



**WRITE  
FOR  
RIGHTS**

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL



# **WOMAN JOURNALIST JAILED FOR EXPOSING ALLEGED CORRUPTION**

**Makhabat Tazhibek kyzy**

📍 Kyrgyzstan



# MAKHABAT TAZHIBEK KYZY

Kyrgyzstan



Born into a family of poets, judges and politicians, Makhabat Tazhibek kzy grew up surrounded by creativity and human rights. Poetry is woven into Kyrgyzstan's culture, with poets using their words to voice people's struggles and criticize the authorities. For Makhabat, becoming a journalist was an obvious choice. She could amplify people's voices and share their stories.

By 2022, Makhabat was the head of one of the most prominent investigative media outlets in Kyrgyzstan, uncovering alleged corruption at the highest levels and reporting on deeply rooted social issues like inequality, giving a voice to people affected.

This crucial work was not without risks. As the authorities intensified their crackdown on independent journalism, Makhabat became a target. In December 2023, she received threats of imprisonment, torture and deportation. Unintimidated, she vowed to continue her work.

Just weeks later, in January 2024, the authorities raided Makhabat's home and arrested her. The charges, "calls for violence against citizens" and "calls for active disobedience and mass riots", were baseless. There is no evidence for either. Yet in October 2024, Makhabat was sentenced to six years in prison.

Now her young son is growing up without his mother.

**Call on Kyrgyzstan to ensure the immediate release of Makhabat and to review her criminal case now.**

## WRITE TO THE PROSECUTOR GENERAL

Call on the prosecutor general to initiate a review of the case of Makhabat, ensure her immediate release and full acquittal, and guarantee that she can continue her professional activities in Kyrgyzstan without undue restrictions.

**ADDRESS:** General Prosecutor  
General Prosecutor's Office  
Toktonaliev Street, 139  
Bishkek  
720040  
Kyrgyzstan

**SALUTATION:** Dear Prosecutor General  
**EMAIL:** [statement@prokuror.kg](mailto:statement@prokuror.kg)  
**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/prokuraturakg](https://www.facebook.com/prokuraturakg)  
**INSTAGRAM:** [genprokuratura\\_kr](https://www.instagram.com/genprokuratura_kr)  
**HASHTAGS:** #MakhabatBoshtonduk,  
#FreeMakhabat, #W4R25

## SEND YOUR LETTERS AND CARDS OF HOPE TO MAKHABAT

Help keep Makhabat's spirits up and let her know she is not alone. Tell her about traditional music and folklore in your country – both are so important to her.

**ADDRESS:** Makhabat Tazhibek kzy,  
1991 year of birth  
Correctional Facility No. 2  
selo Stepnoye  
Alamudun District  
724328  
Kyrgyzstan

**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/temirovlive](https://www.facebook.com/temirovlive)  
**INSTAGRAM:** [temirovlive](https://www.instagram.com/temirovlive)  
**X:** @TemirovLive  
**HASHTAGS:** #MakhabatBoshtonduk,  
#FreeMakhabat, #W4R25