

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

13<sup>th</sup> October 2020

*Dear Constance,*

**RE: HUMAN RIGHTS IN BAHRAIN.**

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of human rights in Bahrain, with specific reference to the case of Mohammed Ramadhan.

I share your concerns and depth of feeling on this issue. Human rights and democracy are fundamental to the values the UK champions on the world stage. That is why I am glad Bahrain is a human rights priority country for the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO).

The UK has been providing a range of technical and practical assistance to the Government of Bahrain since 2013 to bring about improvements in the robustness of their oversight bodies. I believe that working together in this way offers the best opportunity to see the positive changes which the Government of Bahrain has committed to implementing, including on international agendas such as women's empowerment and combating modern slavery. The UK's position on the use of the death penalty is also longstanding and clear. The UK opposes its use in all circumstances and in all countries.

Like you, I am deeply concerned about the cases of Mohammed Ramadhan and Husain Moosa. The UK has raised, and will continue to raise, both cases at senior levels with the Government of Bahrain. The Government of Bahrain is fully aware that the UK is firmly opposed to the death penalty - in all circumstances. The former Minister for the Middle East & North Africa publicly stated in January the UK's deep concern that death sentences were handed out. More recently, Lord Ahmad, the Minister of State responsible for human rights, reinforced this position in his tweet of the 14th July. Following the Court of Cession's decision on the 13th July, the UK will continue to monitor the situation.

I hope this helps to clarify the UK's commitment to addressing Bahrain's human rights record, and I will of course continue to follow developments closely and engage with Ministers on it.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

*With best wishes,*

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**  
**CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**