

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 24/04/96

29 January 1996

Further information on UA 16/96 (MDE 24/03/96, 26 January 1996) - Fear of torture / Health concern / Prisoners of conscience

SYRIAMustafa al-Hussain, 47, teacher
'Umar al-Hayak, 41, civil servant
Muhammad Kheir Khalaf, 41, topographer
'Abd al-Karim 'Issa, 44, civil servant
'Abdalla Qabbara, 58, lawyer
Hikmat Mirjaneh, 43, craftsman
Yassin al-Haj Salih, 39, student
Yusha' al-Khatib, 44, teacher
Mazin Shamsin, 35, student
Firas Yunis, 37, student

new names: Usama 'Ashur al-'Askari, 36, student
al-Hareth al-Nabhan, 34, student
Safwan 'Akkash, 43, university graduate
Taysir Hassun, 33, student
Adib al-Jani, 44, teacher
'Ammar Rizq, 33, mechanical engineer
Ratib Sha'bu, 33, student
Hussain al-Subayrani, 28, student
'Aziz Tassi, 34, Factory worker
Bakri Fahmi Sidqi, 37, student
Bassam Bedour

Amnesty International has learned the names of another 11 prisoners of conscience who have recently been moved to Tadmur military prison after refusing to sign a statement promising that they will dissociate themselves from all past political activities.

The 11 were arrested between 1982 and 1987, except 'Ammar Rizq who was arrested in 1990. All were sentenced by the Supreme State Security Court in 1994 to prison terms ranging from eight to 15 years for membership or links with the unauthorized *Hizb al-'Amal al-Shuyu'i*, Party of Communist Action (PCA).

As far as Amnesty International is aware, there are no specific medical concerns for these 11 prisoners of conscience.

Please continue action as specified in the original action, using these extra names where possible. Thank you to all who have already sent appeals.