

January 13, 2019

His Majesty King Salman Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud  
The Custodian of the two Holy Mosques  
Office of His Majesty the King  
Royal Court  
Riyadh  
**Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

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Your Majesty

Please allow me to address you with a special request: These days we commemorate the fourth anniversary of the flogging of **Raif Badawi**. He had to endure 50 lashes because he had dared to utter criticism that was far away from aggression or calling for violent action

In the western world, **Raif Badawi** has become the most famous inmate all over the world. Even though he has been locked away for such a long time, people know him. There is a Wikipedia entry about him and a remarkable award was named after him.

All he did was bringing life to Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which says:

*Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.*

Therefore **Raif Badawi** has become an icon in the fight for human rights and a role model for those who stand up for democracy and the freedom of expression.

First and foremost, however, **Raif Badawi** is a husband and a father, who has not seen his wife and children for more than seven years. His punishment is causing severe hardship to his young children, who have had to spend most of their childhood without their father.

With this letter, I call upon your generosity: Please respond to the ongoing international outcry and open the prison gates for **Raif Badawi**.

Yours respectfully

