



18.5.2022

Working Group on Arbitrary Detention

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

United Nations Office at Geneva

We wish to update you regarding the arrest of student and Bedouin human rights defender Mariam Abu Kwider, last Thursday 12.5.2022. Several policemen in civilian clothes arrested the student of Pharmacy, after a demonstration in memory of journalist Sheerin Abu Aqla, held at Ben Gurion university that day. She had been previously interrogated by the Israeli Security Agency for publishing a series of content on social media promoting incitement.

The Negev Coexistence Forum together with Adalah and the Human Rights Defenders Fund helped to obtain the legal representation of Adv. Shahde Ibn Bari, and involved the Civil Group for Freedom of Protest. Additionally, the Negev Coexistence Forum organized a protest rally in front of the Beer Sheva court on Friday and another protest rally is planned for today 17.5.2022, organized by the students.

Mariam was forcibly arrested and taken to the police station in a civilian car, while other students followed her in their private cars¹. Once in station, the police detained another student because of interference with public duty. Miriam stayed detained until Friday and was given a remand extension in court. The judge agreed to a 5-day house arrest with the condition of eliminating the use of any electronic devices for communication for two weeks. The Magistrate's Court agreed to release her on restrictive conditions (house arrest and non-use of social media, computers and telephone) and guarantees of 5,000 NIS at the moment of release and two guarantors each 10,000 NIS. After the judge issued a decision, the police issued an appeal against the decision in the District's Court. On Friday 13th, there was a hearing in the District Court and the appeal for three days of detention was approved. The court upheld the detention extension until yesterday Monday 16th of May. After the hearing in the Magistrate's Court the same day, the Police requested to extend the detention seven days, but the final decision was to detain her four days. Adv. Ibn Bari issued an appeal to cancel the decision of detention for four days and the Judge decided to keep her arrested those four days.

Adv. Ibn Bari issued an appeal of the decision yesterday in the District Court to release her. Today there was a hearing that denied the request and she will stay detained until this upcoming Thursday's hearing in the Magistrate's Court, that will take place during the morning.

According to testimonies gathered by NCF's field coordinators, Police officers alternated the location of the detainee, between Police stations. Initially she was in Netivot, later they moved her to Sharon and then to Ramon. The fact that she spent every night in a different location negatively affected her emotional state. Additionally, her interrogation, which was done while she was handcuffed, was in the courtyard of a parking lot, on an underground floor with high temperatures, where she met with her lawyer, Adv. Ibn Bari. ***"The conditions she was subjected to violate her rights to privacy and confidentiality, during the interrogation***

¹ Please see the video documenting the events [here](#)



منتدى التعايش السلمي في النقب من أجل المساواة المدنية
פורום דו קיום בנגב לשוויון אזרחי
Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality

procedures. In 30 years, I have never been requested to work with a client in a parking lot, considering that in this case the detainee was exhausted and physically weak.” Adv. Ibn Bari

We will continue to monitor the situation on the field and update you with further developments.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to write to us at intl.advocacy@dukium.org

Sincerely,

Elianne Kremer
International Advocacy
Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality

Media resources:

Haaretz. 2022. *A Ben-Gurion student was arrested inside the campus on suspicion of incitement on the Internet.* [online] Available at: <https://www.haaretz.co.il/news/law/.premium-1.10799556?utm_source=Web_Share&utm_medium=Whatsapp&utm_campaign=Whatsapp> [Accessed 15 May 2022].

In accordance with the law, the Negev Coexistence Forum for Civil Equality is proud to note that as a result of cooperation with friendly countries and international organizations that promote human rights, most of the funding for our activities comes from "foreign entities."