AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

# MUSTERBRIEF

## APPELLE AN

**JUSTIZMINISTER**

Waleed Mohammed Al Smani
Minister of Justice
Postal Code 11472
P.O. Box 7775
Riad
SAUDI-ARABIEN
**Email: minister-office@moj.gov.sa**

# KOPIEN AN

**Botschaft des Königreichs Saudi-Arabien**

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# ANMERKUNGEN

## AMNESTY FORDERT:

- Ich fordere Sie auf zu veranlassen, dass Manahel al-Otaibi umgehend und bedingungslos freigelassen wird, da sie sich nur aufgrund der friedlichen Ausübung ihres Rechts auf freie Meinungsäußerung in Haft befindet.
- Bis zu ihrer Freilassung muss ihr unverzüglich Zugang zu medizinischer Versorgung gewährt werden, und ihre Vorwürfe der Folter und anderer Misshandlungen müssen unparteiisch untersucht werden.

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# INHALT

Your Excellency,

I am deeply concerned about the continued arbitrary detention of fitness influencer and women's rights activist
**Manahel al-Otaibi**
. On 21 August 2025, instead of ordering her immediate release, Saudi Arabia's counter-terror court resentenced her, from an initial 11-year sentence to a new sentence of 5 years in prison followed by a 5-year travel ban.

On 9 January 2024, the SCC had sentenced Manahel al-Otaibi to 11 years in prison for "terrorist offences" after a secret trial where she was found guilty under articles 43 and 44 of the Kingdom's Law for Combatting Terrorism and its Financing. Manahel al-Otaibi's family have not had access to her court documents, or the evidence presented against her. The authorities restrict and monitor Manahel al-Otaibi's communication with her family.

Manahel al-Otaibi was arrested on 16 November 2022 and charged with violating the Anti-Cyber Crime Law for tweeting hashtags in support of women's rights and posting photos on Snapchat of herself at the mall wearing "immodest" clothing. As well as being subjected to months-long periods of enforced disappearance Manahel al-Otaibi has also been subjected to torture and other ill-treatment in al-Malaz Prison. Manahel al-Otaibi suffers from multiple sclerosis, a chronic neurological disorder. In a phone call to her family on 11 May 2025, she reported severe pain in her leg and she said that she had not received adequate medical care.

**I urge you to order the immediate and unconditional release of Manahel al-Otaibi, as she has been convicted solely for exercising her right to freedom of expression. Pending her release, she must be granted immediate access to medical care, and her allegations of torture and other ill-treatment must be impartially investigated.**

Yours sincerely,