
amnesty international

HARMING THE HEALERS

Violations of the human rights of health professionals

21 July 2000

AI INDEX: ACT 75/03/00
DISTR: PG/SC

UPDATE 1

Since the publication of *Harming the Healers* on 31 May 2000, there have been some developments.

- **FRY:** On 6 June 2000 the Supreme Court of the Republic of Serbia reportedly annulled the conviction and 12-year prison sentence imposed on **Dr Flora Brovina** in December 1999 (see appeal case p.28). The Supreme Court reportedly ruled that there was no basis for her conviction and returned the case to the District Court. The District Court can either order a new trial or dismiss the case. She remains in prison pending the court's decision.
- **Syria:** The president of Syria, Hafez al-Assad, died on 10 June 2000. His son, Bashar al-Assad, was elected president on 11 July 2000. Letters to the Syrian president concerning Muhammad Ghanim and 'Abd al-'Aziz al'Khayyir (see appeal cases p.36) should be addressed to His Excellency Bashar al-Assad.

Please also note the following corrections:

- Page 8: it was incorrectly stated that **Dr Frederick Fasehun** was released in 1997. Dr Fasehun was charged with treason in March 1997 with 15 others, including other prominent pro-democracy leaders, and was released unconditionally in June 1998 on the death of head of state General Sani Abacha;
- Page 21: **Ali Lakhdar-Chaouch** was arrested on 1 April 1997 and not on 1 September 1996 as it says in the text box;
- Page 21: **Abdallah Kheznadji** was arrested on 27 September 1995 and not on 18 June 1995 as it says in the text box;
- Page 35: **Khin Zaw Win's** 15-year prison sentence also included two years' imprisonment under Section 5 of the 1923 Official Secrets Act.

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