

PUBLIC
UA 349/02

Fear for Safety/Possible "disappearance"

AI Index: ASA 21/049/2002
02 December 2002

INDONESIA Musliadi (m), Student activist

On 30 November, six plain-clothed armed men detained Musliadi, the head of the West Aceh Student and Youth Action Coalition *Koalisi Aksi Gerakan Mahasiswa dan Pemuda Aceh Barat* (KAGEMPAR). He has not been seen since. In the past, political and human rights activists have been subjected to human rights violations including "disappearance", torture and extrajudicial execution. Amnesty International is therefore very concerned for his safety.

According to eyewitnesses, at around 6.30 pm, armed men arrived at the KAGEMPAR office in Banda Aceh, the capital of Aceh Province, in a brown mini-van and forced Musliadi to come with them. KAGEMPAR activists have searched for Musliadi, enquiring at police stations and military posts, but the police and military both deny detaining him. It is not known why Musliadi was detained, but it is thought that his detention is related to his activism against violence and human rights violations in Aceh.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Grave human rights violations, including unlawful killings, "disappearances", torture and detention without charge are continuing in Aceh where military and police operations are being carried out against the Free Aceh Movement (GAM). Local human rights groups estimate that so far this year, at least 1,200 people have been killed as a result of these operations. Many of those killed are believed to be civilians.

Anyone detained by the police or the military in Aceh is at grave risk of torture, ill-treatment or other human rights violations. Human rights defenders have also been the target of human rights violations. At least nine are thought to have been unlawfully killed since 1999; others have been unlawfully detained and tortured. As with most other human rights cases in Aceh, no investigations have taken place and the perpetrators have not been brought to justice.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in Bahasa Indonesia, English or your own language:

- expressing concern for Musliadi's safety;
- urging the authorities to clarify if he has been detained, and if so to make public his whereabouts and the reason for his detention immediately;
- calling on the authorities to provide guarantees for his safety, including assurances that he is not subjected to torture or other human rights violations;
- urging the authorities to release him immediately and unconditionally unless he is to be charged with a recognizable criminal offence;
- calling on the authorities to allow Musliadi access to his relatives, lawyers and any medical attention he may require.

APPEALS TO:

Commander, Kodam / Iskander Muda

Maj. Gen. M Djali Yusuf

Pangdam / Iskander Muda

Markas Besar

Jl. Ahmad Yani

Simpang Lima

Banda Aceh

Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam

Indonesia

Fax: + 62 651 27063 (if someone answers ask for the fax, "saya mau kirim fax")

Salutation: Dear Major General

Chief of Police, Aceh

Insp. Gen. Yusuf Mangga Barani

Kapolda Aceh

Markas Polisi Daerah Aceh Pidie

Jl Iskandar, Banda Aceh

Jl Cut Nyak Dien, Banda Aceh

Indonesia

Fax: +62 651 22488 / + 62 651 23670

Salutation: Dear Inspector General

COPIES TO:

President Megawati Sukarnoputri

President RI

Istana Merdeka

Jakarta 10110

Indonesia

Fax: + 62 21 345 2685/ + 62 21 8726 / + 62 21 345 7782

Salutation: Dear President

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 13 January 2003.