

## AMNESTY LETTER MARCH 2020

*Aser Mohamed, an Egyptian boy aged 14, was arrested in January 2016 and forcibly disappeared for 35 days. He was given electric shocks and suspended by the limbs until he “confessed” to crimes including membership of a terrorist group and attacking a hotel. Aser says that he did not commit any of the offences, but he was detained alongside adults, even though international law required children in custody to be held separately from adults and treated humanely. In October 2019 he was sentenced to 10 years in prison after a grossly unfair trial. His appeal will be judged by the Court of Cassation in Cairo, which could drop or reduce his sentence.*

SPECIMEN LETTER (Please feel free to put into your own words)

Hamada al-Sawy  
Public Prosecutor  
Madinat al-Rehab  
New Cairo  
Arab Republic of Egypt

Dear Public Prosecutor

### **Aser Mohamed**

I am writing to you about the case of Aser Mohamed, who was arrested on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016 while aged only 14 and forcibly disappeared for 35 days.

He was given electric shocks and suspended by his limbs until he confessed to crimes including ‘membership of a terrorist group’ and attacking a hotel.

He was detained alongside adults, even though international law required children in custody to be held separately from adults and treated humanely.

More than four years later in October 2019, he was sentenced to 10 years in prison after a grossly unfair trial. Aser says that he did not commit any of the crimes and has appealed to the Court of Cassation in Cairo.

Given the circumstances outlined above, I urge you to order his immediate release and also arrange an impartial investigation into his enforced disappearance and allegations of ill-treatment.

Yours sincerely