The Khudhair family appealed “to whom it may concern” to reveal the wellbeing and whereabouts of their sons.

Zahraa Khudhair, cousin of the two children, said “it was 5.30 pm on Sunday 25 January 2015 when one of the children (Yousif Ahmed Khudhair, 17) from Sitra called his father for a few seconds saying ‘Dad, I’m at the CID’. He then ended the call. His parents were shocked as he had just left half an hour ago. How was he at the CID now?”

She added “every family member knew a few minutes [after the call] and wondered about the absence of another cousin (Qasim Abdulnabi Khudhair, 17) who is always with Yousif.”

She said “it has been a week since they were taken to the CID. It’s a difficult time for the family. We went to the Public Prosecution building, police stations, and the CID building but it was to no avail.”

She concluded “How could it be that two 17 years old children are detained at the CID building for a whole week without knowing the reasons why and mysterious conditions they are held in and their parents aren’t allowed to hear their voices and ensure they’re well?”