

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 21/13/00

EXTRA 16/00

Possible "Disappearance" / Fear for Safety /
Fear of torture or ill-treatment

3 March 2000

INDONESIA (ACEH) Fachrurazzi, aged 25, student

Amnesty International is gravely concerned for the safety of Fachrurazzi who "disappeared" in Simpang Mamplam, Aceh, on 6 January 2000. Information just received by Amnesty International indicates that he was detained by members of the police mobile brigade (Brimob). Those detained by the security forces are at risk of ill-treatment, torture and "disappearance".

Fachrurazzi is a student at Iskandar Thani Technical School, Banda Aceh, and a volunteer at the humanitarian coordination post (posko) in Simpang Mamplam, in the sub-district of Samalanga, Bireun.

According to reports he "disappeared" on a day Brimob were conducting operations to capture members of the armed opposition group ~~Gerakan Aceh Merdeka~~ (GAM), Free Aceh Movement around Simpang Mamplam. Eye witnesses say that Fachrurazzi was stopped and questioned by members of Brimob as he was making his way home, and that they saw him being taken away in their truck.

Extensive efforts have been made to discover the whereabouts of Fachrurazzi. Visits to police and military headquarters in various locations in Bireun, Pidie and North Aceh districts during January met with denials that he was detained. On 11 February 2000, at the provincial police headquarters in Aceh, Fachrurazzi's parents were informed that their son had been released that day. His whereabouts, however, are still unknown.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The human rights situation in Aceh continues to deteriorate. There are unconfirmed reports that 179 people have been killed in the province since the beginning of 2000 in the context of military and police counter-insurgency operations against the armed opposition group GAM. Dozens of people have been arrested during the course of "sweeping operations" by the security forces to capture members of GAM.

In recent weeks there have been worrying signs of increased harassment, intimidation, arrests and other violations by the security forces against human rights defenders and humanitarian workers.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in Bahasa Indonesia, English or your own language:

- urging the authorities to immediately establish and make public the whereabouts of Fachrurazzi, and to provide guarantees for his safety;
- asking that all those responsible for serious human rights violations - including killings, torture and "disappearances" - are brought promptly to justice before a civilian court according to international human rights standards;
- requesting them to issue immediate instructions to the security forces to halt all arbitrary arrests and detentions, torture and ill-treatment, "disappearances" and unlawful killings;
- asking the authorities to ensure that all security operations in Aceh are carried out in line with international human rights standards.

APPEALS TO (please note that fax tones are difficult to obtain and may require several attempts to get through):

Dr Juwono Sudarsono
Minister of Defence and Security
(Menteri Pertahanan dan Keamanan)
Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No.13-14
Jakarta Pusat 10110
Indonesia

Telegrams: Dr Juwono Sudarsono, Menteri Pertahanan Dan Keamanan, Jakarta, Indonesia

Faxes: + 62 21 381 4535 / 384 5178

Salutation: Dear Minister

Brig. Gen. Bachrumsyah Kasman
Chief of Police for Aceh (Kapolda Aceh)
Jl Cut Nyak Dien
Banda Aceh
Aceh
Indonesia

Telegrams: Kapolda Aceh, Banda Aceh, Indonesia

Salutation: Dear Brigadier General

COPIES TO:

Mr Hasballah M. Saad
State Minister for Human Rights Affairs
Jl Kuningan Timur M 2/5
Jakarta 12950
Indonesia

Faxes: + 62 21 525 0075 / 525 0139

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 31 March 2000.