human rights lawyer **Ding Jiayi** (丁家喜) who has been charged with 'inciting subversion of state power' (颠覆国家政权罪) for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of association. He was, along with many human rights defenders, taken away by police on 26 December 2019 after joining an informal social gathering in Xiamen and formally arrested on 19 June 2020. Held incommunicado for more than six months, he has had no access to his family and lawyers of his choice. I am very worried that Ding Jiayi is at imminent risk of torture and other ill-treatment.

I therefore call on you to:

- Release Ding Jiayi immediately and unconditionally unless there is sufficient credible and admissible evidence that he has committed an internationally recognized offence and is granted a fair trial in line with international standards.
- Pending his release, ensure that Ding Jiayi has regular, unrestricted access to family and lawyers of his choice and is not subjected to torture and other ill-treatment.
- Stop harassing and arresting other human rights defenders who peacefully exercise their right to freedom of association and other human rights.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am looking forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

Name:
Address:
City:
Country:

King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud
The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques
Office of His Majesty the King
Royal Court
RIYADH
KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

Amsterdam, August 2020

Your Majesty,

I wish to draw your attention to the case of **Yemeni national Mohamed al-Bokari** (born in 1991). On 8 April 2020, Saudi security forces arbitrarily arrested him and transferred him to Malaz prison in Riyadh. He has neither been formally charged nor given a trial date. He has had no legal representation to date. According to a source close to him, Al-Bokari's physical and mental health has significantly deteriorated, and he suffers from a heart condition. In addition, Al-Bokari was allegedly held incommunicado for a month and tortured to "confess".

I urge the Saudi Arabian authorities to drop any charges against Mohamed al-Bokari and to ensure his immediate and unconditional release, especially in light of his deteriorating health and COVID-19 outbreak concerns. I further call on the authorities to allow him to remain in Saudi Arabia, as his deportation to Yemen could put his life at risk. Meanwhile, ensure that Al-Bokari is protected from torture and other ill-treatment, that he is immediately granted adequate medical attention, and is granted access to a lawyer.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I am kindly looking forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

Name:
Address:
City:
Country: