

At Least 14 Detained on Manezh Square

By The Moscow Times

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At least 14 people were detained Wednesday on Manezh Square at a rally to show support for Bolotnoye case suspects that drew dozens of people.

The protest, which is held on the sixth day of each month, was devoted to the 28 suspects in the investigation into clashes that broke out between police and demonstrators at an anti-Kremlin rally on Bolotnaya Ploshchad on May 6, 2012.

According to opposition activist Sergei Udaltsov's Twitter account, about 100 people showed up at the rally.

Some protesters were detained for wearing T-shirts in support of those involved in the case, while several others were detained for holding up posters calling for the release of the suspects and other supposed political prisoners.

Another group of people were escorted to a police van after forming a circle, with a white ribbon linking them, holding up placards and chanting "Russia without Putin" and "Free

the prisoners of May 6." One protester drew laughs from the crowd for shouting "Divorce your wife, take a rifle."

Demonstrators then strolled across Red Square and proceeded to a nearby police station where one of the detainees had been driven. In an apparent attempt to secure the release of the detained protester, the crowd bickered with police officers. About 10 minutes later, the detainee was released to loud cheers from the crowd.

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