

Bluefield State College Colloquium Presents:

**MARYAM AL-KHAWAJA
PRESIDENT OF BAHRAIN CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

"THE DEMOCRATIC REVOLT IN BAHRAIN"

Maryam al-Khawaja is currently the Acting President of the Bahrain Center for Human Rights (BCHR) and the co-Director of the Gulf Center for Human Rights. In Bahrain, al-Khawaja played an instrumental role in the democratic protests taking place in the Pearl Roundabout in February 2011, which triggered a government response of widespread extra-judicial killings, arrests, torture, discrimination, sackings and the instigation of fear to suppress dissent and quell voices for reform. Maryam is the daughter of Abdulhadi al-Khawaja, the founder of the Bahrain Center for Human Rights, who went on a 110-day hunger strike protesting human rights violations and was among a group of high-profile activists and opposition leaders sentenced to life imprisonment in June 2011. Al-Khawaja attempted to return to Bahrain in August 2013, but was denied boarding by order of the Bahrain regime. Despite this, she remains very connected to events on the ground and has emerged as a leading voice for human rights and political reform in Bahrain and the Gulf region. She has been influential in shaping official responses to the atrocities in Bahrain around the world by engaging with prominent European and American policymakers in her advocacy efforts. Al-Khawaja and the BCHR have received numerous awards for their human rights work, including the Rafto Prize. The BCHR is currently nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

WHEN: Monday, Feb. 17th @ 11 AM

WHERE: Basic Science B111

Bluefield State College Colloquium
Presents
Maryam al-Khawaja
“The Democratic Revolt in Bahrain”

Acting President of the Bahrain Center for Human Rights, Vice President and Head of BCHR International Office and co-Director of the Gulf Center for Human Rights; currently in exile



Three Year Anniversary of the
Arab Spring
Eruption in the Kingdom of Bahrain



Secretary Kerry Meets with Bahrain's Foreign Minister (Photo Credit: Reuters)

Monday, February 17, 2014	Basic Sciences 111	11:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon	THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
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