

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 187/94 (MDE 29/03/94, 12 May 1994) - Detention of possible prisoners of conscience / fear of unfair trial and new concern: Imprisonment of prisoners of conscience

MOROCCO: Ali HRACH ERRASS (previously called Mohamed by mistake)

Ali AKEN  
Mbarek TAUSSE

Ahmed KIKCHE - acquitted  
Said JAAFAR - acquitted  
Omar DAROUICHE - acquitted  
Omar OCHNA - acquitted

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Custodial sentences have been passed on Ali Hrach Errass, Ali Aken and Mbarek Tausse. Amnesty International considers them to be prisoners of conscience, imprisoned solely for peacefully expressing their conscientiously held beliefs.

Ali Hrach Errass and Ali Aken, president and archivist respectively of the *Tilili* (Freedom) association for Berber culture, were sentenced on 27 May to two years' imprisonment and Mbarek TAUSSE, also a member of *Tilili*, to one year's imprisonment. They were also given fines of 10,000 dirhams. They had been arrested in Errachidia with four others after a peaceful Labour Day demonstration on 1 May, when they called for the recognition of the Berber language as an official language in Morocco. They were brought to trial on 17 May and the verdict was issued on 27 May. The other four defendants, Ahmed Kikche, Said Jaafar, Omar Darouiche and Omar Ochna were acquitted and released.

Ali Hrach Errass, Ali Aken and Mbarek Tausse are all teachers and are members of the *Association marocaine des droits de l'homme*, AMDH (Moroccan Association for Human Rights), and of the *Confédération démocratique du travail*, CDT (Democratic Trade Union).

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes and airmail letters either in French/Arabic/English or in your own language:**

- expressing concern that Ali Hrach Errass, Ali Aken and Mbarek Tausse have been imprisoned as prisoners of conscience solely for exercising their right to freedom of expression and association: a right guaranteed by international standards including the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Morocco is a state party;
- urging the Moroccan authorities to immediately and unconditionally release Ali Hrach Errass, Ali Aken and Mbarek Tausse.

**APPEALS TO**

King Hassan II  
Palais Royal  
Rabat, Maroc

**Telegrams: King Hassan II, Rabat, Maroc**  
**Telexes: 31744 or 32908**  
**Salutation: Sire / Your Majesty**

M. Omar Azziman

Ministre délégué chargé des Droits de l'Homme  
Bureau du Premier Ministre  
Palais Royal  
Rabat, Maroc  
**Faxes: + 212 7 77 68 37**  
**Telexes: 36161**  
**Telegrams: M. Azziman, Palais Royal, Rabat, Maroc**  
**Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister**

M. Abdellatif Filali  
Premier Ministre  
Bureau du Premier Ministre  
Palais Royal  
Rabat, Maroc  
**Telexes: 36008**  
**Telegrams: Premier Ministre Filali, Rabat, Maroc**  
**Salutation: Monsieur le Premier Ministre / Dear Prime Minister**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

M. Mohamed Mikou  
Secrétaire général  
Conseil consultatif des droits de l'homme  
BP 1341  
24 Place des Chouhada  
Rabat, Maroc

Association marocaine des droits de l'homme  
14 rue Calcutta  
BP 1740  
Rabat, Maroc  
**Faxes: + 212 7 707 871**

Organisation marocaine des droits de l'homme  
24, Avenue de France  
Quartier Agdal  
Rabat, Maroc  
**Faxes: + 212 7 774615**

and to diplomatic representatives of Morocco accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 12 July 1994.