



# United Arab Emirates

## Ahmed Mansoor

### *Locked up for speaking truth to power*

Ahmed Mansoor is a loving father and husband. He's a poet, blogger, and human rights defender. Right now, he is locked away in a cell in al-Sadr prison, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. He spends his days in an isolation cell, with no access to books, pens or paper. He does not even have a bed.

His crime? Speaking the truth. Before his arrest, Ahmed was one of the few voices within the UAE providing the rest of the world with credible independent information about human rights violations in the country. He regularly raised concerns about the detention, torture and unfair trials of dissenting voices. He spoke about problems with the justice system and of domestic laws that breach international ones.

For this Ahmed is paying a high price. In March 2017, UAE security forces raided his home and arrested him. For over a year, no one, not even his family, knew where he was detained. In May 2018, Ahmed was sentenced to a decade in prison on charges including "insulting the UAE and its symbols".

Protesting about his prison conditions, Ahmed has twice resorted to hunger strikes, losing dangerous amounts of weight and putting his life at risk. Despite this he is only allowed outside three times a week, when guards remove all other prisoners from the yard and Ahmed spends the little time he has in the sunlight, alone.

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## Take Action: Call for the release of Ahmed Mansoor

Tell the UAE authorities that Ahmed Mansoor must be immediately and unconditionally released, as he has been imprisoned solely for his peaceful human rights activism.

### Write to:

President of the United Arab Emirates  
Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan  
c/o Embassy of the United Arab Emirates  
125 Boteler Street  
Ottawa, ON K1N 0A4

Email: [ottawaemb.consulate@mofaic.gov.ae](mailto:ottawaemb.consulate@mofaic.gov.ae)

Salutation: Your Highness

Twitter / X: @MohamedBinZayed

Note: For the best chance of the president seeing your letters, please take photos of them and post on Twitter / X and Instagram, tagging the president's handles.

Hashtags: #FreeAhmed #W4R23 #W4RCanada

## Help keep Ahmed's spirit alive

Send him your message of solidarity and hope.

Ahmed Mansoor  
c/o Ms S.F  
Gulf Centre for Human Rights  
PO box 245  
Saïda  
Lebanon

Twitter / X: @Ahmed\_Mansoor

Note: Please post photos of your cards and letters for Ahmed on social media, so his family can see them.

