

Trial for 'insulting tweets' starts in Bahrain

DUBAI, UAE: The trial of Bahraini Human Rights Activist Nabil Rajab, stands accused of having "insulted official bodies" in remarks posted on Twitter, and his trial has now been adjourned until 29 October according to a judicial source.



Human Rights Activist Nabeel Rajab is due to go on trial on 29 October for sending out Tweets that allegedly insulted the Sunni royal family. Image: [Islamic Invitation Turkey](#)

"Rajab, part of the Gulf state's Shiite majority that has demonstrated against the ruling Sunni royal family since 2011, was refused a request by his lawyer for his release," the source added.

He was arrested in October after posting comments about the interior and defence ministries deemed offensive by authorities.

In one tweet, Rajab charged that Bahrainis were allegedly joining Islamist extremists in Syria and those who did were originally members of the Sunni-ruled kingdom's security forces.

"Many #Bahrain men who joined #terrorism & #ISIS came from security institutions and those institutions were the first ideological incubator," he wrote, using one acronym for the Islamic State jihadist group.

Local and international advocacy groups have called for the release of Rajab, who heads the Bahrain Centre for Human Rights.

He was freed in May after serving two years in jail for participating in unauthorised protests.

Rajab had led anti-government marches following a crackdown on Shiite-led demonstrations against the Al-Khalifa ruling family in March 2011.

Source: AFP via I-Net Bridge

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