



**Bahrain 2016**  
Day by Day

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## Bahrain 2016: Everyone's on the Regime's Agenda

The ruling Al Khalifa family in Bahrain does not want anyone to have their own agenda but rather wants everyone on its own special agenda—its agenda of monopoly over power along with all the chaos it brings. The authorities want everyone to also applaud this chaos and seizure of power. This is what led the island kingdom towards the unknown in 2016.

Since there was a component of Bahraini society that refused to surrender to this agenda, the Al Khalifa family invested every source of brutal power it had, attempting to break the will of this faction and make them submit to the king's rule. The ruling family voided the system of anything civil, expanding torture chambers and opening prison gates to new arrivals.

Courts in the gulf country had no mercy on dissent and worked against anyone who revolted and said “No”. However, the series of events throughout the year prove that a major political component did not answer to these imperatives and remained steadfast in the face of fierce blows.

Bahrain Mirror has monitored the daily events linked to the ruling family and the opposition throughout 2016 so that they would be a reminder of the violent ways of the regime and peaceful activism of dissenters—a reminder of a scheme, on one hand, to take Bahrain back to what it was before 1923, and a project, on the other hand, aimed at making Bahrain a country for all.

### Editorial Board





# 0120 16 January

After the Saudi authorities executed prominent Shiite Sheikh Nimr Al-Nimr, who was a strong advocate of the February 14 uprising in Bahrain, the Bahraini Interior Ministry threatened to take punitive measures against anyone who condemns that crime. Mass protests were, nonetheless, staged across Bahrain.

The Bahraini authorities launched a widespread campaign of arrests that targeted Dr. Saeed Al-Samahiji. In an escalatory move, the Bahraini government cut diplomatic ties with Iran and banned all air and sea traffic from/to the Islamic Republic. The authorities also apprehended a number of activists, including Al-Wasat journalist Mahmoud Al-Jazeera, who were later accused of joining a terrorist organization called “Al-Basta group.”

The government took advantage of this escalation and announced increasing the tariffs on water and electricity services. It also raised the prices of petrol amid the conspiring of both the Shura council and parliament, which called off a scheduled interrogation of both ministers of finance and works, power and water.

The Interior Ministry raised a new case against imprisoned opposition leader Sheikh Ali Salman, over a tweet posted via his Twitter account. A court as well handed down 15-year prison terms to 57 defendants in Jaw Prison, fining them more than 500,000 Bahraini dinars, over the events that broke out in the prison on March 10, 2015.

## January 1

Protest movement gains momentum as mass demonstrations are staged in Sitra in beginning of new year

## January 2

Saudi Arabia executes prominent Shiite cleric Nimr Al-Nimr, protests intensify in Bahrain

## January 3

Campaign of arrests targets protestors and bloggers critical of Sheikh Al-Nimr's execution

## January 4

Bahrain announces severing ties with Iran, lifts power and water subsidies

## January 5

Flights to Iran halted

## January 6

Interior Ministry announces arrest of ""Iranian-backed Al-Basta Group

## January 7

Bahrain bans air traffic to/from Iran

## January 11

Bahrain announces raising petrol prices, and stops financial support for political prisoners

## January 15

Sunni Endowments Directorate (Waqf) calls for refraining from criticism of petrol price increases, as thousands of Bahrainis reject decision

## January 17

Ban Ki Moon urges Bahrain to take measures towards a political dialogue and conform to human rights

## January 23

Bahrain loses its right to vote in the United Nations for failing to pay annual fees

## January 25

Defendants in Jaw Prison events 57 case were sentenced to 15 years in prison and fined 508,000 Bahraini dinars

## January 26

Parliament cancels interrogation of finance and power ministers over the increase of petrol prices and electricity and water tariffs

## January 28

Detainee Abduljalil Al-Singace ends 313-day hunger strike



02<sup>20</sup><sub>16</sub>  
February

Bahrainis stepped up their protests with the onset of the “month of the uprising,” while the United Kingdom warned its nationals of traveling to Bahrain. The Bahraini authorities arrested a team of four US journalists in the island of Sitra, who were covering demonstrations marking the fifth anniversary of the uprising— a matter that prompted an extensive media uproar after which they were deported outside the country.

As for court verdicts, the top opposition figure Ebrahim Sharif was sentenced to one year in prison and Sheikh Mohammad Khojasteh was expelled to Beirut.

The Al-Arabiya channel aired videotaped confessions of a number of Bahraini opposition leaders, which were recorded in 2011, in a show called “February Black Box.” The imprisoned opposition leaders stressed that these confessions were an edited version, adding that they were extracted under brutal torture.

On the international level, the European parliament called on the Bahraini authorities to overrule the death sentence issued against prisoner Ahmad Ramadan over politically-motivated charges. While the head of Al-Wafaa movement Abdulwahab Hussein expected no near remission due to the regional and local circumstances, the US Ambassador to Bahrain said that the doors to dialogue should remain open even after the elections.

As for sports developments, the ruling family’s attempts to help Ebrahim Al Khalifa reach the helm of FIFA failed.

## February 1

Protests held in Bahrain during first hours of February

## February 2

Britain warns its nationals of travel to Bahrain, stating there is a high threat from terrorism

## February 6

Abdulwahab Hussein: Local and regional circumstances do not show any signs of near remission

## February 8

Bahraini King holds talks with Russian President and offers him Damascus steel "Sword of Victory" as present

## February 12

Amnesty International says hopes for justice and reform fading five years since 2011 uprising in Bahrain

## February 14

Demonstrations staged across Bahrain marking the fifth anniversary of the Bahraini uprising, and US team of journalists arrested by authorities

## February 16

US journalists released and deported, and Qatari national accused of espionage also released

## February 17

US State Department says in a statement on uprising's fifth anniversary that it will continue to pressure Manama

## February 21

Sheikh Mohammad Khojasteh exiled to the Lebanese capital Beirut

## February 22

Royal decree strips Raed Hourani and his family of their nationalities

## February 23

Bahraini youth killed in brutal attack launched by Saudi forces on Qatif

## February 24

Opposition figure Ebrahim Sharif sentenced to one year in prison

## February 26

Salman bin Ibrahim fails to win the FIFA presidency

## February 27

Al-Arabiya channel airs confessions of Bahraini opposition figures extracted under torture



# 03<sup>20</sup><sub>16</sub> March

In March, Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa dismissed Information Minister Isa Al-Hammadi after he posted pictures mocking a sports event organized by the king's son Nasser bin Hamad.

Bahraini authorities deported 30 Lebanese nationals in a Gulf escalation targeting Lebanon. The Bahraini Interior Minister Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa hinted that the Shiite doctrine is a "Bid'ah" (heterodox) during a meeting of Arab Interior Ministers held in Tunisia.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein called on Bahrain to engage in "deep reforms," also expressing concern over the frequent sentences issued against dissent stripping them of their nationalities.

The ramifications of the "February Black Box" continued as the Kuwaiti businessman Ali Al-Matrouk announced that he is suing Al-Arabiya for the mention of his name as a supplier of weapons in the confessions obtained from the Bahraini opposition figures under duress.

On the level of judicial orders, the court of cassation overruled a death sentence issued against defendant Maher Al-Khabbaz from the village of Sehla, who was wrongfully convicted of murdering a policeman. Another Bahraini court sentenced activist Taiba Darwish to five years in prison.

At the end of march, prominent Shiite cleric Sayed Jawad Al-Wadaie passed away, and thousands of Bahrainis took part in his funeral procession held in the Bahraini capital Manama.



## March 2

UN special rapporteurs say Bahrain is practicing violence and discrimination against the Shiite community

## March 3

Kuwaiti Businessman Ali Al-Matrouk announces taking legal action against Al-Arabiya channel over “February Black Box” show

## March 4

Bahraini King dismisses Information Minister Isa Al-Hammadi and thousands of Shiites call for “international protection” from the persecution of the ruling Al Khalifa family

## March 6

Cassation court overrules death sentence issued against Maher Al-Khabbaz over murder of policeman in Sehla

## March 7

clerics, led by Ayatollah Sheikh Isa 39 Qassim, stress no demands shall be met under sectarian government

## March 9

Special Rapporteur on Torture Juan Mendez says his term came to an end yet Bahrain still hasn't approved his visit requests

## March 10

UN High Commissioner Prince Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein urges Bahrain to engage in “deep and fundamental” reforms

## March 14

Bahraini Activist Zainab Al-Khawaja was arrested with her infant son, and clashes erupted on fifth anniversary of the Saudi forces' invasion of Bahrain

## March 18

Statement announces dismissal of hundreds of Bahrainis in the banking sector due to the economic situation, and 100,000 foreigners have entered the job market in Bahrain since 2011

## March 19

Activist Salah Al-Khawaja released after five years of imprisonment

## March 21

Prominent Shiite cleric Sayed Jawad Al-Wadaie passes away, and thousands of Bahrainis join his funeral procession held the next day in Manama

## March 26

Bahraini Labour Minister: 9,800 Bahrainis have been dismissed from the public sector since the 2011 events to date

## March 30

Taiba Darwish sentenced to five years in prison over charges of “harboring” “wanted persons



04<sup>20</sup><sub>16</sub>  
A p r i l

Bahraini youth Ali Abdulghani, who was wanted over his involvement in the pro-democracy movement in Bahrain, was martyred a few days after the Interior Ministry announced that he was injured in his attempt to escape arrest.

President of the Bahrain Teachers' Association (BTA) Mahdi Abu Dheeb and the Secretary-General of Bahrain's Islamic Action Society (Amal) Sheikh Mohammad Ali Al-Mahfouz were freed from prison after serving five years behind bars for their participation in the February 14 uprising in 2011. Rayhana Al-Mousawi also saw freedom.

US Secretary of State John Kerry visits Bahrain for the first time, stating that the opposition made the mistake of boycotting the elections. He; however, met with opposition leaders and said that the country needs measures that would build trust between both sides leading up to the next elections.

The US Department of State also issued its report on religious freedoms in Bahrain, highlighting the ongoing discrimination practiced against the Shia in the country, adding that there is also a lack of judicial accountability for security officers accused of killing Shiite protesters.

The Bahraini Interior Ministry announced on April 12 the death of a policeman in Karbabad, and as a result of this incident that caused the death of the policeman, the military issued a statement in which it indirectly threatened to interfere against peaceful protests staged in villages and towns across the country.

## April 1

Thousands of Bahrainis protest as the Formula 1 tournament kicks off

## April 4

Bahraini youth Ali Abdulghani dies after sustaining injuries during his arrest, and BTA head Mahdi Abu Dheeb released after five years of imprisonment

## April 5

Thousands of Bahrainis take part in funeral procession of martyr Abdulghani, his chest injuries raise suspicions about Interior Ministry's narrative regarding the incident

## April 6

Bahraini King creates fund to compensate the families of slain military servicemen for their losses

## April 7

US Secretary of State John Kerry arrives to Manama, and says opposition made great mistake by boycotting the elections

## April 8

John Kerry "unofficially" meets with representatives of the Bahraini opposition and discusses their participation in 2018 election

## April 10

Central Bank of Bahrain says plans to close down Iran's Future Bank that current year

## April 12

Leader of the Bahraini opposition Sheikh Ali Salman during his trial before the appeals court: I call for a humane system that will make the Bahraini people feel valued as citizens

## April 14

US State Department in annual 2015 report: Societal discrimination continued against the Shiite population in Bahrain and lack of judicial accountability for security officers accused of human rights violations

## April 16

Bahraini Interior Ministry announces policeman in Karbabad killed by a Molotov cocktail, and military later issues statement stressing on their readiness to confront protests

## April 19

Bahrain King visits Bahrain Defense Force and praises its readiness to back interior ministry forces, and Salafist Al-Asala Society says it is willing to back the army "by opening the "door for jihad

## April 20

Rayhana Al-Mousawi free after three years of imprisonment

## April 21

Royal pardon issued in favor of American detainee Taqi Al-Maydan on the evening Obama met with the Gulf leaders in Riyadh

## April 28

Bahrain King vows in Cairo to build 30 educational centers for the Azhar

## April 30

Amal Secretary-General Sheikh Mohammad Ali Al-Mahfouz released from prison



05<sup>20</sup><sub>16</sub>  
M a y

On International Labour Day, demonstrations were staged in Bahrain stressing on Bahraini labour rights and denouncing the government's breach of the tripartite agreement, which stipulates reinstating dismissed workers.

The US Department of State urged the Bahraini authorities to immediately release human rights defender Zainab Al-Khawaja and her infant son. Meanwhile, the recently released Rayhana Al-Mousawi spoke out about the violations she was subjected to while in prison.

In a surprising move, Mahmoud Cherif Bassiouni visited Bahrain. The Bahrain News Agency (BNA) published a statement attributing it to Bassiouni, claiming that he said Bahrain implemented the commission of inquiry recommendations. Bassiouni; however, denied the statement attributed to him.

For its part, the Bahraini parliament banned religious preachers from joining political societies. Meanwhile, a Bahraini court sentenced Sheikh Mohammad Al-Mansi to one year in prison, issued life sentences against 10 defendants and an appeals court upheld death penalties against three others.

The appeals court toughened the four-year jail term issued against opposition leader Sheikh Ali Salman, more than doubling it to 9 years. On the other hand, the authorities released Zainab Al-Khawaja and forced her to leave the country shortly after her release.

**May 1**

Rallies on Labour Day denounce regime's breach of the Tripartite Agreement

**May 2**

US State Department says Bahrain should release Zainab Al-Khawaja and her infant son

**May 3**

Bahraini opposition factions on World Press Freedom Day: Media freedoms are deteriorating, hate speeches dominate newspapers

**May 5**

Rayhana Al-Mousawi opens up to Bahrain Mirror about her prison woes: I was questioned by Emirati officers & stripped by policewomen

**May 9**

Bassiouni from Manama: Bahrain implemented BICI recommendations & overcame 2011 events

**May 10**

Bahraini King announces implementation of BICI recommendations, and Bassiouni says statements attributed to him by BNA ""not accurate

**May 11**

Bahraini King visits Switzerland, which Discussed human rights issues with him directly

**May 13**

US State Department: Congress requested report on administration's assessment of Bahrain's BICI recommendations implementation

**May 15**

Report reveals Bahraini regime's systematic targeting of "Ajam" citizens, which includes stripping them of citizenships and deportations

**May 18**

Bahraini Parliament bans religious preachers from joining political societies

**May 19**

Bahraini King files legal complaint against The Times over Criticism of Seat Beside Queen Elizabeth on her Birthday

**May 24**

Sheikh Al-Mansi sentenced to year in prison over unlicensed prayer

**May 30**

Bahrain Appeals Court toughens opposition leader's prison sentence to reach 9 years, British FM welcomes Bahrain's commitment to human rights

**May 31**

Bahrain frees female activist Zainab Al-Khawaja and toddler son



06<sup>20</sup><sub>16</sub>  
J u n e

June was considered the worst month to Bahrainis. The authorities launched a crackdown on the opposition that started with the arrest of prominent human rights activist Nabeel Rajab. They, then, suspended Al-Wefaq in an introductory move to dissolve it later. The authorities also suspended both Al-Tawiya and Al-Risala religious societies, pursuant to a decision by the Minister of Justice and Social Development Jamil Hmaidan. The authorities then revoked the citizenship of Sheikh Isa Qassim and put him on trial over charges of “money laundering.”

These arbitrary decisions raised tensions on the local level, as Bahraini clerics supported by large numbers of youths began an open-ended sit-in protest outside Sheikh Isa Qassim’s house, in an attempt to prevent the authorities from committing further follies.

Shiites considered that the authorities are targeting them as a sect. The authorities’ measures were met with international condemnations; however, the regime turned a deaf ear to the criticism as it continued to besiege the Diraz area, where Sheikh Isa Qassim’s supporters held their protest rally. The authorities also continued to tighten their grip on the people of Diraz by blocking the Internet service during nighttime.

US criticism was nothing out of the ordinary, as Washington only expressed its concerns and warned its allies in the Bahraini government of the consequences of such measures on the regional level.

## June 2

Ban Ki-Moon calls for pardoning Sheikh Ali Salman, says he only practiced legal right to freedom of expression

## June 3

Bahrainis take to the streets protesting sentence against opposition leader, and King appoints Army Commander's son as Oil Minister

## June 4

Bahraini Interior Ministry says number of detainees at Dry Dock Prison escaped, and launches investigation into incident

## June 10

Bahrain records highest prison population rate in Middle East

## June 11

Zainab Al-Khawaja says on Twitter she took hard decision to leave Bahrain to Denmark

## June 12

Bahraini authorities prevent human rights activists from leaving to Geneva to participate in HRC session, Bahraini King bans mixing "religious preaching with political practice" and revokes citizenships of 3 National Guard members

## June 13

Bahraini authorities arrest prominent human rights activist Nabeel Rajab

## June 14

Bahrain court suspends main opposition group and freezes its assets based on lawsuit raised by Justice Ministry to dissolve the society and 2 religious groups: Al-Tawiya and Al-Risala

## June 15

Bahraini King supports measures taken against Al-Wefaq

## June 16

Bahraini clerics announce halt of congregational prayers after threats and police pursuits

## June 18

Senior clerics warn against any attempt to target Shi'ite Islam by undermining pillar of sect's doctrine

## June 20

Bahrain revokes citizenship of highest religious authority Ayatollah Sheikh Isa Qassim, and thousands launch open rally outside his house in Diraz

## June 21

International condemnations over revocation of Sheikh Isa Qassim's citizenship and measures against Al-Wefaq

## June 22

US Department of State issues its Report on implementation of BICI recommendations: Bahrain didn't implement large number of recommendations and stopped reconciliation efforts

## June 23

Grand Ayatollah Sayyed Al-Sistani phone calls Ayatollah Qassim, stresses such abuse cannot cause harm, and authorities block internet service in Diraz

## June 25

Ayatollah Sayed Khamenei: Stripping Sheikh Isa Qassim of nationality means no obstacle can now prevent young enthusiasts from rising up



07<sup>20</sup>  
16  
J u l y

In the early hours of July, Bahraini citizen Fakhriya Muslim was declared a martyr as she passed near the Eker area. Stories varied concerning the incident, yet the Bahraini Interior Ministry's narrative claimed that a bomb was detonated the moment she passed by with her daughters.

A few days after, the Interior Ministry announced that it arrested a group of citizens, over charges of detonating the explosives. Among them was Hassan Al-Hayeki, who passed away inside prison on the last day of July.

In the politicized judiciary arena, which the authorities have been using as a scourge for torture, the Administrative Court decided to dissolve the Al-Wefaq Society, liquidate its assets, and confiscate its belongings. US Secretary of State John Kerry regarded this decision as "destabilizing to regional security."

The authorities continue to hit the Shiite sect through the judiciary, to the extent that they referred Ayatollah Sheikh Isa Qassim and others to the Public Prosecution, in a case known to be the first raised against the religious obligatory Shiite Khums (alms) ritual. In light of the consecutive blows, Bahrain's most prominent clerics, including Sheikh Isa Ahmad Qassim and Sayed Abdullah al-Ghuraifi, announced in a statement that the Shiite sect in Bahrain has now become targeted in its existence and identity. For its part, the regime launched the trial of Sheikh Isa Qassim in absentia.

July started with the martyrdom of Fakhriya, and in its final days ended with the martyrdom of one of the defendants accused of killing her, Hassan Al-Hayeki. Before his martyrdom, Al-Hayeki told his family how he was tortured with electric shocks and brutal, painful methods by security forces to force him into confessing to the crime. He was martyred due to the torture that his heart could not tolerate anymore, and thus it stopped beating on Sunday July 31, 2016.



## July 1

Citizen Fakhriya Muslim was martyred in a mysterious incident in Eker, and thousands march in her funeral procession the next day

## July 2

US Vice President Joe Biden phone calls Bahrain's King Hamad expressing "strong concerns regarding negative developments in Bahrain", and the Bahrain official Gazette publishes a royal decree revoking Sheikh Isa Qassim's citizenship

## July 7

of European Parliament MEPs 81% vote in favor of resolution condemning Bahrain

## July 11

Bahraini Activist Ebrahim Sharif released from prison after serving yearlong sentence

## July 12

Bahraini Interior Ministry says it arrested two men suspected of planting bomb that killed Fakhriya Muslim in Eker

## July 15

Friday and congregational prayers resumed in Bahrain Shiite Mosques, Sanqour calls on Government to cool down atmosphere & restore trust

## July 16

Ayatollah Sheikh Isa Qassim Referred to Trial for Managing Religious Khums Ritual

## July 17

Bahraini court dissolves Al-Wefaq and liquidates its funds

## July 18

Sheikh Isa Qassim and prominent clerics in Bahrain declare Shiite sect is targeted in its existence, Sheikh Mohammad Sanqour released after accusations of leading prayers without license

## July 24

Bahraini authorities summon Shiite clerics for questioning over taking part in Diraz protest

## July 27

First trial of Ayatollah Sheikh Isa Qassim launched in absentia

## July 29

Hezbollah Secretary-General Sayed Nasrallah commends open rally in Bahrain's Diraz, denounces criminalization of Khums ritual

## July 30

Bahraini authorities arrest prominent Shiite cleric Sayed Majeed Al-Mashaal after raiding his house

## July 31

Hassan Al-Hayeki Dies in prison due to torture after accusations of involvement in Eker bombing



**08<sup>20</sup><sub>16</sub>**  
**August**

The continuous targeting was the theme of August 2016, which witnessed an escalation in arrests and trials of religious clerics.

Bahraini authorities summoned more than 50 religious clerics, and decided to arrest a number of them. A campaign was launched against Shiite clerics to issue prison sentences against them. This coincided with the authorities' continuous ban on performing Friday prayers in Diraz, which has been under regime siege since June.

Among the most prominent figures sentenced to prison was former Head of Ulama Islamic Council, Majeel al-Mashaal, with a two-year prison term.

On the international level, there were ongoing calls for the release of prominent rights activist Nabeel Rajab, yet these calls did not resonate with the pro-West regime. Nabeel Rajab's health deteriorated at the Rifa'a police station where he was held, amid terrible health and psychological conditions that adversely affected him.

After high school diploma results came out, hundreds of top-grade Shiite students complained for not receiving scholarships they deserve for the high scores they achieved. Most of them were granted their 12th preference on the list of their education major options.

## August 2

Thousands of angry mourners hold funeral procession for martyr Al-Hayeki who Died 24 days after his arrest

## August 4

Bahrain King appoints official accused of torture as deputy Interior Minister and Talal Al Khalifa as head of “National Security

## August 5

Bahraini Interior Minister grants those with revoked citizenships 4 weeks to manage their affairs, based on Aliens Immigration and Residence Act

## August 6

More clerics summoned for interrogation, Al-Khaif Mosque preacher Sheikh Isa Al-Moamen arrested

## August 9

Scholarship distribution shows great discrimination against Shiite top-grade students

## August 10

Bahraini authorities summoned 47 Shiite Clerics, and arrested 13 of them within 50 days

## August 14

Protests stress on Bahrainis just demands marking Independence Day

## August 16

UN rights experts urge Bahrain to end persecution of Shias

## August 18

First court verdict in relation to Diraz protest sentences Shiite cleric to 1 year in prison

## August 19

Bahrain announces death of Bahraini soldier involved in war on Yemen

## August 23

US State Department documents: Bahrain Crown Prince donated \$32 Million to Clinton Foundation Program to meet Hillary Clinton

## August 24

Deputy Chief of Public Security, Khalifa bin Ahmad Al Khalifa, insults Shiites

## August 31

Sayed Majeed al-Mashaal sentenced to two years in prison, and Tweeter Taiba Ismail sentenced to one

## January 28

Detainee Abduljalil Al-Singace ends 313-day hunger strike



09<sup>20</sup><sub>16</sub>  
September

Throughout the month of September, the Bahraini authorities adopted an aggressive approach in its statements towards the United Nations and Human Rights Council.

Foreign Minister Khalid bin Ahmad Al Khalifa declared that the government will not waste its time with the Human Rights Council. Bahraini authorities also banned all rights activists from traveling, who were scheduled to participate in the Human Rights Council sessions held in Geneva.

The Foreign Minister later met with then UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. The United Nations said its Secretary General discussed the Human Rights record of Bahrain, which Bahrain in turn denied. In a statement, the Foreign Minister said Bahraini authorities do not target the Shiite sect, and that it knows its country's interests more than the United Nations.

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid bin Ra'ad was not excluded from the criticism of Bahraini officials, when he called on Manama to implement the Human Rights Council recommendations. Pro-regime writers and journalists also launched a campaign against Zeid bin Ra'ad for his stances.

## September 1

US set to approve sales of Boeing fighter jets to Qatar and Kuwait, and Bahrain remains under consideration

## September 4

NYT Publishes Nabeel Rajab's letter: Bahrain's Mol interrogated me about my meeting with US Secretary of State, and prosecution accuses him "of "spreading false news

## September 6

Bahraini King arrives to Russia in second visit during the year

## September 7

Bahraini Appeal Court upholds prison sentence against Dr. Al-Samahiji for criticizing KSA over Sheikh Al-Nimr's execution

## September 9

PHOTOS: Tens of thousands take to the streets in Iran in support of the Bahraini people

## September 11

Congress hearing criticizes Bahraini Government's "sectarian policies", demands the US adopts concrete measures

## September 12

Crowd of people perform Eid Al-Adha prayers outside Sheikh Qassim's house, and protests take march in Diraz

## September 13

Sheikh Ali Salman's address at HRC: Bahrainis anticipate international community support, and High Commissioner calls on Bahrain to implement HRC recommendations

## September 14

countries condemn Bahrain's 35 measures against opposition, call for inclusive reforms

## September 15

GCC States disappointed by UN Human Rights Commissioner's criticism of Bahrain, and Al-Wefaq Secretary General referred to prosecution over HRC speech

## September 20

Human Rights Activist Nasser Al-Ras dies in hospital in Canada

## September 22

Bahraini Appeal Court upholds verdict to dissolve Al-Wefaq and liquidate its funds

## September 26

Nabeel Rajab held in solitary confinement in East Riffa Police Station, subjected to insults

## September 29

Bahraini FM tweets Israeli president "tribute, lauds him as "man of war

## September 30

Bahraini Interior Minister vows prevention of coup participants" from "political participation", and clashes erupt in Bahrain after regime forces take down Ashura banners



10<sup>20</sup><sub>16</sub>  
October

With each Ashura season, the harassments against mourners resume, as they have been ongoing since 2011. The Bahraini authorities intensified restrictions on religious preachers, reciters and manifestations across the country.

The Bahraini authorities were surprised by the United States decision to halt the sale of F16 Fighters, in a bid to express disapproval concerning the series of decisions made by the Bahraini regime. These decisions began in June with the dissolution of Al-Wefaq National Islamic Society, revocation of Sheikh Isa Qassim's citizenship, toughening of sentence against opposition leader Sheikh Ali Salman, and arrest of prominent activist Nabeel Rajab.

The British support provided to the Bahraini regime continued on the political level. King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa met with British Prime Minister Theresa May. Demands by human rights organizations did not succeed in changing the UK stance.

## October 1

Obama administration refuses to sell F16 Fighters to Bahrain before human rights progress

## October 3

Bahraini security forces ban 3 Ashura obsequies in Diraz, and violations are committed against Ashura rituals in 15 villages across country

## October 10

Public Prosecution detains Journalist Faisal Hayyat for 7 days pending investigation

## October 11

Thousands perform central Ashura prayers in Manama despite authorities' ban, Sheikh Hussein al-Daihi says violating Ashura rituals is result of Takfiri creed adopted by regime

## October 13

Clashes break out in Bahrain as protesters approach Pearl (Lualua) Roundabout

## October 15

Bahraini authorities agree on Israeli delegation visit to Manama to take part in FIFA congress meetings

## October 16

King Hamad bin Isa says during third session of fourth legislative term: Bahrain has human dignity safeguarded and rituals protected

## October 17

Court of Cassation overturns Sheikh Ali Salman's verdict, death penalty and life-imprisonment handed down to defendants accused of killing Emirati officer

## October 20

Bahraini security forces raid al-Wefaq headquarters, and execution court announces selling all its belongings in auction

## October 24

Sayed Alawi Moussawi arrested while at work in Muharraq

## October 25

Bahraini Minister: Bahrain was not under British occupation, it's been independent since Al Khalifa arrived

## October 26

Protesters hurl themselves at Bahrain King's vehicle in London

## October 30

Bahraini authorities arrest Sayed Ahmed Al-Wadaei's wife after he intercepted King's Car in London, and Al-Wefaq appeals Verdict to dissolve society in Cassation Court



# 1 1 20 16

## November

UK Crown Prince Charles was hosted by the Bahraini Royal family in his visit to Bahrain, during which he launched the first East Suez British Naval base since 1967. In a bid to approach high-ranked officials, the Bahraini Embassy in Washington held a ceremony celebrating its National Day in one of the hotels owned by US President elect, Donald Trump.

Despite human rights organizations' hopes and demands expressed throughout Charles' visit, Bahrain carried on with its steps in crushing dissent. The Public Prosecution accused activist Ebrahim Sharif of inciting hatred against the regime, over a statement he gave to the Associated Press.

For the 17th week in row, the largest Shiite congregational prayer was banned, and 43 activists and clerics were banned from traveling. Journalist Faisal Hayyat was arrested for 3 months. These numbers show the level of crackdown that Bahrainis suffer under the UK-backed regime.

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Nayef in Bahrain, and Khalifa bin Salman in Riyadh exchanging visits to discuss promoting Gulf relations in the face of rising democratic aspirations.



## November 3

Wa'ad opens its eighth general conference by "adhering to opposition demands"

## November 4

Bahraini King on RSF new list of Press Freedom Predators

## November 9

Bahraini King congratulates Trump on Presidency, commends historic ties

## November 10

British Crown Prince opens his country's military base in Bahrain

## November 11

Bahraini authorities prevent Shia citizens from performing Friday prayers for 17th consecutive week

## November 14

Bahrain accuses Ebrahim Sharif of "inciting hatred" over AP comments

## November 16

Saudi Crown Prince arrives in Bahrain to participate in Arab Gulf Security drill

## November 18

Bahraini lawyer Al-Tajer: 38 Bahraini Activists and 15 clerics banned from travel

## November 19

Open Diraz rally at Ayatollah Isa Qassim's House marks 150th day

## November 21

Amnesty International report says torture and rights abuses persist in Bahrain

## November 23

Prominent Bahraini Activist Nabeel Rajab transferred to hospital due to heart problems

## November 26

Bahrain: Gulf Union to be established without Oman

## November 28

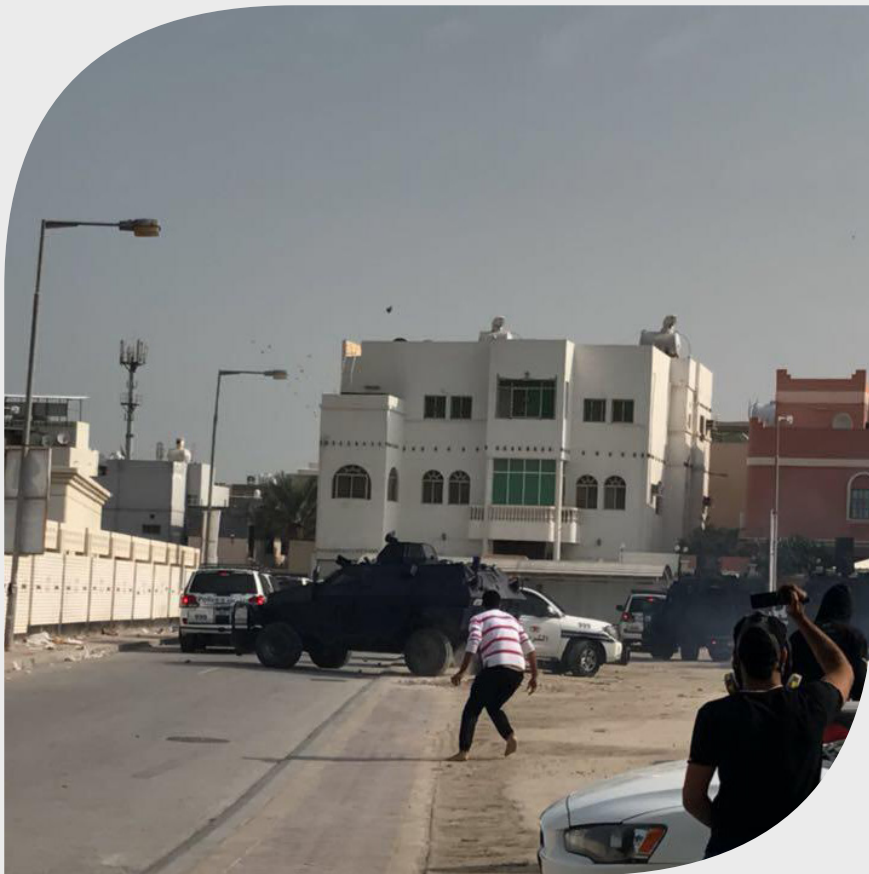
35 days after his disappearance: Grievances office says it met Sayed Alawi, claiming he is detained over "terrorist" case

## November 29

Journalist Faisal Hayyat sentenced to 3-Month Jail term over Tweet

## November 30

Bahrain's Embassy in Washington hosts National Day ceremony in Trump-owned hotel



12<sup>20</sup>  
16  
December

A large force attacked the open-ended rally protest site in Diraz, and clashed with residents and protesters near Ayatollah Sheikh Isa Qassim's house. This came days after British Prime Minister Theresa May visited Bahrain to take part in the Gulf Summit held in Sakhir.

The Bahrain royal family's bribes scandals never end. After the Trump hotel incident, documents confirmed that the International Institute for Studies (which organizes the Manama Dialogue Forum) has received around 15 million sterling pounds from the ruling family; a scandal after which the institute's president had to resign.

With the celebration of the National Day by the government on the one hand, Martyr Day was marked by demonstrations that stressed that the Bahrainis are looking forward to electing the government. During this time, the world's "longest-serving" prime minister, Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, was admitted to the hospital twice within this month to undergo medical tests.

Eyewitnesses said they heard detainee Alawi Moussawi screaming in the torture chamber "you killed me". This is a scream adored by the ruling family, as one of its officers has killed journalist Iman Salihi with a bullet to her head in front of her 6-year-old child.

## December 5

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Former Health Minister Nada Hafaz regrets lack of Bahraini expertise in Health Ministry

## December 6

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UK Prime Minister arrives to Bahrain to take part in GCC Summit, and authorities ban Qatar-affiliated TV from covering event

## December 8

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Bahrain King and Saudi counterpart agree to study new bridge project with private funding

## December 9

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Manama Dialogue kicks off, IISS Executive Director steps down after scandal of receiving £25 Million from Bahrain

## December 12

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Bahraini Appeals Court upholds 9-year jail sentence against opposition leader Sheikh Ali Salman

## December 13

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Bahrain's Crown Prince says he is "Optimistic" about Trump's administration

## December 14

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Eyewitness says he heard (forcefully disappeared) Sayed Alawi Al-Musawi screams in torture chamber

## December 16

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Bahrainis Protest on Martyr Day eve, and regime forces disperse crowds using tear gas

## December 17

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PM court says Khalifa bin Salman left hospital after medical tests

## December 21

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Clashes erupt near Ayatollah Sheikh Isa Qassim's house after huge force raided protest site

## December 22

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Interior Ministry interrogates Nabeel Rajab over article in French newspaper, refers his case to prosecution

## December 23

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Bahraini woman killed in Riffa, information say killer is officer from ruling family

## December 26

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Khalifa bin Salman in hospital for second time in one Month, Bahraini Crown Prince presides council meeting

## December 28

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Jewish celebration in Bahrain raises controversy on social media outlets



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