

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa

Deputy Prime Minister

May the peace and blessings of God/Allah be upon you;

I am delighted to inform your highness that the Supreme Judicial Council has completed the following:

- 1- Establishing specialized courts to hear the cases of compensation for the events that took place in the kingdom last year.
- 2- The charged commission reviewed the National Safety Courts' irrevocable adjudications of conviction in terms of its compliance with the basic standards of just trials, which include briefing a lawyer and fulfilling the principle of the legitimacy of the evidence. The commission also reviewed the irrevocable adjudications of conviction especially in the crimes related to freedom of political expression that don't include instigation for violence.

In its final report, the above mentioned commission has included all the 165 adjudications ruled by the National Safety Courts that convicted 502 persons. The commission found that the number of appealed adjudications was 135 which are being revised by the ordinary courts according to the law.

The commission was informed that 1622 cases were referred the Public Prosecution from the Military Prosecution after lifting the State of National Safety. The Public Prosecution closed 1185 cases of them, and dropped 334 cases related to the freedom of opinion and expression.

Within the frame of keenness to fully implement the recommendation No. 1720 of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (BICI), the commission reported 30 cases that were not appealed at the ordinary courts. The commission revised the adjudications in accordance with the constitution and law as well as

the international standards for human rights, especially the articles 6, 19, and 20 of the international convention for civil and political rights about the right for a just trial and for freedom of opinion, expression and assembling.

To activate the principle of equity in criminal justice, the commission announced its recommendations on the basis of the declaration of His Majesty the King not to pursue cases of undermining the King's dignity. The Public Prosecution also drops the charges related to freedom of expression.

After revising the cases, the commission announced its recommendation about 30 cases. It recommends dropping the charges and removing them from the files of five accused persons; contenting with the sentence only for six accused persons; and dropping the charges only from the files of two accused persons.

3- The Supreme Judicial Council has almost completed the procedures of employing an adviser for the national investigation team who are charged with investigating the claims about violations took place during the past period.

Sign

Khalifa Bin Rashid Bin Abdullah Al Khalifa

Vice-President of Supreme Judicial Council

President of Court of Cassation