

Dry Dock Prisoners: We Will Begin Hunger Strike on Saturday to Protest Ill-Treatment

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Human rights activist Fatima al-Halwachi confirmed that prisoners at Dry Dock Prison building 10 are determined to begin a hunger strike on Saturday 25 July to protest ill-treatment by police guards.

Al-Halwachi said that her father, activist Khalil al-Halwachi, said that officials at the prison did not know about the strike until recently, even though it was announced a week ago.

He pointed out that some prisoners in building 10 were summoned and asked about the reasons behind the strike. The prisoners' demands, which included better treatment and keeping cell doors open, were denied. Instead the prison administration decreased the hours prisoners are given at the yard, and forbid them from praying in group Jama'a.

It is expected that prisoners will go on with their strike in hopes that it will result in better treatment of prisoners by security forces, as well as end torture in solitary confinement.