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From: Sent: To: Subject: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov> Saturday, April 9, 2011 8:05 AM H Fw: Oman to charge protest leader, 25 others (Reuters)

From: OpsNewsTicker@state.gov [mallto:OpsNewsTicker@state.gov] Sent: Saturday, April 09, 2011 07:05 AM To: NEWS-Mahogany Cc: SES-O\_OS; SES-O\_SWO Subject: Oman to charge protest leader, 25 others (Reuters)

MUSCAT (Reuters) - An Omani activist who "instigated riots" in the industrial city of Sohar will face trial with 25 others for violent conduct, the chief prosecutor said on Saturday.

He did not say when the accused would go to court or the exact charges they were facing but a statement said "many other protesters" had been released.

Security forces on Friday sealed off the site of violent clashes that left one dead on April 1 and stopped worshippers from attending Friday prayers to prevent another protest.

Demonstrations in Oman, inspired by a wave of protests that have spread across the Middle East and toppled Egypt and Tunisia's leaders, have focused on demands for better wages, jobs and an end to corruption.

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