



FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF VICTIMS

SAUDI ARABIA

Introduction

These victim profiles are illustrative of those in the Frank R. Wolf Freedom of Religion or Belief Victims List database. Mandated by the amended International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, the Victims List documents individuals who are detained, imprisoned, tortured, disappeared, forced to renounce their faith, or subjected to house arrest due to their religious activity or religious freedom advocacy.

Religions of Individuals in Saudi Arabia on the FoRB Victims List

- Muslim – Shi’a
- Muslim – Sunni
- Muslim - Unspecified/Other
- Unspecified

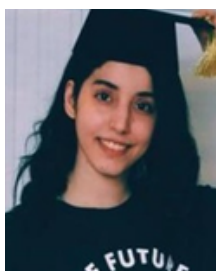


Youssef al-Manasif

Religion or Belief: Muslim - Shi’a
 Arrested: April 6, 2017
 Sentence: Death
 Reports of Torture: Yes
 Reason for Persecution: Protesting religious freedom conditions

SHI’A MUSLIMS

Shi’a Muslims in Saudi Arabia face systematic barriers to economic opportunity and political representation because of their religion. Authorities continue to prosecute Shi’a Muslims who peacefully protested for more rights, including minors. Several Shi’a clerics remain in prison for their religious expression and for condemning state-sanctioned discrimination on the basis of religion.



Manahel al-Otaibi

Religion or Belief: Muslim - Unspecified
 Arrested: November 2022
 Sentence: 5 Years’ Imprisonment
 Mistreatment in Detention: Yes
 Reason for Persecution: Protesting religious freedom conditions

WOMEN PROTESTING MALE GUARDIANSHIP LAWS

Women who peacefully protest male guardianship laws, which impose a particular religious interpretation, or who criticize such laws on social media are arrested, imprisoned, threatened, harassed, and assaulted by prison officials in Saudi Arabia. Some of these women have been released but remain under a travel ban.



Mohammed al-Ghamdi

Religion or Belief: Muslim - Sunni
 Arrested: June 11, 2022
 Sentence: 30 Years’ Imprisonment (Originally Death)
 Reason for Persecution: Criticizing religious freedom conditions online

SUNNI MUSLIM DISSIDENT SCHOLARS

Sunni religious scholars—reformers and conservatives alike—who criticize the government’s religious policies have been held incommunicado, tortured, and imprisoned. Several members of the dissident “Sahwa” movement remain in prison for their religious views.



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EXECUTED

Abdullah al-Derazi
Jalal Labbad

Mohammed al-Rabiah
Murtaja Qureiris
Nuermaimaiti Ruze
Raif Badawi
Salma al-Shehab

NOT RELEASED

Abdul Majeed Al-Arkani
Abdullah Basfar
Abdulrahman Al-Sadhan
Ahmad al-Shamri
Ahmed Abdul Wahid al-Faraj
Ahmed al-Matrood
Aisha al-Muhajiri
Ali Aboluhom
Ali al-Omari
Ali al-Ouwaisher
Ali Badahdah
Ali Hassan al-Faraj
Ali Mohammed Al Bati
Anas al-Mazrou
Badr Nader Al-Mashari
Hassan Farhan al-Maliki
Israa al-Ghomgham
Khaled al-Ghanim
Khaled Al-Rashed
Manahel al-Otaibi
Mariam Al Qisoom
Mohammad bin Hassan al-Habib
Mohammed al-Ghamdi
Mohammed Hussein Al Nimr
Mohammed Issam al-Faraj
Mousa al-Hashim
Mujtaba al-Muzain
Nourah al-Qahtani
Omar Abdullah al-Saadoun
Omar al-Muqbil
Saleh Al Talib
Salman al-Ouda
Sulaiman al-Dowaish
Waleed abu al-Khair
Youssef al-Manasif

RELEASED

Abdullah al-Zaher
Ali al-Nimr
Aimidoula Waili
Ashraf Fayadh
Asmaa al-Subaie
Assad bin Nasser al-Ghamdi
Buheliqiemu Abula
Dawood al-Marhoun
Lina Alsharif

