

Sent to Jail for Writing a Facebook Post?

Imagine, what would you do if you posted a comment on Facebook in which you criticized the German government and suddenly, you were sent to prison for doing this? You may think this is not going to happen in a country like Germany, but in fact many people in this world suffer this fate.

For example, the blogger Tadjadine Mahamat Babouri, who is in prison for posting critical comments on his administration in Chad. And even more people share his fate. They are kept in prison by their government because they stood up for human rights in their country. Some of them just want to have equality for minorities or simply justice. There are many possible reasons. As a result, people who were fighting for the rights and freedoms of others, cannot live in freedom themselves. Everyday these activists have to suffer from torture and injustice in prison.

In many countries of our world, humans are treated unfairly. Unlike in Germany, some cannot say their opinion without having fear of any consequences.

But what can we do about that?

You can take action! Every year in December, *Amnesty International*, organizes a so called “**Briefmarathon**” to help human rights activists who suffer from unfair treatment or are kept in prison. Amnesty International is an organization that fights for human rights worldwide. Thus thousands of people are writing letters for people in need. You choose a person from their campaign and write a protest letter. Your letter will be sent to the government of the person’s country, so the administration has to read all these letters and this puts much pressure on them. As a result, they may free the activist or change something in their country. You can read about the results of the “Briefmarathon” and realize that many captives have already been freed with the help of this campaign and our help.

In the English lessons, we the class 10 a, were writing letters too. Unfortunately, nobody got a response so far, but we still hope to help by taking part in this campaign.

Amnesty International is convinced that every single letter counts and can save a life.

Feel free to join the “Briefmarathon” next year and help people who fight for basic human rights worldwide.

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