

# Witness Against Torture

## Torture, Former Combatants, Political Prisoners, Terror Suspects, & Terrorists

<https://witnessagainsttorture.com/2014/10/03/force-feeding-is-torture/>

## Campaign and Advocacy

We save our lengthy posts for this site. If you want quicker, more frequent updates about our actions, along with photos and videos, please head over to our [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) pages.

### Forced-Feeding is Torture! No Secret Courts!

#### Emergency Call to Action and Solidarity Fast Witness Against Torture

**Gather at the US Federal District Court (333 Constitution Ave) on Oct. 6 and 7  
8:30 am. 333 Constitution Ave, Washington, D.C.**

On Monday October 6 a trial will begin in which attorneys for Wa-ei Dhiab will seek a stop to the brutal forced-feeding of men at Guantanamo protesting their indefinite detention and abuse at the prison. Witness Against Torture is calling for a public presence at the courthouse to demand an end to forced-feeding and the closing of Guantanamo.

Dhiab is a Syrian man held without charge or trial at Guantanamo since 2002 and cleared for release in 2009 by the US government. He has, according to his attorneys, been forcibly extracted from his cell and force-fed as many as three times a day since the start of the most recent Guantanamo hunger strike in the winter/spring 2012.

Dhiab's lawsuit seeks an end to forced-feeding. Justice Gladys Kessler, who is hearing the case, has described forced-feeding at the prison as painful, humiliating, and degrading. The lawsuit is our best chance to have the courts do what President Obama has been unwilling to do end forced-feeding.

dhiabInvite

### Pack the Court No Secret Trials

Dhiab's attorneys will present as evidence videotapes showing Dhiab being violently extracted from his cell and/or force-fed. The government has petitioned that the trial be held entirely in secret so that the press and public may not see or otherwise learn about the gruesome reality of forced-feeding. Judge Kessler has denied the request, describing the government's request of a secret trial as deeply troubling. As of today, portions of the trial will be open to the public.

We need to pack the courthouse and demonstrate that the torture of forced-feeding is immoral, illegal, and unacceptable.

Plan on attending the hearing. The attorneys for Dhiab have requested that there be no signs or anything else that may irritate the judge. Our presence, and gestures of our protest such as orange ribbons on our clothes, will convey our protest.

Click here to read recent news stories:

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/politics-government/article2295641.html>

<https://firstlook.org/theintercept/2014/10/02/judge-knocks-government-attempt-keep-gitmo-hearing-secret/>

## **Fast for Dhiab and the Hunger Strikers Fast for Justice**

Witness Against Torture is calling for an emergency fast in solidarity with Wa-ei Dhiab, other hunger strikers, and all the men at Guantanamo. Please consider fasting on October 6 and/or October 7.

If you plan to fast, send an email to [witnessstorture@gmail.com](mailto:witnessstorture@gmail.com). Please included in the email where you live and a brief statement as to why you are fasting.

Witness Against Torture will report to the media, Dhiabs attorneys, and the public the numbers of those fasting and convey, through attorneys, your messages to Dhiab and others at Guantanamo.

Furthermore, please consider making two phone calls to:

1. Cliff Sloan at the State Department (202-647-4000) to insist he tells the military to stop the inhumane practice of force feeding prisoners on hunger strike and to work more quickly to shut the doors and empty the cells of the prison.
2. U.S. Southern Command (305-437-1213) to decry the conditions at Guantanamo, especially the force feeding.

***Example script:** I am fasting for 24 hours in solidarity with the prisoners at Guantanamo, especially for those who are on hunger strike and being force fed. I am particularly mindful of Wa-ei Dhiab, a prisoner who is being represented by attorneys in Federal District Court October 6th and 7th. His attorneys are seeking a stop to the brutal force-feeding of men at Guantanamo protesting their indefinite detention and abuse at the prison I am calling today out of concern for him and for the rest of the prisoners. I am asking you to stop the inhumane practice of force feeding and resume releasing the number of prisoners on hunger strike.*

The men at Guantanamo have repeatedly expressed how important it is to them to know that people in the United States and the world fast in solidarity with them.

Join us on Monday, October 6th at 8:30 am. 333 Constitution Ave, Washington, D.C.

## **Witness Against Torture on Social Media:**

Please like us on [Facebook](#) & follow us on [Twitter](#) & [Instagram](#)

Post any pictures of your local activities to our [flicker account](#) and we will help spread the word on [Tumblr](#).

## **Donate to support our work:**

Witness Against Torture is completely volunteer driven and run. We have no paid staff, but do have expenses associated with our organizing work. If you are able, please donate here. [www.witnessstorture.org](http://www.witnessstorture.org)