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THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Kungl. Vetenskapsakademien har till uppgift att främja vetenskaperna och stärka deras inflytande i samhället.  
The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has as its aim to promote the sciences and strengthen their influence in society.

Stockholm 27 April 2020

Elisabeth Rachlew /ch

His Majesty King Shaikh Hamad  
bin 'Issa Al Khalifa  
Office of His Majesty the King  
c/o His Excellency Shaikh Fawaz bin  
Mohammed Al Khalifa  
Ambassador of Kingdom of Bahrain in  
London, UK  
30 Belgrave Square  
London, SW1X 8QB  
United Kingdom

Your Majesty,

We, the joint Human Rights Committee of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities, the Swedish Academy and the Young Academy of Sweden, write respectfully to express our most urgent concern about the health and well-being of Dr. Abduljalil al-Singace, an imprisoned Bahraini professor of mechanical engineering who is serving a life sentence for his peaceful exercise of rights protected by international law.

Dr. al-Singace suffers from post-polio syndrome and sickle cell problems, making him especially vulnerable to serious consequences in case of a coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) infection. We understand that, while more than 1,400 detainees in Bahrain have been released in recent weeks, Dr. al-Singace remains held in Jaw Prison.

The World Health Organization and United Nations human rights experts have called on governments to take immediate steps to address prison overcrowding, including the priority release of prisoners who have been detained for offenses not recognized under international law. In light of this urgent situation, we respectfully request your help in ensuring Dr. al-Singace's release from prison on humanitarian grounds without delay. Such assistance would be widely welcomed throughout the international scientific community.

We thank you, Your Majesty, for your attention to this important matter. These are dire and challenging times and we send our best wishes to you, Your Majesty, and the people of Bahrain.

Sincerely yours

Elisabeth Rachlew  
*Professor, Chairman of the Human Rights Committee*

Copy:

Embassy of Sweden, United Arab Emirates  
The Bahraini Embassy in London, UK



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His Excellency Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid  
Al Zayani  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
P.O. Box 547  
Government Road  
Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

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