



WRITE FOR RIGHTS

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



HACKED TO DEATH FOR DEFENDING LGBTIQ RIGHTS

XULHAZ MANNAN

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, BANGLADESH

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Xulhaz Mannan and a colleague were in his apartment when men posing as couriers burst in wielding machetes. Both men were hacked to death in front of Xulhaz's 75-year-old mother.

Xulhaz was a founder of Bangladesh's only magazine dedicated to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) issues, a daring venture in a country where same-sex relations are illegal. His attackers are believed to belong to Ansar al-Islam, the same extremist group responsible for a spate of similar assaults on bloggers promoting atheism, feminism, science and other secular issues.

Over a year since the April 2016 attack, and despite evidence including eyewitness testimony and CCTV footage, no one has been charged for the murders. On top of this slow police response, the government has shifted blame onto the victims. Shortly after Xulhaz's murder,

a government minister stated that movements promoting "unnatural sex" are not allowed in Bangladeshi society.

This reluctance or unwillingness to find and charge Xulhaz's killers sends a devastating message to LGBTIQ activists and others who challenge the status quo with their work. As Xulhaz's brother says, the police's inaction shows that "the government is least bothered... and believes that 'this' issue [same-sex relations] has died with Xulhaz".

Tell Bangladesh to bring Xulhaz's killers to justice.

**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**



Write to the Bangladesh Home Minister

Tell him to ensure that Xulhaz's killers are brought to justice.

Asaduzzaman Khan
Ministry of Home Affairs
Bangladesh Secretariat, Building – 8
Dhaka
Bangladesh

Salutation: Dear Home Minister



Show Xulhaz's family they are not alone

Send them your messages of hope and support.

To the Family of Minhaz Mannan Emon
c/o Amnesty International East Asia Regional Office
16/F Siu On Centre
188 Lockhart Road
Wanchai
Hong Kong



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FACING A LIFE SENTENCE FOR A FACEBOOK POST

MAHADINE

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, CHAD

MAHADINE

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, CHAD

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He's an online activist and father of seven. In September 2016, Tadjadine Mahamat Babouri, commonly known as Mahadine, posted videos on Facebook. In them, he accused the Chadian government and people close to it of corruption and misusing public money. He also complained about the economic crisis gripping this oil-dependent nation which is suffering from falling oil prices worldwide.

Making and posting the videos was a bold thing to do in a country where speaking out like this carries serious consequences.

Within days, Mahadine was snatched from the street in broad daylight by a group of men believed to be intelligence officers. He says he was beaten, electrocuted and chained up for weeks, and moved from one prison to another. His wife and children were told nothing of his whereabouts and had to track him down themselves.

Mahadine now faces a life sentence, and faces charges including threatening national security. He is gravely ill, having caught tuberculosis in prison. He needs urgent medical attention. He should not have to spend the rest of his life locked up for courageously expressing his opinion.

Tell Chad to release Mahadine without delay.

**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**



Write to the President of Chad

Tell him to release Tadjadine Mahamat Babouri, known as Mahadine, without delay.

President Idriss Deby Itno
PO Box 74
N'Djaména
Chad

Email: contact@presidence.td
Twitter: [@PrsidenceuTcha](https://twitter.com/PrsidenceuTcha) / [@PR_IdrissDeby](https://twitter.com/PR_IdrissDeby)

Salutation: Your Excellency



Help keep Mahadine's spirits up

Tell him his courage inspires you and that you won't give up on him.

Collectif des Associations et Mouvements Jeunes du
Tchad (CAMOJET)
Siège
Boulevard des SAO
Quartier Moursal
N'Djaména – République du Tchad

A central illustration of a woman with dark, wavy hair and a gentle smile, wearing a purple button-down shirt. The background is a vibrant collage of various symbols: a lion's head, a hand holding a red pen, a crane, a city skyline, a bird, a flower, a red knot, a framed photo, and a pen. The overall color palette is dominated by purple, blue, and yellow.

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MADE HOMELESS FOR DEFENDING HOUSING RIGHTS

NI YULAN

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, CHINA

NI YULAN

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, CHINA

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Ni Yulan has braved years of violent harassment for standing up for those evicted from their homes. The former lawyer has supported scores of people forced from their homes by lucrative construction projects. She was among thousands whose dwellings were demolished in the lead-up to the Beijing Olympics in 2008.

The government's response to her activism has been to harass her and her family, hoping to put an end to her work. They have repeatedly arrested her and, during detention, beat her so badly that she now uses a wheelchair. They have pursued her for nearly 20 years, putting her and her family under surveillance, threatening them, and evicting them from home after home.

In March 2016, the authorities refused her a passport to travel to the USA to accept an international prize celebrating her courage.

In April 2017, men descended on her rented apartment, grabbed Ni Yulan, her husband and daughter, and threw them out of their home. After being forced to sleep on the streets, the couple now live in temporary housing within constant sight of the police. Still, Ni Yulan has no plans to stop helping people stand up for their rights. It's our turn to stand up for her.

Tell China to stop harassing Ni Yulan.

**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**



Write to this Beijing official

Tell him to end the harassment of Ni Yulan and her family.

Wang Xiaohong
Director of Beijing Municipal Public Security Bureau
No.9 Dongdajie, Qianmen
Dongchengqu
Beijingshi 100740
People's Republic of China

Salutation: Dear Director



Show Ni Yulan you're on her side

Ni Yulan can't receive mail, so please post a photo with a message of support on social media, for example:

"You are so brave #NiYulan – We stand by you!"

In Chinese: #倪玉兰，你真的很勇敢！我们会与您同心面对！ #NiYulan

Please remember to include the hashtag #NiYulan.

A central illustration of Hanan Badr El-Din, a woman wearing a dark blue hijab and glasses, looking directly at the viewer. She is surrounded by various floating objects: a television, a laptop, a keyboard, a pen, a megaphone, and a knife. The background is a vibrant mix of pink and purple hues with abstract shapes.

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ARRESTED FOR CAMPAIGNING FOR THE DISAPPEARED

HANAN BADR EL-DIN

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, EGYPT

HANAN BADR EL-DIN

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, EGYPT

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When Hanan Badr el-Din's husband disappeared, her life changed for good. She last saw him on television, wounded and at a hospital after attending a protest in July 2013. But when she went there, she couldn't find him. She searched police stations, prisons, hospitals and morgues. No one could tell her what had happened to him.

Her husband is one of hundreds of people missing at the hands of Egypt's security forces. Every day, an estimated three to four people – mostly political activists, students, protesters, even school children as young as 14 – are taken by Egyptian police or military, never to be seen again. Yet the Egyptian government claims that disappearances don't exist in the country.

Hanan was not dissuaded. Her determination to find her husband has led her to others whose loved ones have gone missing. In 2014, she

co-founded a group tasked with finding the truth behind these disappearances and is now a leading voice in the search for Egypt's disappeared. Her latest attempt to get information about her husband has seen her arrested and wrongly charged with belonging to a banned group, which could mean at least five years in prison.

Tell Egypt to drop all charges and free Hanan immediately and unconditionally.

**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**



Write to the President of Egypt

Tell him to drop all charges against Hanan and free her immediately and unconditionally.

President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi
Office of the President
Al Ittihadia Palace
Cairo, Egypt

Fax: +202 2391 1441
Email: p.spokesman@op.gov.eg

Salutation: Your Excellency



Show your support for Hanan

Send her your messages of friendship and solidarity.

Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms
(Attention: Mr. Halim Henish)
32 Abdel Azeem Rashed Street
Cairo 11511
Egypt

A central illustration of a man with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a dark jacket over a grey sweater. He is surrounded by various symbols and objects: a stethoscope, a heart rate monitor showing '70' and '31', a blood pressure cuff, a pen, a keyboard, a typewriter, a flag, and several transgender and gay symbols (a circle with a cross and an arrow).

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DEMANDING THE RIGHT TO BE WHO HE IS

SAKRIS KUPILA

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, FINLAND

SAKRIS KUPILA

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, FINLAND

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Sakris Kupila has never identified as a woman. Yet the 21-year-old medical student must endure daily embarrassment because his identity documents say he is female.

Sakris was a teenager when he realised that the gender he was given at birth didn't express who he is. He chose a new name – which is considered male – but under Finnish law people are not allowed names of another gender. Sakris had to be diagnosed with a “mental disorder” to keep his name.

This was Sakris' first step towards legal recognition of who he is. But to have your gender reassigned in Finland, you must be diagnosed with a “mental disorder” *and* sterilised. Such requirements are a stain on Finland's reputation for openness and tolerance.

For Sakris, the choice is clear. He opposes this humiliating treatment and is demanding a change to the law. “The basic human rights of transgender people are currently violated in Finland,” he says. “Not only do we face discrimination within society itself, but also by the state.”

Sakris' struggle has earned him threats and open hostility. But he won't give in. “I'll stop when the fight is over,” he says.

Tell Finland to change the law and support transgender rights activists.

**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**



Write to the Prime Minister of Finland

Tell him to change the law and support transgender rights activists.

Prime Minister Juha Sipilä
Finnish Government
PL 23, 00023 Valtioneuvosto
Finland

Facebook: <http://amn.st/60028tb22>
Twitter: @juhasipila

Salutation: Dear Prime Minister



Show Sakris you're with him

Send him your messages of love and support. You can use the colours of the Trans flag: white, pink and light blue.

Sakris Kupila
Amnesty International Finnish Section
Hietaniemenkatu 7 A
00100 Helsinki
Finland



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RISKING THEIR LIVES TO SAVE THEIR LAND

MILPAH INDIGENOUS MOVEMENT
HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS, HONDURAS

MILPAH INDIGENOUS MOVEMENT

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS, HONDURAS

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For the Indigenous Lenca people in Honduras, the land is their life. But huge hydroelectric, mining and other interests are out to exploit that land. MILPAH, the Independent Lenca Indigenous Movement of La Paz, is at the forefront of the struggle against them. They brave smear campaigns, death threats and physical assault to protect their environment, yet their attackers are rarely brought to justice.

Their experience is typical for activists in Honduras, one of the most dangerous places on Earth to be an Indigenous and environmental defender. Some are lucky enough to survive. Others are not: Berta Cáceres, from a partner organization, campaigned against a hydroelectric dam and was murdered in 2016.

In October 2015, MILPAH's Ana Miriam Romero was 24 weeks pregnant when armed men stormed her house looking for her husband,

and beat her up. The following January, her house was torched. In July 2016, two men threatened to kill her colleague, Martín Gómez. Still, MILPAH vow to keep up their struggle.

"We have no weapons, we have no money," says Martín. "But we do have a voice and ... that has enabled us to make real progress." Lend your voice to these courageous women and men.

Tell Honduras to protect MILPAH now.

**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**



Write to the President of Honduras

Tell him to give MILPAH and other human rights defenders the protection they demand.

Sr. Presidente Juan Orlando Hernández
Casa Presidencial
Bulevar Juan Pablo II
Tegucigalpa
Honduras

Twitter: @JuanOrlandoH

Salutation: Dear President



Stand with the MILPAH Indigenous Movement

Send your letters and drawings, or a recorded message of support for community radio broadcast in Honduras.

MILPAH
c/o CEHPRODEC
Colonia 15 de Septiembre
calle Clemente Marroquin Rojas
Avenida Independencia, Casa 1902
C.P. 2571
Tegucigalpa
Honduras



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FACING CHARGES FOR PROTESTING WAR CRIMES

FARID & ISSA

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS, ISRAEL/OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

FARID & ISSA

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

ISRAEL/OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

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Farid al-Atrash and Issa Amro want an end to Israeli settlements – a war crime stemming from Israel's 50-year occupation of Palestinian land. Israel has made many parts of the occupied territories no-go zones for Palestinians, making it impossible for them to move about freely. By contrast, Jewish Israeli settlers are free to go where they wish.

Dedicated to non-violence, Farid and Issa brave constant threats and attacks by Israeli soldiers and settlers. Issa encourages Palestinian youths to find non-violent ways to oppose Israel's occupation and discriminatory laws in Hebron. For this, Israeli forces have arrested him more than once. They have beaten, blindfolded and interrogated him. "The Israeli occupation forces target us to silence us," he says. Farid, a lawyer who exposes abuses by the Palestinian and Israeli authorities, faces similar harassment.

In February 2016, Farid and Issa joined a peaceful protest in the city of Hebron marking 22 years since Israel first closed one of its streets, al-Shuhada, to Palestinians. Hebron's 200,000 Palestinians are effectively held hostage by the 800 Israeli settlers who live in its centre. The men now face ludicrous charges clearly designed to obstruct their human rights work.

Tell Israel to drop all charges against Farid and Issa immediately.

**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**



Write to the Prime Minister of Israel

Tell him to drop all charges against Farid and Issa immediately.

Benjamin Netanyahu
Office of the Prime Minister
3 Kaplan Street, PO Box 187
Kiryat Ben-Gurion
Jerusalem 91950, Israel

Email: pm_eng@pmo.gov.il
Twitter: @IsraeliPM

Salutation: Dear Prime Minister



Stand with Farid and Issa

Send them a card, letter or drawing, saying:

"Farid and Issa, I/We stand in solidarity with you –
[your name/country]"
You can personalise your message, too.

Amnesty International
PO Box 42 626
Jerusalem
Israel

An illustration of a woman, Shackelia Jackson, with short dark hair, wearing a large red sun hat and a red off-the-shoulder top with a yellow scalloped neckline. She is looking directly at the viewer. The background is a vibrant pink and yellow collage. It includes a wooden gavel in the top left, a red typewriter, a yellow pencil, a brown door, a handgun, a framed portrait of a man with a beard, palm trees, a bowl of rice with a spoon, and numerous red and yellow hearts of various sizes. The overall style is graphic and expressive.

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REFUSING TO LET POLICE GET AWAY WITH MURDER

SHACKELIA JACKSON

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, JAMAICA

SHACKELIA JACKSON

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, JAMAICA

WRITE FOR RIGHTS

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



Shackelia Jackson will not give up. When her brother was gunned down by police in 2014, she made sure that Jamaica's independent investigators secured the crime scene.

The police had been pursuing a "Rastafarian-looking" suspect in a robbery, and Nakiea fitted that description. They found him in his small restaurant and shot him dead. Police killings of mainly young and mostly poor men is all too common in Jamaica, with some 2,000 killed in the past decade.

Shackelia was determined not to let Nakiea's story end there. She has battled a badly underfunded, sluggish court system to lead a bold fight for justice. In doing so, she has rallied dozens of families whose loved ones have been similarly killed, amplifying their cries for justice. The police have responded by raiding her

community, timing the raids to coincide with court dates. They have also intimidated Shackelia and her family.

But Shackelia refuses to be silenced. She says their attempts only reinforce her belief in what's right. "I fight because I have no other choice," she says. "To stop would mean I am giving another police officer permission to kill another of my brothers."

Tell Jamaica to protect Shackelia and ensure justice for all those killed by police.

**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**



Write to the Prime Minister of Jamaica

Tell him to protect Shackelia and ensure justice for all those killed by police.

Andrew Holness
Office of the Prime Minister
1 Devon Road
Kingston 10
Jamaica

Email: primeminister@opm.gov.jm
Twitter: @AndrewHolnessJM

Salutation: Honourable Andrew Holness



Show Shackelia you're with her

Send her a message of support or tweet a photo or video message of you with the hashtag #TimeforJusticeJA (www.time4justice.org).

Shackelia Jackson
184 Orange Street
BLK J apt 10
Kingston
Jamaica

Email: brokenbutnotdestroyedinfo@gmail.com



HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, MADAGASCAR

© Rebecca Hendin

CLOVIS RAZAFIMALALA

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER, MADAGASCAR

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Clovis Razafimalala loves Madagascar's rainforest. The father of two young children and environmental activist is doing everything he can to protect its endangered, ruby-coloured rosewood trees. But a corrupt network of smugglers will stop at nothing to silence Clovis and others like him. They're driven by the billions of dollars they can pocket from the illegal sale of this exquisite tree.

Despite laws against it, the black market in rosewood is booming, reinforcing the influence of the smugglers at its heart. Clovis and his fellow activists are bravely standing up to them while the government looks away.

Their activism comes at a cost. In September 2016, Clovis was imprisoned, accused of leading a violent protest. Witnesses said he was at a restaurant at the time, but were never interviewed as part of the investigation.

This was not the first time Clovis had been targeted. In 2009, his house was fire bombed. He has also been repeatedly offered – and has refused – bribes to stop defending Madagascar's endangered forest.

In July 2017, Clovis was convicted on false charges and given a five-year suspended sentence. He could be jailed at any time if he dares continue his activism.

Tell Madagascar to overturn Clovis' sentence immediately.

**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**



Write to Madagascar's Minister of Justice

Tell him to overturn Clovis' sentence immediately.

Minister of Justice Charles Andriamiseza
Ministry of Justice
43 Rue Joel Rakotomolala
Faravohitra – Antananarivo
Madagascar

Email: spminjus@yahoo.fr
Facebook: <http://amn.st/60028tymn>

Salutation: Son Excellence Monsieur le Ministre



Show Clovis you're on his side

Send him your messages of support and friendship, and help boost his courage.

Clovis Razafimalala
IIF3LVG Antsahameva Andraisoro
Antananarivo - 101
Madagascar



WRITE FOR RIGHTS

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IMPRISONED FOR DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS

ISTANBUL 10

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS, TURKEY

ISTANBUL 10

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS
TURKEY

WRITE FOR RIGHTS

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



It should have been an ordinary day for İdil Eser, head of Amnesty Turkey. She was attending a routine workshop for human rights activists in Istanbul in July 2017. Joining her was friend and fellow activist Özlem Dalkıran, founder of Amnesty Turkey, now with Avaaz and the Citizens' Assembly.

The third day of their workshop was about to start when police raided the building and detained them and eight others. The accusation? "Aiding a terrorist organization" – a preposterous allegation. The detention of the Istanbul 10 followed the arrest of Amnesty Turkey Chair Taner Kılıç, imprisoned since 9 June on the absurd charge of being a member of an "armed terrorist organization".

These detentions are the latest in a series of government efforts to silence its critics. Since the attempted coup of July 2016, over 150,000

people have been placed under criminal investigation.

The Istanbul 10 have dedicated their lives to defending the rights of others. They speak out for freedom, fighting for everyone in Turkey to be treated fairly. Every day that they are detained, the people they speak up for are left more vulnerable to the government's ongoing crackdown on freedoms.

Tell Turkey to stop persecuting these rights defenders and unconditionally release them.

**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**



Write to the Minister of Justice

Tell him to stop the persecution of these rights defenders and unconditionally release them.

Minister of Justice Abdulhamit Gül
Ministry of Justice
Adalet Bakanlığı
06659 Ankara
Turkey

Twitter: @abdulhamitgul

Salutation: Dear Minister



Support Taner, İdil, Özlem and the Istanbul 10

Upload a photograph of your solidarity message to freeistanbul10.tumblr.com to show you support their struggle and demand an end to the persecution of human rights defenders in Turkey.

The Istanbul 10, top row (L-R): Özlem Dalkıran (Citizens' Assembly), Seyhmus Özbekli (lawyer), Veli Acı (Human Rights Agenda Association), Nalan Erkem (Citizens' Assembly); Bottom row (L-R): Günel Kuşun (Human Rights Agenda Association), Ali Gharavi (IT strategy consultant), İdil Eser (Director, Amnesty International Turkey), Nejat Taştan (Equal Rights Watch Association), Peter Steudtner (non-violence and wellbeing trainer), İlknur Üstün (Women's Coalition).

December 2017
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