

Waleed Mohammed Al Samani

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Your Excellency,

I am writing to express my grave concern for Ahmed Fathi Kamal Kamel, an Egyptian citizen detained in Jeddah since 13 November 2024 and facing imminent extradition to Egypt. His extradition would put him at high risk of torture and persecution by Egyptian authorities.

Ahmed Fathi Kamal Kamel took part in the Arab Spring protests in Egypt in 2011 and in anti-government protests in 2014. During the protests, he was shot by Egyptian security forces on two separate occasions, leaving him with long-term health issues, including embedded shrapnel that remains in his body. Following his participation in protests, Egyptian authorities detained him in 2014 and reportedly subjected him to torture. After he was released on bail in the same year, he moved to Saudi Arabia where he now lives with his wife and children who are US nationals.

In 2021 Egyptian authorities sentenced him to life imprisonment in absentia in a politically motivated trial on charges of "incitement to demonstrations, organizing demonstrations, incitement to the use of force and violence, possession of explosive materials, participation in protests and gatherings, obstruction of traffic and organizing a gathering".

Saudi authorities had previously arrested Ahmed Fathi Kamal Kamel in October 2022 following an extradition request by Egypt, according to information given to him by a Saudi prosecutor. After being detained for three days without being presented with any charges or official documentation, he was released and was able to remain in the country without further issue.

I am highly distressed to learn that if extradited to Egypt, Ahmed Fathi Kamal Kamel will be at real risk of torture and persecution, including arbitrary detention.

I therefore urge you to immediately halt Ahmed Fathi Kamal Kamel's extradition to Egypt and release him unless credible and admissible evidence is presented to justify his detention.

Yours sincerely,