

A close-up portrait of a woman wearing a green hijab, looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a soft, out-of-focus pink.

**WRITE  
FOR  
RIGHTS**

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL



**NASSIMA AL-SADA, SAUDI ARABIA**

---

**LOCKED UP  
FOR DEMANDING  
WOMEN'S RIGHTS**

---

# NASSIMA AL-SADA, SAUDI ARABIA

---

Nassima al-Sada loves animals and cherishes her garden back home. Even in her prison cell, she has a carefully tended plant. It is her only link to the outside world she must sorely miss.

---

For much of her life, Nassima campaigned for women's freedom in Saudi Arabia. In doing so, she's lost her own. She was one of several prominent activists demanding women's right to drive and the right to carry out their daily business without the permission of a male "guardian".

---

Saudi Arabia's guardianship laws required women to seek a man's permission to go out, and other basic needs. While these laws have been eased in recent months, the women who have campaigned to end the guardianship system remain behind bars. "Why should an under-age boy be the guardian of a woman who is an adult?" Nassima wrote in 2016. "Why isn't there an age at which a woman becomes an adult, responsible for her decisions and her life? Why should there be a man responsible for her life?"

---



Nassima was arrested for her peaceful human rights work in July 2018. While in jail, she was ill-treated. She was placed in a cell alone, in complete isolation from other detainees from February 2019 to February 2020. She is allowed one weekly phone call with her family, but no visits, not even from her lawyer.

---

Still, Nassima and her family aren't giving up. Nor should we.

---

**Tell Saudi Arabia to free Nassima now.**

---

## WRITE TO THE AMBASSADOR OF SAUDI ARABIA

---

Tell her to free Nassima and other women's rights activists immediately and unconditionally.

---

**Princess Reema Bandar Al-Saud**

Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia  
601 New Hampshire Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20037

**Email:** [saudiusemb@mofa.gov.sa](mailto:saudiusemb@mofa.gov.sa)

**Twitter:** [@rbalsaud](https://twitter.com/rbalsaud)

**Salutation:** Your Royal Highness

---

## HELP KEEP NASSIMA'S SPIRIT STRONG

---

Post a photo of yourself gardening or simply enjoying the sun on your social media channels. Include a personal message to Nassima. Remember to tag her [@nasema33](https://twitter.com/nasema33), as well as [@KingSalman](https://twitter.com/KingSalman), and use the hashtag [#FreeNassima](https://twitter.com/FreeNassima).

Physical copies can be sent to:

Amnesty International  
for Moussa  
Postbus 1968  
1000 BZ Amsterdam  
Netherlands

---

**REPORT YOUR LETTERS AT  
[AMNESTYUSA.ORG/W4R/  
REPORT](https://www.amnestyusa.org/w4r/report)**

---

December 2020

Index: MDE 23/2582/2020 English

Cover photograph: © Private

Script development: © David