

NHRC Second Report Regarding the Human Rights Violations as a Result of the Blockade on the State of Qatar

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I. Summary

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), United Arab Emirates (UAE), and Kingdom of Bahrain severed relations with the state of Qatar, on 5 June, 2017, that involved closure of sea, land, and air routes in the face of trades, and also in the face of Gulf Citizens in a series of actions never witnessed before by the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), disregarding all human rights and humanitarian standards and principles and their legal obligations, as those three states are fully aware of the great interrelations and connections among the region's people and nations on all social, economic, cultural, civilian levels.

In this report, the National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) sheds light on the violations of the most basic human rights reported since 5 June, the day on which the blockade and ban was imposed, until Wednesday 28 June, by citizens of: KSA, Qatar, UAE, Bahrain (without addressing the political domain, as it is not included in the mandate of the NHRC).

Since Monday , 5 June 2017, hundreds of complaints have been submitted to the NHRC via e-mail, phone and hotlines , or personal visits to the NHRC headquarters in Doha, Qatar's capital. According to the data received, approximately 11,387 citizens from the three states live in Qatar, and approximately 1927 Qatari citizens live in those states. All of those people have been affected in different areas and ways to varying degrees. In some cases, the actions taken by these states separated mothers from her children.



On Sunday , 11 June, (Six days after the decision), KSA issued a royal order to take into consideration the humanitarian situation of mixed families (Saudi-Qatari), then the UAE followed their footsteps, and then Kingdom of Bahrain. While the NHRC appreciates this step and sees it as a step in the right direction, NHRC also calls on the three states to clarify the implementation mechanisms, emphasizes that it has to include all human rights and legal areas, and calls for ending the blockade and all violations in all its forms, and compensating the affected families and individuals.

Dr. Ali Al Marri, chairman of NHRC, stated that ““The suffering of the GCC people has become notable through the reports of the NHRC, international reports and statements and stories published in the mainstream media and social media. After all, we hope that the besiege countries take into account the rights and interests of the GCC peoples”.

II. Report methodology

In the aftermath of the crisis that affected citizens of four GCC states (citizens and residents in the State of Qatar), NHRC has increased working hours, even within the Eid holiday, due to the large number of complaints received daily, submitted by those affected. Victims communicate with the NHRC legal researchers via mail or the three dedicated hotlines. If victims are within the State of Qatar, they are asked to visit the Committee's headquarters in person, where they fill in complaint forms with required basic details, along with their personal ID numbers. Some of them attach university or school reports, work contracts, or other documents, all of which are available in the Committee's archives. It should be borne in mind that an individual may be subjected to more than one type of violations, and therefore the accumulated number of files reporting all violations is certainly greater than the total number of individuals. We have recorded incidents in which some individuals have been separated from their families, prevented from continuing education and had their right to movement violated. So, three violations against one individual.

In this report, we shed light on the most notable violations, we refer to the most notable two, or three forms of each violation, in order to maintain the size of the report. Please note that the concerned parties can acquire all of these forms and documents.

Also, we referred to names using initial letters in order to preserve their safety and security, in light of unprecedented procedures by the UAE that involved imposing penalties including to 3-15 years' imprisonment and fines of 500,000 AED for merely showing sympathy towards the state of Qatar.

Surely, the data provided by the victims are different from one case to another. However, all of these cases enjoy a high level of credibility. Most of the data were acquired personally through personal visits from the affected parties. Additionally, we received

complaints from people regarding violations against their first-degree relatives, where the victims were in other countries and are, as they claimed, unable to visit the NHRC headquarters, contact it, or send an e-mail -which we are still receiving on a daily basis- in this regard, we encourage all the citizens of the four states who suffer from any violations as a result of these abusive decisions to submit their complaints at the NHRC or any other national or international organizations. In light of this, what the NHRC was able to report and document is still the bare minimum, considering that many of those whose rights were violated don't know of the existence of any mechanisms for complaint submission. In addition, many of them seriously are afraid to reveal their identities due to that measures and actions that could be taken against them by their countries' local authorities if they contacted or submitted a complaint. Finally, there are violations against minors (under 18 years), and since they do not have identity documents, statistics do not include a large number of them. However, the psychological impact of violations affected by them is too deep to heal by time. The Qatari government has not taken any action against the citizens of the three states, and we didn't receive any complaint of that nature.

III. Most notable violations

The following table includes classifications of the violations recorded by the NHRC, 2451 in total. The violations are sorted by the state that perpetrated the violation and the type of each violation. The table includes the violations against the citizens of the three states in addition to Qatari citizens:

Complaint Country	Educati on	Owners hip	Family Separation	Travel	Health	Religious Practices	Work	Residen cy	Total
Saudi Arabia	29	464	261	557	14	121	64	50	1560
UAE	85	165	52	196	1	-	7	1	507
Bahrain	25	22	167	99	10	-	30	22	375
Multiple	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	9
Total	139	651	480	861	25	121	101	73	2451

A. Violations of the right of family reunification

This might be the most serious and appalling violation that resulted from the abusive decisions made by the three states, because it affects and threatens the ties of the united Gulf Families.

It also threatens the most vulnerable categories of society – women, children, people with disabilities, and the elderly- not to mention that it is an explicit violation to many articles of the international human rights laws.

In this regard, NHRC recorded 480 forms pertaining to families that were separated, even though we are absolutely certain that actual number is far greater.

In addition, the three besieging countries prevented any citizen or resident in the State of Qatar from carrying out any financial or even postal transactions, and thus not only cut family ties during the month of Ramadan and Eid, but prevented bread-winners from transferring money to their dependents, including women and children which constitutes, accordingly, a violation of all human rights and conventions.

Consequently, given that the besieging countries have failed to rectify any of the repercussions of their unfair decisions, the National Human Rights Committee has the conviction that these countries have not taken these decisions randomly, but deliberately with the intention to inflict humiliating and commit violation of fundamental freedoms, values and religious and social norms.

M. B. is a Qatari national married to a Bahraini; she stated “I live with my family in Qatar. As a result of the decision to sever relations with Qatar, my husband and children will have to leave Qatar and our family will be separated. My husband has a job here and my children are schooling here as well. My life is under threat and the future of my family is unknown under this decision.” She said.

Mrs. (N.H.), Saudi born in 1990, visited the NHRC headquarters and stated the violations she suffered from: “I have been a widow for three years. I live in the State of Qatar along with my two minor children who have a Qatari nationality. I don’t have a job, but I am supporting my family financially from my late husband’s family, which is paid by the State of Qatar. I am enrolled in Qatar University, and living in a rented house until the inheritance case is settled at court. On 8 June, Saudi authorities informed me to go back to the Saudi Arabia without my children. I can’t leave my children alone in Qatar, but I am afraid arbitrary actions will be taken against me if I didn’t comply.”

Mr. (K.S.), Bahraini born in 1984, called NHRC and then visited NHRC headquarters and stated that: “I live and work in the State of Qatar with my wife and my mother who both have Qatari nationality. The decision to sever relations with Qatar will force me to leave my work and family in Qatar and go back to Bahrain. How can I leave my wife and my mother, who suffers from a disability, and uproot my life and work here? I don’t wish to leave Qatar, and I am afraid of the punitive actions that might be taken against me by the Bahraini authorities.”

B. Violation of the right to Education

The education future of every Saudi, Emirati, or Bahraini studying in Qatar schools or universities including QF has been put in jeopardy this year. Therefore, Qatari authorities decided to postpone those students’ exams in order to maintain their right to complete their education and lose the progress they made in their whole academic year especially that we are at the end of the school year. However, the focus remains on the Qatari students studying in the three states, where their rights have been terribly violated, as laws have prevented them from traveling to complete their exams, obtaining documents from their university.

The National Human Rights Committee has recorded 139 cases pertaining specifically to this violation, including the following six main cases:

J.Z is a Qatari female student at the American University of the UAE, born in 1993; she stated “my graduation date was set on July 27, 2017; I am prevented from entering the UAE after the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar.”

Student H. M., a Qatari national born in 1997, reported to the NHRC headquarters and told his story of being denied access to education after the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar: “I am a Qatari student at Ajman University in the UAE. I am left with only two examinations to finish my study. However, the UAE denied me entry into its territory and this will prevent me from realizing my dream and completing my educational journey.” He said.

According to student M. H., he was prevented from completing his education at a university in the UAE after the authorities denied him entry because of being a Qatari citizen. “I booked my university seat at Al-Jazira University in Dubai and paid all fees installments. I was waiting for next semester to start my studies. However, after the decision to sever relationship with Qatar I won’t be able to continue my studies, and thus I did not only lose my seat, but half the amount I paid because the university will not give me full refund.” He explained.

Student H. M., a Qatari citizen born in 1991, has been denied access to education. “I am a student sent by the Commercial Bank of Qatar to complete my studies in the Emirate of Sharjah. Only 9 hours separated me from graduation, but the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar will prevent me from completing my studies and achieving my dream.” He told the NHRC.

Saudi child S. H. born in 2006, he was separated from his mother who is a Qatari national. “I am a 4th-grade student at the Qadisiya Independent Model School in Qatar. I have been living with my mother in Qatar. The Saudi authorities have asked me to leave Qatar, which will prevent me from completing my studies and will also separate me from Qatari mother.” He testified before the NHRC.

Student H. A., a Qatari national studying at the University of Applied Sciences in Bahrain. “The Bahraini authorities have prevented me from entering their territory as of 8 June 2017. I will not be able to complete my exams and I will be fail if I am not allowed to enter the country.” He said in his report to NHRC.

C. Violation of the right to Work

As with education, hundreds of business owners were affected after those states abruptly stopped -in order to cause as much harm as possible- all trading convoys, and thousands of tons of food or health supplies have expired. Hundreds of business owners lost great, immeasurable sums of money.

What is even more crucial is that there are entire families that rely completely on traveling between Gulf states, and those families’ only source of income has been cut off. However, none of the three states have compensated those families or sought an alternative for them, which intensified popular resentment even further.

Moreover, many citizens who are employed at public, private, or government sectors and used to move freely between the four countries are now jobless with no source of income and with no compensations from the three states that initiated the blockade.

The NHRC has received at least 101 cases of persons who have been denied access to their work due to the arbitrary decisions.

Born in 1988, A. M. is a Saudi national female working as teacher in Qatar. “After the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar, the Saudi authorities informed me that I should leave Qatar. I will lose my job if I return to Saudi Arabia, but I am also afraid of any consequences or punitive measures that will follow if I stay here.” She said in her testimony before the NHRC.

Mr. H. Q, who is a Saudi national married to a Qatari woman, contacted the NHRC and then visited its headquarters in person. He gave details of the violation to which he was subjected. “I have been living and working in the State of Qatar as an administrative supervisor at a junior high school. On 18 June 2017 the Saudi authorities asked me to leave both my job and my Qatari wife and return to Saudi Arabia. I am afraid of losing my job and I do not want to leave my wife in Qatar alone. This decision will affect my life and the life of my entire family. I am afraid of any punitive measures against me by the authorities.” He explained.

Mr. A. I, a Saudi national, contacted NHRC and presented his testimony. “I work for Qatar Aircraft Fuel Company. On 16 June 2017 the Saudi authorities informed me that I should leave Qatar and return to my country. I do not want to go back and I do not want to leave my job. This decision will make me lose the job I like, but I am afraid of any sanctions for not noncompliance with the decision”.

Ms. Sh. M. mentions the violations she has been exposed to. “After the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar, the Saudi authorities informed me that I should return to my country and leave my job at Hamad Medical Corporation,” she said. “This decision will separate me from my family, as I have a sister with Qatari nationality. We work together to support our mother. I will lose my job, and I will leave my family. I don’t know what penalties I have to face if I do not comply.”

In an interview with Mr. A. M, a Saudi national, at the headquarters of the NHRC, he gave his testimony after his right to work came under threat. The Saudi authorities asked him to leave Qatar: “I work at a car and motorcycle racing club. After the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar I will have to give up my job. Otherwise, I will be subject to sanctions that the Saudi authorities may impose against me. This decision will threaten my future career.” He testified.

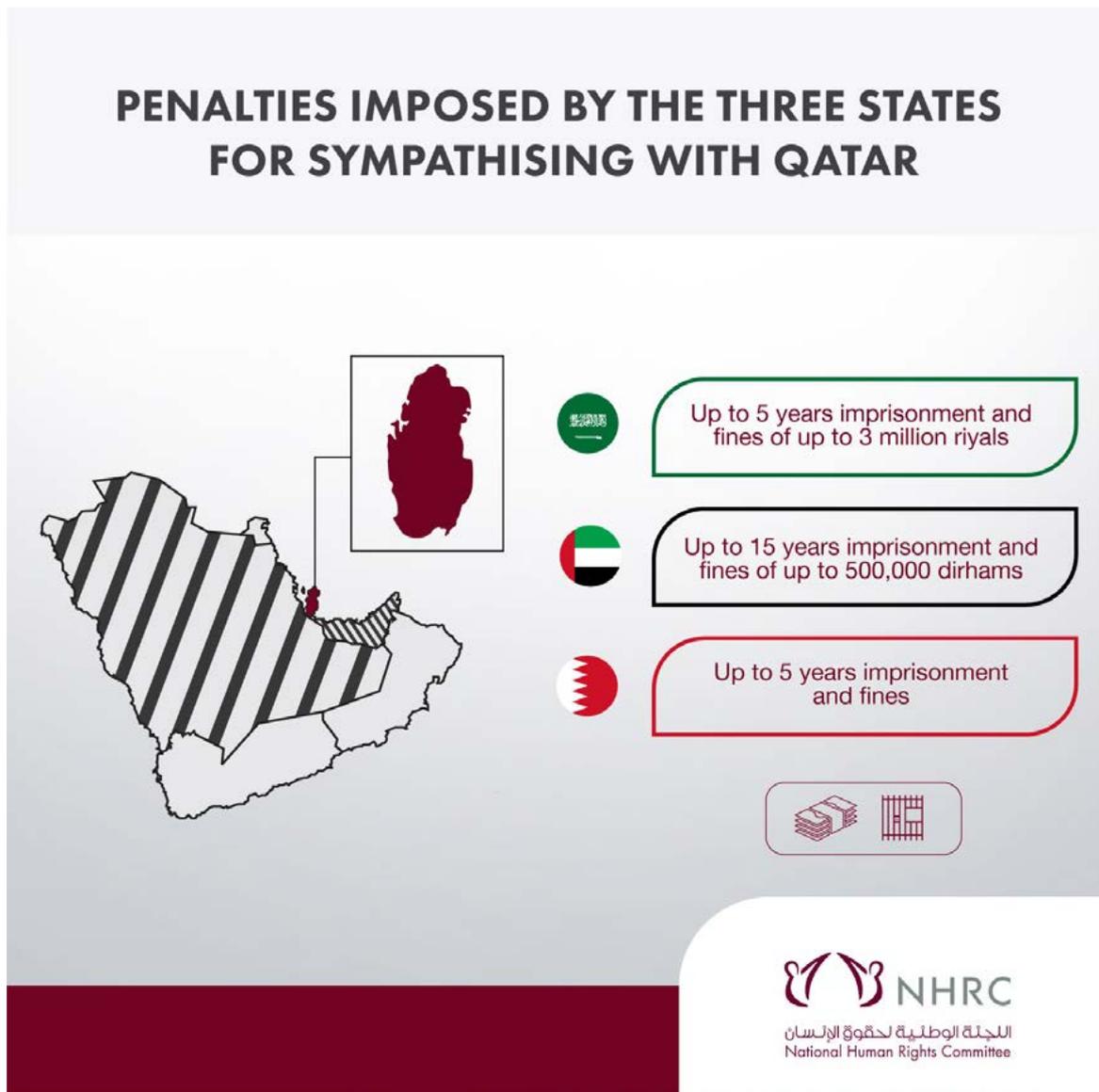
Ms. F. A. who is a Saudi national expresses fear that she might be exposed to sanctions if she does not comply with her country's decision to leave Qatar. "I have been in Qatar since 2007 and I work as a football trainer in the Qatar Women's Sports Committee", she said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "As a result of the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar I will have to leave my job and the country where I lived all this time."

Mr. H. J, who is a Saudi national, told the NHRC about the details of what he was exposed to after the decision to sever relations with Qatar. He stated that he works for Qatar Steel. "Following my country's decision to sever the relations with Qatar I will have to leave my job and return to Saudi Arabia. I am afraid of being subjected to arbitrary punitive measures in the event should I not comply with the decision."

D. Violations to the right of Freedom of Opinion and Expression

It is worth mentioning that the NHRC holds no right to record violations of the freedom of opinion and expression in the three sanctioning states and Egypt. However, NHRC reported violations on the background of severing relations with Qatar. Violations have gone to extremes for just showing sympathy with Qatar via social media, including media outlets funded by the State of Qatar, that certainly do not broadcast newsletters or news programs or political matters, thus indicating the deplorable condition of the freedom of opinion and expression in the three countries and Egypt. Just wearing a Barcelona or Paris Saint-Germain T-shirt, out of sympathy is enough for a person to receive severe punishment.

UAE imposes penalties 3-15 years' imprisonment and fines of 500,000 AED just for merely showing sympathy towards the State of Qatar by even a word, a like, or a tweet on social media in an unprecedented threat to freedom of expression. Bahrain's Ministry of Interior imposes five-year imprisonment, while KSA considered this an internet crime.



This very extreme and harsh actions betray the fragility of the grounds and legitimacy of the blockade decision by those three states, and reflect how much those states' authorities are afraid from citizens' freedom to express any opinions that don't agree with their will. This blatantly goes against many of international and regional declarations and covenants as we will detail further in the Legal Description portion of this report.

In the media sector alone, NHRC recorded that 103 media figures from the three states that imposed the blockade and boycott who used to work at several visual media outlets in the State of Qatar have all been subjected to various types of violations, including pressuring them as a way to force them to resign from their jobs. Due to the pressure, 10 of those were forced to submit and forcibly asked for their termination, and, therefore, lost their jobs and source of income. There are still great pressures on everyone who didn't submit his resignation. These actions constitute a blatant violation to the freedom of journalism, freedom of work, freedom of residency, and freedom of opinion all at the same time.

E. Denial of the right to movement and residence (even for the dead)

Mr. H. Q., a Qatari national was denied the right to movement. "My brother died following a traffic accident in Saudi Arabia on 6 June 2017. I was prevented from entering the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to receive my brother's body to bury it". He told the NHRC.

Mr. S. M, a Saudi national, reports his plight to NHRC. “My father died in the State of Qatar and on 7 June 2017 the Saudi authorities prevented me from traveling to Qatar to receive the body of my father,” he said.

Ms. W. H, a Qatari national, tells NURC: “I booked in a hotel in Mecca and paid my accommodation fees,” she said. “The reservation was cancelled on 13 June 2017, but I was not refunded.”

F. Violation of the right to ownership:

The sudden siege laws imposed by the three countries have resulted in huge losses of assets and property to tens of thousands of people, which indicate that those who have taken this decision have total disrespect basic rights. Money and property were confiscated because their owners could not travel, as all persons prohibited from traveling cannot be able to use their property or dispose of it.

Due to the great overlap and interrelatedness of the businesses between the Gulf States, this may not be noticed by many organizations and countries. For example, we have received complaints that there are hundreds of workers in Saudi Arabia whose Qatari directors can no longer pay their salaries, because money transfer services have been stopped. Thus, their work was stopped in the first place, and secondly these workers are now displaced. Another blatant example is the loss of real estate purchased on installments such as land, buildings and apartments, especially in the Emirate of Dubai.

As a result of the freezing of the assets of Qatari nationals in these countries, cheque debits have been stopped and if the situation continues for two months, this may result in complete loss of the property. It may even lead to the owner becoming subject to lawsuit because of the failure to pay its monthly debits.

In addition to the above, the three countries have gone as far as limiting the financial transfers and postal transactions to any of the citizens or residents in the State of Qatar, to eliminate any possibility of saving any financial losses. All this indicates that the sanctioning countries meant to intentionally violate fundamental freedoms from the start. This is further emphasized by the fact that no measures have been taken so far to eliminate the serious repercussions on the citizens of the three countries as well as the citizens of the State of Qatar.

The NHRC has also recorded presence of a large number of workers who hold Qatari residence permits and work in companies owned by Qatari citizens. After the decision to impose siege on Qatar, workers were prevented from returning to Qatar. They stopped working and there is no one to pay for their expenses.

Mr. B. S, a Qatari national, visited the headquarters of the NHRC and presented his case in detail.

“I own an apartment and a car in the UAE and I cannot reach them under the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar. I have been deprived of my most basic rights.” He said.

Mr. M. Kh, a Qatari national who owns property in Saudi Arabia, contacted us and we asked him to come to the headquarters of the NHRC. He gave his testimony and details of the violation he was subjected to: “I own a group of livestock and camels in Saudi Arabia and I cannot enter Saudi Arabia. I know nothing at all about the fate of my possessions.”

Ms. A. R, a Qatari national told NHRC about the violation of her rights. “I cannot access my property in the wake of the decision to sever relations with Qatar. I have two studios in Jebel Ali in the UAE and two studios in Dubai,” said A R. “I have one car park, and I also own a hotel apartment with one car park, but now I cannot dispose of my property or access it.”

Mr. H. M., a Qatari national, reported to the NHRC about his properties in Saudi Arabia. “I have 80 heads of camels and 120 of sheep in Saudi Arabia. I cannot provide these animals with water and feeds, because of the closure of the border and I am prevented from entering Saudi territory. I fear the loss of my livestock. I do not know the fate of my cars and workers. I am not in a position to renew their work permits if expired”. He explained.

Ms. B. M, born in 1982 in Qatar, testified before the NHRC that she has been denied entry to Saudi Arabia following the decision to sever ties. “I have two pieces of land in Saudi Arabia and a house that I bought for 700,000 riyals, and a number of livestock. I have workers and I cannot renew their work visas in the event of expiration.” She said.

“I have a bank account at Al-Rajhi Bank in Saudi Arabia and I cannot go to the bank to withdraw my money because of the violation,” said H. F, a Qatari lady before the NHRC.

G. Violations of the right to freedom to practice a religion:

Mecca and Medina, two holy cities for all Muslims, are located in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The two cities are a constant destination for Muslims to perform Umrah. The blockade imposed by Saudi Arabia has impeded the rights of nearly 1.5 million Muslims residing in Qatar to performing religious rituals. Saudi Arabia did not make exceptions for those who might wish to perform such rituals. Instead of a trip that takes one and a half hours via Jeddah Airport, citizens and residents of Qatar have to travel via the city of Muscat in Oman, taking up to 12 hours, let alone the doubled cost. Scores of people have been held back from performing Umrah due to these conditions. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is held fully responsible religiously, morally and legally.

When the unfair decisions were issued, the authorities in Saudi Arabia prevented a group of Qatari citizens who were on board the plane or at Jeddah airport from entering Jeddah and had to return to Qatar.

A Qatari citizen filming himself in [a video](#) at Jeddah Airport, and how Saudi authorities forbade him to go into Mecca for Umrah.

Mr. M. A, a Qatari national who was born in 1987 contacted the NHRC and gave his testimony. “On 5 June 2017, after the decision to sever relations with the State of Qatar, I could not enter Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah, and in addition to being denied travel, I lost the amount I had paid for the hotel reservation in the city of Mecca.” He said.

“On 11 June 2017, I was prevented from entering Saudi Arabia to perform Umrah following the decision to sever relations with Qatar,” said Mr. B. A. a Qatari national who was born in 1984, to the NHRC.

H. Incitement of violence and hate speech:

The NHRC has recorded hundreds of cases of hate speech, some of which went as far as inciting the carrying out of bomb blasts in the State of Qatar. In some of the TV series, children have been indoctrinated and incited against Qatar. It is clear that all this amount of incitement, hate speech and violence will generate tendency towards extremist reactions from the various segments of society, intellectuals and the illiterate alike. This may lead to the perpetration of criminal acts not only against Qatari citizens, but it may generate reactions from the Qatari society towards the nationals of these three countries and the State of Egypt as well. This will threaten peace, security and stability in the entire region. The NHRC has recorded the names and details of each person involved in hate speech and violence, particularly those who have been monitored by our researchers. They will be held legally responsible for any incident of racist, terrorist violence against any Qatari citizen or any citizen of the three countries and Egypt.

International law clearly criminalizes hate speech and violence as set forth in Article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as Article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. These articles prohibit any advocacy of hate on the basis of nationalism, racism or religion, and consider it an incitement to enmity and violence.

I. Violation of the right to Health - Especially for persons with Disabilities

Hundreds of patients from the three sanctioning countries were receiving medical treatment in hospitals in the State of Qatar. Some Qataris were also receiving treatment in hospitals in these countries. All of them have been affected, as they were asked leaver without any exception or exclusion of the sick, injured, pregnant women, children or those with disability. It shows beyond doubt how the three countries blatantly disregard the rights of their sick citizens, as well as indifference towards their most basic human rights. The most fundamental aspect of the right to health is non-discrimination. The three countries should have not expelled Qatari patients for political differences, because the right to health is enshrined in several international treaties and conventions, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 25, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Article 12.

IV. Conclusions and Legal Description

In their resolutions, KSA, UAE, and Kingdom of Bahrain, violated a number of principle international human rights laws and rules, which are related to the most fundamental human rights, which are treated as international norms. These resolutions violate a number of articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, other articles included in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in addition to articles in the: Arab Charter on Human Rights, the GCC Declarations of Human Rights, and the Economic Agreement between the GCC States. Therefore, those states are responsible for protecting and preserving the rights and interests of the individuals living on their lands.

The Articles that were violated by the three Gulf states:

First: Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Article 5

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 9

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 12

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

Article 13

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.
2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 19

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.

Article 23

1. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

Article 25

- (1) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.
- (2) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Article 26

1. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

2. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. It shall promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups, and shall further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

3. Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.

Second: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

PART II

Article 2

1. Each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes to respect and to ensure to all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the rights recognized in the present Covenant, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Article 20

1. Any propaganda for war shall be prohibited by law.
2. Any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence shall be prohibited by law.

Third: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Part III

Article 6

1.The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right to work, which includes the right of everyone to the opportunity to gain his living by work which he freely chooses or accepts, and will take appropriate steps to safeguard this right.

Article 10

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize that:

1.The widest possible protection and assistance should be accorded to the family, which is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, particularly for its establishment and while it is responsible for the care and education of dependent children. Marriage must be entered into with the free consent of the intending spouses.

2.Special protection should be accorded to mothers during a reasonable period before and after childbirth. During such period working mothers should be accorded paid leave or leave with adequate social security benefits.

3.Special measures of protection and assistance should be taken on behalf of all children and young persons without any discrimination for reasons of parentage or other conditions. Children and young persons should be protected from economic and social exploitation.

Their employment in work harmful to their morals or health or dangerous to life or likely to hamper their normal development should be punishable by law. States should also set age limits below which the paid employment of child labor should be prohibited and punishable by law.

Article 12

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.
2. The steps to be taken by the States Parties to the present Covenant to achieve the full realization of this right shall include those necessary for:
 - (a) The provision for the reduction of the stillbirth-rate and of infant mortality and for the healthy development of the child;
 - (b) The improvement of all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene;
 - (c) The prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational and other diseases;
 - (d) The creation of conditions which would assure to all medical service and medical attention in the event of sickness.

Article 13

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to education. They further agree that education shall enable all persons to participate effectively in a free society, promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations and all racial, ethnic or religious groups, and further the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace.

Fourth: International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Article 4

States Parties condemn all propaganda and all organizations which are based on ideas or theories of superiority of one race or group of persons of one colour or ethnic origin, or which attempt to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination in any form, and undertake to adopt immediate and positive measures designed

to eradicate all incitement to, or acts of, such discrimination and, to this end, with due regard to the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the rights expressly set forth in article 5 of this Convention, inter alia:

(a) Shall declare an offence punishable by law all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin, and also the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof;

(b) Shall declare illegal and prohibit organizations, and also organized and all other propaganda activities, which promote and incite racial discrimination, and shall recognize participation in such organizations or activities as an offence punishable by law;

(c) Shall not permit public authorities or public institutions, national or local, to promote or incite racial discrimination.

Fifth: Arab Charter on Human Rights

Article 3

1. Each State party to the present Charter undertakes to ensure to all individuals subject to its jurisdiction the right to enjoy the rights and freedoms set forth herein, without distinction on grounds of race, color, sex, language, religious belief, opinion, thought, national or social origin, wealth, birth or physical or mental disability.

Article 8

1.No one shall be subjected to physical or psychological torture or to cruel, degrading, humiliating or inhuman treatment.

Article 26

1.Everyone lawfully within the territory of a State party shall, within that territory, have the right to freedom of movement and to freely choose his residence in any part of that territory in conformity with the laws in force.

Article 32

1.The present Charter guarantees the right to information and to freedom of opinion and expression, as well as the right to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any medium, regardless of geographical boundaries.

2.Such rights and freedoms shall be exercised in conformity with the fundamental values of society and shall be subject only to such limitations as are required to ensure respect for the rights or reputation of others or the protection of national security, public order and public health or morals.

Article 33

1.The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society; it is based on marriage between a man and a woman. Men and women of marrying age have the right to marry and to found a family according to the rules and conditions of marriage.

No marriage can take place without the full and free consent of both parties. The laws in force regulate the rights and duties of the man and woman as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution.

2.The State and society shall ensure the protection of the family, the strengthening of family ties, the protection of its members and the prohibition of all forms of violence or abuse in the relations among its members, and particularly against women and children. They shall also ensure the necessary protection and care for mothers, children, older persons and persons with special needs and shall provide adolescents and young persons with the best opportunities for physical and mental development.

3.The States parties shall take all necessary legislative, administrative and judicial measures to guarantee the protection, survival, development and well-being of the child in an atmosphere of freedom and dignity and shall ensure, in all cases, that the child's best interests are the basic criterion for all measures taken in his regard, whether the child is at risk of delinquency or is a juvenile offender.

Sixth: Human Rights Declaration for the Member States of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf

Article (6)

The Freedom of belief and the practice of religious rites is a right of every person according to the regulation (law) without disruption of the public order and public morals.

Article (9)

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and exercising such freedom is guaranteed insofar as it accords with Islamic Sharia law, public order and the regulations (laws) regulating this area.

Article (14)

The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society, originally composed of a man and a woman, governed by religion, morals and patriotism; its entity and bonds are maintained and reinforced by religion. Motherhood, childhood and members of the family are protected by religion as well as the State and society against all forms of abuse and domestic violence.

Article (24)

Every person, who has the capacity of doing so, has the right to work and has the right to free choice of employment according to the requirements of dignity and public interest, while just and favorable employment conditions, as well as employees' and employers' rights, are ensured.

Article (27)

Private property is inviolable and no one shall be prevented from the disposition of his property except by the regulation (law), and it may not be expropriated unless for public interest with fair compensation.

V. Recommendations

To the international community:

To take urgent action to lift the siege, and make every possible effort to mitigate its repercussions on the people of the State of Qatar and citizens of the three countries.

The United Nations and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

1- The great amount of social violations constitute a threat to the stability of the region, and is stated to have a negative impact on the economic and social levels. Speedy steps must be taken to force the states that issued these unjust decisions to repeal their actions.

2- The OHCHR to prepare reports and statements documenting the various types of violations that affected great numbers of people, especially the families that were

separated, including the negative consequences on women and children as a result of the separation of their families. Also, the OHCHR to call on these states to respect the basic freedoms of the people living on their lands.

Human Rights Council

To Take every possible action in order to end the blockade and its ramifications, and call for the compensation of all people who were harmed and affected.

Human Rights Council Special Rapporteurs

To Document forms of the various types of violations that occurred, and contact the certain concerned governments in that regard as soon as possible. NHRC is fully prepared to share all the related data.

General Secretariat of the Gulf Cooperation Council

The Dispute Settlement Commission of the Supreme Council at the Gulf Cooperation Council to take urgent actions and do everything in its power to convince the concerned governments to start settling the dispute and the social, civil, and cultural situation for the affected families and citizens.

KSA, UAE, and Kingdom of Bahrain

1- Respect the nature of the Gulf societies, and to refrain from making any decisions that sever the relations and ties between families and societies , and to repeal these decisions as early as possible.2- Respect the basic human rights related to freedom of movement, private property, work, residence, and freedom of expression and opinion that are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Arab Charter on Human Rights.

3- The political disputes must not affect the humanitarian and social rights and will being of citizens, which is considered a violation of the international law and the international human rights law.

To the Qatari Government:

To take all possible steps at the international level, at the level of the Security Council and the international forums, to lift the siege on the people of Qatar, to defend their rights in the face of violations against them, and to hold accountable the preparators.