

# WORLDWIDE APPEALS — March 2020

An appeal from you to the authorities can help the victims of human rights violations.  
You can help free a prisoner of conscience or stop torture. Your message can bring liberty  
to a victim of disappearance. You may prevent an execution.  
The victims are many, the violators wide ranging. Every appeal counts.



## PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE IN CRITICAL CONDITION

The physical and psychological condition of human rights defender and prisoner of conscience, Ahmed Mansoor, has significantly deteriorated, following three months of him being on continuous hunger strike to protest his detention conditions. He is no longer able to walk unattended. He has been detained in dire conditions and in solitary confinement since his arrest on 20 March 2017.

**TAKE ACTION: WRITE AN APPEAL IN YOUR OWN WORDS OR USE THIS MODEL LETTER**

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Your Excellency

According to information recently obtained by Amnesty International, the psychological and physical condition of human rights defender and prisoner of conscience, **Ahmed Mansoor**, has deteriorated to the point that he is no longer able to walk unattended. On 7 September 2019, after [prison guards beat him](#), Ahmed Mansoor began a hunger strike to protest his prison conditions. During the first week of his hunger strike, prison guards forced him to eat, but between 14 September 2019 until at least mid-January 2020, Ahmed Mansoor was on continuous hunger strike, ingesting only fluids.

Ahmed has been held in solitary confinement since the beginning of his detention on 20 March 2017. The UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) prohibit the use of prolonged solitary confinement (for a period of more than 15 days), as punishments that amount to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.

On 1 January 2020, the official state-run news website, the [Emirates News Agency](#), stated that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation refuted claims made by non-governmental organisations related to Ahmed Mansoor's case; namely that his trial and subsequent conviction were unfair, and calling them "baseless". Amnesty International believes that Ahmed Mansoor's trial was unfair, as he has been convicted and sentenced solely for peacefully exercising his rights to freedom of expression and association, including through his human rights work.

I urge you to quash Ahmed Mansoor's conviction and release him immediately and unconditionally. Pending his release, I call on you to ensure that he is detained in conditions complying with international standards, that he is not subjected to torture or other ill-treatment; and has immediate and regular access to his family and any health care he may require. I also call on UAE authorities to grant independent international monitors access to Ahmed Mansoor while he remains in prison.

Yours sincerely,

Amnesty International–Nobel Peace Prize 1977 UN Human Rights Prize 1978

For more information about the Salisbury branch  
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