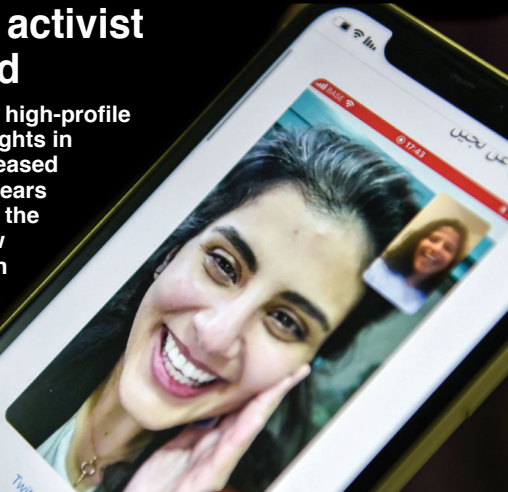


Saudi women's activist al-Hathloul freed

Loujain al-Hathloul, 31, the high-profile campaigner for women's rights in Saudi Arabia, has been released after serving nearly three years in prison. Her treatment by the kingdom's authorities drew international condemnation

*"Loujain is at home!!!!!!"
Hathloul's sister Lina tweeted after her release*



► **2013:** **Loujain al-Hathloul** rises to prominence campaigning to end ban on women driving in Saudi Arabia

► **2014:** Arrested for first time while attempting to drive across border from UAE to Saudi Arabia – spends 73 days in women's detention facility

► **2015:** Barred from standing for municipal elections – first vote in Saudi Arabia to include women

► **2016:** Signs petition along with 14,000 others to **King Salman** asking for male guardianship system to be abolished

► **Mar 2018:** Arrested in UAE and flown to Riyadh where she is held under house arrest

► **May:** Hathloul detained along with about a dozen other women's rights activists, just weeks before ban on female drivers is lifted

► **2019:** Hathloul and ten other women put on trial at criminal court

► **Oct 2020:** Starts hunger strike to protest against conditions of detention

► **Nov:** Case transferred from regular criminal court to special terrorism court

► **Dec 28:** Sentenced to nearly six years in prison after being charged with incitement to change Saudi political system and harming national security

► **Feb 9, 2021:** Saudi appeals court rejects Hathloul's claim that she was tortured in jail, citing lack of evidence, her family says

► **Feb 10:** Hathloul released after 1,001 days behind bars. Five-year travel ban and three years of probation imposed