

Weekly Report – 1 to 7 June

Arrests:

Last week, security forces [arrested](#) 34 individuals including 2 children.

On 5 and 6 June, security forces [arrested](#) at least 17 individuals from several areas in Bahrain. The reasons for arrests are unknown. Moreover, the Ministry of Interior [announced](#) the arrest of individuals whom it accused of being part of the Saraya al-Ashtar group. The Ministry published names, photos, and alleged confessions of 10 of these individuals on National TV and in local newspapers calling them terrorists, thus violating their right to a fair trial. The Minister of Justice, Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa, posted a tweet that ignored due process by stating that security forces have yet again revealed “Safavid” involvement in terrorism in Bahrain.



The Minister of Justice Tweet

Trials:

Bahraini criminal and appeals courts altered previously upheld convictions and sentenced 4 individuals to more than 21 years in prison and postponed the trials of 58 individuals.

The court of appeal [postponed](#) the trial of Al Wefaq Society to 23 June 2015. The society is appealing the court order to stop its activities for three months following a case filed by the Minister of Justice against it.

The criminal court [sentenced](#) the activist Zainab Al Khawaja to a total of 9 months over 3 charges and BHD500 bail to prevent his execution. Al Khawaja was charged for entering a restricted area and insulting two policewomen.

Protests:

Dozens of protests and sit-ins took place in different areas of Bahrain. Security forces reportedly used excessive force in suppressing several.



[Pro-democracy protest in Musala](#)



[Security forces suppressed a protest in Abu Saiba using tear gas](#)

Collective Punishment/ Use of force:

Security forces continue the use of force and excessive use of tear gas in residential areas and in suppressing peaceful protest. Several shotgun injuries were reported.



[Some shotgun injuries in Manama](#)



[Private property damage due to use of force by police](#)

Others:

During past week, a conversation alleged to be between ISIS members were disseminated through social media which included threats of suicide bombing in one of Bahrain's mosques. The Ministry of Interior [stated](#) that they take ISIS threats seriously and [encouraged](#) people to call their hotline to report suspects. On the other hand, the people created local committees to search people attending Friday prayers in an attempt to protect worshipers. However, the MOI [declared](#) this to be illegal and at least 10 individuals were [summoned](#) by the authorities for interrogation regarding this matter.

33 members of Shura Council [approved](#) an imprisonment sentence of up to 5 years for anyone who glorifies and justifies terrorism.