

Mohammad Hosni Mubarak
President of the Arab Republic of Egypt
Abedine Palace,
Cairo,
Egypt

Re. Karim Amer

Your Excellency,

I am writing to express my concern about the imprisonment of Karim Amer, who I understand is currently being held at a facility in Alexandria.

According to information that has been brought to my attention, Karim Amer was sentenced to four years' imprisonment on 22nd February 2007 simply for publishing his personal views about various issues on the Internet, including criticism of the religious authorities, state authorities and his thoughts about the sectarian riots that took place between Muslims and Christians in Alexandria in October 2005.

In accordance with Article 19 of the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers", I firmly believe that all people are entitled to air their views peacefully without fear of retribution.

Both the original sentence imposed by the Misdemeanour Court in Alexandria and the Court of Appeal's decision to uphold the sentence on 12th March 2007 were in clear violation of Karim Amer's human rights and I therefore consider him to be a prisoner of conscience.

As a result, I wish to call for his immediate and unconditional release.

Yours respectfully and sincerely,

Name _____
Address _____

HE Mr Gehad Refaat Madi
Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt
26 South Street
London W1K 1DW

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