

## Weekly Report – 21 to 27 December

### Arrests:

Last week, security forces [arrested](#) 31 individuals, including four children.

Bahraini authorities [continued](#) their raid and arrest campaign in Shia-majority areas. Activists documented raids and arrests in Sitra, A'ali, Naim, Dair, and many other areas. The Bahrain Center for Human Rights [stated](#) that at least 21 individuals were arrested during these house raids, which are usually carried out in an illegal manner.



[House raids in Sitra](#)

### Trials:

Bahraini criminal and appeal courts altered, upheld convictions, and sentenced 13 individuals to 150 years in prison. Moreover, 106 individuals had their trials postponed.

The court of appeal [postponed](#) the trial of al-Wefaq member Majeed Milad to 31 January 2016. Majeed was accused of inciting to disobey the law and inciting hatred of the regime following a speech he delivered at a public event. The criminal court had previously sentenced him to two years in prison.

The public prosecution [released](#) four defendants who were accused of joining ISIS in Bahrain and attempting to carry out an explosion in a mosque. The lawyer Abdulla al-Shamlawi stated that the authorities said that these defendants were released because they did not

confess to these crimes, while defendants in politically motivated cases were convicted and sentenced to lengthy prison sentences and even to death over confessions extracted under torture. Activists criticized the authorities for their double standards. In political cases, the authorities usually tend to publish or broadcast names and pictures of defendants along with their charges before they are even taken to court. However, in cases of ISIS terrorists, the names of the defendants are treated with confidentiality.

### **Protests:**

Dozens of protests and sit-ins took place in different areas of Bahrain. Security forces reportedly used teargas and shotgun pellets against protesters.



[Sitra](#)

### **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.



[Shotgun injury in Buri](#)



[Sitra](#)

#### **Others:**

The Minister of Justice [stated](#) that there are 4500 migrant workers in Bahrain who have had travel bans imposed on them for being in debt. Some of these workers are in debt for amounts that reach BHD7 (\$18). The Bahraini parliament is still discussing ways to solve the cases of these migrant workers and will be voting on a decree in December 2015.

Ahmed Abdula'al's eight-member family [lives](#) in a ramshackle house in Malkiya village. His house leaked rainwater, which caused further damage to its already falling ceiling and walls. The house has been listed as a ramshackle house by the authorities since 2007. Despite

continuous follow-up with the concerned authorities, the house has not been rebuilt or renovated, which puts the family at risk.



Ahmed Abdula'al's ramshackle house

Qasim Mutaqawi, a 15-year-old boy, was [subjected](#) to beating and insults after his arrest on 17 December 2015. BCHR member Husain Radhi stated that Qasim was arrested from Duraz by forces in civilian clothes. Witnesses told the family that Qasim was subjected to beatings and that his camera was confiscated. Qasim confirmed being beaten, insulted, and threatened in Budaiya police station and the CID during the first visit with his family. His family said that he looked exhausted.