



Bahrain:

Limited Medical Access and Breach of Medical Neutrality

A need for accountability and an end to ongoing violations



Report Introduction:

On March 16th 2011, approximately half an hour after the attack on the Pearl Square, the military and security forces besieged the Salmaniya Medical Complex, and no one was allowed to enter or leave the premises. Shortly afterwards, they commenced to arrest wounded protesters inside the hospital; those with severe injuries were detained inside the Medical Complex, while those with minor injuries were moved to a different location. The Emergency Unit was put on complete lockdown, and those with severe injuries were moved to the sixth level of the hospital. All the rooms were guarded by the military and all Bahraini medics were not allowed to enter those rooms. The entire medical complex was then searched with police dogs, looking for injured protesters in different wards.

Several medics attempted to leave the medical complex, but at reaching the gates of the complex, they were stopped, beaten and sent back inside. All phone lines inside the Medical Complex were temporarily cut off, preventing communication between the different wards and the outside. Then, the medics started getting arrested.

This was only the beginning of a long crackdown, which continues today, on medics and access to health in Bahrain.

This report was created to show the extensive impact of the security crackdown on the right to access to health, and the results of the ongoing situation thereof.

Important Note: Cases presented in this report are only a sample of a vast amount of cases that exist in Bahrain. Many cases overlap through different sections, but will only be presented in one. Names of victims have been removed in some cases due to security and safety concerns.

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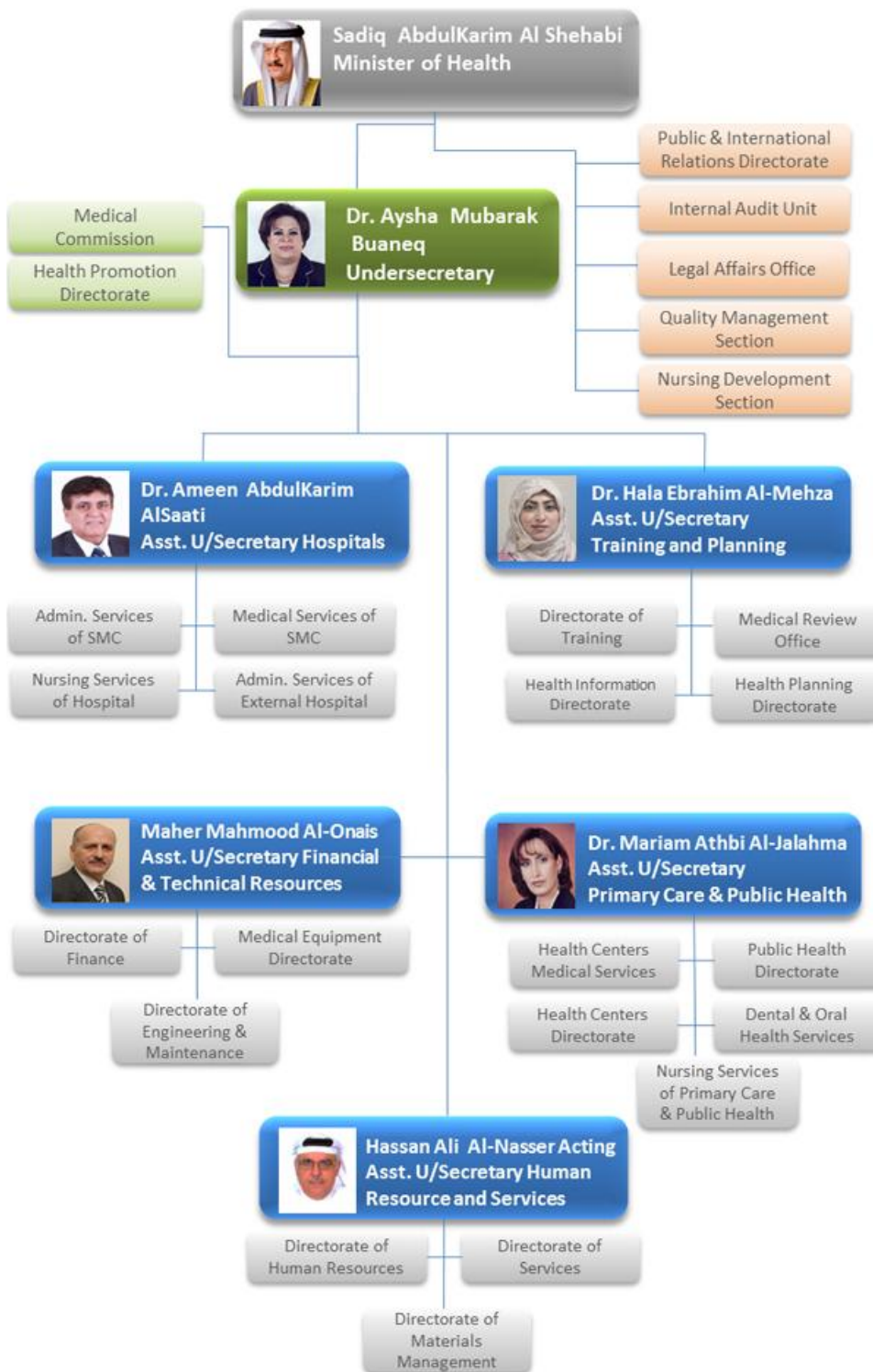
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Background on Bahrain Medical Services



Ref: Ministry of Health website

Information taken from the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry:

Salmaniya Medical Complex, located about two kilometres from the GCC Roundabout in the Salmaniya district of the capital Manama, Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC) is the only full-service public hospital in Bahrain. It has a capacity of approximately 1,200 beds and receives approximately 900-1,000 patients per day. In 2009, SMC employed 710 and 1,775 nurses, as well as other staff. SMC also houses the main morgue in the country Bahrain Defense Force Hospital is managed by the Ministry of Defense. The hospital provides services to a large variety of the population, including members of the Bahrain Defense Force and their families. A number of highly specialized services are offered and the Shaikh Mohammed Al-Khalifa Cardiac Centre provides advanced cardiac care services to the population in Bahrain. The hospital has 349 beds.

Information taken from King Hamad Hospital [Website](#):

KHUH was established by Royal Decree No. 31 of 2010, which stated that the Hospital will be affiliated to the Bahrain Defense Force, provided that it will offer its services to all citizens. It has a capacity of 311 beds, with a 1731 employees. Lieutenant General Doctor Shaikh Mohammed Bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, Minister of State for Defense Affairs, supervises its affairs in conjunction with the General Command of the Bahrain Defense Force, led by Brigadier Doctor Shaikh Salman bin Ateyatalla Al Khalifa.

[Ebrahim Khalil Kanoo Community Medical Center](#):

The Medical Center serves all regions of the Kingdom and the patients receiving various treatments. The Center is located compared to Salmaniya Medical Complex and contains 5 wards and has a capacity of 53 beds, including males and females The duration of treatment at the center should not exceed two months. The Center receives all the cases that need to complete the treatment and rehabilitation therapy from the age of 18 years and above, provided that the patient's condition is stable.

Psychiatric Hospital provide secondary and tertiary healthcare services to the residents of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Primary health care

The Ministry provides the Primary Health Care services through 22 health centers.

Primary care represents first line of contact supported by good referral system which has been established with the secondary care. A free treatment provided for all Bahraini citizens while the Expatriate should pay Three Dinar (BD. 3.000) for each visit

A range of curative, preventive and promotive services are provided.

Section 1:

Medics

Introduction:

The medics, including doctors, nurses and paramedics, started to disappear from the hospitals or during dawn house raids. Once someone would get arrested, it was considered enforced disappearance as all communications to them were completely cut off. Government officials launched an investigation committee, calling their campaign “the cleansing of Salmaniya Medical Complex”. This committee was headed by Baha’a Eldin Futayha (naturalized of Egyptian origin, and used to work at the Bahrain Defense Force hospital). All of those chosen for the committee (made up of four members), were from one sect.

The investigation committee then launched interrogations with people inside the hospital, in one of the administration offices. More than seven of the doctors were kidnapped by plain clothes officers directly from the administration office after being called in by the administrative secretary to meet with the chief of Medical Staff, Mohammed Amin AlAwadhi.

The recurring question for those interrogated by the investigation committee was “did you participate in the Pearl Square protests?”

Some of the doctors were blindfolded and reportedly subjected to torture inside the administrative offices of the Salmaniya Medical Complex, in the presence of the administrative staff.

Within one month, between April and May, more than 170 medics were interrogated, arrested and suspended from work.

After that, security forces started attacking health centers in different areas of Bahrain, putting them on lockdown, and arresting medics. Staff and medics inside those health centers were subjected to humiliation, verbal abuse, and psychological and physical abuse. Some were arrested as well.

On the 16th of March 2011, the National Security Agency took over the Ministry of Health; and subjected staff inside to physical and psychological abuse as well as sexual harassment; some were arrested. This was during the time when Fatima AlBaloushi was the acting Minister of Health and in the presence of the Assistant Undersecretary of Human Resources and Services Hassan Jaber, and the Director of Human Resources Fatima AbdulWahid AlAhmed.

Medics were subjected to various forms of abuse and torture; including but not limited to:

- Long hours of standing, sometimes up to a week
- Deprivation of sleep
- Deprivation from food and water
- Deprivation of access to personal hygiene, including limiting access to the bathroom
- Severe beatings with rubber hoses and wooden sticks
- Electric shocks to the head
- Threats of rape and execution
- Threats of rape and torture family members
- Administering mock executions

- Threats of being taken to Saudi Arabia
- Verbal abuse, including abuse to religious beliefs
- Touching of the genitals and verbal sexual abuse
- Solitary confinement
- Blindfolded and handcuffed up to periods of three weeks
- Forced dancing and singing of the anthem as part of the humiliation

They were forced to sign false confessions they were not allowed to read, and to do videotaped confessions and apologies to the ruling monarchy. They were taken to the military prosecutors, and denied access to family and lawyers.

The first time they were aware of the charges against them was during the first session of the military court that commenced on the 3rd of June, when they were divided into a group of felonies (20) and misdemeanors (28).

- **Felony Case**

Arrest and court cases:

The military court for the 20 medics in the felony case commenced on the 3rd of June 2011. After approximately 4 or 5 sessions, the verdict was delivered on September 29th 2011, sentencing the medics between 5 and 15 years. (List of charges and verdicts - <http://bahrainrights.hopto.org/BCHR/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/felony.pdf>). Most of the medics were released due international pressure on September 8th, 2012. The case was then referred to a civil court, and the appeal verdict was delivered on June 14th 2012 for 18 of the medics. Nine of the medics were acquitted, and the other nine sentenced between one month and 5 years.

The Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry report was released in November 2011, and despite the report documenting that the charges against the medics were false, the civil court continued to use the same charges against the medics throughout the appeal trials. Prosecutors earlier brought two Kalashnikovs, 168 bullets, three Molotov cocktails, four ammunition cartridges and other weapons allegedly confiscated by police from SMC during unrest. Chains used in religious rituals, screwdrivers, a sword, daggers and a scythe were also previously submitted as evidence.

The case was then overturned to the court of Cassation on October 2nd, 2012, and the verdicts were upheld; those who had not completed their sentence, six of the medics, were arrested again. Three of them continue to be imprisoned today:

| Name | Initial sentence (Military Court) | After appeal |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Ali Al-Ekri | 15 years in prison | 5 years in prison |
| Ibrahim Al Demistani | 15 years in prison | 3 years in prison |
| Saeed Al-Samahiji | 10 years in prison | 1 years in prison |

Work and employment:

All twenty medics were suspended from work; the nine whose sentences were upheld were sacked from their jobs in February 2013, and the remaining nine have not been reinstated to their jobs. Some of the medics who were acquitted filed for medical licenses for working in private practice, but were not granted by the National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA), whose CEO is Baha'a EIDin Futayha.

Case Study:

1. Dr. Ali Al Ekri, 45 years old, is a senior consultant pediatric orthopedic surgeon who has been working in Salmaniya Medical Complex for more than 20 years. He is known for his humanitarian volunteering work including volunteering to help **Gaza's** injured in 2009. Dr. Ali witnessed the government's brutal repression as he was in charge of the medical tent in the pearl roundabout on the 17th February 2011, and he helped in evacuating women and children. After the militarization of the Salmaniya Hospital in March, he got arrested on 17 Mar 2011 from the operation room in his surgical gown by masked security officials and without a warrant. He was handcuffed, dragged and humiliated in the hospital in front of his colleagues. Dr. Ali was subjected to torture upon arrest and during interrogation, such as beating, slapping, deprivation of sleep for days and being hung from the arms. He stated that he lost consciousness five times. He was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment by a military court which was then reduced to 5 years. He was released on bail in September 2011, but on 2nd October 2012, Dr. Al Ekri's house was raided and he was rearrested to serve the remaining of his sentence.

2. Dr. Ghassan Dhaif, 46 years old, is an oral and maxillofacial surgeon. He worked in the Salmaniya Medical Complex in senior positions and was a lecturer at the college of health sciences; he also was head of various committees and a founder and member of organizations both medical and charity, such as Al Kawther orphans society. Dr. Ghassan treated injured protesters in February 2011 as a result of the authorities' repression and use of excessive force. On 19 March 2011, he was arrested from Bahrain International Airport, as he was traveling to London with his family, by a group of masked security forces in civilian clothing. Dr. Ghassan was severely tortured; beaten with sticks and plastic hoses, kicked and punched until losing consciousness. He stated that one of his torturers was a female officer from the royal family who tortured him in the CID. He was then interrogated without legal representation, forced to sign confessions and accept fabricated charges. The torture and ill-treatment continued for weeks which affected Dr. Ghassan both physically and mentally and he had to be taken to the hospital where he was further abused and ill-treated by the medical staff. On 6th June 2011, he was taken with the other doctors to their first court hearing where he saw his wife as a defendant. Dr. Ghassan was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment which was later reduced to 1 year. He was re-arrested on 2 October 2012 and recently released after serving his sentence. Dr. Ghassan and 3 other doctors convicted with felonies received a letter from the Ministry of Health ending their employment dated to 15 August 2012, which took place before their appeal verdict on 1 October 2012.

- **Misdemeanors Case**

Twenty-eight medics were charged with misdemeanors and received verdicts in the Supreme Civil Court sentenced to three months, except five who were acquitted on November 2012. They were all charged with illegal gathering. The medics charged in this case were released on June 28th 2011. They were all reinstated in April 2012, but most of them not to their former positions. On 28 Mar 2013 the court of appeal acquitted 21 medics who have submitted appeals.

Case Study:

1. Dr. Nabeel Hameed is a neurosurgeon who worked in Salmaniya Medical Complex. He was on call, one of 3 neurosurgeons at Salmaniya Hospital, on 18 February 2011. He witnessed the injuries caused that day by the authorities use of excessive force against peaceful protesters. For treating the wounded, expressing his concern and being a witness, he was arrested in April 2011. He was detained for four days during which he endured severe forms of torture to force him into confession. He was beaten, made to stand for days, deprived from sleep and toilet, verbally abused, spat on and even threatened with death at gunpoint. Dr. Nabeel said he heard the screams of other prisoners, including medical staff, being tortured and waiting for their turn. He was then sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment to be acquitted of all charges recently. Dr. Hameed is now, as he stated in an interview, an accidental human rights activist and a founder of Bahrain Rehabilitation and Anti-Violence Organization.

2. Dr. Nabeel Tamam is an otolaryngologist with more than 25 years of clinical experience in the Ministry of Health. He's always been an active member in the Bahrain Medical Society contributing to humanitarian causes through his volunteer works and his membership in many organizations. He was one of the Bahraini doctors who went to Gaza on a humanitarian mission in 2008. On 11 April 2011, Dr. Nabeel was kidnapped from his office in Salmaniya Medical Complex along with 4 other consultants. He was detained for nearly 3 days. On the first day, he reported that he was blindfolded, handcuffed, forced to stand with no water or food. He was interrogated for around 9 hours from 10pm to 7am, during which the torture continued. He was beaten on the head, neck and shoulders and verbally abused. On the second day, he was taken to a health center in Manama for intravenous fluids because he felt very weak as a result of hours of torture and abuse. Then on the same day, he was reportedly taken for interrogation with Mubarak Bin Huwail from 4pm until 7pm, during which he was beaten on the back, head and shoulders constantly. On the third day, he was taken to the military prosecutor at the CID where the interrogation lasted for 5 hours. Dr. Nabeel was then released after paying BD3000 bail. He was sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment for illegal gathering, and later acquitted during the appeal.

- **Individual Cases**

Some of the medics were taken and beaten, and then released without charges. Some of them were detained for several days, tortured and videotaped making false confessions then released. Several were then taken to court in individual cases, charged with things like illegal gathering, broadcasting false news and/or confiscating hospital property.

Case Study:

1. **Hassan Matoq** – special emergency nurse (still in prison)

Hassan Matoq, 30 years old, has been a pediatric nurse for more than 7 years, married with one child and practices photography as a hobby. He was arrested on 24 March 2011 by more than 20 masked men in military uniform from the Salmaniya Medical Complex, where he was present on duty after midnight. He was subjected to severe torture both physically and mentally, beaten, hung from his hands for up to 8 days at a time, prevented from sleeping and threatened to have his wife and sister raped in front of him, among other form of torture. Hassan's family did not know of his whereabouts until weeks after his detention and they were not allowed to visit or see him until the beginning of his trial in the military court, a month and a half after his arrest. They were informed of his trial before less than 24 hours which made it difficult to find a lawyer. Matoq attended his first hearing at the military court without a lawyer.

During his second court session on 12 May 2011, the military court sentenced him to 3 years' imprisonment in a short hearing for illegal assembly and dissemination of fabricated photos of protesters who were injured due to excessive use of force by security forces to the brutal repression of the government against peaceful protesters.

While state media machines worked intensively to promote the transfer of national safety cases to the civil courts, Hasan Matoq, like dozens of other detainees, has not had a chance of retrial in a civilian court. His first appeal was considered at the Military Court of Appeals during the period of State of National Safety, and the court upheld the ruling in June. On 28 November 2011 the court of cassation upheld the provision issued by the military court. Hassan is currently serving his prison sentence. (<http://bahrainrights.hopto.org/en/node/4876>)

2. **Ahmed AlMushattat** – Pharmacist (still in prison)

Ahmed Al Mushattat is a pharmacist at the North Muharraq Health Center. After declaring the national safety law, Sitra village was attacked by the army and many were injured. Ahmed took it upon himself to transfer needed medication to Sitra Health Center for treating the wounded. He got attacked by the riot police and his car was vandalized.

On 20 March 2011, Ahmed was arrested while on a night shift in Muharraq Health Center and charged with possession of weapons, inciting hatred against the regime, attempting to overthrow the government and illegal gathering. He was reportedly severely tortured and verbally abused. On 11 April, he was released, but on 29 May 2011, he was summoned to the military court and deprived of his right to a lawyer. He was then sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment by the military court after dropping the charges of attempting to overthrow the government and possession of weapons. His sentence was reduced during the appeal to 2 years' imprisonment on 9 June. He has been detained since then to serve his sentence. (video of Ahmed's brother: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_r8zgevUmg)

3. Haleema AlSabbagh – Dental Nurse (still in prison)

Haleema Al Sabbagh is a dental nurse who was arrested on 26 January 2012 from her workplace, Salmaniya Medical Complex. She was charged with allegedly taking first-aid medication for the treatment of injured protesters as a result of the excessive use of force by security forces. She was detained for 3 weeks pending investigation. On 18 September 2012, she was sentenced in the court to 1 year imprisonment and a fine of BD100 on the charge of exploitation of her job in an attempt to seize the money of the state which she denied. On 15 October 2012, she was re-arrested again while attending her appeal trial to serve her sentence. Haleema is still in detention and is being denied proper medical care and medicine. According to her family, Haleema has severe back pain and an ambulance was brought to transfer her to the hospital, but the prison authorities refused to release her to the hospital saying that the ambulance can only take her when she is unconscious. When she is taken to the clinic, only painkillers are prescribed for her. Her family stated that she was taken for physiotherapy session and an x-ray was scheduled for her but the appointment is in July 2013. (<http://bahrainrights.hopto.org/en/node/5473>)

4. Sayed Saeed Ali Nasser AlAlawi – Assistant Nurse (charged in the case known as the “Abu Nasser Terrorist Cell case” (Still in prison))

Sayed Saeed AlAlawi, 33 years old, works at the Bahrain Psychiatric Hospital. He was arrested on the 27th January 2013 at 2 am from his in-law's home in Duraz by security forces in civilian clothing. He was then moved to his apartment where they broke the door and ransacked the place. Many valuables were seized during the house search, even gas cylinders used for cooking and a diving outfit. Four days later, Al Alawi called his family asking for clothes. On 4 February 2013, he had his first visit in the CID building where he didn't talk because he was not allowed and had cameras monitoring him. On 20 February 2013 was his second visit, where he talked more freely and told his family about what he went through and the torture he was subjected to. He also told them that he was forced to sign on papers without knowing the content just to stop the torture. During the third visit, 6 March 2013, he told his family that he signed about 30 papers which stated that he had gotten training for making explosive materials and was recruited with Iran's revolutionary guard. Sayed Saeed worked with Al Wefaq Islamic Society for a month in August 2011 in data entry. During his detention, his wife has been harassed and followed by intelligence agents.

5. Younis Ashouri – Administrative staff at the maternal hospital (released, not reinstated)

Younis Guloom Ashoori, 63 years old, is the administrator of the Muharraq Maternity and Geriatrics Hospital who was known for always going the extra mile in performing his duties all along the 35 years of his service within the Ministry of Health. On 20th March 2011, Ashoori was kidnapped while on his way to work by masked men who came in 15 police cars. He was blindfolded, handcuffed and taken to an unknown location. His family searched for him in all police stations including the one in which he was detained (AlHidd police station), where his wife was told to report him as 'missing'. Nobody knew anything about him until 18 days later when he was allowed to make a short phone call to his wife to tell her not to talk to media or human rights

activists because they promised to release him in "2 days" if he signs some papers. Two months later police called and told his wife to hire a lawyer for Ashoori's trial which was to be held 2 days later. Ashoori saw his wife for the first time during his first hearing at the military court in June 2011, where he was accused of transferring oxygen cylinders for injured protesters in their field clinic. On September 29th, 2011 he was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment and sent to Jaw Central prison on confessions extracted under torture, threats and denial of medical care, as well as fabricated accusations and allegations from a 'secret witness' who never testified or was known. The court also refused to allow defense witnesses during the trial. For the first 2 weeks in custody, Ashoori was reportedly subjected to various types of torture. He was banned from taking his medication which he needed regularly for prostate, bladder/kidney, heart disease and a severe type of migraine which left him paralyzed. He was also threatened to have his wife and sisters brought and raped in front of him, was beaten with a hosepipe, slapped, punched in the face and stomach, hung upside-down (faylaqa), kept in solitary confinement, and subjected to verbal attacks based on his religious beliefs. Ashoori spent his first 2 months in same clothes without being allowed to shower, using only 1 cup for both drinking water and urinating in. When Ashoori was transferred to the Bahrain Defense Force Hospital (BDF) for urinating blood, the doctor there asked him where he was in pain the most. Ashoori responded that it was his kidney. The doctor then proceeded to punch him on that area. Ashoori's wife tried to retrieve her husband's confiscated car, but she was told by officers to leave her husband because she is Sunni, reportedly telling her that she can receive the car once she brings documents showing that she had divorced him. Seven months later she was finally able to retrieve the vehicle which was vandalized and broken. During the time in which Ashoori was in jail, a large number of masked men in 7 police cars broke into Ashoori's home in the middle of the night, and interrogated his wife in her bedroom where she was not allowed to get dressed. They then proceeded to beat her son in search of Ashoori younger brother's address before they broke into the latter's home. They raided his bedroom, slapping his wife, stealing their jewellery and cash, blindfolding Ashoori's brother after which they took him to an unknown destination. On 6 August 2012, the high appellant court acquitted Younis from inciting hatred towards the regime and reduced his sentence from 3 years to 1 year imprisonment after he had already been imprisoned for about 18 months.

- **Attacks on Medics by Security Forces**

On the 17th of February 2011, security forces attacked the Pearl Square at around 3 am while protesters were sleeping. One of the medics attacked on that day was Dr. Sadiq AIEkri, Burn and Plastic Surgery consultant. Despite wearing the red crescent which obviously shows that he is a medic, he was attacked and severely beaten, leading to his hospitalization for weeks. At the time of the attack, Dr. Sadiq AIEkri was attending to the First Aid tent at the square, and was surprised when they were attacked without prior warning.

Dr. Sadiq AIEkri's testimony was taken by Amnesty International which read:

Dr Sadeq al-'Ekri helped set up a mobile clinic in a tent on the Pearl Roundabout on 15 February. The mobile clinic had received several donations from members of the public and had

a number of volunteers helping to care for injured protesters. At about 3 am on 17 February Dr al-'Ekri heard people screaming. Riot police started shooting and throwing teargas at the protesters. They also destroyed the tents of protesters as well as those erected by the health staff.

Dr al-'Ekri told Amnesty International that he was surrounded by police in dark uniforms, who then tied his hands behind his back. They forced him onto a bus, pulled his trousers down and proceeded to punch him and beat him with sticks all over his body, including his genitals. One officer covered his face with a shirt and sat him in a chair and said: "if your blood spoils my chair I will beat you to death." The same officer went outside and asked another officer to come inside, and they both continued to kick him and hit him with sticks. Dr al-'Ekri reports that one of the officers said, "Let him breathe", and the other said, "This is just the beginning" and then threatened sexual abuse. When Dr al-'Ekri told them he was a doctor they came back with a torch and could see his white blouse and a Red Crescent sign. They then took him and two others to an ambulance which took them to Al-Salmaniya medical unit. Dr al-'Ekri suffered a broken nose, injured left eye and bruises on his chest and abdomen. He recounts his horrifying experience by saying, "These physical injuries will disappear but the psychological damage will not disappear. The body damage can be repaired but the psychological damage can't. I couldn't believe that this would happen in Bahrain."

Paramedics on their way to the Pearl Square after hearing of the attack, were stopped by security forces, taken out of the ambulances and severely beaten. They were then forced to walk back to the Salmaniya Medical Complex. This was documented by Amnesty International in [this report](#) about attacks on medics.

On the 13th of March 2011, the medics who went to the University of Bahrain after hearing of attacks on students, were also attacked by a group of pro-government thugs. Security forces shot at the ambulance paramedics were in, injuring one doctor, Majeed Khalaf, who sustained injuries in the face and neck from the shattered glass. A female nurse was attacked as seen in [this video](#).

On the 15th of March 2011, after the entrance of the GCC Peninsula Shield troops, there was an attack on Sitrah. There were many life-threatening injuries due to the excessive use of pellet shotguns; most in the head and upper torso. The paramedics, who attempted to reach the protesters with severe injuries, were chased by security, severely beaten, which caused one of them, Amin AlAswad, to sustain a fracture in his cervical vertebrae fracture (C4). Bahrain Mirror published Amin AlAswad's testimony, which you can read here: <http://184.168.167.195/article.php?id=1204&cid=71>.



Amin AlAswad after being injured

The medics who attempted to go and treat wounded civilians in different locations around the country were stopped, beaten and sent back to the hospital.

Section 2:

The Bahrain Medical Society

The Bahrain Medical Society is the only Medical Society in the Kingdom of Bahrain engaging doctors in Academic & Social activities since initiated in 1972 and re-registered in the year 1992. BMS was at the time headed by Dr. Ahmad Jamal, ENT consultant.

At the beginning of the pro-democracy mass protest, the BMS had an active role in issuing joint statements with the Bahrain Dentist Society (BDS) condemning the attacks of security forces on medics and medical workers, and banning ambulances from leaving the hospital to help the wounded protesters. As a result, the Bahrain Medical Society board was dissolved by the Ministry of Social Development in April 2011 by the Minister, Fatima Al-Balushi. The chairmen of the BMS, Ahmed Jamal, and the BDS, Dr. Raja Kadhem, were both arrested. Nabeel AlAnsari was appointed chairman in April 2011 by Minister of Social Development Fatima Al-Balushi.

After being appointed the new chairman, Nabeel AlAnsari played an active role in fabricating lies against the detained medics, including but not limited to accusing them of inducing seizure symptoms in protesters exposed to tear gas by using atropine. AlAnsari was actively participating in defamation campaigns against the medics in both national and international media.

For the first time in BMS history, foreign doctors were allowed to vote and run in the elections, in breach of the internal regulations of the Society. To add to that, dentists, who originally had their own society, were allowed to join the BMS and vote in the elections. When the elections occurred in April 2012 and Dr. Maha Al Muqla was elected president due to changes made in who can and cannot vote. Since the appointment of Nabeel Al Ansari and during the current time, the BMS has become politicized, issuing statements supporting the government line against arrested medics. Unfortunately the BMS has actively divided the medical community into two groups, pro and anti government.

Several medics launched defamation lawsuits against Nabeel Al Ansari, but he left Bahrain to Canada, and never showed up for interrogation at the public prosecution.

It is important to note here that the public prosecution in Bahrain has been a part of the violations committed against both medics and civilians; at times taking a role in threatening and harassing, and or covering up and refusing to document complaints about torture and mistreatment.

Section 3:

Militarization of Hospitals

Introduction:

The militarization of hospitals in Bahrain began on the 16th of March 2011, approximately half an hour after the attack on the Pearl Square. The Salmaniya Medical Complex continues to be militarized to this date. The militarization includes the take over of the hospital administration by military personnel. Salman Ateyatallah Al-Khalifa, who was in charge of the Bahrain Defense Force hospital, became in charge of the SMC administration. Despite the vast violations committed under his supervision at the SMC, he was later appointed as head of the King Hamad Hospital.

Security checkpoints were set up on the premises of the SMC, run by military personnel, and military tanks were present at the gate of the hospital. Anyone entering or exiting the premises of the SMC had to go through the checkpoint where they were at times subjected to beatings, arrest, verbal abuse and/or harassment. CCTV cameras were installed in all parts of the hospital to allow them to monitor everything. Patients were arrested from the hospital if their wounds were suspected to be due to participating in protests. Those with severe injuries who could not be taken out of the hospital were not spared; they were moved to the sixth floor, placed under complete lockdown and tortured. Hamad bin Isa Alkhalifa on January 28th 2013 announced the creation of the Supreme Council for Health by [royal decree \(English\)](#).

Minister of State for Defense Affairs, Lt. Gen. Dr. Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, is the appointed chair of the new council, and the Minister of Health Sadeq al-Shihabi is the vice chairman.

To this day, health services are being used to identify protesters and target them.

- Demolition of a hospital

On Friday morning March 25, 2011 Bulldozers began to [demolish the Western Region Maternity Unit in the village of Sharakan](#), opposite the Saffriya Palace, which is the main palace of Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, amid heavy security presence and checkpoints at all entrances to the street of Saffriya Palace. The small hospital was built in 1956 (containing 10 beds) and was used by residents in some villages in the western region, such as Shahrakan, Dar Kulaib, Malkiya and Saddad, to receive maternity cases and the treatment of people with special needs. It was open to receive potential injuries on 12 March 2011 when a demonstration headed to the palace. Witnesses said the security forces evacuated all hospital patients and staff, and turned it into a quasi-military barracks. A week later, the hospital was demolished. There have been no announcements about any plans of rebuilding this hospital.

- Hospital Environment and Fear of Access

As patients attempt to access the SMC for treatment, they first face the check points on the premises of the hospital. All entry points to the hospital have been closed except for the one

with the checkpoint. At the checkpoint, the riot police and private security officers check the persons name on a wanted list before allowing them to enter the hospital. Inside the hospital, and during the registration of the medical problem, they check if the injury is related to protests; and if that is found to be the case, the person is faced with intelligence agents and interrogation before being seen by a doctor. This at times happens to even those coming into the hospital with severe injuries, and are semi-conscious.

In January 2012, a circular was distributed ordering all doctors at all hospitals to immediately report injuries and cases related to protests. In the circular, medics were threatened that anyone who fails to report should cases could face prosecution.



The CEO of SMC, Waleed AlManea, also released a circular in July 2012 giving access to all security officers to private medical records, in breach of patient confidentiality.



16 يونيو 2012

م من طأ / ع / ع / ١٧٦٤ / 2012



من: - إدارة مجمع السلمانية الطبي
إلى: - جميع رؤساء الأقسام بالمجمع السلمانية الطبي

من أجل تحقيق التعاون بين وزارة الصحة والمؤسسات الحكومية المختلفة، تهييب الإدارة بجميع رؤساء الأقسام بالمجمع العمل على تسهيل عملية دخول أعضاء النيابة العامة والأطباء الشرعيين أو الخبراء المتنبئين للحصول على المعلومات والإطلاع على الملفات المتعلقة بمختلف القضايا التي تساعد على تحقيق العدالة في المجتمع، ويجب على إداريي المجمع التأكد من هويتهم الشخصية ورسالة الإنداب والمستندات الثبوتية.

هذا ما لزم وتفضلوا بقبول أفر التحية والإحترام،،،

الدكتور وليد المانع
الرئيس التنفيذي
مجمع السلمانية الطبي

نسخة منه إلى: - توفير مساعد للفنون المستشفيات

CCTV cameras were set up by the Ministry of Interior in all parts of the SMC, in clear breach of patient confidentiality. This has created an unhealthy environment for the doctors who feel like they are under supervision at all times; which then affects their work. As for the patients, they do not share everything about the nature of their need for medical care, and also are uncomfortable due to the presence of CCTV cameras everywhere. Part of the treatment consists of the patient being psychological comfortable with the doctor, which is not the case in the presence of constant monitoring. This further creates problems when the medic needs to give the patient a physical examination, which requires the patient to remove clothing. Both culturally and from a medical ethics perspective this is unacceptable as there is a third body watching the examination take place.

The constant presence of armed forces in the premises of the hospital has created an environment of fear and insecurity, and affects the psychological status of patients coming for treatment.

- **Affected Specializations**

The Salmaniya Medical Complex, before the pro-democracy movements, already had a shortage in finding specialists in different fields. With what the investigation committee called the “cleansing campaign”, and the suspension of medics, the different specializations have been greatly affected due to lack of specialized doctors in the different areas.

| | Before martial law 2010 | During martial law 2011 | After martial law 2013 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Endocrine | 3 | 0 | 2 |
| Neuroscience | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Maxillofacial Surgery | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| ICU | 5 | 0 | 1 |
| Rheumatology | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| Neonatology | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Pediatric Orthopedics | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Chest | 5 | 2 | 2 |

Case study: The Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at the SMC has twelve beds, and was covered by 5 consultants before the pro-democracy mass protests. During the protests, two of those consultants were charged in the felonies case, and one in the misdemeanors case. Another one of the consultants decided to go to Saudi to work; while another quit and there were reports that he was wanted by the Interpol in a case related to terrorist bombing in India. The ICU was left without any consultants, so the hospital administration asked the anesthesia unit to cover the ICU. This was a problem because the anesthesiologists are not clinically specialized to deal with the surgical and medical emergency cases. To add to that, the anesthesia department already had a shortage of staff in covering their own unit, and putting the ICU as part of their responsibility created pressure on them in covering both departments. The anesthesia unit also had the responsibility of managing the patients on ventilators. This resulted in an increase of mortality and morbidity rates.

- **Increase of Mortality and Morbidity**

There exists a lack of transparency in the release of reports about mortality and morbidity from governmental hospitals. Getting statistics, conducting studies in the hospital or getting access to data is very difficult.

- **Sickle Cell Cases**

The sickle cell society has reported an increase in the mortality rates due to the reduction in the quality of the medical care provided. The mortality rate went up from 50 patients last year, compared to 32 in 2011, 35 in 2010, 28 in 2009 and 23 in 2008. This was despite the statement by the Ministry of Health that the percentage of babies born with the sickle cell disease decreased over the past five years. The medical care provided reduced in quality due to lack of medics who were suspended and/or arrested. Patients suffering from the sickle cell disease also feared going to the hospital when needed due to reports during 2011 of torturing patients inside the hospital. This year at least 7 died of sickle cell. The BCHR has also documented the lack of proper medical care toward prisoners with sickle cell which leads to complications, and in one case, death.

The BBC did an [extensive report](#) on the rise of deaths of those suffering from Sickle Cell Anemia, and the speculations of the underlying causes of the spike in deaths.

Case Study:

1. **Hussain Shamlo** is a sickle cell patient in his 30s. He died on 1 April 2013 which made him the 7th person to die of sickle cell disease this year. Hussain's brother said that on 28 March 2013, Hussain suffered from back pain so he was taken to Al Salmaniya Medical Complex. According to the family, it took the hospital almost an hour and a half to give him his painkiller injection. They added that his condition was stable until 31 March, despite the pain he had. At night, Hussain's condition deteriorated, he asked to see his doctor, however, the doctor reportedly gave instruction for his treatment by the phone, as some nurses confirmed to the brother. At dawn, his condition worsened, his attending nurse called for ICU review, but they arrived late, after he had already passed away. Hussain is married and his wife is pregnant with their first child. Two parliament members said that the Ministry of Health is to be blamed for the death of Hussain and others for not providing the proper medical care for such a big segment in the Bahraini society. (<http://www.alwasatnews.com/3859/news/read/760720/1/سكندر.html>)

5. **Mohammed Ebrahim Yaqoob** (18) from Sitra, a sickle cell patient, was announced dead at Salmaniya Hospital a few hours after he was arrested on 25 Jan 2012. MOI said he died due to sickle cell complications. Three witnesses [provided](#) their testimony to the public prosecution stating that they saw Yacoub being beaten in the street near Sitra police station by a group of 15-20 policemen who kicked him in the stomach and chest. [Medical sources suggested](#) from a leaked medical report that the beating caused internal bleeding which was not diagnosed and treated immediately at Salmaniya hospital where Mohammed was transferred; leading to his death.

- **BDF and King Hamad Hospitals**

There were several cases of mistreatment and torture carried out inside the Bahrain Defense Force hospital. The general environment of the hospital is one that is reportedly sectarian. The BDF hospital serves only military personnel or political prisoners whom they do not want to take

to Salmaniya so as no information gets out about their case. This is especially for victims of torture.

Case Study:

1. Human rights defender and founder of the Bahrain Center for Human Rights spoke during his testimony in court about the torture he was subjected to at the Bahrain Defense Force hospital.

"I stayed at the military hospital for six days, during which I was kept blindfolded and handcuffed to the bed in a painful manner that prevents me from moving. A group of people would come over each night and verbally abuse me and touch my private parts. I was told that they had arrested my daughter Zainab, and after they had done what they wanted with her they had transferred her to a prison in Saudi Arabia. One of them informed me that he was the one who had given me the blow to the face and that there was "more where that came from" after I am moved from the hospital. He also told me that a large man will be waiting to rape me. Instead of a recovery period of three weeks at the hospital I was transferred on the sixth day to a distant place where I learned about two months later that it is "Al-Qareen" military prison."

Read the full testimony here: <http://bahrainrights.hopto.org/en/node/5338>

2. Hussain AlSanabsi was chased by security forces, and reportedly pushed off the roof of a house and beaten. He sustained a fracture in his jaw, thigh, arm, and has been put on a ventilator. He was taken to the Bahrain Defense Force hospital so as to prevent any information about him from getting out. The Ministry of Interior claimed that he fell off the roof of a house by accident.

The administration of the King Hamad hospital, which was opened in 2011, was taken over by the BDF. Salman bin Ateyatallah Al-Khalifa was named CEO of the hospital, and since then the hospital only hires staff from one sect. No students or staff are allowed in this hospital before they go through a security check. The King Hamad hospital only serves the Northern Governorate where the majority is from a certain sect. Three newly recruited doctors were quickly suspended and sacked after the discovery that they do come from a different sect.

According to an inside source, 30 RCSI nursing students were supposed to be hired at the King Hamad Hospital as per the agreement between the two institutions. 28 of those students were turned away reportedly because they are Shia'a, and the two Sunni students were hired.

- **Forensic Examination**

The Government of Bahrain has complete control over the study of forensic medicine in the country. The study of forensic medicine has been limited to those associated with and who will work for the Ministry of Interior. The Ministry of Interior currently has only one Bahraini forensic doctor, and the rest are Egyptian. Autopsy reports are done only by these doctors, and are always in line with statements from the Ministry of Interior, failing to report or document causes linked to torture or mistreatment carried out by government agents.

Case Study:

1. [AbdulGhani AlRayyes](#) (66 years old) went to Budaiya Police Station to ask about his son, reportedly heard him screaming inside from being beaten. He was not allowed to see Ahmed, and forced out of the police station. He fell unconscious and was moved to the International Hospital of Bahrain. The death certificate stated "dead on arrival" as the immediate cause of death without mentioning the fact that he has hypertension.

KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN
MINISTRY OF HEALTH
PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTORATE
BIRTH & DEATH REG. OFFICE

المملكة البحرين
وزارة الصحة
إدارة الصحة العامة
مكتب تسجيل المواليد والوفيات

إخطار طبي عن سبب الوفاة
MEDICAL NOTIFICATION OF CAUSE OF DEATH

PERSONAL NO. [REDACTED] الرقم الشخصي
DECEASED FULL NAME: AbdulGhani AlRayyes الاسم الكامل للمتوفى
NATIONALITY: BAHRAINI الجنسية Age: 66 العمر Sex: MALE النوع
TIME OF DEATH (24 hours) 10,00,PM وقت الوفاة (الأساعة) Date of death: 01,04,2012 تاريخ الوفاة
PLACE OF DEATH: [REDACTED] مكان الوفاة
Address: [REDACTED] العنوان
Health Care: [REDACTED] رقم الـ

| سبب الوفاة CAUSE OF DEATH | ICD CODING | Approximate interval between onset and death |
|--|------------|--|
| (a) Disease or condition directly leading to death. DEAD ON ARRIVAL (a) due to (or as a consequence of): | | |
| Antecedent causes: Morbid conditions, if any giving rise to the above cause, stating the underlying conditions last. (b) due to (or as a consequence of): | | |
| Other significant conditions contributing to the death but not related to the disease or condition causing it. (c) due to (or as a consequence of): | | |

This does not mean the mode of dying e.g. heart failure, asphyxia, etc. It means the disease, injury, or complication which caused death.

I hereby certify that the particulars of death written above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Full Name: [REDACTED]
Qualification: [REDACTED]
Signature: [REDACTED]

Medical Records Dept.
International Hospital
of Bahrain

Picture: AbdulGhani AlRayyes's Death Certificate

2. [Yousif Mowali](#): On January 11 2012, Mowali left for his morning walk and never returned. Police said they found Mowali's body floating in the water on January 13 2012 in the Amwaj area, not far from his family's home in Muharraq. **A state doctor reported the cause of death as drowning and ruled out signs of violence.** However, AlJazeera English [reported](#) on a second autopsy performed by an independent forensic pathologist which concluded that Mowali was electrically tortured and unconscious when he drowned.

Dr. Fincanci: "In conclusion, Mr Yousif Ahmed Abbas Mohammed's death is attributed primarily to drowning due to the lung changes observed microscopically. Skin changes observed both during external examination and confirmed microscopically on the slides prepared from the samples collected were highly consistent with electrocution, although could not be stated to contribute to his death directly, however supported allegations of torture in custody and could most probably lead to unconsciousness.

Mr Yousif Ahmed Abbas Mohammed had been a competent swimmer, according to the account of the family members, and drowning as the cause of death with findings of electrocution on the foot, leg and arm might support of [sic] being unconscious when he was in the sea, and antemortem nature of abrasion on the left forearm supported this opinion.

The manner of death is therefore ruled as unnatural, and forced drowning."

الوزارة الصحية العامة
مستشفى المواليد والوفيات
إخطار طبي عن سبب الوفاة
MEDICAL NOTIFICATION OF CAUSE OF DEATH

رقم الشخصى: 371107256
الاسم الكامل للميت: يوسف احمد عباس محمد
العنوان: حي العبدية
العمر: 49 سنة
الجنس: ذكر
تاريخ الوفاة: 12/04/2011
سبب الوفاة: غرق
محل الوفاة: بحر البحرين

منطقة: Block
شارع/طريق/البحر: Street/Road/Avenue
بلد: Bahrain
العمارة/شقة: Flat
رقم الهاتف: Telephone No.

| سبب الوفاة CAUSE OF DEATH | ICD CODING | Approximate interval between onset and death |
|--|---------------|--|
| (a) due to (or as a consequence of): موت نتيجة للغرق Drowning | | |
| (b) due to (or as a consequence of): التهمة نتيجة للغرق Asphyxia due to drowning | | |
| (c) due to (or as a consequence of): التهمة نتيجة للغرق Asphyxia due to drowning | | |

الأسلوب الذي مات به (e.g. heart failure, asthma, etc.)
سبب الوفاة أو المضاعفة التي تسببت بالوفاة

3. Karim Fakhrawi, 49 years old, found and board member of Al-Wasat Newspaper died while in detention on 12th April 2011. Fakhrawi went to the police station on 5th April 2011 to complain on unauthorised raids by security forces to his house. Bahrain News Agency tweeted stating "BDF hospital official confirmed the death of Kareem Fakhrawi was from kidney failure" (Link: https://twitter.com/bna_en/statuses/57942179070476288) and the death certificate indicates that the cause of death is "kidney failure", however, [photos](#) and [videos](#) before burying his body showed extensive torture marks which were not mentioned in the death certificate.



Photo: Karim Fakhrawi Death Certificate

On 30th December 2012, Higher Criminal Court sentenced 2 policemen involved in torturing Karim Fakhrawi to a light sentence of 7 years imprisonment. Yet, those who were involved in fabricating and hiding critical information from the forensic report regarding torture marks were not held accountable.

CPJ Report : <http://cpj.org/killed/2011/karim-fakhrawi.php>

Section 4:

Medical Access for People Injured by Security Forces

Introduction:

As aforementioned, the hospitals were militarized with the presence of the armed security forces (previously military personnel), including the presence of checkpoints, and CCTV cameras. This created an environment of insecurity and lack of safety for civilians seeking medical attention due to injuries or suffocation caused from excessive force used by security forces. This section will mainly cover show cases as examples of the lack of medical access for people injured by security forces, and the use of hospitals as a way of targeting protesters.

- Arresting Patients from Checkpoints within Hospital Territory

Case Study:

1. M.N. was being treated for a bullet injury in the thigh, and was taken from the checkpoint to AlNaeem health center in March 2011.
2. H.D. was going to visit his wife who had chest given birth and was arrested at the checkpoint inside the hospital in April 2011.
3. A.S. was going to visit and follow up on the case of his father who suffers from cancer; was arrested at the checkpoint in April 2011.

- Treatment inside Hospitals (Interrogation, Harassment and Detention)

Case Study:

1. **Mohamed AlJazeera** (17 years old) is a victim of the excessive use of force by security forces against protesters and lost his eyesight in his left eye due to a direct hit with a tear gas canister. On 18 Feb 2012, Mohamed AlJazeera was participating in a funeral procession of Mansoor Salman AlSitri, who died due to tear gas suffocation in Sitra. Clashes ensued after security forces attacked the procession, and AlJazeera was shot directly in the eye from less than 15 meters by a teargas canister. After he fell to the ground, and despite the severity of his injury, a large number of security forces started beating him. (video:<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liRtbmJAnDY>).

Mohamed AlJazeera was taken home after which he was moved to Sitra medical center, and from there to the Salmaniya Medical complex. From 4:30 pm until 9:30 pm, despite the gravity of his injury and that he wasn't fully conscious, he was not allowed to be treated. Instead, he was interrogated by officers in uniform as well as plain clothes intelligence officers. The next day, a representative from the public prosecution who refused to disclose his name made AlJazeera sign papers although AlJazeera was medicated, underage, without presence of a lawyer and

without allowing him to read the contents. AlJazeera was told that he will be held for 15 days under interrogation, but was allowed to leave hospital when discharged.

Due to being shot at a close range and directly in his eye, Mohamed AlJazeera has lost complete eye sight in his left eye, the bones around his eye were shattered; and he had a fracture in his jaw. His family took him to a private hospital to avoid further harassment and provide him with proper medical treatment without the fear of having him detained. He underwent four operations.

- Arrests from Hospital

Case Study:

1. [Hussain Shamsan](#) was reportedly sitting outside his home on the 2nd of November 2012 when approximately 20 people were gathered, (men women and children), when approximately 20 riot police jeeps attacked them using the pellet shotgun. Shamsan was hit with pellets in his eye, chest, waist and legs and went the next day to a government hospital in Muharraq. Upon arrival at the hospital Shamsan was reportedly handcuffed and transferred from the hospital to the Samaheej police station despite injuries.

After being taken from the hospital without treatment, Hussain Shamsan was disappeared for four days, after which his family found out that he had been taken to the Dry Docks prison.

According to information received by the BCHR, Shamsan was told that if he provided information on the whereabouts of the Oun brothers he would be released (please refer to January appeal for Hassan Oun before he was released: <http://www.bahrainrights.org/en/node/4943>). When he said he had no information, he was given a document to sign stating that he had attacked a police officer on dates in which he had been working as a referee in football matches. When Shamsan informed the officer of this, the officer left the room and came back with the same document but different dates. Shamsan was reportedly tortured using electrocution and being beaten with an iron rod. He was also continuously threatened, and was forced to sign the document presented to him. Officer Nawaf AlHashel reportedly threatened Hussain Shamsan with death, calling himself "the butcher" several times. Officer Nawaf AlHashel was also reportedly involved in the torture endured by Shamsan.

2. [Ahmed Aoun](#) is a seventeen year old student and demonstrator in Bahrain who has a pellet lodged in his eye which was fired from a police shotgun following his participation in a pro-democracy demonstration. When Mr. Aoun sought treatment in a private hospital, he was arrested by the police and has not received medical treatment. Mr. Aoun is currently awaiting surgery which, after delays resulting from his police detention, has been scheduled for 29 May 2012.

After Mr. Aoun was injured by the police, he sought treatment in a private hospital where he received the primary surgery on his cornea. A second surgery is needed to remove the bird shot from his eye, but he was arrested from the hospital by plain-clothed police officers on 13 May

2012 before this could be completed. His doctor refused the arrest due to the medical situation of Aoun but his opinion was disregarded.

During interrogation, Mr. Aoun informed the public prosecutor that during his detention he was beaten and subjected to sexual harassment. Mr. Aoun informed his family that he suffers from bleeding in his eye and severe pain and that he fainted multiple times during detention. For that reason he was taken to the clinic at the Ministry of the Interior and to the Salmaniya hospital, but the pellet in his eye was not removed; he was handcuffed during the times that he was at the hospital.

Mr. Aoun was examined by a physician on May 21st, and is scheduled to have the pellet removed from his eye on May 29th, he is currently still detained and undergoing a trial.

- **Summoning after Discharge**

Case Study:



Photo: Sadiq Rabea injury

1- **Sadiq Rabea**, a sacked member of the Municipal Council and a member of AIWefaq opposition political society suffered from a serious injury after being targeted by security forces with the pellet shotgun for participating in a peaceful protest in the village of Sitra. Shotgun pellets were concentrated on his back, neck and ear. Rabea lost consciousness and was forced to be taken to Ibn Al-Nafees private hospital. The private hospital refused to provide him with medical treatment since the security forces and intelligent officers were surrounding him. Rabea was then taken to Salmaniya Hospital in the ambulance accompanied by security forces and intelligent officers. He was interrogated on the third day. One month after being discharged from Salmaniya, Rabea received a summons to present himself at the police station where he is

being charged with attacking security forces during the protest he was injured in; a charge he fully denies.



Photo: Mahdi Saeed after being discharged from the hospital.

2- **Mahdi Saeed Zuhair**, 19 years old, was shot in the head by security forces during a protest in the village of Abusaiba on 14th March 2013. Due to the severity of the injury he lost consciousness and was admitted to the Salmaniya Medical Centre. Later, he was discharged and received a letter to be summoned in front of the public prosecution. Since that day, Mahdi is in hiding, fearing arrest.

- **Fear Resulting in Underground Clinics**

Due to the cases provided above, those injured by excessive force from security forces do not go to hospitals out of fear. As a result, secret clinics have been set up in different residential areas with portable first aid clinics. Those who volunteer to work are a few doctors, a few qualified nurses and volunteers who received training on first aid. At times, even fractures and open wounds have been treated at these clinics. The advantage is that these clinics provide basic medical care for civilians who fear going to the hospital. These medics and volunteers treat civilians at their own risk as they become targets of the authorities, and have very limited resources. Some of the drawbacks are:

- 1 Some of the severe cases are delayed or mismanaged by non-specialized medics which puts the injured at high risk.
- 2 Improper suturing.
- 3 Wound infections.
- 4 Misdiagnosis of more severe cases such as head injuries, acute abdominal injuries with surgical abdomen and chest trauma.
- 5 They cannot provide long term follow up for the injuries or the resulting complications.

Show Case:

Hussain Al Baqali: 19 years old Bahraini citizen, died -17 Feb 2012- after sustaining 2nd & 3rd degree burns while near burning tires used to close of a street as a form of protest. Hussain passed away after 29 days due to complications as he feared that if were to be admitted to the hospital, the police will seize him immediately. The MOI tweeted that he died after burning himself due to a problem between him and his father. The picture shows the serious injury of Hussain Al Baqaly which was not treated properly.





Case of injured protester who was injured from being shot with a teargas canister in his calf, and was treated at home due to fear of arrest. The injured protester needed admission for proper cleaning of the wound and further observation.



An injured protester who recently sustained an open fracture at the ankle due to a direct shot from a tear gas canister. The protester needed an urgent operation but until this time refuses to go to hospital for surgery due to fear of arrest.

Section 5:

Medical Access for Political Prisoners

Introduction:

Under the United Nations' General Assembly Resolution 44/111, "Prisoners shall have access to the health services available in the country without discrimination on the grounds of their legal situation."

The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, first approved by the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 1955, state that prisoners requiring specialized medical treatment be transferred to medical institutions if necessary to receive the care they need.

Medical services

22. (1) At every institution there shall be available the services of at least one qualified medical officer who should have some knowledge of psychiatry. The medical services should be organized in close relationship to the general health administration of the community or nation. They shall include a psychiatric service for the diagnosis and, in proper cases, the treatment of states of mental abnormality.

(2) Sick prisoners who require specialist treatment shall be transferred to specialized institutions or to civil hospitals. Where hospital facilities are provided in an institution, their equipment, furnishings and pharmaceutical supplies shall be proper for the medical care and treatment of sick prisoners, and there shall be a staff of suitable trained officers.

(3) The services of a qualified dental officer shall be available to every prisoner.

23. (1) In women's institutions there shall be special accommodation for all necessary pre-natal and post-natal care and treatment. Arrangements shall be made wherever practicable for children to be born in a hospital outside the institution. If a child is born in prison, this fact shall not be mentioned in the birth certificate.

(2) Where nursing infants are allowed to remain in the institution with their mothers, provision shall be made for a nursery staffed by qualified persons, where the infants shall be placed when they are not in the care of their mothers.

24. The medical officer shall see and examine every prisoner as soon as possible after his admission and thereafter as necessary, with a view particularly to the discovery of physical or mental illness and the taking of all necessary measures; the segregation of prisoners suspected of infectious or contagious conditions; the noting of physical or mental defects which might hamper rehabilitation, and the determination of the physical capacity of every prisoner for work.

25. (1) The medical officer shall have the care of the physical and mental health of the prisoners and should daily see all sick prisoners, all who complain of illness, and any prisoner to whom his attention is specially directed.

(2) The medical officer shall report to the director whenever he considers that a prisoner's physical or mental health has been or will be injuriously affected by continued imprisonment or by any condition of imprisonment.

The Bahraini authorities have been in breach of this resolution as they have systematically denied political prisoners access to adequate medical care.

- **Medical Access Situation Inside Prison Facilities**

In the detention centers there is a local medical clinic with an attending doctor, but the medical care provided is very basic. The attending physician has no expertise in diagnosing or managing psychological or psychiatric cases. Dental care is not provided for detainees, nor is there a vaccination program which puts prisoners at risk of infections and contagious diseases.

According to latest **published information** by the Bahrain Society for Human Rights after their 2009 visit to the women prison, there is no permanent nurse, and no visiting doctor to check on the inmates. Some cells do not have windows, so neither light nor natural ventilation enter the room. Also, there were only 6 toilets and 6 showers for all the inmates to share, and one of the toilets was broken, which could be dangerous for the inmates. They can use it as a means of self-harm, especially when suffering from depression due to torture. The public toilets can transmit infections, not to mention that there is no soap for washing hands after the use of the toilets and no toilet paper. Moreover, adolescents and young girls are rounded up with people convicted in criminal cases of various nationalities and some with criminal records. Prisoners are not separated according to their quality and nature of the charges against them. Since no other visit was granted to any independent organisation since the BSHR visit, there is no confirmation that these conditions has been improved.

- **Treatment of Conditions Caused by Security Forces**

Case Study:

1. [Mohammed Mulla Hassan Sahwan](#) was injured with police shotgun on 17 April 2011 during the state National Safety (martial law) and he was never able to receive proper medical treatment due to fear of arrest under the militarization of hospitals. Shotgun had spread on his body (head, neck, ear and part of the face and the entire back and one of the legs) and his condition was very serious. He was first aided secretly by doctors within a small apartment which was not fully prepared for necessary treatment. Fragments of shotgun were extract out of his leg, however some shrapnel remained in his head due to the need for an ultrasound before extracting them from a serious and sensitive part of the body.



In October 2011 he was arrested while trying to travel in search for a treatment. Since then he is in detention, sentenced to 15 years in the Central Prison of Bahrain (Jaw), for "planning to carry out an armed terrorist cell in Bahrain against vital installations and personalities" in a case known as the "Qatar Cell". During his detention, Mohamed was reportedly subjected to torture. According to his testimony the torture was supervised by Isa Al-Majali, a Jordanian officer who is infamous for his brutal torture techniques. In his testimony on torture, Mohammed Sahwan told his lawyer, that Al-Majali said to him the following: "We have examined you at the hospital and saw more than 50 bullets of shotgun in your head, and they are all on the right side of your head. I shall hit you with all tools I have on your left side until you see the shotgun coming out of your head from the right side and blood is scattering out of your head unless you sign this statement."



After months of detention, Mohammed Sahwan who is detained in Dry Dock temporary prison was examined by a doctor in the clinic of the Ministry of Interior. The doctor took x-rays, which

showed that 80 fragments of shotgun are in his face, head and neck, and the rest scattered in the back and some others in one of his legs, all of them in need of urgent extraction.

Prisoner Mohamed Sahwan was taken to the BDF Hospital and the surgeon informed Mohammed that he will not be able to perform the operation because it's dangerous, and that Mohammed will remain for the rest of his life medicated on painkillers to avoid the chronic pain caused by the fragments in his head.

Mohammed kept suffering from pain for several months until his condition worsened. He was taken again to the military hospital where he received the same response, despite insisting on undergoing the operation regardless of how dangerous it is just to rid himself of the excruciating pain.

After many appeals to his family, the prison administration at the Temporary detention center at Dry Dock agreed to transfer him to Salmaniya Medical Center. He was examined by a doctor who told him that he can perform the operation, but the doctor claimed that he is fully booked with no available appointments.

On May 27 2012, Mohammad Sahwan was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment and he was transferred to Jaw Central Prison, where he was prevented from going to the hospital despite the fact that he had scheduled appointments. He was prevented from even going to the prison clinic itself. When he was in pain, he was deprived from the pills prescribed by his doctor to reduce the pain. During Mohammed Sahwan's calls to his family, he screamed due to increasing pain.

Ms. Reem Khalaf, Mohammed Sahwan's lawyer demanded him to be treated medically or at least be examined by a doctor, yet the prison administration and public prosecution did not respond to her appeals. (More details on the case: <http://bahrainrights.hopto.org/en/node/5392>)

- **Treatment of Victims of Torture**

Case Study:

1. **Adnan Al-Mansi**, 22 years old, was subjected to severe physical torture. Adnan's attorney reported that his client was "sexually assaulted by MOI officials which has caused him a severe anal hemorrhage." Additionally, Al-Mansi was severely beaten on the head which reportedly caused "temporary paralysis and a permanent headache." Following his arrest on 30 May 2012, Al-Mansi has been denied adequate medical treatment. He reportedly suffered from a seizure in Nov 2012 which caused him to fall unconscious. He was moved to Salmaniya Medical Complex by security in civilian clothing from the CID. Al-Mansi was handcuffed throughout the entire process and while being moved from and to prison. He was given sedatives and returned to prison, and was told as in the past that an appointment will be set up with a specialist. Al-Mansi has yet to see a specialist. Al-Mansi stated that he cannot see from his right eye and suffers from weakness in the right side of his body, as well as severe headaches.

Attorney Makki subsequently sent several requests demanding his release, and for her client to be given adequate medical treatment. All her requests to the Bahraini government officials were

denied-- including the request for a detailed medical report on his condition. As Al-Mansi's health deteriorated further, and he fell unconscious. He was taken for treatment in Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC), which was later discontinued based on the prison physician's recommendation.

As per Al-Mansi, the prison hospital physician violated his Hippocratic oath by seeking to extricate information from him in order to pass on to security forces.

Due to the severe anal bleeding resulting from sexual assaults by officers in detention, physicians consulted by Al-Mansi's family fear that his injuries will most likely cause a tumor. They also fear that his head injuries might cause permanent paralysis. Psychologically, Al-Mansi's state is serious as he is severely depressed. The family sent a request for him to be seen by a psychiatrist but to no avail.

2. [Ahmed Al-Muqabi](#) (50 years old) was sentenced to 3.5 years on charges of offering refuge to a wanted political opposition leader Mohammed Al-Moqdad who is currently serving a life sentence.

Al-Muqabi reported that he was subjected to severe forms of torture including brutal sexual assault, which involved the forced insertion of a hose through the anal passage on at least 3 occasions, electrocution of the genital area and whipping.

According to his family, Al-Muqabi now suffers from severe pain due to anal hemorrhage, bleeding hemorrhoids and infection. He has been waiting for an operation for over a year but the authorities have delayed his treatment for unknown reasons, his family suspect that the delay is intentional. He also suffers from high blood pressure, a spinal disc problem, dental pain and eye-sight problems.

3. [Habeeb Ayoub Al-Mughani](#) (23 years old) was arrested during a 3:00 AM raid on his house on 10 April 2012. According to family, Habeeb was subjected to physiological and physical torture, he was handcuffed at all times. The security officers asked Habeeb if he suffers from any health conditions, and he informed them that he had surgery on his left knee after he had a "cruciate ligament rupture" in 2009. They then focused on beating him particularly on his left knee, as he has told his family. The BCHR has documented several other similar torture techniques where the victim is beaten in the area of a previous injury, so that the forensic reports written by the official doctor (if any) can clear the torturers from causing any harm and blame all damages on the old injury.

Habeeb was forced to stand for 48 hours on one knee. He was beaten in places that are difficult to be identified in future, such as the head, thighs, and private areas.

For three days after his arrest, he was not allowed any contact with his family or lawyer, and he was deprived from the right of having a lawyer present during his interrogation. He was tortured and forced to sign papers without knowing their content.

Habeeb was then taken to the Dry Dock Prison. He had severe pain in his knee for which he received no medical treatment. The prison authorities took him to the prison clinic and he was given injections of an unknown substance; afterwards, his lawyer insisted that the authorities take him to the hospital. The doctor at the hospital told Habeeb that he will need an urgent surgery for his knee, but no surgery was scheduled.

On the 20th of November 2012, while in the courtroom where he was on trial, he was asked to stand in front of the judge, Habeeb fell down and started screaming of pain when he stood up, the judge was very upset and postponed the session. After that incident, Habeeb has not taken to attend his trial sessions. The judge in the case requested that Habeeb must be taken to the hospital but the police officers, took him to the prison instead.

On 9th of December 2012, Habeeb was taken to hospital for surgery and he was allowed to stay at Salmaniya hospital till 23rd December because of the severe pain he experienced. The doctor charged with is case requested that Habeeb must receive extensive physical therapy. Since Habeeb was discharged from hospital, he has not been taken to physical therapy despite the doctor's orders. Habeeb has been in a wheelchair ever since the date of his surgery.



Photo: Habeeb Al-Mughani

- Treatment of Chronic Medical Illness

Case Study:

1. **Mohammed Mushaima** was a 22-year-old prisoner; he died on 2nd October 2012 at Salmaniya hospital. He was arrested from the hospital in April 10th 2011 when the military took over. He was sentenced by a military court to 7 years imprisonment despite his lawyers presenting documents proving that he was in the hospital at the time of his alleged crime.

(image: http://bahrainrights.hopto.org/BCHR/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Hospital_report.jpg)

Document: Kanoo Health Center's letter which confirms that Mohamed was lying in the center the day of the incident he is accused of participating in

(image : http://bahrainrights.hopto.org/BCHR/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Hospital_report2.jpg)

Document: A report from the Ministry of Health on the critical health condition of Mohamed, stating that due to severe sickle cell crises, he is suffering from a physical disability.

He was accused with several alleged made-up charges including "illegal gathering near the financial harbor". Mushaima suffered from severe sickle cell, and his lawyers had made several requests that he be release due to the severity of his condition. In secret phone calls, Mohammed told his lawyer that he was going to die if he was not released to receive the health care he needed for his condition. Four months after Mohammed's death, on 23rd January 2013, the higher appeal court judge sentenced him to 3 years.

Read More: <http://bahrainrights.hopto.org/en/node/5449>

2. **Sadeq Al Haiki**, 18 years old, was allegedly beaten violently by riot police and left on the streets of Manama during the peaceful protest held on 12 October 2012 demanding self-determination and democracy. He was found severely fatigued and was provided with first aid by those who found him. On his way out of Manama, he was again arrested along with five others at a checkpoint. According to his family, he was taken to Al Qudaibiya police station where he was subjected to severe torture and beating causing him to faint. Sadeq was then transferred to the Emergency unit in the Salmaniya Hospital under very tight security. He was reportedly further beaten and cursed in the hospital at midnight when an intelligence officer paid him a visit and accused him of pretending to be sick. Sadeq has a severe case of sickle cell. His family was not allowed any visitation, worried about her son, Sadeq's mother, went to the hospital to see him where she was met with five security officers. She was threatened by the officers guarding her son and was told to leave. They also told her that she is not allowed to see her son or bring him food. She reported that Sadeq was in a serious pain that he was not able to move or talk. His family is very concerned over his well-being. Also, the head of BCHR documentation and monitoring, **Said Yousif**, visited Sadeq and reported that he is very ill and needs to be transferred to Kanoo hospital for a better medical care.



Photo: Sadeq AlHaiki

3. **Ebrahim Al Muqdad**, 15 years old, sentenced to 10 years in prison for allegedly participating in burning an armoured vehicle. His mother has expressed her concern over the health of her son. She said that Ebrahim is suffering from calcium and vitamin D deficiency, thyroid problems, osteomalacia (bone softening) and idiopathic scoliosis which causes him chronic pain. He had an appointment with his doctor in August 2012, however, he was taken to

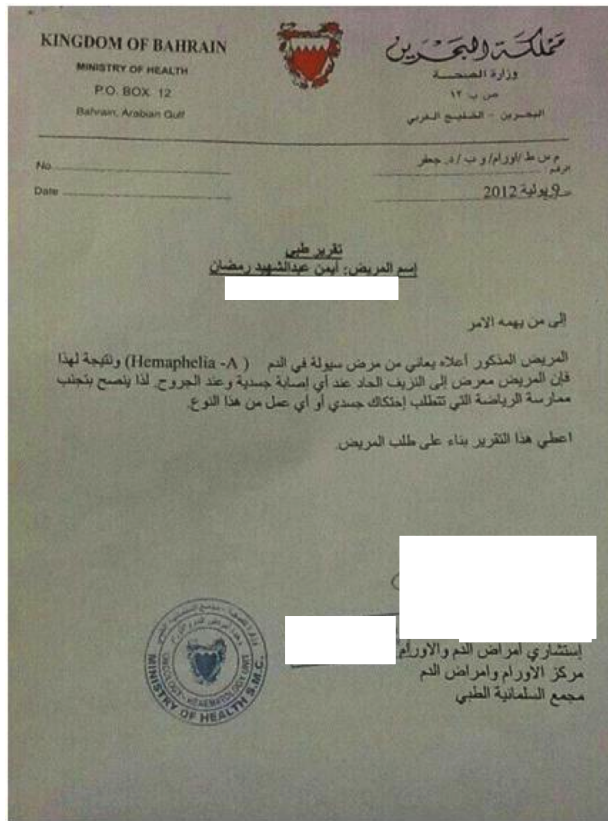
AlQalaa prison hospital where he was not given any treatment. (More details on the case: <http://bahrainrights.hopto.org/en/node/5460>)



Photo: Ebrahim Al Muqdad

4. **Hassan Mushaima** (65 years old), a former cancer patient serving a life sentence in Bahrain prison for “attempt to overthrow the regime”. Since his arrest on 17 March 2011 in Bahrain, there has been no confirmed information that Mushaima has been provided with the required preventive medication while in prison. In October 2012, and after conducting scans for Mr. Mushaima, a doctor informed him that a tumor in his pelvis area had been observed. In 2010 he received cancer treatment for stage IV follicular lymphoma (a malignant cancer); he undertook 6 cycles of chemotherapy at the Royal Marsden hospital. In order to prevent the relapse of the disease, he was advised by doctors to take two injections of Rituximab on a monthly basis for two years (until January 2013). Mushaima’s family stated that Mr. Mushaima was given unknown injections while in detention on three different occasions in 2011, while blindfolded and handcuffed, and without knowing the identity of the doctor or the name of the hospital in which he was located. Although his lawyer has requested a clarification on the treatment he received, as well as a copy of the medical report since August 2011, no clarification has been provided. On the 4th of November, 2012, Mr. Mushaima was taken to the military hospital to have a biopsy and was told that the results would be available within ten days. No information about this biopsy has been provided to him. On the 22nd of December 2012, Mushaima was taken from prison to have a surgery at the military hospital in order to get a sample of the tumour. He was not allowed to know the operating doctor. He was returned back to prison in the same day, and told that he will know the results within 2 weeks. No information has been received either on the results of this scan. (More details on the case: <http://bahrainrights.hopto.org/en/node/5584>)

5. **Ayman Abdulshaheed**, a father of a two-year old girl, was arrested on 11 June 2012. He told the BCHR that masked men broke in his apartment at 3 am and beat him violently in front of his wife and daughter. His lawyer, **Hussain Aqeel**, said that Ayman is accused of “illegal gathering, rioting, arson and attempted murder” although there is no evidence convicting him. In contrary, there are photos, videos and witnesses proving that Ayman was not at or near the crime scene at the time of the incident; however, they were ignored by the public prosecution, according to Hussain Aqeel. He was ordered to 60 days in detention which was extended more than once.



Ayman Abdulshaheed’s medical report

Ayman is suffering from a blood disease, **Hemophilia**, and his doctor stated in a medical report that he could suffer from severe bleeding when injured or physically harmed which could put his life at serious risk. Despite that he was allegedly tortured by officer **Isa Al Majali**, to force him into confession. According to his family their son’s torture resulted in bleeding so he was taken to Salmaniya Hospital and kept there for 35 days. His family added that after Ayman’s mental health deterioration, his doctor sought out psychiatrist consultation which diagnosed his condition as depression. He was then transferred to the Psychiatric hospital. Ayman’s lawyers requested medical report on his mental condition, however, his request was denied by the public prosecution reportedly because he was transferred from the hospital not by a court order. Ayman AbdulShaheed was returned to Jaw prison despite his condition on 2nd April 2013.



Photo: Ayman's two-year old daughter pulling her father's handcuffs

6. **Ashwaq Almagabi**, 17 years old girl, one of 7 minors and 38 women arrested in the City Center Mall case following a peaceful protest. She suffers from repetitive painful crisis of sickle cell, which worsened due to prison condition, and ill treatment since she was first arrested on 23rd September 2011.

She has been hospitalized more than once while in detention to then be admitted to the Salmaniya hospital for weeks before the doctor ordered her release. Despite her severe sickle cell condition, she was re-arrested from the hospital by police to start her 6 months imprisonment sentence.

Read More : <http://bahrainrights.hopto.org/en/node/4830>

7. **Mahmood Al-Hammar**, 17 years old, suffers from severe complications of sickle cell disease "Anemia". Mahmood was arrested on 2 Aug 2012 after security forces raided his grandfather's house. He was taken to Samaheej Police station on the same day. Family informed the police officer there that Mahmood suffers from complications of sickle cell and requires proper medical attention. Since he was young, he was having sickle cell attacks every 2 weeks. He was given a disability status because he is hospitalized most of the time and can't attend school.

Despite the fact that he has sickle cell, Mahmood was reportedly subjected to torture and he was beaten in his genital area. On the next day of his arrest, according to the family, Mahmood collapsed and was taken to the hospital. Three bags of IV salines were given to him. Days after the first episode, he again collapsed and he was taken to the BDF hospital where they had to transfuse him with blood due to severe hemolytic crisis. Family was very worried and concerned for his health since his medical condition requires constant monitoring and proper nutrition and that is not offered in prison properly.

[Al-Wasat Newspaper] Solidarity Conference for prisoners with sickle cell disease
<http://www.alwasatnews.com/3714/news/read/714004/1.html>

- **Treatment of Psychological Illnesses**

1. Please refer to the case of Ayman AbdulShaheed; details mentioned in Medical Access Situation Inside Prison Facilities under section of Treatment of Chronic Medical Illness

2. [Ali AbdulWahhab AlTaweel](#) (23 years old) was subjected to several human rights violations from the first moment of his arrest on April 19th, 2011. He was arrested by masked men in military and civilian clothing, and his hands were tied behind his back with a belt. When he asked why he is being arrested, the officer informed him that he would know after being beating and hung in the air. He was dragged and beaten in front of the neighbours. The officers covered his face with his clothes and hit him harshly and continuously during the ride in the car – he was struck repeatedly on his face, abdomen, back and pelvic area. In addition to the physical abuse, he was also verbally insulted.

At the first location where AlTaweel was detained, the Isa Town police station, Ali AlTaweel was reportedly subjected to torture for a continuous 13 hours where, during which time he was forced to confess to running over a policeman. He was beaten with a hose on his feet, back and all over his body. He was deprived from sleeping, drinking water, eating food, going to toilet, and praying.

AlTaweel was then moved to the Criminal Investigation Department in Adliya where he was subjected to more torture. AlTaweel says that the official who gave the orders to torture him was Colonel **Mubarak Bin Huwail** – a person whose name was also mentioned by other torture victims, including tortured doctors. Bin Huwail is currently on trial for torturing medical professionals. See: www.muscatdaily.com/Archive/Opinion/We-were-blindfolded-handcuffed-and-tortured-Bahraini-medics

He was beaten all over his body including on his genital area where he had a prior surgery. When he informed them of his previous surgery they increased beaten on that area. AlTaweel required a surgery for the damage he suffered due to beaten on his genital area. During his appeal trial in 2012 he attended the sessions in a wheel chair following this surgery.

AlTaweel was forced to sign confessions without being able to read them; AlTaweel stopped attending school in the 4th grade, and is therefore unable to read. He believes that his signature was forged on other statements by officers taking advantage of his illiteracy.

AlTaweel was then taken to the military prison (AlQurain) where beatings and insults continued, especially when the guards knew about his accusation.

AlTaweel was not allowed access to family before his third hearing session. On 29 Sep 2011, the military court issued its verdict against Ali AlTaweel, and sentenced him to death for “running over police officer Ahmed Ahmed Al-Muraisi on 15 Mar 2011 in Sitra”. Since AlTaweel was moved to the Jaw prison after receiving the death sentence, he was placed in solitary confinement. He only leaves his cell during bi-weekly family visits. His lawyer fears that AlTaweel’s mental condition has been severely affected by the extended amount of time he has spent in solitary confinement, and believes that his sanity may be in danger.

Conclusion:

In this report, we found evidence of continuous violations committed by the Government of Bahrain that included the breach of the Geneva Convention and the breach of medical neutrality. The evidence also concludes that the medical services have been militarized and are used as a tool to target civilians. Changes in the health policies have been politicized to serve a political agenda.

List of names of people who should be held accountable in relation to violations mentioned in this report:

- 1 Khaled bin Ali Al-Khalifa, Minister of Justice (The minister publicly announced the doctors' responsibility for the killings of two protesters, the takeover of the Salmaniya Hospital with the use of machine guns and announcing that doctors breached medical neutrality before the trial which they were acquitted for. Press Conference May 2011: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=waGPqSAviiQ&feature=player_detailpage#t=1643s)
- 2 Fatima Al-Balushi, temporary Minister of Health and Minister of Social Development (Under her time as minister of Health, the medical staff were kidnapped, tortured, interrogated and sacked with no opportunity for defense. Citizens suffered from the same treatment as medical centres turned out to be torture camps. In a public conference she announced the doctors' responsibility for the killings of two protesters, the takeover of the Salmaniya Hospital with the use of machine guns and announcing that doctors breached medical neutrality before trial which they were later acquitted of <http://5.153.12.16/portal/news/452428?date=2011-04-11>)
- 3 Noura Al-Khalifa, CID Drugs Department (Responsible for the interrogation and torture of the arrested medical staff, case against her for the torture of 3 detainees including 2 doctors was dropped after one hearing.)
- 4 Baha'a Eldin Futayha, Head of the "Cleansing" Committee (Responsible for the interrogation committee, the abductions, harassment and sacking of hundreds of the medical staff)
- 5 Mohammed Amin AlAwadhi, Chief of Medical Staff at Salmaniya Medical Hospital (Responsible for the interrogation, torture, arrest and sacking of hundreds of the medical staff)
- 6 Hassan Jaber, Assistant Undersecretary of Human Resources and Services
- 7 Fatima AbdulWahid AlAhmed, Director of Human Resources (Responsible for the suspension, sacking and delay of re-instating of hundreds of the medical staff, the suspension of promotions for a whole sect)
- 8 Salman Ateyatallah Al-Khalifa, Head of BDF hospital administration, took over Salmaniya Medical Complex Administration after militarization (Responsible for the militarization and the violations committed by the military inside the hospital premises which include: insult, kidnap, torture of thousands of medical staff and citizens)
- 9 Lt. Gen. Dr. Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Chair of Supreme Council for Health and Minister of State for Defense Affairs
- 10 Sadeq al-Shihabi, Minister of Health and Vice Chairman of Supreme Council for Health (Ethically responsible for the ongoing breach of medical neutrality)

- 11 Waleed AlManea, CEO of Salmaniya Medical Complex (Responsible for all the violations committed in Salmaniya Medical Complex, the disappearance of evidence of torture and kidnap)
- 12 Ameen AlSa'ati, (Witnessing the violations committed against the medical community and hiding it from public)
- 13 Nabeel AlAnsari, Appointed Head of Bahrain Medical Society (Responsible for defamation and inciting hatred against the medical staff)
- 14 Mubarak Bin Huwail, CID Drug Department, (Torture of the medical staff, currently on trial)

Recommendations:

United Nations:

- Introduce and adopt a resolution on Medical Neutrality at the UN level
- Assign a special rapporteur on Medical Neutrality
- Introduce measures for accountability in case of violations

United States, United Kingdom and other allies:

- Cease and ban on all sales of tear gas and pellet shotguns (and their accessories) to Bahrain
- Diplomatic sanctions on violators from traveling and freezing their accounts abroad
- Support organizations dedicated to the rehabilitation of torture victims
- Increase pressure through consistent, topic specific statements and follow up

To put pressure on the Bahraini authorities to:

- Immediately release all medics, compensate them, and give them access to rehabilitation
- Release all political prisoners, and provide them with adequate medical access and rehabilitation
- End all militarization of hospitals and end the breach of medical neutrality and patient confidentiality
- Hold a conference on medical neutrality with Bahrain as case study with medical professionals and international organizations
- End all targeting of civilians injured due to excessive use of force by riot police, and allow them full access to medical care
- Immediately cease use of excessive force against peaceful protesters
- Hold all those responsible for violations accountable, including high officials and members of the ruling family