

Your Excellency;

I am writing to express my deep concern that Dahmane Kerami remains imprisoned. He and other six people have been serving a one-year prison sentence for taking part in a peaceful protest in late December 2015 in Tamanrasset, southern Algeria and six men were released as part of a presidential pardon on 5 July.

Please take a prompt action to release Dahmane Kerami immediately and unconditionally, as he is a prisoner of conscience, jailed solely for the peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression and assembly .

I am calling on the authorities to amend legislation that criminalizes the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, including the Penal Code prohibiting “unarmed gatherings” , “offending the President” , and “offending public bodies” .

I am also urging them to stop arresting, prosecuting and imprisoning those exercising their rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.

Your attention would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely,