



Who Is Said Abdelrazek?

Said Mansour Rizk Abdel-Razek, 30, is an Egyptian citizen born to Muslim parents. After years studying comparative religion, he embraced Christianity in 2016 — an act of conscience that has cost him his freedom.

Since converting, Said has endured relentless harassment and torture. He was forced to divorce his wife, separated from his young son, and lived under constant surveillance. Abdelrazek fled Egypt to Russia in 2018, where he gained asylum and converted to the Russian Orthodox Church. His criticism of Islam eventually led to his deportation back to Egypt in October 2024. In July 2025, after seeking legal recognition of his faith, Egyptian authorities arrested him at his home in Cairo.

Ongoing Detention

In October 2025, Egypt's State Security Prosecution in Fifth Settlement renewed Said's detention for two more weeks. Appearing via videoconference, Said pleaded: "I have become a Christian and no longer have relatives who can visit me — I need my lawyer to be allowed to visit me." Authorities have ignored repeated requests from his lawyer to visit him or provide food and clothing — violating Egypt's own detention laws and international human rights standards.

A Case That Exposes Egypt's Hypocrisy

Egypt's Constitution (Article 64) declares: "Freedom of belief is absolute." Yet this promise excludes those who leave Islam. Converts to Christianity are treated as criminals — denied visitation, legal representation, and the basic dignity of their faith. The charges against Said — "joining a terrorist organization," "spreading false information," and "disturbing public order" — are baseless pretexts used to punish his religious identity.

Why it Matters

Said's ordeal represents thousands of Egyptians persecuted for their beliefs. His imprisonment blatantly violates Egypt's constitutional and international commitments to freedom of religion and belief. Protecting the right to change one's faith is central to genuine religious freedom.

People have rights — ideas do not.

How You Can Help

- Urge the Egyptian government to:
 - Immediately & unconditionally release Mr. Abdelrazek
 - End the persecution of religious converts and respect its own Constitution and international human rights commitments
 - Remove religion from ID cards and allow legal recognition of converts