

## YEMEN

### **Baha'is**

In August 2016, sixty Baha'is were arrested and in April 2017 more than a dozen Baha'is. On 2nd January 2018, the Specialized Criminal Court furthermore ordered the dissolution of all Baha'i Assemblies. This raised the persecution of the Baha'is in Yemen to an unprecedented scale.

Source : <https://www.bic.org/offices/brussels>

### **Walid AYYASH**

**Date and place of arrest:** In April 2017, near city border of Hudiedah

**Charges:** Helping poor families, showing kindness, and displaying rectitude of conduct in order to attract people to the Bahá'í Faith

**Place of detention:** Sana'a

**Last court decision:** Unknown

**Other information:** In April, the authorities called for the arrest of over 25 Baha'is, many of whom are prominent members of the Baha'i community and assist with the organization of the community's affairs. Mr. Ayyash is a prominent Yemeni tribal leader and Sheikh. His whereabouts are presently unknown.

Source: <http://news.bahai.org/story/1163/>

### **Hamed Kamal Muhammad bin HAYDARA**

**Date of birth:** 1964

**Date and place of arrest:** On 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2013

**Charges:** Entering Yemen illegally in 1991 from Iran to establish a Baha'i homeland in collaboration with Israel, apostasy, compromising the independence of the Republic of Yemen, including spreading the Bahá'í faith in the Republic of Yemen

**Article of criminal/ civil/ administrative code:** Yemeni Criminal Code Article 125 (Violating the independence, unity or territorial integrity of the Republic shall be punished by death), Article 128 (Working in the interests of a foreign state, provision or exchanging of information with a foreign government is punishable by death.), Article 195 (Ridicule, contempt or claiming inferiority of the Islamic religion is punishable by imprisonment of five years or a fine.), and Article 259 (Anyone who turns back from or denounces the religion of Islam is punished by the death penalty after being questions for repentance three times and after giving him a respite of

thirty days; apostasy in public by speech or acts is considered contradictory to the principles of Islam).

**First court decision:** There were thirteen unrecorded hearings, only three of which the defendant has been allowed to attend. As of September 2016, Haydara was still being detained without a conclusive trial.

**Last court decision:** On 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018, Hamed was sentenced to public execution.

**Other information:** He is suspected of being a foreign agent working to undermine the state, hence the use of three charges that stipulate the death penalty. He was born in Yemen in 1964. His trial has been postponed on numerous occasions, most recently rescheduled for 1 August 2017.

*Source:* <http://bit.ly/1N4Eocf> , <http://bit.ly/2eczx00> , <http://bit.ly/2sG9sfa> , <http://bit.ly/2lzyf3q> , <http://bit.ly/2tIN4mH>

### **Kaiwan Mohamed Ali QADARI**

**Age:** 43 years

**Date and place of arrest:** On 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016

**Charges:** Unknown

**Article of criminal/civil/administrative code:** Unknown

**Last court decision:** Unknown

**Other information:** He was arrested alongside Nadir and Nadim Tawfiq Al-Sakkaf, who were released on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2016. The three Bahá'í leaders were detained following a mass arrest of sixty Bahá'ís and non-Bahá'ís across the country at a nine-day event of moral and educational youth programmes in Jud Organization building in Sana'a. At least seven other unnamed Baha'is were also imprisoned on August 10<sup>th</sup> and were released in September 2016.

*Source:* <http://bit.ly/2eczx00>

### **Mahmoud HUMAID**

**Date and place of arrest:** In April 2017, at a check point near the city border of Hudiedah

**Charges:** Helping poor families, showing kindness, and displaying rectitude of conduct in order to attract people to the Bahá'í Faith

**Last court decision:** Unknown

**Place of detention:** Sana'a

**Other information:** In April, the authorities called for the arrest of over 25 Baha'is, many of whom are prominent members of the Baha'i community and assist with the organization of the community's affairs. Mr. Humaid's whereabouts are presently unknown.

*Source:* <http://news.bahai.org/story/1163/>

**Badi'u'llah SANAI**

**Date and place of arrest:** In May 2017

**Charges:** Helping poor families, showing kindness, and displaying rectitude of conduct in order to attract people to the Bahá'í Faith

**Last court decision:** Unknown

**Other information:** In April, the authorities called for the arrest of over 25 Baha'is, many of whom are prominent members of the Baha'i community and assist with the organization of the community's affairs. Mr; Sanai was arrested in April 2017, released; and, subsequently rearrested in May 2017.

*Source:* <http://news.bahai.org/story/1163/>

<http://publicaffairs.bahai.us/recent-arrests-signal-increased-persecution-of-the-bahais-in-yemen/>