

Sharqawi Ali al-Hajj
ISN 1457

Citizenship: Yemen

Detained Since: February 2002

Sharqawi Ali al-Hajj

Sharqawi Ali al-Hajj, born in 1974, is a Yemeni, who was seized in a house raid in Karachi, Pakistan in February 2002. Initially questioned by American interrogators, he freely answered questions about his business in Pakistan, explaining that he was doing what he could to help Yemeni refugees. He was promised that, if he continued to answer questions, he could go home to Yemen. However, his transfer to Jordan came about because, as his attorney, John A. Chandler, explained, “The CIA lied about his going home; it decided to torture Sharqawi in the hope that they might get more information from him.”

Sharqawi then became one of at least 15 prisoners whose torture was outsourced to the Jordanian authorities between 2001 and 2004. Prior to his rendition, his Pakistani guards told him, “May your mother pray for you,” and other such exhortations, knowing that he was on his way to the Jordanian secret police. In Jordan, he was held for over almost two years.

In Jordan, Sharqawi was again told that, if he cooperated, he could go home. The cooperation, it soon became apparent, involved obtaining information from him about prisoners held in Guantánamo, but there was no way he could please his captors, and no way that he was going home.

As John Chandler also explained, “Sharqawi was shown pictures of men who he later met in Guantánamo. He was asked a series of questions from Americans posed by his Jordanian captors. If his answers were not satisfactory, he would be beaten and threatened with electrocution. He randomly identified men as terrorists and was beaten. He identified every third man as a terrorist and was beaten. No answers were satisfactory.”

Tortured daily for nine months, Sharqawi was subjected to falanga, a Jordanian specialty, in which the sensitive nerve endings on the bottom of his feet were struck repeatedly, causing excruciating pain. He was also held in isolation, kept naked in the cold, threatened with rape, and subjected to electric shocks.

Afterwards, for another year and a half, Sharqawi was moved to another part of the facilities in Jordan, where the torture ceased, and, he said, the guards treated him well and occasionally lent him a cell phone to call home.

Rather than sending him home, however, the CIA chartered a plane (Tail No. N313P), which flew from Frankfurt, Germany, to Amman, Jordan, and picked him up and delivered him to Bagram, where, yet again, he was promised that, if he cooperated, he could go home. Instead, Sharqawi was kept in a 2 foot by 3 foot closet for several days before a female interrogator from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service came to question him, and who later followed him to Guantánamo.

Here is what Pro Publica has written about Sharqawi and another Guantanamo prisoner, Uthman. The US produced statements by Sharqawi to use as evidence against Uthman based on the agent’s summaries of the two, four-hour interviews she conducted with Sharqawi at Bagram and Guantanamo.

“The statements are quite damning on their faces,” wrote Judge Kennedy of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. But they were problematic. He said the statements were not reliable because they were obtained after the men had been tortured.

“In light of the abusive circumstances of the detention . . . and serious questions about the accuracy of their identifications of Uthman, the Court finds these statements to be unreliable and will not consider them in evaluating whether the detention of Uthman is lawful,” Kennedy wrote. Further, under the subheading “Torture,” Judge Kennedy said the Court could not rely on their statements “because there is unrebutted evidence in the record that, at the time of the interrogations at which they made the statements, [Sharqawi] recently had been tortured.”

Joanne Mariner, the director of the counterterrorism program at Human Rights Watch, investigated Sharqawi’s treatment while in Jordanian custody.

“I agree with the judge,” she said. “There is no doubt he was very seriously tortured in Jordanian custody which is why he was sent there. He was just sent there because at that time, the CIA was still outsourcing the most brutal methods of torture. This was before the CIA had set up its own prison system and was still working out authorization for the use of abusive techniques,” Mariner said.

In his habeas case, the Court found that Sharqawi had been tortured. Chief Judge Royce Lamberth found:

“At the outset, the Court finds that respondents—who neither admit nor deny petitioner’s allegations regarding his custody in Jordan and Kabul—effectively admit those allegations. Accordingly, the Court accepts petitioner’s allegations as true. In Jordan, petitioner experienced patent coercion during interrogations—including intimidation, regular beatings, and threats of electrocution and violence. In Kabul, he was forced to endure complete darkness and continuous loud music. The Court thus finds that petitioner was subject to physical and psychological coercion in Jordan and Kabul” Sharqawi abdu ali Al Hajj, Civil Action No 09-745 (RCL), June 8, 2011.

As John Chandler also observed, “After years of torture, an FBI clean team came in to start interrogations anew in the hope of obtaining information that was admissible and not the product of torture. The Courts, however, have held that torture after Karachi excludes all his interrogations. Nearly 10 years later, Sharqawi sits in Guantánamo. His health is ruined by his treatment by or on behalf of our country. He can eat little but yogurt. He weighs perhaps 120 pounds. The United States of America has lost its way.”

Sanad al-Kazimi

ISN 1453

Citizenship: Yemen

Sanad al-Kazimi

Sanad al-Kazimi, born in 1970, is a Yemeni, who was seized in the United Arab Emirates in January 2003, and was subsequently handed over to U.S. forces, and was rendered to an unidentified secret CIA prison, and then to the “Dark Prison” and Bagram Air Base. During this period, he told his attorney, Martha Rayner, that “his interrogators beat him; held him naked and shackled in a cold dark cell; dropped him into cold water while his hands and legs were bound; and sexually abused him.”

After this Sanad was relocated to the “Dark Prison,” where, he said, “he was always in darkness and ... was hooded, given injections, beaten, hit with electric cables, suspended from above, made to be naked, and subjected to continuous loud music.” He told Martha Rayner that eventually “[h]e made up his mind to say ‘Yes’ to anything the interrogators said to avoid further torture.”

At Bagram, he said, he was isolated, shackled, “psychologically tortured and traumatized by guards’ desecration of the Koran” and interrogated “day and night, and very frequently.” He added that he “tried very hard” to tell his interrogators the same information he had told his previous interrogators “so they would not hurt him.”

In August 2007, Ramzi Kassem, another of Sanad’s attorneys, added further details, telling Jane Mayer of *The New Yorker* that Sanad was “suspended by his arms for long periods, causing his legs to swell painfully ... It’s so traumatic, he can barely speak of it. He breaks down in tears.” He also said that Sanad stated that, “while hanging, he was beaten with electric cables,” and explained that he also told him that, while in the “Dark Prison,” he “attempted suicide three times, by ramming his head into the walls.” Ramzi Kassem added, “He did it until he lost consciousness. Then they stitched him back up. So he did it again. The next time he woke up, he was chained, and they’d given him tranquilizers. He asked to go to the bathroom, and then he did it again.” On this last occasion, he “was given more tranquilizers, and chained in a more confining manner.”

Musa'ab Al Madhwani
ISN 839

Citizenship: Yemen

Detained Since: October 2002

Musa'ab Al Madhwani

Musa'ab Al Madhwani was everybody's favorite kid in school, and his nieces' and nephews' favorite uncle. Musa'ab was the class clown, now forced to quickly grow up. He has been imprisoned at the U.S. Naval Station in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba for virtually his entire adult life.



Musa'ab was captured by Pakistani police in September 2002, while trying to get home to his native Yemen. He was severely beaten by Pakistani authorities, and then taken to two CIA-run torture prisons in Afghanistan. At the “Dark Prison”—so known because prisoners were held in permanent darkness—Musa'ab and others were held in squalid conditions, deprived of food and clean water, bombarded with loud music and horrible noises, and otherwise physically and mentally tortured in ways that seem unimaginable.

Musa'ab was then sent to Guantánamo, where the only opportunity he had to tell of his treatment came in 2005, when a military official asked him during a review board hearing, “Are you holding anything back from the interrogators?” He replied, “That is impossible, because before I came to the prison in Guantánamo Bay I was in another prison in Afghanistan, under the ground [and] it was very dark, total dark, under torturing and without sleep. It was impossible that I could get out of there alive. I was really beaten and tortured.” Under the coercion of torture, Musa'ab made false confessions that are now used to justify his imprisonment. But even the most unthinkable persecution has not crushed his love of life. Musa'ab now uses his comedic gift to try and lighten the hearts of the men with whom he is imprisoned.

Astoundingly, when Federal District Court Judge Thomas F. Hogan ruled against Musa'ab's habeas petition in December 2009, Musa'ab's first response was to comfort his grief-stricken lawyers. And we were grief-stricken; it is still impossible to understand how any rational court could have ruled against this innocent man. Inexplicably, Judge Hogan predicated his ruling on Musa'ab's own statements made in the coercive Guantánamo review board hearings, while ruling that the numerous additional coerced statements Musa'ab had made to interrogators shortly after his arrival at Guantánamo were legally unreliable. These, he said, were tainted by torture, but he refused to accept that the same was true of Musa'ab's later coerced statements, despite ample evidence to the contrary.

The notion that Musa'ab could be labeled a “terrorist” is inconceivable to all who know him. Even the judge who ruled against him found that Musa'ab is not a threat to the United States. Repeatedly questioning whether there is any real basis for his continued detention, Judge Hogan found that Musa'ab's record, including the government's own documents, “do[es] not give any basis for his continued detention” but instead shows he is “a lot less threatening” than scores of detainees the government had recently released. The court agreed with an official government agent's own assessment of Musa'ab as a young, naive, unemployed Yemeni who should be returned home. But despite these explicit findings, Judge Hogan believed his “hands [were] tied” by the “law as written,” which he interpreted as requiring him to approve Musa'ab's continued detention.

In spite of these profound injustices, Musa'ab does not blame the American people for any of the treatment he has suffered, and holds no grudge against them. The generosity of Musa'ab's character is reflected, too, in every member his family. His family is very poor, yet during our visit with them in Yemen, his brother insisted on buying us gift after gift, and his sister gave me the clothes out of her own closet. Now, Musa'ab's eyes cloud with sentimentality when I visit wearing his sister's dress. He may well never see her, or the rest of his family, again. Memories of Musa'ab fade from the minds of his nieces and nephews. But even as our legal system has been perverted to the point of futility and my value to him as a lawyer has run dry, I will continue to visit Musa'ab, as he has become a part of my family.

—*Mari Newman, Counsel for Musa'ab*

**Hussain Salem
Mohammed Almerfedi
ISN 1015**

Citizenship: Yemen

Detained Since: May 2003

Hussain Salem Mohammed Almerfedi (ISN 1015)

Hussain Almerfedi was born in southern Yemen in 1977. He sought to leave Yemen and travel to Europe to escape the poverty and oppression in southern Yemen. Believing it would be difficult to get a visa from Yemen to a European country, Hussain planned to travel to Pakistan and then to Europe with individuals from a well-known and apolitical Islamic religious group called Jama'at al-Tablighi ("JT"). Hussain left Yemen for Pakistan on September 9, 2001.

After the attacks of September 11 made it impossible to travel to Europe with a missionary group, Hussain accepted a man's offer to "smuggle" him from Pakistan to Europe, via Iran and Turkey. The men traveled by bus to Mashad, a large city in eastern Iran, where Hussain waited for a month. He grew impatient and confronted his smuggler. They left for Europe the next day. In Tehran, they were stopped by Iranian police, who arrested Hussain purportedly because he did not have a visa. The smuggler was not arrested, and Hussain never saw him again.

The Iranians held Hussain in various prisons, beat him and accused him of being a spy for the United States. In about March 2002 they turned him and other prisoners over to the United States as part of a "prisoner exchange." The United States held him in Afghanistan until May 2003 when he was sent to Guantánamo. Hussain was approved for transfer from Guantánamo under the "Administrative Review Board" procedures used during President Bush's administration as well as by the unanimous decision of President Obama's Guantánamo Review Task Force. In July 2010, District Judge Paul L. Friedman granted Hussain's petition for a writ of habeas corpus in part based on his finding that a detainee named Jadani, on whose statements the government principally relied, was incredible and wholly unreliable.

In June 2011, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed Judge Friedman's decision and ordered that Hussain's petition be denied. The Court of Appeals held that the government had satisfied its burden on the strength of three facts alone: (1) Hussain spent from September to November 2001 in the company of JT; (2) Hussain traveled the "wrong way" in Iran, i.e., away from Europe rather than toward it; and (3) Hussain allegedly had a "large, unexplained" amount of cash on his person when the Iranians arrested him. The Court of Appeals then placed a burden on Hussain to offer a more persuasive explanation for these facts, but held that he had failed to do so. The Court of Appeals also found Jadani reliable but claimed not to rely directly on his statements.

The Supreme Court of the United States denied Hussain's petition for certiorari in June 2012. In October 2012, Judge Friedman denied Hussain's motion for reconsideration, which was based on belated disclosures that further undermined Jadani's credibility.

Saad Al Qahtani

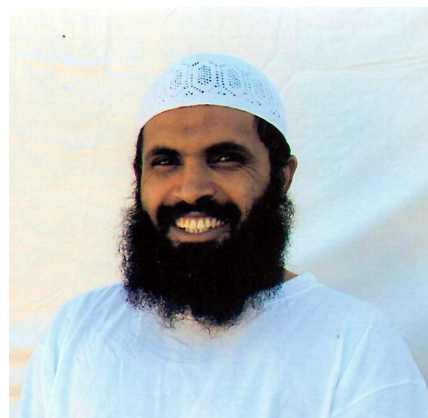
ISN 200

Citizenship: Saudi Arabia

Detained Since: January 2002

Saad Al Qahtani

Saad Al Qahtani, ISN 200, was one of the first prisoners taken to Guantánamo and held in an open-air cage in Camp X-Ray. He arrived at Guantánamo on January 16, 2002, and he remains there today – even though United States military, law enforcement, and intelligence officials decided many years ago that he should be sent back to his home country of Saudi Arabia.



Saad is 34 years old, and he has spent one-third of his life detained without charge at Guantánamo. He is bright, engaging, and speaks at least six languages fluently. While at Guantánamo, he taught himself to speak, read, and write English. Saad's extraordinary language skills and his ability to mediate disputes between prison staff and other prisoners have made him a favorite among his guards and interrogators.

Saad's father died when he was eight years old, and his mother and grandmother raised him and his five siblings in Khamis Mushayt, Saudi Arabia. Saad's mother and his grandmother both died in November 2007. As of that time, Guantánamo prisoners were not allowed to speak with their families by telephone or videoconference. As a result, his mother was unable to see Saad or hear his voice in the last 5½ years of her life. Saad and his siblings are extremely close, and the family anxiously awaits Saad's return home.

Saad is not and has never been a threat to the United States or its allies. He has never engaged in hostilities or combat operations, never fired a weapon at anyone, and never had any intention of taking up arms against the United States or its allies. Long before September 11, 2001, Saad travelled to Afghanistan because he was curious about the Taliban government (recognized by his home country as legitimate), and because he wanted to help the Afghan people, who had endured decades of war. The only time Saad fought anyone was when he intervened to stop Taliban soldiers from beating an Afghan truck driver. Unwilling to participate in the fighting that erupted in Afghanistan during the second half of 2001, Saad made his way to Pakistan, went to the first police station he could find, and asked for help in returning home. Instead the Pakistanis turned Saad over to U.S. forces, who were then offering generous bounties for foreigners captured in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Saad was transported to Kandahar prison and then to Guantánamo.

Over the past eleven years, numerous American guards and interrogators have told Saad that his release from Guantánamo was imminent. Within the first year of his imprisonment, United States and Saudi authorities determined that Saad did not belong in Guantánamo. The Administrative Review Board established under the Bush Administration approved Saad to return to his home country in 2008. In 2009, the Review Task Force established by President Obama also determined unanimously that Saad should be repatriated. Saudi government officials told Saad and his family in the spring and summer of 2012 that he would return home very soon, and guards told Saad the same thing. Because of these repeated promises of release from Guantánamo, Saad agreed to stay the court proceedings on his petition for habeas corpus.

Saad refuses to complain about the harsh and degrading treatment he has received at the hands of U.S. forces in Kandahar and at Guantánamo. Having suffered from depression and insomnia for several years,

Saad is now sinking into despondency over the repeatedly broken promises to release him from Guantánamo. Saad wants only to return to his family and homeland where he can continue his studies, work, get married, and resume his life.

Patricia A. Bronte

Abdul Rahman Al-Qyati

ISN 461

Citizenship: Yemen

Detained Since: 2002

Abdul Rahman Al-Qyati

His face is gentle, and somehow, after nearly ten years of imprisonment, serene and friendly. His hair and beard have grayed just a bit over the five years that we have known one another—too much so for a young man in his 30’s—but he is attractive and . . . gentle. He is a humble man, fond of poetry. He used to write his own poetry, but does not much anymore. He wrote a poem about birds for my young daughter, but the U.S. Government—which insists on calling him “ISN 461” instead of by his name—ordered that it remain classified, so she has never seen her poem. His perspectives on life and circumstance are a true inspiration to me. His ability to accept the profoundly perverse fate foisted upon him is bewildering to me. He still laughs easily. He is my friend now, as much as my client.

Abdul Rahman was born and raised in Saudi Arabia, but because his father was born in Yemen, he is considered a Yemeni by the U.S. officials imprisoning him. This makes all the difference, as most of the Saudi detainees have long ago been released back to their country as a result of political deal-making. Yemenis, however, are given especially unfavorable treatment at Guantánamo. There is a presidential directive currently in place prohibiting the release of any Yemeni detainees, even if they have been “cleared for transfer” after executive review of their files. So Abdul Rahman sits, imprisoned and innocent. The only “evidence” the U.S. claims against him comes from “confessions” extracted from him under brutal, unimaginable, inhuman torture inflicted upon him by American agents following his capture at a mosque in Afghanistan. In other words, there is no credible evidence against him at all.

Abdul Rahman is an innocent man. His unjust imprisonment threatens to silence the poetic voice of a beautiful man. Still, he remains gentle. I can only hope that my own children develop the character and serenity that he consistently demonstrates.

—Darold Killmer, Counsel for Abdul-Rahman

Ali Hussein al-Shaaban

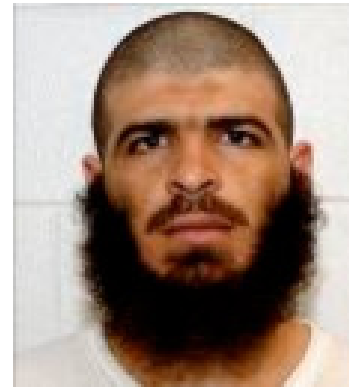
ISN 327

Citizenship: Syria

Detained Since: June 2002

Ali Hussein al-Shaaban

Ali Hussein al-Shaaban, born in 1982, is a Syrian who, as his attorney, Michael E. Mone, Jr. explains, “is stuck in Guantánamo because he cannot be safely returned to his native Syria, and no third country has yet to step forward to grant him refuge.” He faces persecution if repatriated, and over the years his interrogators have repeatedly threatened him with rendition to Syria. “You know what the Syrians will do to you if you go back there,” interrogators have told him. “You must cooperate with us or we will send you to them.”



Even before the “Arab Spring,” prisoners could not be safely returned to Syria because of the Assad regime’s brutal use of torture. In May 2010, the United Nations Committee Against Torture stated that it was “deeply concerned about numerous, ongoing, and consistent allegations concerning the routine use of torture by law enforcement and investigative officials” in Syria. Now, with the Assad regime desperately clinging to power while blaming “criminal terrorist thugs” for the uprising, the stigma of his years of imprisonment at Guantánamo Bay will undoubtedly follow Ali home with dire consequences. Not that he has any interest in ever returning to Syria. According to his attorney, “Ali looks at the utter chaos and widespread suffering going on in Syria right now and he wants no part of it.”

In 2009 Ali was cleared for release by the Obama Administration’s Guantánamo Review Task Force, a determination which only serves as further proof that Ali was not a terrorist but simply in the wrong place at the wrong time, another of Guantánamo’s many mistakes.

After graduating from high school, Ali wanted to see some of the world before attending university. He traveled to Afghanistan where he lived in Kabul with three other young Syrian men and studied the Koran at a local school. When war broke out he fled to Pakistan, along with thousands of other refugees. Ali was not captured on the battlefield, nor was he armed. Rather, because he was an Arab, Pakistani authorities seized him at the border and handed him and his three fellow countrymen over to the United States, probably in exchange for the generous cash bounties that were being offered by the U.S. military to their Afghan and Pakistani allies. In June 2002, Ali was shackled, hooded, and flown to Guantánamo. He has been there ever since.

Ali is an excellent candidate for resettlement. He reads, writes and speaks fluent English, and is also committed to learning the native language of the country that accepts him, if another language is spoken there. He is eager to resume his academic pursuits upon release and study at a university. However, after years of working in his father’s metal shop making doors, window frames, and water tanks, he is a skilled welder and well prepared to find employment in construction or manufacturing. Ali is fortunate to be in very good physical and mental health. As he awaits a new home, he spends his days exercising, studying his English dictionary and reading the works of his favorite authors: John Grisham, Sandra Brown, and John Le Carré.

While his time in Guantánamo Bay has certainly been hard, Ali bears no animosity towards the American people. His youth, intelligence, good health, and determination to live a peaceful and productive life point towards a successful integration. He wants nothing more than to live a normal life: to finish school, find a job, fall in love, and start a family. All he needs is for a third country to give him the chance to rebuild his life after years of abusive incarceration.

The Boston Globe

Opinion

MICHAEL E. MONE JR.

Wait continues for cleared Guantanamo detainees

By Michael E. Mone Jr. | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT FEBRUARY 17, 2013

WE ARE only into February, and already it is obvious that my client in Guantánamo can throw out his calendar for 2013. No need to go through the exercise of crossing off each passing day, week, and month, hoping that tomorrow might be the day he is finally released. No, forget about 2013, I will tell him. This isn't your year.

I represent Ali Hussein Al Shaaban, a 30-year-old Syrian national who has spent the last decade in the US prison camp at Guantánamo. This, despite the fact that Ali is one of 86 detainees cleared for transfer since 2009 as a result of a unanimous decision made by the US national security apparatus.

The first blow to Ali's release came in early January when President Obama signed the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act, which contained a number of provisions to prevent the closure of Guantánamo, including language that has made it virtually impossible for cleared detainees like Ali to be transferred. The president was urged by human rights organizations to follow through on his veto threat so as to fulfill his promise to close the prison. But for the second year in a row, Obama failed to exercise his veto and instead signed the bill into law.

Then came word that Ambassador Dan Fried was being reassigned, and his post as special envoy for the closure of Guantánamo Bay would be closed. Fried's main responsibility had been lobbying foreign governments to consider accepting cleared detainees for resettlement. After I had spent years trying to persuade the Irish government to accept my first client, an Uzbek, for resettlement, it was Fried who came in and closed the deal.

The fact that the Obama administration has reassigned Fried, abolished his office, and given the Guantánamo portfolio to the State Department legal adviser, who probably has a full plate already, tells you all you need to know about how far the closing of Guantánamo has slipped as a priority for this administration.

And now we hear from Senator Harry Reid that “it’s nobody’s fault” that the US prison at Guantánamo remains open. Respectfully, he need only look in the mirror and recall his comments from 2009 when he said “we will never allow terrorists to be released into the United States,” as if that was what the president was suggesting. It was not. Rather, the administration was attempting to resettle two Uighur detainees in Northern Virginia who were the living embodiment of Guantánamo’s indiscriminate “wrong place, wrong time” mode of capture. They were not terrorists, but Republicans in Congress had a field day with this, and as the Obama administration bungled its response, the prospect of closing Guantánamo began its inexorable fade into the political abyss.

Lost in the political blame game is the human cost of the president’s broken promise to close Guantánamo. My client has spent the entire decade of his twenties locked behind bars, without charge or trial. He could leave tomorrow, but for the restrictions on transfer in the NDAA and the lack of a new country to call home. Unfortunately, Ali is one of many detainees who cannot be safely repatriated for fear of persecution. Not that he has any interest in ever returning to Syria, even if President Bashar Assad should fall. “Have you seen what’s going on in Egypt?” he responds when asked about repatriation. “If you think that is bad, Syria will only be worse.”

No, Ali only wants the chance to re-start his life in a new country where he can be free and live in peace. After stealing a decade of this man’s life, you would think the least we could do for Ali and the other 85 men cleared for transfer is to let them out of Guantánamo so they can get on with their lives.

Michael E. Mone Jr. is a lawyer in Boston. He has represented Guantánamo detainees on a pro bono basis.

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Djamel Ameziane
ISN 310

Citizenship: Algeria

Detained Since: February 2002

DJAMEL AMEZIANE**ALGERIAN GUANTÁNAMO DETAINEE IN NEED OF HUMANITARIAN PROTECTION;
CLEARED FOR TRANSFER SINCE OCTOBER 2008****URGENT PROTECTION REQUIRED:**

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States issued urgent precautionary measures on August 20, 2008, requiring that all necessary measures be taken to ensure that Mr. Ameziane is not transferred or removed to a country where he would likely face torture or other persecution.

On March 20, 2012, the Commission accepted jurisdiction to decide the merits of Mr. Ameziane's human rights law claims, concluding in part that he would face a "substantial risk" of torture and abuse in Algeria.

Date of Birth:	April 14, 1967
Place of Birth:	Algiers, Algeria
Citizenship:	Algerian
Ethnicity:	Berber
Education:	Institut Hydraulique de Ksar Chellala, college diploma, 1991
Languages:	French, Arabic, English, German (limited)
Family:	Single; no children
Prior Employment:	Water and waste disposal technician; chef; salesman
Prior Residences:	Vienna, Austria; Montreal, Canada
Medical Illness:	None
Criminal History:	None
Place of Detention:	Camp 6, Guantánamo Bay (communal living reserved for "most compliant" detainees without security or disciplinary problems)
Status:	Detained at Guantánamo since February 2002; Cleared for release since October 2008
Personal Interests:	Football; cooking; drawing; writing; reading mystery novels and French fashion magazines for men

DJAMEL AMEZIANE

ALGERIAN GUANTÁNAMO DETAINEE IN NEED OF HUMANITARIAN PROTECTION

Overview

Mr. Ameziane is a college-educated citizen of Algeria. An ethnic Berber, Mr. Ameziane fled his home country more than 20 years ago in order to escape escalating violence and insecurity, and in search of a better life. He traveled first to Austria, where he worked as a high-paid chef in an Italian restaurant, and then to Canada, where he sought political asylum and lived for five years but was ultimately denied refuge. Fearful of being deported to Algeria, and faced with few options, Mr. Ameziane went to Afghanistan. He traveled to Afghanistan because it was the only country he could think of where, as a Muslim man, he might live peacefully and without constant fear of being returned to Algeria. He fled that country soon after the fighting began in October 2001, but was captured by a local Pakistani tribe. The tribe turned him over to Pakistani authorities, who apparently sold him to the U.S. military for a bounty, as was practice at the time. The Americans transported Mr. Ameziane first to the airbase at Kandahar, Afghanistan, and then to Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, where he remains imprisoned without charge or a judicial determination of the legality of his detention.

Biography

Mr. Ameziane was born in 1967 in Algiers to a close-knit family of four brothers and four sisters. He attended primary school, secondary school and university in Algeria. After obtaining a college diploma, he worked for the government as a supervisor responsible for supplying drinking water and waste disposal. Mr. Ameziane speaks French, English, and Arabic fluently. He also speaks some limited German.

In 1992, Mr. Ameziane left Algeria to escape escalating instability and oppression under the one-party government then in power. He transited through Italy to Vienna, Austria, where he lived legally for several years. Mr. Ameziane began working as a dishwasher in Vienna, but his talent allowed him to rise quickly to become the highest-paid chef at *Al Caminetto Trattoria*, a well-known Italian restaurant. In 1995, following the election of a new government, more restrictive immigration policies kept him from extending or renewing his visa, and his work permit was denied without explanation. He was forced to leave the country.

Mr. Ameziane traveled directly to Canada because of its large French-speaking population and his belief that Canada's immigration policy would be more favorable to him. Immediately upon his arrival, he told immigration officials that he wanted to apply for asylum because he was afraid of being deported to Algeria. As he awaited a decision, Mr. Ameziane obtained a temporary work permit and worked diligently for an office supply company and for various restaurants in Montreal. His application was denied in 2000 for reasons that were not explained to him, and he was forced to uproot his life and leave the country he had made his home for the past five years.

Fearful of being forcibly returned to Algeria, and confronted with few options, Mr. Ameziane traveled to Afghanistan, where he felt he could live freely without discrimination as a Muslim man, and where he would not fear deportation to Algeria. He did not participate in any military training or fighting in Afghanistan, and soon after the war started he fled to escape the fighting. He was captured by local tribal authorities after crossing the border into Pakistan. They turned him over to Pakistani police, who turned him over to U.S. forces for a bounty. Later, at Guantánamo, American soldiers told Mr. Ameziane that the Pakistanis sold prisoners to them for \$2,000 each in Afghanistan, and for \$5,000 each in Pakistan.

Mr. Ameziane has never been alleged by the U.S. government to have engaged in any acts of terrorism. He has also consistently denied that he ever engaged in any acts of terrorism, or ever picked up a weapon or participated in any military training or fighting. In sum, he has never had any involvement with extremism, terrorism or any act of violence whatsoever. Tragically, he was nonetheless sent to Guantánamo Bay in early February 2002.

Imprisonment at Guantánamo

For more than a decade, Mr. Ameziane has remained indefinitely detained at Guantánamo, despite being cleared for transfer by President Bush in October 2008 and again by the Obama Administration's Guantánamo Review Task Force in May 2009.

As one of the first prisoners to arrive at Guantánamo, Mr. Ameziane was held in the now-infamous metal cages of Camp X-Ray. Starting in 2006, he was held for more than a year in solitary confinement in a small windowless cell in Camp 6, which the International Committee of the Red Cross described as more restrictive than “supermax” prison facilities in the United States. In addition to the inhumane conditions of his detention, he was subjected repeatedly to brutal acts of physical violence by military guards. In one unprovoked incident, guards sprayed him all over with cayenne pepper and then hosed down with water to accentuate the effect of the pepper spray and make his skin burn. They then held his head down and placed a running water hose between his nose and mouth, running it for several minutes over his face and suffocating him, repeating the operation several times. He wrote of that experience, “I had the impression that my head was sinking in water. Simply thinking of it gives me the chills.” Following that episode, the guards bound him in cuffs and chains and took him to an interrogation room, where he was left for several hours, writhing in pain, his clothes soaked while air conditioning blasted in the room, and his body burning from the pepper spray. He also spent as many as 25 and 30 hours at a time in interrogation rooms, sometimes with techno music blasting, “enough to burst your eardrums.”

For the injuries and ailments resulting from his imprisonment and abuse, he has never been afforded adequate medical care. For example, his vision deteriorated as a result of his time in Camp 6, from staring at the white walls of his small cell all day. It took a year of repeated requests for him to receive even a basic, cursory eye examination. He also developed rheumatism in his legs because of the extremely cold temperatures when he was in Camp 6, for which he could not even get a pair of socks.

Thankfully, Mr. Ameziane was moved to less-restrictive conditions in Camp 4, and his health was restored steadily. He has since been moved back to Camp 6, which is now a communal prison facility reserved for the “most compliant” detainees without disciplinary problems. Mr. Ameziane can now take advantage of limited opportunities to exercise, improve his considerable language skills, and learn to draw.

However, there are some things his years at Guantánamo have cost him that can never be retrieved. His father died during this period, before Mr. Ameziane could see or communicate with him one last time, and his mother is now very elderly. His brothers and sisters have had wedding ceremonies he has been unable to attend, and had children who have never known their uncle. He has lost the last decade of his life to Guantánamo, and his detention continues to be indefinite and perpetual. Nevertheless, he continues to have remarkable strength and hope for his future.

Legal Challenges

Mr. Ameziane filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in February 2005. He filed a motion for expedited judgment in February 2009, arguing that the government’s evidence failed to raise any genuine issues of fact requiring a full hearing on the merits. The Court denied that motion in April 2009, and the case was proceeding slowly toward a final ruling on the merits. However, in May 2009, the Court stayed the case indefinitely without issuing a ruling on the merits of Mr. Ameziane’s petition because the government argued he had long been cleared for transfer and the only open question in his case was the country to which he would be transferred.

DJAMEL AMEZIANE

ALGERIAN GUANTÁNAMO DETAINEE IN NEED OF HUMANITARIAN PROTECTION

Mr. Ameziane also filed a petition before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (“IACHR”) in August 2008. His petition challenged his arbitrary detention and mistreatment at Guantánamo, including his torture and abuse, and the denial of adequate medical care, as well as his risk of forcible transfer to Algeria. The IACHR promptly issued urgent precautionary measures to ensure that he is not transferred or removed from Guantánamo to any country, including Algeria, without his express consent. On March 20, 2012, the IACHR issued a landmark admissibility report in Mr. Ameziane’s case. This ruling marks the first time the IACHR has accepted jurisdiction over the case of a man detained at Guantánamo, and underscores the fact that there has been no effective domestic remedy available to victims of unjust detentions and other abuses at the base. The IACHR will now move to gather more information on the substantive human rights law violations suffered by Djamel Ameziane, including the harsh conditions of confinement he has endured, the abuses inflicted on him, and the illegality of his detention.

Fear of Return to Algeria

Mr. Ameziane has a credible fear of persecution if he were to be returned to Algeria. He is a member of the persecuted Berber minority group. The stigma of having spent time in Guantánamo would also be enough to put him at risk of being imprisoned if he is returned. In Mr. Ameziane’s hometown in Kabylie, an unstable region in the north of Algeria known for frequent, violent clashes between the Algerian army and Islamic opposition groups, practicing Muslims are automatically suspected of being supporters of such groups and are frequently harassed and targeted for arrests and detention by the government solely because of their religious practices. Algeria has a documented history of torture and ill-treatment of its prisoners, particularly those suspected of links with terrorism, which international human rights organizations and the U.S. Department of State itself have recognized. Amnesty International has reported that the most serious violations of human rights abuses have been committed by the DRS, Algeria’s “military security” police, in cases of individuals detained on suspicion of terrorist activity. All of the Algerians transferred out of Guantánamo so far have been detained immediately upon arrival for questioning for a period of nearly two weeks, during which they were denied access to a lawyer and their families. Several of them now face the prospect of fundamentally unfair trials. Some were returned against their will, and at least one has suffered serious persecution.

Need for Humanitarian Protection

Mr. Ameziane remains trapped at Guantánamo until a third country offers him safe resettlement. After he is released, Mr. Ameziane hopes to get married and start a family of his own; to work and live a quiet life in freedom; and to begin the process of rebuilding and enjoying his life after Guantánamo.

Legal Representation

Mr. Ameziane is represented by attorneys at the Center for Constitutional Rights. For more information about him, please contact:

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THE HILL'S Congress Blog

Where lawmakers come to blog

President Obama must veto defense bill to close Gitmo

By Wells Dixon, senior attorney, Center for Constitutional Rights - 12/20/12 12:00 PM ET

As we gather to celebrate the holidays this year, President Obama will determine with the stroke of a pen the fate of more than a hundred men held without charge or trial at Guantánamo Bay. The National Defense Authorization Act, an annual bill that directs how the Pentagon may use its funds, will likely make its way to the Oval Office with renewed restrictions on transferring detainees to any country regardless of the allegations against them. If President Obama signs the restrictions into law, the human consequences will be severe and forever damage his legacy.

Since the restrictions were first enacted more than two years ago, transfers from Guantánamo have all but ceased. President Obama says that he opposes the restrictions and has threatened to veto this year's bill if Congress does not remove them. He made a similar threat last year; instead, he quietly signed the restrictions into law on New Year's Eve with a promise to revisit the issue next year. Next year is now. If President Obama again signs the transfer restrictions into law, he will condemn 166 men to indefinite detention, possibly for life, and effectively abandon his repeated promise to close Guantánamo Bay.

Among those who would continue to suffer is my client Djamel Ameziane. Like most of the men at Guantánamo, Djamel has been repeatedly cleared for transfer by the Bush and Obama administrations. This means that every military, law enforcement and intelligence agency with a stake in Guantánamo has determined unanimously that he may be released consistent with our national interest. The U.S. has long conceded there are no "military rationales" for his detention and promised the federal court and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, where Djamel is challenging his detention, that it is working "diligently" to transfer him. Based on that unfulfilled promise, the court stayed Djamel's habeas case indefinitely, over his objections, because it would be a waste of time to litigate a case in which no one thinks he should be detained. Yet Djamel is still held at Guantánamo several years later, without foreseeable end. His continued detention is particularly unjust because many foreign governments would accept him for resettlement if asked by the United States. Apparently no such request has been forthcoming because the administration believes the requirements to transfer a detainee under the NDAA are so onerous they can never be satisfied. The NDAA restrictions were surely designed to block transfers from Guantánamo, and they have succeeded in doing so.

Djamel has not seen his family in more than two decades. He fled Algeria in the early 1990s to avoid a civil war that nearly wiped out his entire generation. He lived legally in Austria and Canada, but was unable to obtain permanent refuge. Fearing deportation to Algeria, he fled to Afghanistan and Pakistan, where he was captured a few months after his arrival and sold to U.S. forces for a bounty. His family learned years later that he had been sent to Guantánamo when officers from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police informed his brother, who had since

immigrated to Quebec and obtained Canadian citizenship. Not understanding what it meant for her son to be held at Guantánamo, Djamel's mother tried to send him clothes and food to care for him. Everything was refused and returned, but Djamel's brothers did not have the heart to tell her. Today, she waits and prays for Djamel's release, so that she may see him at least once more before she dies. This singular hope sustains her since the death of her husband, Djamel's father, during perhaps the worst period of Djamel's imprisonment, locked in isolation for a year in Camp 6, which the detainees called a tomb above the ground.

I often look at a painting in my home of a sailboat struggling through a storm, which Djamel painted for me at Guantánamo. I think about him and his family, particularly around the holidays, and hope that they are reunited before it is too late. But no matter how many legal papers I file or foreign diplomats I persuade to resettle Djamel, there is one person who controls his fate this holiday season. President Obama must veto the NDAA and free Djamel Ameziane.

Dixon is a senior attorney at the Center for Constitutional Rights, representing clients in federal court and before the military commissions at Guantanamo Bay.

Source:

<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/homeland-security/273849-president-obama-must-veto-defense-bill-to-close-gitmo>

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Live From Guantánamo

Wednesday, 11 January 2012 08:36

By [J Wells Dixon](#), [The Center for Constitutional Rights](#) | *Op-Ed*

This entry was written by Center for Constitutional Rights Senior Staff Attorney, Wells Dixon, who is currently in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba visiting one of his clients.

January 11, 2012

Today marks ten years since the opening of the prison at Guantánamo Bay. As fate would have it, I am here for a week visiting one of my detainee clients.

A decade ago, the first 20 prisoners arrived at this remote military outpost, which was designed to be a place where no laws applied. Over the following years, nearly 760 additional men and boys would arrive here from across the world, many of whom would become my clients. And years later, though many have been released, 171 men still remain.

I frequently hear from former clients who have been released, usually about their families and their struggles to rebuild their lives after years of abuse and imprisonment without charge or trial. I received an email just the other day from a Somali man who was released in 2009, who asked me to send a message of hope to his brothers who remain indefinitely detained.

It is difficult to acknowledge, however, that there is little hope for those still here. Although 89 of the 171 remaining men have been approved for transfer -- unanimously by the relevant military, law enforcement and intelligence agencies -- no one has left Guantánamo alive in more than a year. Congress has used its spending power to pass legislation restricting the transfer of detainees regardless of their status. President Obama has shown little leadership or courage, and effectively surrendered plans to close Guantánamo to his political opponents. And the Supreme Court remains locked away in its Ivory Tower, seemingly aloof to the tragedy which continues to unfold at Guantánamo. Guantánamo has simply become part of the American landscape. We as a nation, as a people, have normalized and accepted the existence of a prison that Amnesty International once aptly called "the gulag of our times."

I am struck by the relative normalcy of daily life on this naval base. Men and women get up and go to work, enjoy the beach on the weekends, and so forth, in a constant, self-perpetuating existence. Each day is the same. Sunny, hot and dry. Yet there is rarely any open acknowledgement of the prison or the men held indefinitely, potentially for life, just a short distance away.

There is no visible recognition of today's anniversary, except an oblique reference in the local paper to marking "ten years of progress." Progress toward what? Perfection of lawlessness? Indifference to human suffering?

To mark the anniversary, we will drive out by the old Camp X-Ray, where the earliest prisoners were held in outdoor cages like dog kennels. It's shuttered and overgrown with vegetation now. Hardly anyone seems to notice this bit of history, sitting by the side of the road. I suspect that many of the men and women on this base were children when the camp opened in 2002. But the men who suffered there, including my client Djamel Ameziane, cannot forget it as much as they may wish.

Djamel is a refugee from Algeria. He left his country in the early 1990s to avoid a civil war which killed hundreds of thousands of people. He lived in Austria and Canada for many years, working as a well-known chef, until he was denied permanent refuge. Fearing deportation to Algeria, he fled to Afghanistan just before the US invasion in October 2001. Like thousands of other refugees, he fled to Pakistan to escape the war and was picked up and sold to US forces for a bounty. He was young then, with a bright future ahead of him. Now, ten years later, he is an older man. I see it not only in his gray hair but in his eyes. He is tired, and survives day by day. He paints, draws and reads French mystery novels -- crime thrillers are his favorite -- as he waits for the day when he is released. He has no problem with Algeria, but fears he will be

persecuted based on his Berber ethnicity and his status as a Guantánamodetainee. He waits and hopes for another country to resettle him, perhaps a country where he can use his French, English and German language fluencies, but he would gladly accept anywhere safe.

Whether such a day will come for Djamel is a mystery. His legal case was stayed by the court without a decision on the merits nearly three years ago, and the US government will not disclose whether he is one of the 89 men approved for transfer. Yet resettlement remains his primary goal. For Djamel home is no longer a place. It is a journey to freedom. It is a long road to somewhere he can slowly begin to rebuild his life before it is too late. I hope he makes it there.

As I sit and watch the sunset over the Caribbean, I cannot reconcile the beauty of my surroundings with the feeling that morality and justice slip further away with each passing day. Guantánamo Bay has been open for ten years too long. It is illegal and its continued existence demeans us. It must be closed.

I hope that ten years from now Djamel is free, and that we mark January 11 as a day of remembrance for all who have suffered here, in America's illegal offshore prison.

J. Wells Dixon
Camp Justice
Guantánamo Bay, Cuba



[J WELLS DIXON](#)

J. Wells Dixon joined the Center for Constitutional Rights in 2006. He works on the Guantánamo Global Justice Initiative, challenging the detention of prisoners at Guantánamo Bay. He represents clients in federal court and before the military commissions at Guantánamo Bay, including men from Algeria, China (East Turkestan), Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Somalia. Among his clients is former Baltimore-area resident Majid Khan, who was imprisoned and tortured in secret CIA "black sites" for more than three years before he was transferred to Guantánamo Bay in September 2006. Wells lectures and comments frequently on national security issues, executive detention and torture.

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Tariq Ba Odah

ISN 178

Citizenship: Yemen

Detained Since: February 2002

TARIQ BA ODAH, ISN 178

***YEMENI DETAINEE IN NEED OF URGENT RELEASE ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS;
ON HUNGER-STRIKE AT GUANTÁNAMO SINCE FEBRUARY 2007***



“Even if they keep me another 10 years, I will not break my hunger-strike. I’ll stop under one of two conditions: I die or I am returned to my family.”

– Tariq Ba Odah [March 22, 2012]

Name: Tariq Ba Odah

Age: 34 years old

Place of Birth: Shabwah, Yemen

Family: Large family residing in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

Languages: Arabic

Personal interests: World politics; Reading political biographies; Poetry

Status: Detained in February 2002; Began a peaceful hunger-strike to protest his indefinite detention in February 2007; Force-fed daily through nasogastric intubation; Segregated since 2009 and held in under solitary-confinement like conditions in Camp 5; Held without charge.

MR. BA ODAH IS A HUNGER-STRIKER IN NEED OF URGENT RELEASE

Tariq Ba Odah was born in Yemen, but lived almost of all of his life before his imprisonment in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. He was sent to Guantánamo in February 2002 at approximately age 24. His petition for a writ of habeas corpus is stayed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in part because of Mr. Ba Odah's compromised health.

As of counsel's last visit to Guantánamo in December 2012, the U.S. Department of Defense has been holding Mr. Ba Odah in solitary-confinement like conditions in Camp 5. It isolates Mr. Ba Odah from the other prisoners because he has been on a 6-year, peaceful hunger-strike to protest his indefinite detention. The Department of Defense views this as non-compliance. Mr. Ba Odah has maintained his hunger-strike throughout the years because he sees the U.S. Department of Defense, the Obama administration, Congress, and increasingly U.S. courts as part of single apparatus of power that keeps him locked-up at Guantánamo and separated from his loved-ones. In his words – hunger-striking *“is the only peaceful way I can show the magnitude of the injustice I suffer.”*

Mr. Ba Odah is force-fed daily. He is strapped to a restraint chair, a rubber tube is forced down his nose, and a liquid dietary supplement is pumped into his stomach. In what Mr. Ba Odah believes are clear attempts to break his protest, prison administrators have told him that *“if [he] stops his strike, [he would] be moved to the common area with friends, television, and recreation time”* – basic rights the men in Camp 5 are often deprived.

Mr. Ba Odah is only permitted to be outside of his cell between 2-4 hours per day. Unfortunately, Mr. Ba Odah is often too weak to take advantage of the recreation time that is allotted to him. He has virtually no human contact. He must shout through a slot in the door of his cell to exchange a word with another prisoner. To protest these conditions, Mr. Ba Odah has also gone on “no wash protests,” in one instance going four months without showering, leaving his cell for recreation, or cutting his nails. According to Mr. Ba Odah, he *“looked like [he] crawled out of a grave.”* No independent medical expert has ever assessed the impact of extended hunger-striking on Mr. Ba Odah's body. But there can be no doubt that he is need of urgent, sophisticated medical care. Like most other Guantánamo prisoners, Mr. Ba Odah has never been charged with a crime. President Obama should lift the moratorium on transfers to Yemen and certify Mr. Ba Odah for release on humanitarian grounds.

LEGAL REPRESENTATION

Mr. Ba Odah is represented by the Center for Constitutional Rights. For more information, the Commission should contact:

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Ahmed Belbacha

ISN 290

Citizenship: Algeria

Detained Since: 2002

Ahmed Belbacha

Ahmed Belbacha is an Algerian who fears being forcibly repatriated, as happened with his compatriots Abdul Aziz Naji (in July 2010) and Farhi Saeed bin Mohammed (in January 2010, whose habeas corpus petition had been granted in November 2009). Despite this, he was appealing against his forced repatriation when the Obama administration sent him home, and, as his attorney, Buz Eisenberg, said:



By transferring Mr. Mohammed to Algeria against his will, the administration has once again demonstrated an appalling disregard for the rule of law. On November 5, Mr. Mohammed asked the U.S. Supreme Court to consider the legality of this very transfer. By forcibly and secretly sending Mr. Mohammed to a place to which he did not want to go, even while the Supreme Court was considering his petition, the administration has again declared itself above the law.

While most of the remaining Algerians fear both the security services and Islamists, Ahmed Belbacha has another reason to fear being returned. In November 2009, he was convicted in absentia, in what his lawyers described as “a disgraceful show trial” in which no lawyer was appointed to defend him, and the court gave him a 20-year sentence for belonging to an “overseas terrorist group.” As his lawyers explained, “Despite repeated requests and extensive investigation, [we] have been unable to discover what exactly Ahmed is supposed to have done. No evidence has been produced to support his ‘conviction,’ which appears to be retaliation against Ahmed for speaking out about the inhumane treatment he would be subjected to if sent to Algeria.”

Ahmed, who was born in 1969, worked as an accountant for Algeria’s main oil company, Sonatrach, from 1988 to 1997, with a short break to complete his military service. In 1997, however, when he was called upon to rejoin the army, Islamists from the Groupe Islamique Armé (GIA) began to threaten him. After trying, and failing, to lie low by working for his father, he fled to the U.K. in 1999, where he applied for asylum and worked in a laundromat and then in a hotel in Bournemouth. During the Labour government’s conference, Ahmed cleaned the room of the deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, and did such a good job that he received a thank-you note and a tip.

Unfortunately, Ahmed’s application for asylum was refused. He appealed, but the procedure dragged on for months. He was having increasing difficulty finding steady work and greatly feared deportation. Ahmed decided to travel to Pakistan, where he could take advantage of free educational programs to study the Koran. He hoped after a few months the economy would be better and his job prospects would improve. In Pakistan, he decided, with a friend, to visit Afghanistan, where he was seized after the 9/11 attacks and the U.S.-led invasion.

While he was in Guantánamo, in 2002, Ahmed’s asylum appeal was denied, ironically because he did not turn up for his hearing, and the judge did not know that he was a prisoner. Five years later, the U.S. authorities finally acknowledged that they had no reason to hold him, but Ahmed then sought and secured an in-

junction in the U.S. courts to prevent his forcible repatriation, which survived until the D.C. Circuit Court ruled in September 2009 that judges could not prevent the Obama Administration from forcibly repatriating prisoners to countries where they might face persecution.

Sadly for Ahmed, the British government has refused to accept him, and no other government has offered to help, even though his plight, and his gentle nature, has led to other offers of help. He has been given a room in a flat by a Bournemouth resident, and the town of Amherst, Massachusetts offered him refuge in defiance of Congress in October 2009.

Jihad Dhiab

ISN 722

Citizenship: Syria

Detained Since: August 2002

Jihad Dhiab (ISN 722)

The following is an extract from a call with Jihad Dhiab on September 13 2012, illustrating his state of mind:

“I am tired and sick. I am in a very depressed condition. I have very low esteem. I have no idea what to do. I am reaching a situation where I do not want to have any discussion with a guard or anyone else. I have come to a dead end. I am not acting out of stubbornness. I am so depressed that I do not want to speak to anyone here. I am just deeply depressed. I have no desire to talk to anyone. I have no desire to do anything. As you know a few days ago one of our brother killed himself, he reached such a state. I have a lot of medical issues. My kidneys, and so many other things going on with me. Earlier my right kidney was hurting me. Now it is my left kidney as well. Both are hurting me a lot. I really don't know what to say. If you can, put yourself in my position and feel how you would be. My living circumstances are very depressing. I have been put in isolation for a long time. I am unable to speak to anyone here.”

“The painful circumstances that I am living in are unbearable. In particular, the repeated promises that have not been fulfilled. This is becoming more and more difficult. I know that President Obama wanted to improve the conditions here but the actual circumstances are very different from what he ordered. It is as if the prisoner is meant to be made of steel, not of human flesh. You must understand where I am – I will speak in short sentences. The fact that I might do some harm to myself is not is far from my mind. But Abdul Latif, the person who died here a few days ago, went through something very similar. He cooperated. He went to see his lawyer regularly. But in the end it was just more than he could take. Like me, they put him in isolation because he was depressed. I do not know how long I can stand it. I am in isolation a lot. I do no know what to say.”

Fahd Ghazy

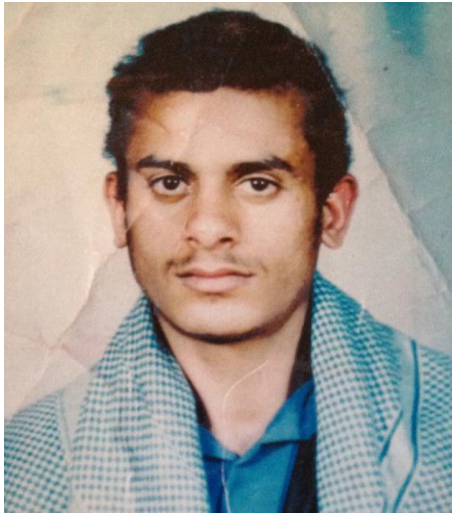
ISN 26

Citizenship: Yemen

Detained Since: January 2002

FAHD GHAZY, ISN 026

***YEMENI DETAINEE IN NEED OF URGENT RELEASE FROM GUANTÁNAMO;
CLEARED FOR RELEASE BY PRESIDENT BUSH IN 2007***



“All I hope for upon release is to meet my wife and daughter, my mother and brothers, and to live an independent life with them. To complete my studies and get a decent job.”

– Fahd Ghazy [September 30, 2005]

Name: Fahd Abdullah Ahmed Ghazy

Age: Born on May 2, 1984

Place of Birth: Beyt Ghazy, Yemen

Family: Father to Hafsa, born June 18, 2001, and husband to Faiza

Education: Al Najah Secondary School; Diploma received; First in class; Received a scholarship to attend university

Languages: Arabic, English

Personal interests: Studying to prepare for higher education upon release; Writing letters to Hafsa, Reading and translating Arabic and English texts,

Status: Detained in January 2002 at age 17; Cleared by President Bush in 2007; One of the last remaining Guantánamo Prisoners to have been detained as a juvenile; Held without charge.

BACKGROUND

Fahd Ghazy was only 17 years old when he was rendered to Guantánamo in 2002 and is one of the last remaining prisoners to have been detained as a juvenile. He was cleared for transfer in 2007 by the Bush administration, but he remains unlawfully imprisoned to this day. In December 2010, President Obama instituted a moratorium on transfers to Yemen, effectively rescinding Fahd's clearance in favor of a policy of crude collective punishment.

Fahd was born and raised in Beyt Ghazy, Yemen. He was married in his early teens and had a daughter, Hafsa, shortly after his 17th birthday. Fahd was an ambitious student. He attended the Al-Najah primary and secondary school in the district near his home. Shortly after the birth of his daughter, Fahd sat for a series of exams that were required of all graduating secondary school students. He placed first in his class. Those results won him a scholarship to attend university, news of which he received while already imprisoned in Guantánamo.

During the holiday after his graduation, Fahd traveled to Pakistan and Afghanistan. He was arrested in Pakistan and was one of the first prisoners to arrive at Guantánamo in January 2002. He has been interrogated more times than he can remember under U.S. Department of Defense methods that were humiliating and coercive. Even before he was transferred to Guantánamo, Fahd was "*kicked and beaten and cursed like a dog.*" During an interrogation in 2003 at Guantánamo, while Fahd was still a teenager, he was made to stand for hours with his feet and hands chained together so that he could not straighten his back. Interrogators told him that they "*had the power to make him hungrier and sicker than he had ever been in his life.*" Fahd was cleared for release by the Bush administration in 2007.

Despite his treatment and the length of his detention, Fahd continues to prepare himself for his release. He has mastered English while at Guantánamo and he reads voraciously – all in the hope that one day he will be able to secure a good job and provide for his family. But Fahd, who is now 28 years old and has been detained for 11 years, is beginning to doubt whether that day will ever come.

Fahd Ghazy was imprisoned as a juvenile and has been held without charge for 11 years. His continued detention at Guantánamo is indefensible. The Obama administration must immediately lift the moratorium on transfers to Yemen and certify Fahd for release.

LEGAL REPRESENTATION

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Letter to Attorney General Holder Regarding Guantanamo Detainee Review ^[1]

March 25, 2009

Dear Attorney General Holder,

As the United States government conducts its review of the detainees currently held at Guantanamo ^[2], we urge you to expedite and give special consideration to five detainees who were apprehended and transferred to Guantanamo while still juveniles. Each of these five individuals has been held in US custody for over six years, but has been denied basic juvenile justice ^[3] protections or special consideration because of their potential status as former child soldiers ^[4].

The five detainees are the following:

Mohammad El Gharani ^[5]: El Gharani is a Chadian national who was born and raised in Saudi Arabia. He was brought to Guantanamo in early 2002 at the age of 15, after being arrested in a mosque in Karachi, Pakistan. He has been held in isolation in Camps 5 and 6, and has tried to commit suicide at least seven times. He has slit his wrist, run repeatedly headfirst into the side of his cell, and tried to hang himself. On January 14, 2009, US District Judge Richard J. Leon ordered El Gharani's release, ruling that the government's evidence was too weak to justify the young man's continued confinement.

Mohammad Jawad ^[6]: Jawad, an Afghan, was initially detained at Bagram and transferred to Guantanamo in early 2003. He was charged before a military commission with attempted murder for allegedly throwing a hand grenade into a US army vehicle in Afghanistan in December 2002, when he was 16 or 17 years old (he does not know his exact age). Two US soldiers and their Afghan translator were severely injured in the incident. Jawad tried to commit suicide about 11 months after arriving at Guantanamo, and military records showed that during a 14-day period in May 2004, he was moved from cell to cell 112 times as part of a sleep deprivation regime known as the "frequent flyer program." In November 2008, the judge in his case, Col. Stephen Henley, ruled that confessions obtained from Jawad while in US custody were inadmissible in his trial because they were "tainted by torture."

Omar Khadr ^[7]: A Canadian national, Khadr was charged before a military commission for allegedly throwing a grenade that killed a US soldier during a firefight in Afghanistan in July 2002, when Khadr was 15 years old. Khadr was severely wounded in the firefight, initially detained at

Bagram, and transferred to Guantanamo in November 2002. He has been held in prolonged solitary confinement, and has said that his interrogators shackled him in painful positions, threatened him with rape, and used him as a "human mop" after he urinated on the floor during an interrogation session. He was detained for more than two years before being provided access to an attorney.

Mohammad Khan Tumani: Khan Tumani, a Syrian, has been detained since he was 17, and is held in solitary confinement without access to his father, who is also detained at Guantanamo. Khan Tumani's attorneys state that Khan Tumani has been subject to coercive interrogations and physical and psychological abuse, including beatings, temperature extremes, sleep deprivation, and threats that his family would be killed. In December 2008, he cut a vein in his hand in an apparent suicide attempt. Other detainees have told his lawyers that Khan Tumani has beat his head against the walls of his cell for hours at a time and smeared his cell with excrement.

Fahd Abdullah Ahmed Ghazi: Fahd Ghazi, a Yemeni, was on the third planeload of detainees to Guantanamo in January 2002, at age 17. Although he has been cleared to leave Guantanamo for well over a year, he remains stuck in Guantanamo pending an agreement between the US and Yemen to return him there. His daughter who was two months old at the time of Ghazi's arrest is now 8 years old. The two reportedly send drawings back and forth to each other regularly. He is now being held in the communal setting of Camp 4, but was previously held in the more restrictive camps where detainees are locked into a single cell 23 hours a day.

Throughout the detention of El Gharani, Jawad, Khadr, Khan Tumani, and Fahd Ghazi, the United States has flouted international juvenile justice standards that acknowledge children's unique vulnerability, lower degree of culpability, and capacity for rehabilitation. International treaty law and accepted juvenile justice norms require governments to provide children (defined as persons under the age of 18) with special safeguards and care. They stipulate that the arrest and detention of children must be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, and that such cases must be handled as "speedily as possible," with rehabilitation and social reintegration as a primary consideration. Juvenile detainees must be separated from adults, allowed contact with their families, and have the right to special care and assistance, including access to education, recreation, and rehabilitation.

All of these rights have been denied El Gharani, Jawad, Khadr, Khan Tumani, and Fahd Ghazi. They have each been detained for more than six years without a resolution of their case. For years, they were denied any educational or rehabilitative opportunities. Any contact with their families has been extremely limited. Three of the five (Jawad, Al Gharani and Khan Tumani) are currently held in what is essentially solitary confinement (in camps 5 and 6 ^[8]), and a fourth, Khadr, has only been recently moved to a communal living setting after spending years in extreme

isolation. The detrimental effect of prolonged detention and isolation (shown by studies to be particularly pronounced for juveniles) is evidenced by the suicidal behavior and apparent signs of mental deterioration in at least several of these cases.

In addition to being bound by treaties governing juvenile justice, the United States is also party to treaties that recognize the special situation of children who have been recruited or used in armed conflict. The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict prohibits the use of children under age 18 in armed conflict and obliges the US to support the rehabilitation and social reintegration of children who have been recruited or used in violation of the protocol.

We note that as a US Senator, President Obama co-sponsored two pieces of legislation related to child soldiers that were both adopted by Congress and enacted into law in 2008. The Child Soldiers Accountability Act [9] enables the United States government to prosecute individuals in the United States who are responsible for the recruitment and use of children under the age of 15, regardless of where the recruitment takes place, or whether or not the perpetrator is a US national. Title IV of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act prohibits the US from providing military assistance to foreign governments that are involved in the recruitment or use of child soldiers. Both laws recognize the recruitment and use of child soldiers as a serious human rights abuse and oblige the US government to take steps to prevent and respond to the practice.

By charging Khadr and Jawad as "unlawful enemy combatants" in the conflict in Afghanistan, the US effectively recognized them as former child soldiers, yet has refused to take this status into account, either in terms of their treatment during detention, or the determination of their cases.

In contrast, in 2003 the United States segregated three children (ages 13-15) held at Guantanamo from the adult population, and placed them in a separate facility where they had access to specialized tutors, a designated social worker, and recreational opportunities. In January 2004, they were released to UNICEF in order to receive rehabilitation and reintegration assistance in Afghanistan. However, such provisions were never made available to El Gharani, Jawad, Khadr, Khan Tumani, and Fahd Ghazi, even though each was brought to Guantanamo while a juvenile.

As you conduct your review of the remaining detainees at Guantanamo, we urge you to:

- 1) Expedite the reviews of El Gharani, Jawad, Khadr, Khan Tumani, and Fahd Ghazi's cases as quickly as possible and give priority to their determinations;
- 2) Pending the completion of the review, immediately move El Gharani, Jawad, Khadr, Khan Tumani, and Fahd Ghazi into a more rehabilitative environment, by removing them from solitary confinement, housing them together, and providing them with opportunities for education, vocational training, and recreation;

3) In line with international standards regarding juvenile justice and the treatment of former child soldiers, ensure that release to rehabilitation programs is considered as a possible resolution of their cases;

4) Ensure that if credible evidence of criminal activity exists, the case is transferred into federal court and tried in full accordance with juvenile justice standards, with specially-trained judges, prosecutors, and attorneys, and taking into account the relative immaturity and culpability of the accused at the time of the alleged offense, and capacity for rehabilitation.

We would be happy to meet with members of the task force conducting the reviews to discuss our concerns and recommendations further.

Sincerely yours,

Jo Becker
Advocacy Director
Children's Rights Division

Joanne Mariner
Director
Terrorism and Counterterrorism Program

cc: Matthew G. Olsen, Deputy Assistant Attorney General

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[2] <http://www.hrw.org/en/category/topic/counterterrorism/guantanamo>

[3] <http://www.hrw.org/en/category/topic/children%E2%80%99s-rights/juvenile-justice>

[4] <http://www.hrw.org/en/topic/childrens-rights/child-soldiers>

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[8] <http://www.hrw.org/en/node/62183/section/3>

[9] <http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2008/10/03/united-states-bush-signs-law-child-soldiers>

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Saeed Hatim

ISN 255

Citizenship: Yemen

Detained Since: 2002

Saeed Mohammed Saleh Hatim (ISN 255)

Saeed Hatim was born in Yemen in 1977, graduated from high school in 1994, and traveled to Afghanistan in March or April 2001. He claims he went to Afghanistan for personal reasons including to cease being a financial burden on his family. He spent approximately one month in Kandahar and then went to Kabul in April or May 2001. He remained in the Kabul area until shortly after the U.S. bombing began, at which time Saeed fled the city and headed for the Pakistan border with hundreds of other refugees. Pakistani authorities stopped the car in which Saeed was a passenger, arrested him, and held him for several weeks in various prisons until turning him over to the United States military at the end of 2001. He was taken to a military base in Kandahar for six months before being sent to Guantánamo.



The government alleges that Saeed spent approximately three weeks at the al Farouq training camp in the spring of 2001. Saeed denies the allegation and claims he falsely admitted to attending al Farouq because his captors threatened and abused him.

The government also alleges that Saeed stayed in al Qaeda guesthouses and that he was on the front lines of the conflict between the Taliban and the Northern Alliance for a few weeks in the summer of 2001, prior to the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan. Saeed denies that the guesthouses in which he stayed had any al Qaeda affiliation of which he was aware, and claims that he visited a front line on one day just to see what it was like, that he observed no fighting, and that shepherds and their flocks roamed freely throughout the area.

The government has offered no statements from any witness who claims to have seen Saeed in Afghanistan, much less to have seen him in the act of combat or supporting al Qaeda or the Taliban. There is no evidence that Saeed was part of an enemy armed force, or a substantial supporter of such a force, at any time during the period when the United States was engaged militarily in Afghanistan.

In September 2009, President Obama's Guantánamo Review Task Force unanimously approved Saeed for transfer out of Guantánamo. In December 2009, District Judge Ricardo M. Urbina granted Saeed's petition for a writ of habeas corpus. In February 2011, the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals vacated Judge Urbina's decision and remanded the case to district court. In April 2011, Saeed filed a motion for a status conference and scheduling order to re-litigate his case. The motion remains pending, and, following Judge Urbina's retirement, Saeed's case has yet to be reassigned to a new judge.

Obaidullah ISN 762

Citizenship: Afghanistan

Detained Since: October 2002

The Indefinite Detention of Obaidullah

Mr. Obaidullah already has spent almost a third of his life in the prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. He may be there indefinitely – a term of life imprisonment – even though he has never been convicted of a crime. This violates his fundamental human right to be free from arbitrary and indefinite imprisonment without trial or conviction.

Facts: In July 2002, Mr. Obaidullah (he has only one name) was a 19-year old man, living with his family in the village of Milani in Khost Province, Afghanistan, working in a store selling pots and pans. He had attended school until the eleventh grade, but left in order to support his family. On a July night, Obaidullah was picked up during a nighttime raid by American forces, beginning an eleven-year nightmare of torture and imprisonment. Over one decade later, Obaidullah is still detained at Guantanamo Bay, yet to face any criminal charges.

Faulty Intelligence: The U.S. military raided Obaidullah's family compound based on a tip from one still-unknown source who claimed that he was a member of an Al Qaeda bomb cell and that there were Soviet-made mines inside the compound. The source was wrong on both counts. When the compound was stormed, no mines were found inside. Mines were uncovered at some distance outside the compound, buried in the ground, but they were of Pakistani and Italian manufacture. Moreover, mines are littered across Afghanistan because of the civil war that raged for decades.

U.S. forces also found a notebook on Obaidullah's person allegedly containing information about constructing IED's. Obaidullah maintains that he took these notes while he was forced to attend a Taliban-sponsored school. He has consistently and vehemently denied any affiliation with Al Qaeda (or Taliban). After two days at the school, he decided not to return, and he later went to work in a pots-and-pans store. Proof of this is that the notebook also details routine sales and inventory information from the shop. Finally, the U.S. military also found a car in the compound. Four years after the raid, for the first time, a soldier who participated in the raid claimed that the car contained dried blood and Taliban propaganda. In federal court, the government never presented any evidence of blood or propaganda.

None of this – or any other – evidence corroborates the solitary Al Qaeda allegation from the unknown source. As such, Obaidullah's detention rests on very shaky ground.

Torture and Detention: After the raid, Obaidullah was taken to Chapman Airfield in Afghanistan, where he was mistreated, including with a blow to the head with a rifle butt. He was then sent to Bagram Airfield for three months, where he was further subjected to harsh treatment and physical abuse, and he made coerced statements upon which the government later decided not to rely in court. Finally, he was sent to Guantanamo, and after a few months, he recanted his coerced statements and told interrogators the truth, that he was not a terrorist and posed no danger to anyone.

No Criminal Charges or Trial. Obaidullah has been detained at Guantanamo Bay for over ten years. A district court in Washington, D.C. denied his petition for a writ of habeas corpus, based on the uncorroborated and unknown intelligence source. His appeal of this decision was denied by the D.C. Circuit. His petition for a writ of certiorari to the U.S. Supreme Court was filed in February 2013 and is pending. The government swore military charges against him in 2008 and dismissed them in 2011. No criminal charges are pending, either in federal or military court.

Mohamedou Ould Slahi

ISN 760

Citizenship: Mauritania

Detained Since: August 2002

Mohamedou Ould Slahi

Mohamedou Ould Slahi, born in 1970, is a Mauritanian, who was seized by the Mauritanian authorities on November 20, 2001, at the request of the Bush administration. As he explained in his Combatant Status Review Tribunal at Guantánamo in 2004: “My country turned me over, shortcutting all kinds of due process of law, like a candy bar to the United States.”



After Mohamedou was seized, he was transferred by the CIA to Jordan—one of at least 15 prisoners rendered to Jordan by the CIA between 2001 and 2004—where he was held for eight months, and where, he said, what happened to him was “beyond description.” He was then transferred to the U.S. prison at Bagram in Afghanistan, where he was held for two weeks, and he arrived at Guantánamo in August 2002.

In Guantánamo, Mohamedou was the second prisoner subjected to a specifically tailored torture program, which included prolonged isolation, prolonged sleep deprivation, beatings, death threats, and threats that his mother would be brought to Guantánamo where she would be the lone female prisoner. The program, which began in May 2003, was augmented with further techniques authorized by defense secretary Donald Rumsfeld, and culminated, in August 2003, in an incident in which Mohamedou was taken out on a boat wearing isolation goggles while agents whispered, within earshot, that he was “about to be executed and made to disappear.”

The torture of Mohamedou was so severe that, in May 2004, Lt. Col. Stuart Couch of the Marine Corps, who had been assigned his case as a prosecutor, refused to prosecute the case. He told the chief prosecutor, Army Col. Bob Swann, that, in addition to legal reasons, he was “morally opposed” to the interrogation techniques, and for that reason alone “refused to participate” in the Slahi prosecution “in any manner.”

The use of torture not only led to Stuart Couch’s refusal to prosecute his case; it also led to Mohamedou telling his torturers whatever they wanted to hear. As he explained in a letter to his attorneys in November 2006, “I yes-ed every accusation my interrogators made ... I just wanted to get the monkeys off my back.” Despite this, he is regarded by the authorities as one of “the most significant informants ever to be held at Guantánamo,” as *The Washington Post* reported in March 2010.

Although Mohamedou was initially touted as a significant al-Qaeda operative, and was alleged to have been involved with the 9/11 hijackers while he lived in Germany, by the time his habeas corpus petition was granted by Judge James Robertson in March 2010, the government acknowledged that he “probably did not even know about the 9/11 attacks.” Another key claim—that he was involved in the foiled “Millennium Plot” to blow up Los Angeles airport—was also dropped, and although Judge Robertson noted that he continued to have knowledge of people connected to al-Qaeda, he granted his habeas corpus petition. After the government appealed, the case was remanded to the district court where he must essentially begin again.

Mohammed Tahamuttan

ISN 684

Citizenship: Palestinian Territories

Detained Since: 2002

Mohammed Tahamuttan

In December 2009, after the German government expressed a willingness to take prisoners who could not be repatriated, Daniel Fried, Obama's Special Envoy on Guantánamo, sent nine suggestions, including Mohammed Tahamuttan, a Palestinian, born in 1979. As *Der Spiegel* explained, Tahamuttan “grew up on the West Bank and quickly had his fill of intifada, war and deplorable living conditions.”

In October 2001, Tahamuttan flew to Pakistan, because he “yearned to be a pious man,” and Pakistan housed the headquarters of the huge Islamic missionary movement Jamaat al-Tablighi, which he had been a member of since the age of 14. Tablighi members “acquired a visa for him and arranged for him to stay in a religious school in Raiwind,” where he “studied the Koran for four months before moving on to Lahore, then Quetta and, finally, Faisalabad.”

In Faisalabad, he met some Arab students and moved into a house with them. On March 28, 2002, the house was raided and all 15 of the guesthouse residents were taken to Guantánamo, on the basis that the house was supposedly connected to the alleged “high-value detainee” Abu Zubaydah, who was seized on the same night in a different raid. However, despite the government's claims that all of these men were somehow connected to militancy, six of them have been freed so far.

In July 2010, *Der Spiegel* noted that Mohammed had “made a good impression on the Germans,” but that he was ultimately rejected, a move that was “probably intended primarily to send a political message at home in Germany,” where it was thought that Interior Minister Thomas de Maizière “felt that he had to show the many members of his party who had opposed reaching an agreement with the United States on Guantánamo that he was not blindly obeying the Americans.” As a result, Mohammed is still stranded in Guantánamo, awaiting a new home.

The names of the 166
men who remain at
Guantánamo

The names of the 166 men who remain at Guantánamo ¹

ISN	Name	Country
4	Abdul Haq Wasiq	Afghanistan
6	Mullah Norullah Noori	Afghanistan
7	Mullah Mohammad Fazl	Afghanistan
26	Fahd Ghazy	Yemen
27	Uthman Abdul Rahim Mohammed Uthman	Yemen
28	Muaz Al Alawi	Yemen
29	Muhammad Al Ansi	Yemen
30	Ahmed Al Hikimi	Yemen
31	Mahmoud Al Mujahid	Yemen
33	Mohammed al-Adahi	Yemen
34	Abdallah Al Yafi	Yemen
35	Idris Qader Idris	Yemen
36	Ibrahim Idris	Sudan
37	Abd Al Malik Abd Al Wahab	Yemen
38	Ridah Al Yazidi	Tunisia
39	Ali Hamza Ahmed Sulayman Ismail	Yemen
40	Abdel Qadir Al Mudhaffari	Yemen
41	Majid Ahmad	Yemen
42	Abdul Rahman Shalabi	Saudi Arabia
43	Samir Moqbel	Yemen
44	Mohammed Abu Ghanim	Yemen
45	Ali Ahmad Al Rahizi	Yemen
63	Mohammed Al Qahtani	Saudi Arabia
88	Waqas Mohammed Ali Awad	Yemen
91	Abdul Al Saleh	Yemen
115	Abdul Rahman Naser	Yemen

¹ This list was prepared by the Center for Constitutional Rights from publicly available information.

ISN	Name	Country
117	Muktar Al Warafi	Yemen
128	Ghaleb Al-Bihani	Yemen
131	Salem Ahmed Hadi	Yemen
152	Asim Al Khalaqi	Yemen
153	Fayiz Suleiman	Yemen
163	Khalid Al Qadasi (Othman)	Yemen
165	Adil Said Al Busayss	Yemen
167	Ali Yahya Mahdi Al Rimi	Yemen
168	Adel Hakimi	Tunisia
170	Sharaf Masud	Yemen
171	Abu Bakr Alahdal	Yemen
174	Hisham Sliti	Tunisia
178	Tariq Ba Odah	Yemen
189	Salem Gherebi	Libya
195	Mohammad Al Shumrani	Saudi Arabia
197	Yunis Shokuri	Morocco
200	Saad Al Qahtani	Saudi Arabia
202	Mahmmoud Bin Atef	Yemen
223	Abdul Rahman Sulayman	Yemen
224	Abdul Rahman Muhammad	Yemen
232	Fawzi Al Odah	Kuwait
233	Abdul Salih	Yemen
235	Saeed Jarabh	Yemen
238	Nabil Hadjarab	Algeria
239	Shaker Aamer	Saudi Arabia
240	Abdullah Al Shabli	Yemen
242	Khaled Qasim	Yemen
244	Abdul Latif Nasir	Morocco
249	Mohammed al-Hamiri	Yemen
251	Muhammad Bin Salem	Yemen

ISN	Name	Country
254	Mohammed Khenaina	Yemen
255	Said Hatim	Yemen
257	Umar Abdulayev	Tajikistan
259	Fadil Hintif	Yemen
275	Yusef Abbas	China
280	Saidullah Khalik	China
282	Hajiakbar Abdulghupur	China
288	Mutij Sadiz Ahmad Sayab	Algeria
290	Ahmed Belbacha	Algeria
309	Muieen Abdal Sattar	United Arab Emirates
310	Djamel Ameziane	Algeria
321	Ahmed Yaslam Said Kuman	Yemen
324	Mashur Al Sabri,	Yemen
326	Ahmed Ajam	Syria
327	Ali Hussein al-Shaaban	Syria
329	Abd Al Hadio Omar Mahmoud Faraj	Syria
434	Mustafa Al Shamyri	Yemen
440	Mohammed Bwazir	Yemen
441	Abdul Rahman Ahmed (al Zahry)	Yemen
461	Abdul Rahman Al-Qyati	Yemen
498	Mohammed Haidel	Yemen
502	Abdul Ourgy	Tunisia
506	Khalid Mohammed Salih Al Dhuby	Yemen
508	Salman Rabeii	Yemen
509	Mohammed Khusruf	Yemen
511	Sulaiman Al Nahdi	Yemen
522	Yasin Ismail	Yemen
535	Tariq Al Sawah	Egypt
549	Omar al Dayi	Yemen
550	Walid Zaid	Yemen

ISN	Name	Country
552	Fayiz Al Kandari	Kuwait
553	Abdul Khaled Al Bedani	Saudi Arabia
554	Fahmi Al Sani	Yemen
560	Haji Wali Mohammed	Afghanistan
564	Jalal bin Amer	Yemen
566	Mansoor Qattaa	Saudi Arabia
569	Suhail Abdu Anam	Yemen
570	Sabri Mohammed Al Qurashi	Yemen
572	Slah Al Zabe	Yemen
574	Hamoud Al Wady	Yemen
575	Sa'ad Muqbil Al-Azani	Yemen
576	Zahar Bin Hamdoun	Yemen
578	Abdul Aziz Abdullah Ali Al Suadi	Yemen
579	Khirullah Khairkhwa	Afghanistan
680	Emad Abdalla Hassan	Yemen
682	Ghassan Al Sharbi	Saudi Arabia
684	Mohammed Tahamuttan	Palestinian Territories
685	Abdelrazak Ali Abdelrahman	Algeria
686	Abdel Hakim	Yemen
688	Fahmi Ahmed	Yemen
689	Mohammed Salam	Yemen
690	Ahmed Abdul Qader	Yemen
691	Mohammed Al Zarnuki	Yemen
694	Sufyian Barhoumi	Algeria
695	Omar Abu Bakr	Libya
696	Jabran Al Qahtani	Saudi Arabia
702	Ravil Mingazov	Russia
707	Noor Uthman Muhammaed	Sudan
708	Ismael Ali Al Bakush	Libya
713	Muhammed Murdi Issa Al Zahrani	Saudi Arabia

ISN	Name	Country
722	Jihad Dhiab	Syria
728	Jamil Nassir	Yemen
753	Abdul Zahir	Afghanistan
757	Ahmed Abdel Aziz	Mauritania
760	Mohamedou Ould Slahi	Mauritania
762	Obaidullah	Afghanistan
768	Ahmed al- Darbi	Saudi Arabia
832	Mohammad Nabi Omari	Afghanistan
836	Ayoub Murshid Ali Saleh	Yemen
837	Bashir Al Marwalah	Yemen
838	Shawki Awad Balzuhair	Yemen
839	Musa'ab Al Madhwani	Yemen
840	Hail Aziz Ahmed Al Maythali	Yemen
841	Said Salih Sa id Nashir	Yemen
893	Tofiq Al Bihani	Yemen
894	Mohammed Abdul Rahman	Tunisia
899	Shawali Khan	Afghanistan
928	Khi Ali Gul	Afghanistan
934	Abdul Ghani	Afghanistan
975	Bostan Karim	Afghanistan
1015	Hussein Salem Mohammed Almerfedi	Yemen
1017	Omar Al Rammah	Yemen
1045	Mohammed Kamin	Afghanistan
1094	Saifullah Paracha	Pakistan
1103	Mohommod Zahir	Afghanistan
1119	Haji Hamidullah	Afghanistan
1453	Sanad al-Kazimi	Yemen
1456	Hassan Bin Attash	Yemen
1457	Sharqawi Ali al-Hajj	Yemen
1460	Abdul Rahim Ghulam Rabbabi	Pakistan

ISN	Name	Country
1461	Mohammed Ahmad Ghulam Rabbani	Pakistan
1463	Abdul Al Salam Al Hilal	Yemen
3148	Haroon Al Afghani	Afghanistan
10001	Bensayah Belkacem	Algeria
10011	Mustafa Al Hawsawi	Saudi Arabia
10013	Ramzi Bin Al Shib	Yemen
10014	Walid Bin Attash	Yemen
10015	Abd Al Rahim Al Nashiri	Saudi Arabia
10016	Abu Zubaydah	Palestinian Territories
10017	Abu Faraj Al Libi	Libya
10018	Ammar Al Baluchi	Pakistan
10019	Riduan Isomuddin	Indonesia
10020	Majid Khan	Pakistan
10021	Mohd Farik Bin Amin	Malaysia
10022	Mohammed (Lillie) Bin Lep	Malaysia
10023	Guleed Hassan Dourad	Somalia
10024	Khalid Sheikh Mohammed	Pakistan
10025	Mohammed Abdul Malik	Kenya
10026	Abd Al Hadi Al Iraqi	Iraq
10029	Muhammad Rahim Al Afghani	Afghanistan



"The past years were all the worst moments. I would describe them as a boat out at sea, battered by successive storms during its trip towards an unknown destination, benefiting only from very short periods of respite between two storms. These respites were the best moments."

"I overcame the conditions of imprisonment during all these past years by always maintaining hope that one day I would be freed, because I am innocent."

—*Djamel Ameziane, writing from detention at Guantánamo Bay Naval Base*

Artwork created by Djamel Ameziane at Guantánamo