

Haq spokesman charged with inciting violence

Al Singace was arrested on Friday morning at Bahrain airport upon his return from London where he took part in a seminar

- By Habib Toumi, Bureau chief
- Published: 00:00 August 16, 2010



Manama: Bahraini authorities have charged Abdul Jalil Al Singace, the spokesman for Haq Movement for Liberties and Democracy, for inciting violence and terrorist acts to undermine the country's stability, a security official said.

Al Singace was arrested on Friday morning at Bahrain airport upon his return from London where he took part in a seminar. His family and supporters staged a protest in front of his home in Karbabad, a small village west of the capital to ask for his release.

"Al Singace has refused to put an end to the incitement to use violence and terrorist acts to target private and public property through misusing the freedom of opinion and expression prevailing in the country," the official said in a statement on Saturday evening.

"His attitudes put people's lives at risk and instigated terror that in some incidents led to the loss of innocent lives."

False information

The Haq spokesman disseminated false and tendentious news about Bahrain's domestic situation and its judicial and executive authorities, the official said

According to the statement, Al Singace was planning to hold a "National Day of the Kingdom of Bahrain" this month to promote division among its people in a clear violation of Bahrain's constitution and laws that determine the dates of official celebrations.

Bahrain celebrates its National Day on December 16.

"Security agencies have been monitoring all his violations and abuses and often overlooked them while sending him signals about the necessity to end all illegal acts. He was given several chances to listen to reason and give up targeting his country and people, but he did not seize them and insisted on not recognising the country's

achievements, constitution and laws, an attitude that is against the country's traditions and religion," the source said.

Al Singace was arrested last year alongside 34 Bahrainis accused of plotting terrorist attacks with homemade explosives in open areas where people celebrated Bahrain's National Day. However, the accused were granted a royal pardon in April 2009.

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