



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING FAIR TRIAL & HUMAN RIGHTS

Registration No. 2795/2012

OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD OF THE ORGANIZATION

Report of the International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights of the Peaceful gathering at Al-Irada Square on September 11, 2021

For the fourteenth week in a row, peaceful gatherings continue in Al_Irada Square in Kuwait. On September 11, the protesters called their peaceful gathering "Saturday Save Homeland - 14". As part of the activities of the Monitoring and Documentation Group of the International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights, Adviser Anwar Al-Rashid, Chairman of the Monitoring and Documentation Group, kept pace with the peaceful protest.

For the first time, the gathering took place for three hours, involving many figures and bodies along with the "Medical Freedom" group. Speakers have alternated their words amid a complete disregard by the traditional press for the event, while the online press followed - up and secured a complete media coverage of that event... The ICSFT Monitoring and Documentation Group has monitored the following observations:

- **First:** The Ministry of Interior continues to maintain its position aimed at harassing the gathering's participants, preventing them from reaching Al Irada Square by closing the eastern and western car parks of the square. Here, it must be noted that we have repeatedly appealed to the Ministry in this regard. However, the Ministry of Interior's continuation of this policy towards citizens is a clear violation of the citizens' legitimate rights to peaceful assembly to express their opinions and demands.
- **Second:** The representative of ICSFT spoke to the media about the recommendations of the Human Rights Council that talk about amending laws restricting freedoms. It is worth noting that, as a result of implementing these provisions, the prison sentences for tweeters and opinion holders have reached more than eight hundred and thirty years and four months in prison until the moment this report was published. These rulings also contributed to an unprecedented increase in the number of asylum seekers, immigrants and prisoners. Here, the Kuwaiti Government continues to ignore the

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recommendations of the universal periodic review (January 2020) even though it has informed the Human Rights Council that it has taken note of them.

- **Third:** Chancellor Anwar Al-Rashid, representing the ICSFT, has addressed the Minister of Justice, demanding a statistical report on the sentences handed down to tweeters, politicians and opinion-makers in accordance with the laws restricting freedoms from the date of their application to the date of the request of the Human Rights Council for their amendment. Yet, the Kuwaiti Government continues to procrastinate.

However, The ICSFT renews its demand to the Kuwaiti authorities to review their international rights obligations. The ICSFT also notes that the practice of the Ministry of the Interior, particularly with regard to the restriction of citizens, is a violation of human rights and of all international conventions and norms.

Head of the Monitoring and Documentation Team at the ICSFT

Human rights advisor

Anwar Al-Rasheed

Kuwait, September 11th, 2021

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