

Ahmed al-Saroo

AGE 16

DOB December 1997

DATE OF ARREST 4 September 2013

Ahmed al-Saroo is a 16-year-old Bahraini citizen. On 9 April 2013, Bahraini security forces raided Ahmed's house and arrested him. They transported him to the CID. During his detention at the CID, security forced harassed and abused Ahmed. They insulted him and threatened to beat him on his injured leg in order to force him to sign a confession. Ahmed was interrogated without the presence of his lawyer. On 19 September 2013, the court sentenced Ahmed to 3 years in prison. He is currently detained in Jaw prison.

Dear Penpal,

I was arrested while asleep at home during mid-terms period. I was only 15 years old at the time.

On 9 April 2013, masked security forces raided my house and arrested me. I was taken to the CID where I was subjected to the worst verbal insults and threatened to be beaten on my injured leg. I was previously fired at with shotgun pellets gun from a very close range and was taken to Salmaniya hospital where I underwent an urgent surgery to remove the pellets and a week later I had knee cosmetic surgery. I had physiotherapy until I was able to walk again without crutch.

I was then transported to Naim police station where I was allowed to call my parents, then to the Dry Dock detention center. I was prosecuted under terrorism law although I was just a child and they sentenced me to 3 years in prison for something I didn't do.

I had many hobbies. I liked photography and swimming the most. I wanted to graduate and go to university with my friends.

I should be at school and playing with my friends but instead I'm a political prisoner.

There are many children here, thus I ask you to do whatever possible to get us out of prison so we can live our childhood like all other children.

I'm looking forward to your reply.

Sincerely, Ahmed Ali al-Saroo