



PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

Detained in Saudi Arabia for the last 6 years
Placed under stress, Nathalie Morin makes false declarations

Wednesday, June 15th, 2011 – Saeed Al Sharahni, the common-law spouse of the Canadian Woman Nathalie Morin, continues his pressure on her to make false declarations in the Saudi press. Ms. Morin thus declared to journalists at Al Yaumet and Dar Al Hayat that she was forced by her mother to flee her home in the company of Ms, Al Huwaider, the well-known Saudi writer and activist. She then even declared that she wanted to stay in Saudi Arabia with her spouse, as long as her and her children were given better living conditions.

This declaration cannot have been made willingly. Nathalie Morin has, several times, written to Canadian authorities and press asking for help. She has described the difficult living conditions for her and her three children. She has asked relentlessly to return to Canada with the children in order to live a better life.

Additionally, she transmitted to her mother via her cell phone two text messages last Friday, June 10th. These very explicit messages clearly indicate that Saeed was threatening her to say what he requested or he would maintain charges against her. These messages can be consulted at the end of this press release.

We denounce the false manoeuvres of Saeed Al Shahrani, who is once again using psychological violence and stress towards Nathalie to serve his needs. We hope that public opinion will be tempered and will see in these statements made by Nathalie Morin, at first glance contradictory, all the distress that is hidden. This woman needs our support more than even and we will not let her down.

We are very saddened to think of the disastrous consequences these declarations have had on Ms. Al Huwaider and her friend who wanted to help Nathalie and her children improve their situation for a few days by bringing them money to buy food. They acted with good will and now they are being discredited. Nathalie Morin's Support Committee wishes to express to these women that they have all our recognition and our admiration and we will not allow this sad story to tarnish their reputations.

First SMS sent by Nathalie Morin to her mother on June 10th 2011, 7:02 am:

“since today 9:35am local time, i'm with my kids being held by force in a tent in the middle of the desert between dammam and riyadh. With 1 man and en, friend of saeed, but saeed is not with us. They don't know the mobile is with me, they think i forgot it or lost it at home. I'm writing in hese people are smoking marijuana and i'm scare.”

Second SMS sent by Nathalie Morin to her mother on June 10th, 2011, 10:44 am:

“we are on the highway on the way back home. I'm writing in secret from public ladies toilet. On the phone, saeed told me than he will don't judge ut i must to say what he wants if I speak with anybody from government or media. Also he told me than very soon we may go to bisha. I been held in the middle of the desert with my kids by 1 men and 2 woman during 8 hours today. Saeed is waiting us home!!!”

*

Nathalie Morin's Support Committee is a citizen organisation, not for profit, that includes several individuals and has the support of numerous women's groups, Canadian Members of Parliament and Quebec members of the National Assembly.

– 30 –

For information : Johanne Durocher 514-826-9482

Information : www.nathaliemorin.org
E-mail : soutiennathaliemorin@gmail.com