

**Statement of the National Institution for Human Rights  
on the Ministry of Education allowing apprehended  
or convicted students to take their final exams**

6 June 2013

National Institution for Human Rights commends the step taken by the Ministry of Education to allow apprehended or convicted students or those who have suffered accidents or passed health conditions that prevented completion of class attendance and taking their final exams.

The National Institution also commends the practice used in the ministry which allows taking final exams in hospitals or in rehabilitation and reform centers on the same terms and conditions offered to other students in spite of the daily risks of sabotage against educational institutions to deprive the students of their inherent right to education in a safe environment.

National Institution asserts that the right to education is one of the fundamental rights guaranteed by all international and regional conventions and treaties. This has been stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights issued by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948, in article (26), which stipulates that each person has the right to education, education must be free in the first and basic stages at least, elementary education has to be compulsory and the technical and vocational education should be made obtainable to all, and higher education should be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.

The International covenant on economic, social and cultural rights article 13 stated that: the States Parties to the present covenant recognize the right of everyone to education, they are in agreement on the necessity of directing education to the full development of the human personality and the sense of dignity, and strengthen the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The right to education has also been mentioned in many recognized international covenants and conventions such as the convention on the rights of the child in article (28) and in article (23) concerning disabled child rights, and as also stated in the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in article (10) which emphasizes the need for equality in the curricula, the same examinations, teaching staff qualifications levels, the quality of school premises and equipment; and the elimination of any stereotyped concept of the role of women and men in all stages of education in all its forms.

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