



# #FREEBASSEL

ADRA PRISON HOLDS OVER 7000 INMATES  
IT IS ONLY DESIGNED FOR 2500  
BASSEL KHARTABIL HAS BEEN A PRISONER  
AT ADRA SINCE MARCH OF 2012

On March 15, 2012, Bassel Khartabil was detained amid arrests in the Mazzeh district of Damascus by Military Security Branch 215. That day marked the one-year anniversary of the Syrian uprising, with pro- and anti-government protesters demonstrating in Damascus and elsewhere in the country. Bassel was arrested a few days before his marriage contract to Noura Ghazi, a lawyer and human rights activist. He was then interrogated and tortured. Security forces raided Khartabil's house, confiscating his computer and other effects. He was then transferred to interrogation and detained there incommunicado for 9 months. On December 9, 2012, Bassel was brought before a military prosecutor without an attorney present, and charged with "spying for an enemy State". Bassel was then sent to Adra Prison in Damascus, where he is being held to this day. He has served as project lead and public affiliate for Creative Commons Syria, and has contributed to Mozilla Firefox, Wikipedia, Openclipart, Fabricatorz, and Sharism. He "is credited with opening up the Internet in Syria and vastly extending online access and knowledge to the Syrian people." Bassel's most recent work included a 3D photo realistic reconstruction of the old city of Palmyra in Syria some of which has recently been destroyed by the Islamic State.

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