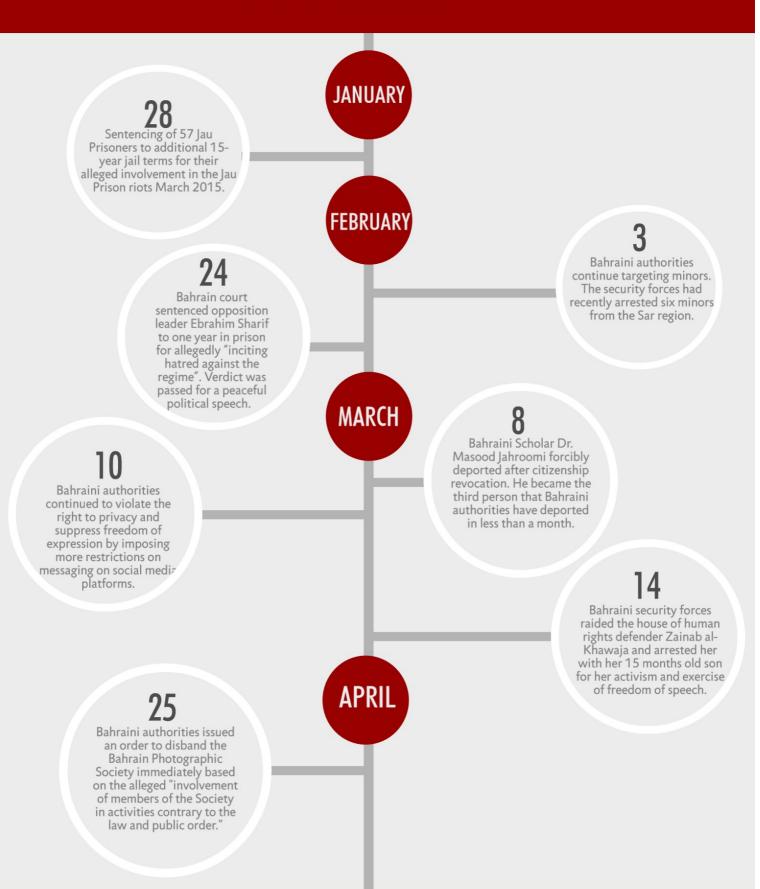
## 2016 Timeline Bahrain: Human Rights Crackdown

January - December 2016



MAY

16

The Bahraini Parliament amended article 5 of the Political Societies Law (2005), which prevents any religious figure who delivers a sermon from joining political societies or from participating in political activities.

30

The original sentence of Sheikh Ali Salman, Secretary-General of Al-Wefaq National Islamic Society (the spiritual leader of the opposition party), was doubled to nine years in prison.

JUNE

06

Following her release, Human Rights Defender, Zainab Al-Khawaja, was forced to either leave Bahrain or risk indefinite detention. she now lives in Denmark.

09

Inmates from the Dry Dock
Detention Center were
subjected to various forms of
ill-treatment amounting to
torture following the escape
of 7 detainees on 3 June.
Security forces allegedly
beated, kicked and slapped
all detainees.

12

Civil society members and Human Rights Defenders were prevented from participating in the 32nd session of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

13

The President of Bahrain Center for Human Rights and prominent human rights defender, Nabeel Rajab, was arrested by the Bahraini authorities.

20

The citizenship of top Shia religious leader, Sheikh Isa Qasim was revoked by the Ministry of Interior. In response, hundreds of demonstrators began a peaceful sit-in around his home in Duraz.

JULY

Authorities announced the referral of Shia spiritual leader, Sheikh Isa Qasim, and other religious figures to court in order to be prosecuted over charges relating to their freedom of religion.

Minister of Information,
Mohammed Al-Rumaihi,
issued Decree 68/2016,
constraining what little press
freedom remaining in the
kingdom by increasing
government oversight on the
dissemination of electronic
media.

26
The courts in Bahrain have moved forward to hand down prison sentences against

protesters from the Duraz sit-in.

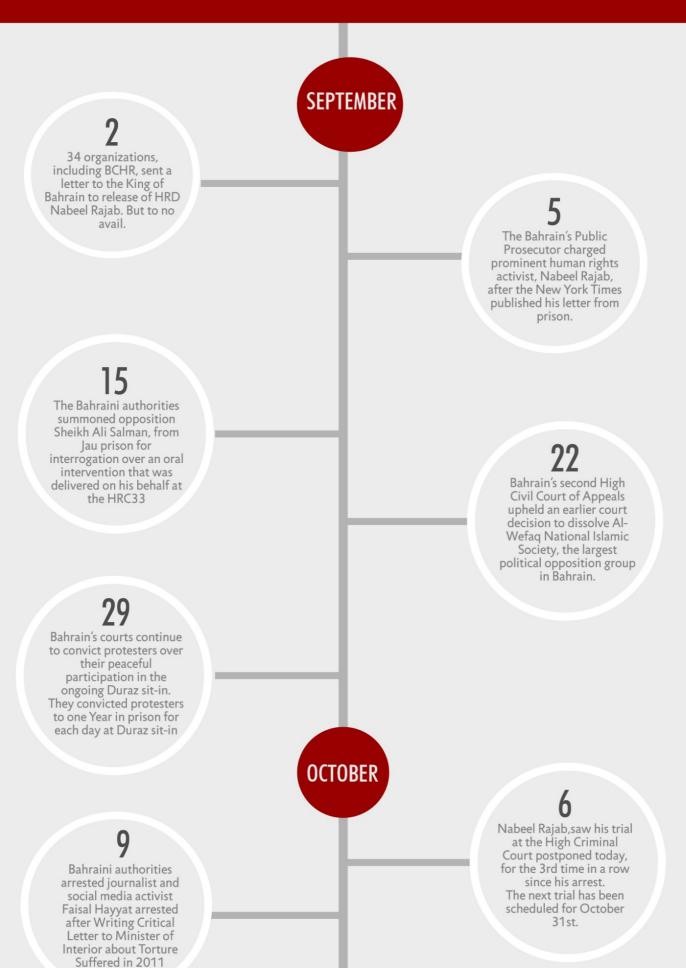
Nazeeha Saeed, prominent journalist, was summoned for interrogation over charges of "exercising media work without an authorisation."

Hassan Jassim Hasan Al-Hayki died at the Salmaniya Medical Complex. Al-Hayki was accused and detained for taking part in a 30 June bombing on 4 July. Al-Hayki has allegedly died from injuries sustained during torture at the Criminal Investigations Directorate (CID).

AUGUST

Human Rights Defender
Sheikh Maytham Al-Salman
was arrested and
interrogated for his work on
freedom of religion, antiextremism, anti-violence and
strengthening positive
relations between cultures
and religions.

The government of
Bahrain imposed a travel
ban on Nedal Al-Salman,
BCHR's Head of
International Relations, to
prevent her from
participating to the
HRC33



As the Religious Season of the month of Muharram begins, Bahrain increases restrictions and attacks on religious freedom. The lockdown on Duraz has continued for more than 100 days so far. Bahraini Opposition Activist Fadhel Abbas The High Criminal Court postponed the trial of Sentenced to Three Years in Prison on Appeal prominent human rights defender Nabeel Rajab, President of the Bahrain Center for Human Rights (BCHR) to 15 December **NOVEMBER** Journalist Faisal Hayyat appeared in court today on charges related to a "defamatory" tweet. His sentencing was Sayed Alawi Hussain has postponed to 29 forcibly disappeared for over November 2016. a month following his arrest at the hands of Bahraini security forces. The last time his family had heard from him, he was being detained. **DECEMBER** Bahraini security forces raided houses and attacked protesters around the residence of Sheikh Isa Qassim meaning the use of police Three death sentences of



violence against

protestors.

torture victims were upheld by the sixth higher court of appeal in

Bahrain