

Timeline

Human Rights Crackdown: Nabeel Rajab 2011 - 2016

2011

April - May

Rajab was interrogated several times about statements he made on twitter and banned from travel for several months

20 March

Rajab was dragged from his house after midnight by masked security forces, who blindfolded and handcuffed him, then beaten and ill-treated him.

2012

06 June

Rajab was arrested and detained until 27 June on charges of allegedly "libeling the citizens of the town of Muharraq." The case was linked to six tweets posted on 2 June, which were directed towards the Prime Minister of Bahrain, highlighting his corruption and calling him to step down.

05 May

Rajab was arrested and detained until 28 May on charges of alleged defamation of an official authority via Twitter. The judge ruled against him and ordered him to pay a fine of 300 Bahraini dinars.

09 July

The Primary Court sentenced Rajab to three months over the charges made against him on 6 June, and he was arrested immediately after.

16 August

Rajab received a three years' prison sentence over multiple charges - including "participation in illegal gathering" and "calling for a march over social media networks." During this period Rajab was subjected to degrading treatment and harassment.

11 December

The three years' prison sentence was reduced to two years after an appeal.

2014

02 November

Rajab was released on bail while the trial was ongoing. A travel ban was imposed on him.

01 October

Rajab was re-arrested and put in detention after a month-long advocacy trip to European capitals. He was charged for a single tweet, in which both the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Defense allege that he "denigrated government institutions."

2015

02 April

Rajab was arrested in relation to tweets and retweets on the war in Yemen, and also on allegations of torture in Jau prison after a prison riot in March 2015.

20 January

Rajab was sentenced to six months in prison on charges of "insulting the Ministry of Interior"

13 July

Rajab was released by royal decree on "health grounds," although his charges and travel ban were kept intact.

2016

13 June

Bahraini forces surrounded Rajab's home, arrested and put him in solitary confinement.

02 August

Despite lawyers' appeals asking for Rajab's release on the basis of his deteriorating health and the lack of evidence, Rajab remained in detention, and his trial was postponed, for the second time, to September 5.

12 July

On Rajab's first hearing since his arrest on 13 June, the court decided to postpone his trial to 2 August despite a request by his lawyers for his immediate release.

5 September

High Criminal Court postponed the trial of Rajab to 6 October for ruling. He has been charged with additional charges in relation to the The New York Times op-ed.

26 August

Rajab is transferred to the Interior Ministry's clinic at MOI headquarters due to chest pain, a condition he was not suffering from before

6 October

Nabeel Rajab's trial has been postponed today, for the 3rd time, to October 31. The postponement comes 3 days after Rajab underwent a surgery to remove his gallbladder

31 October

The High Criminal Court postponed the trial of Rajab, for the fourth time. The reason for the postponement is to hire an expert from the Cyber Crime Unit to verify that the Twitter handle in question is managed by him.

