

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: EUR 44/179/90  
Distr: UA/SC

4 December 1990

Further information on UA 474/90 (EUR 44/169/90, 22 November) - Fear of Torture

TURKEY: Imam Fidan  
Nazam Çeliker (please note correct name)  
Mustafa Eser  
Imam Dö\_ü\_  
Ibrahim Dö\_ü\_  
Ali Dö\_ü\_  
Nurten Demir  
Ali Ta\_özü  
Mithat Zafer

New name: Mehmet Nurettin Diçer

---

The ten people named above were taken to court on 29 November. The court ordered the release of Ibrahim and Ali Dö\_ü\_ and the arrest of the other eight detainees. Details of the charges are not yet known. They had been taken from their homes in Istanbul by the police and were held incommunicado at Istanbul Police Headquarters.

One of those released alleged that they had all been tortured for four days at Istanbul Police Headquarters. On the first day they were made to stand for 27 hours. Torture which then followed included being suspended by the arms, electric shocks to fingers, temples, sexual organs, neck and navel, being beaten on the back with sticks. The women detainees were threatened with rape. The detainees were then forced to sign prepared statements. When taken for a medical examination 11 days after torture had stopped, visible marks had disappeared.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Turkey ratified the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture on 25 February 1988 and the UN Convention Against Torture on 2 August 1988. However, all information available to Amnesty International indicates that torture is still widespread and systematic in Turkey. Allegations of torture have continued since the transfer of power to a civilian government in 1983. Most allegations relate to ill-treatment of detainees in police custody during their initial interrogation when they are usually denied access to relatives or a lawyer. Under current legislation the maximum detention period before being formally charged or released is 24 hours; in cases involving three or more suspects or due to the 'nature of the crime' it may be extended to 15 days. In August 1990, the government derogated from Articles 5, 6, 8, 10, 11 and 13 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:**

- appealing that an impartial and independent investigation be carried out into allegations that the detainees named above were tortured while in custody at Istanbul Police Headquarters;

- urging that statements extracted under torture are not used in court as evidence against them;
- requesting to be informed of the charges against them.

**APPEALS TO:**

President Turgut Özal  
Devlet Ba\_kanli\_i  
06100 Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: President Ozal, Ankara, Turkey  
Telexes: 42875 BBK TR

Istanbul Emniyet Müdürü  
Mehmet A\_ar  
Istanbul Chief of Police  
\_stanbul, Turkey

Telegrams: Emniyet Muduru, Istanbul, Turkey  
Telexes: 30811 IEHM TR or 30812 EMMH TR  
Faxes: + 90 1 172 8182

**COPIES TO:** Diplomatic representatives of Turkey in your country

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 January 1991.