

Weekly Report – 14 to 20 December

Arrests:

Last week, security forces [arrested](#) 37 individuals, including five children and one woman.

Bahraini authorities [launched](#) an arrest campaign following a series of protests during Accession Day, which celebrates the crowning of Bahrain's king. More than ten houses were raided at dawn in Karzkan and neighboring areas.

Trials:

Bahraini criminal and appeal courts altered, upheld convictions, and sentenced 32 individuals to more than 150 years in prison. Two individuals had their trials postponed.

The criminal court [postponed](#) the trial of Wa'ad Society's Secretary General Ebrahim Sharif to 10 January 2016. He was accused of inciting to overthrow the regime and inciting hatred of the regime following a speech he delivered at a public event.

On 14 December, the court of appeal [postponed](#) the trial of al-Wefaq Society's Secretary General Sheikh Ali Salman to 14 January 2016. The prosecution demanded the harshest sentence and asked the judge to convict him of charges for which he was previously acquitted. Sheikh Ali is appealing a criminal court sentence of four years in prison.

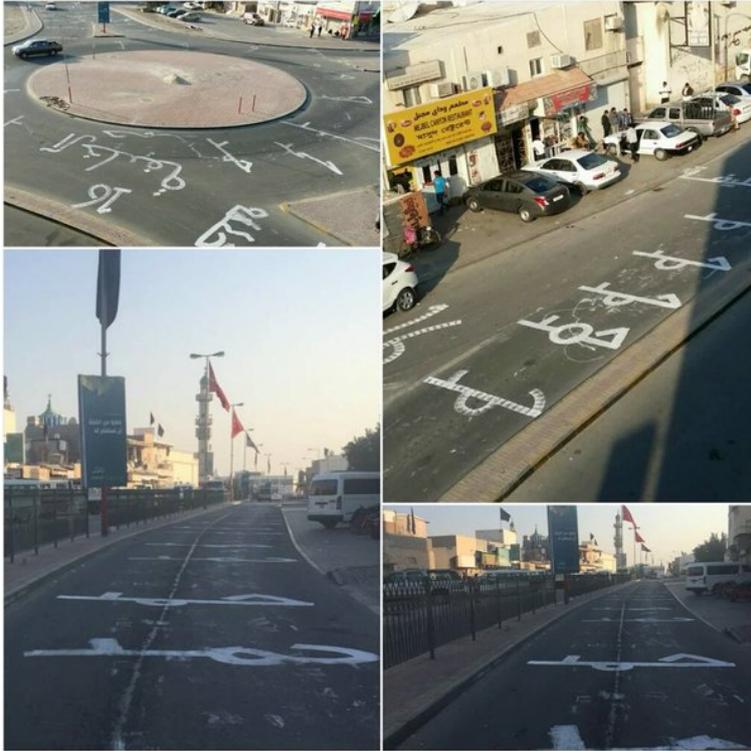
The criminal court [sentenced](#) human rights activist and head of the European-Bahraini Organization for Human Rights Husain Jawad to two years in prison and a BHD500 fine over charges of collecting funds from Bahrain and abroad without permission. Husain alleged being subjected to torture during his arrest and being forced to confess to false crimes.

Protests:

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

Al-Wefaq Society [stated](#) that the Ministry of Interior has refused to receive 140 notices of protests/rallies over the last year. It also noted that the individuals who submitted these notices were subjected to harassment.

On 16 and 17 December, many protests were staged all over Bahrain commemorating Martyrs' Day, which also coincides with Accession Day. Security forces responded by suppressing protests and using excessive force.



[Protests all over Bahrain on 16 December](#)



[Abu Saiba](#)

Collective Punishment/ Use of force:

Security forces continue the use of force and excessive use of tear gas and shotgun pellets to suppress peaceful protests. Several injuries were documented by human rights activists on the ground.



Security forces [used](#) shotgun pellets to disperse protesters during Accession Day



[Sitra](#)



[Sanabis](#)