

Weekly Report – 27 to 2 August

Arrests:

Last week, security forces [arrested](#) 47 individuals, including two children.

A Bahraini comedian actor was [arrested](#) for insulting a sect in an audio recording that was circulated over social media. The Ministry of Interior (MOI) stated that the recorded material could harm national unity. The actor, who is known for his comical criticism of social and political issues, was criticizing his own sect, and many activists stated that the audio did not contain anything deemed insulting.

Deputy Secretary General of al-Wefaq, Khalil Marzooq, was [summoned](#) to the Anti-Cyber Crimes Unit for interrogation. He was not informed of the reasons of summon. Following two hours of interrogation, Khalil was dismissed. Al-Wefaq claimed that his interrogation was about a speech he gave at an event.

The MOI [announced](#) the arrest of individuals involved in the Sitra explosion. Since the incident, Sitra has been arbitrarily raided on a daily basis. 28 individuals were arrested; six have been released, but 22 remain detained.



[House raids in Sitra](#)

Trials:

The Bahraini court of appeal upheld the sentences of two individuals to one year in prison, and postponed the trials of 53 people. In addition, five individuals were remanded to 95 days.

Wa'ad Political Society leader Ebrahim Sharif was [remanded](#) again to 15 days in detention over a speech he gave at a public event. Sharif was re-arrested only three weeks following his release after serving four years of his five-year sentence.

Protests:

Dozens of protests and sit-ins took place across Bahrain. Security forces reportedly used excessive force in assaulting several individuals.



Protests in Musala and Duraz

Collective Punishment/Use of force:

Security forces continued the use of force and excessive use of tear gas in residential areas and in suppressing peaceful protests.



A child reported being beaten by security forces

Others:

The Bahraini Human Rights Society [received](#) 75 complaints of unfair distribution of scholarships. The Society stated that it raised the issue to the Minister of Education, the President of the Shura Council, and the President of the Parliament. The organization demanded that the Ministry reconsider the scholarship distribution, respond to the complaints of students, and publish the plans of next years' scholarships. Moreover, it was [reported](#) that 49 students with GPAs between 99.2% and 95% were deprived from scholarships and instead given grants. Out of the 646 students included in the study, only 33 got one of their top three choices.

This week marked more than a year into the signing the tripartite agreement that stated the reinstatement of 165 sacked employees, including 25 employees from the public sector. However, 50 employees from the agreed upon list are not yet reinstated to their jobs. The former head of the ALBA union, Ebrahim al-Demistani, [said](#) that the sacked employees from ALBA who remain unemployed have submitted a letter to the Minister of Labor requesting an urgent meeting to discuss their issue.