The mother of Hussain Jameel Marhoon (18 years) who appeared on a video that was published by an anonymous person on the social network website “twitter” which showed him confessing in a presumed interrogation, said: “we are positive of my son Hussain’s innocence and that he has nothing to do with security situation in any way”, demanding his immediate release and launching an official investigation into the way he was arrested and interrogated which she described as a disregard of human dignity, questioning him while naked and having apparent torture and beating marks on his body, in addition to having him arrested in one of the village houses.

She explained to “Al Wasat” that “we were allowed to visit him once during the 12 days of his arrest. He is currently in the Dry Dock prison”. She pointed out that “Until now we don’t know my son’s accusations. No one has told us anything, not the public prosecution, the concerned in Nabih Saleh police station, nor the officials of the Dry Dock prison, despite our attempts to know his charges.”

**How many days has your son Hussain been detained? Where is he now?**

My son Hussain was detained on Saturday 8th June 2013 and until today it’s been 12 days. He is currently in the Dry Dock prison.

**How was he arrested, did he tell you?**

He was visiting one of his friends and his aunt in Nabih Saleh Island on Saturday. My son has nothing to do with the security situation in any way, this visit was normal and everybody visits their friends and
family. However, it happened that there were security events on the island and my son was nearby without having anything to do with it, according to his friends whom called the family and told us what happened. And this is shown in the photo that was published of the incident.

**What is his charge?**

Until now we don’t know about my son’s accusations. Despite our continuous attempts to know his charges no one has told us anything, not the public prosecution, the concerned in Nabih Saleh police station, nor the officials of the Dry Dock prison. We are sure that Hussain is innocent and we don’t see why he’s still being detained, although the investigator, who interrogated him in the video where my son was naked, is the one who ordered his detention. We demand his immediate release without any delay.

**Have his lawyer met him?**

Currently, we are looking for a lawyer to follow-up my son’s case. We have contacted some human rights organizations and we are trying to do this through them. However, so far nothing has happened and we are hoping to have this done as soon as possible.

**Were you allowed to visit your son during this period? Were he seen by any member of the family?**

Yes, we were informed last Sunday of a date for a visit, after his father tried to take him some clothes upon requesting them by him in a phone call. However, security officers did not allow it and told us that we need to wait until our visit to do so, which happened last Sunday as I’ve already told you.

**How many times did Hussain call during his 12 day detention until today?**

He called 3 times. The first call was on the day following his arrest. He also called us 2 days ago but was not allowed to talk for more than 2 minutes.

**The MoI announced immediately after the publishing of the video recording, that shows your son naked waist-up being interrogated, that they have launched an investigation into the leaking of this video. Have you communicated with them to know updates on this investigation?**

We affirm that the MoI did not brief us on the progress of the investigation that it announced and who the defendants that published it were, so we can sue them both civil and criminal. If the official security bodies are serious about this investigation, they should first release my son who was detained based on orders from the officer that interrogated him, as we have found out.

Also, we demand, as his family, that these security bodies open an investigation not only into the interrogation video leakage but also on the way he was arrested and the possibility of being subjected to torture and beaten at the time of arrest. The photos that were disseminated of his arrest confirm that he was subjected to beating and ripping of his shirt by the security force.

The leaked video recording reveals an affront of the human dignity investigating with a defendant without clothes as if the investigator is an enemy and an opponent of the defendant although his role is
supposed to be reaching the truth only. This in itself contradicts the police code of conduct which states in its principles on respecting human rights and dignity. Also, the investigation with my son without clothes on is an obvious psychological torture and we don’t need evidence to prove it.

**What are your demands?**

We find that the way the investigation was done, as show in the leaked video recording, showed clearly the extend of fear and the psychological damage that Hussain was subjected to and that he was not given his legal rights as a defendant as he wasn’t allowed to use his right to call or get legal consular which was documented in the video recording. We demand that he is seen by a doctor to examine him and make sure that he wasn’t subjected to physical torture during or after his arrest to force him into confession. We also demand his immediate release and there is is no legal justification for his continued detention with the invalidity of investigation procedures.

We renew our demand of having him immediately released and launching an official investigation of the way he was interrogated which showed a disregard to the human dignity of the defendant, questioning him while he is naked with apparent torture and beating marks on his body.

**The MoI released a statement saying that a policeman in Nabih Saleh police station was called and interrogated and he was ordered to 7 days detention pending investigation. Also that they are working on having the investigation done as soon as possible to deal with the case. Isn’t this considered a positive development in your son Hussain case?**

Right. We find that this is regular action that has to be taken by security bodies, as it was clear that Hussain was in an inhuman situation during his interrogation session showed in the leaked video. And certainly his confession was extracted under physical or psychological torture. Also, affronting his human dignity and investigating him while naked contradict with the simplest acts of humanity, let alone legally.

We find that action taken by the security bodies, that you’ve mentioned, needs to be completed by releasing my son immediately because there isn’t any legal justification to his continued detention to-date and it is possible to release him while continuing investigation in his case and the case of ill-treatment that he was subjected to whether in detention or during arrest.

**Noteworthy, on Tuesday 11th June a video recording was disseminated on social media websites of a presumed interrogation with a Bahraini youth waist-up naked; with what seemed traces of blood on his back appearing by the end of the recording. The chief public security, Lieutenant Tariq AlHasan, announced at the time on the MoI twitter account that “an immediate investigation launched on the circulated video on confession of a detainee on being incited to kill policemen”. He pointed out that “Legal steps had been taken and the suspects had been suspended from work and referred to investigation”**.

The video that created a broad controversy on twitter did not show anyone by the youth. However, the voice of an anonymous individual could be heard investigating with the young man about a supposed
security situation that the anonymous investigator pointed to a number of youth who had shotgun pellets confronted security forces.