

## Prisoner Profile: Abduljalil al-Singace



*Credit: Mohamed CJ via Wikimedia Commons*

<b>Age</b>	47 years
<b>Occupation</b>	Professor of Engineering
<b>Position</b>	Director of the Human Rights Bureau, Haq Movement for Liberty and Democracy
<b>Date of Arrest</b>	March 16, 2011
<b>Charges</b>	Attempting to overthrow the regime
<b>Sentence</b>	Life in prison

Dr. Abduljalil Abdulla al-Singace is a mechanical engineer and prominent blogger and human rights activist who has promoted human rights as a member and leader of multiple political societies, including Al-Wefaq and the Haq Movement for Liberty and Democracy. He has also used his blog, Al-Faseelah, to advocate against human rights violations in Bahrain.

In January 2009, Al-Singace was arrested for his alleged involvement in a terror plot and for allegedly promoting hostility and hatred toward the regime through his blog, which the government later blocked. Al-Singace was released from prison in April 2009 after receiving a royal pardon, but was arrested again on August 13, 2010, upon returning from a conference at the British House of Lords, where he had discussed human rights concerns in Bahrain. He was charged with abusing his freedom of expression and opinion by allegedly encouraging violent and radical activities against the regime. Al-Singace reported that he was held incommunicado in solitary confinement and subjected to both physical and mental torture.

Al-Singace was released after six months in prison, but was arrested again a month after his release for his participation in peaceful protests that broke out in early 2011. In the middle of the night on March 17, 2011, four dozen police officers forcefully entered Dr. al-Singace's home, beat him, and took him to the police station at gunpoint. He was moved to a Al Qurain military prison where he was confined to a 2m x 3m cell and subjected to [torture and ill-treatment](#), including forced standing (Mr. Al-Singace is paralyzed and can only stand on one leg), verbal and sexual assault, beatings, and prolonged solitary confinement. He was tried in the National Safety Court in June 2011, where he was sentenced to life in prison for allegedly plotting to topple the government. The case was retried in a civilian court in April 2012, but Dr. al-Singace's sentence remained the same. On January 7, 2013, the case went to the Court of Cassation, but his life sentence was upheld.