

**Continuous campaign of arrests and terrorizing citizens: Targeting Masooma al-Sayed and transporting photographer Ahmed al-Fardan to prison**



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**Manama, Bahrain al-Youm**

Bahraini Ministry of Interior (MOI) authorities released human rights activist Masooma al-Sayed on 3 February 2016, after arresting her at a police checkpoint the previous day.

Al-Sayed had previously been arrested for participating in demonstrations in different areas in Bahrain, including Manama. She was released after paying a fine to appeal the sentence against her on charges of “illegal gathering.”

Some sources reported that MOI authorities raided al-Sayed’s house after arresting her.

Human rights activists have condemned the way al-Sayed was arrested, highlighting the fact that Bahraini authorities systematically target women, especially those who have played a leading or active role in Bahrain’s protest movement.

Activists have also suggested that the arrest of al-Sayed is intended to terrorize people who are preparing for the anniversary of the 14 February revolution.

In another case, MOI forces arrested the photographer Ahmed al-Fardan from court, after accusing him of intending to participate in an illegal gathering. The appeal court approved his sentence of three months.

Recently, MOI forces have raided many Bahraini villages, resulting in the arrests of several Bahraini citizens, including Yousif Ali from Boori. Some were arrested from their workplace, such as Sayed Mohamed Mahdi from Abo Saiba.

MOI forces also raided some Bahraini villages to spread fear among people. This happened in Musla, for example.