

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 30/20/97

24 April 1997

Further information on UA 208/96 (MDE 30/23/96, 22 August 1996) and follow-ups (MDE 30/24/96, 27 August; MDE 30/34/96, 10 October; MDE 30/11/97, 7 March 1997; MDE 30/14/97, 12 March; MDE 30/15/97, 19 March; MDE 30/16/97, 26 March; MDE 30/17/97, 2 April; MDE 30/18/97, 10 April) - Fear of ill-treatment / Probable prisoners of conscience / Fear of arrest as POC / "Disappearance" / Prisoner of conscience / Health concern

TUNISIA Abdel Moumen BELANES, student

Amnesty International has received information that prisoner of conscience Abdel Moumen Belanes stopped his hunger-strike on 11 April 1997. He had been on hunger-strike since 17 March in protest at his imprisonment on charges which he denies and at the poor conditions of detention.

Abdel Moumen Belanes, who was sentenced on 8 April 1997 to one year's imprisonment on charges of disturbing public order, has been moved from 9 Avril Prison in Tunis, where he was initially held following his detention on 6 March 1997, to Nadhor Prison, 50km north of the capital. Nadhor Prison is where those prisoners who have been sentenced to long prison terms, and who have exhausted all avenues of appeal, are normally detained. It seems that Abdel Moumen Belanes has been moved there as a punishment for his hunger-strike.

Abdel Moumen Belanes' family were at first incorrectly informed that he had been moved from 9 Avril Prison to Beja Prison, situated in the northwest of the country. However, on arriving at the prison to visit him, they found that he was not being held there. His family live near Sousse, situated on the south east coast of the country, 160km from Tunis. Amnesty International receives regular reports of political prisoners both being held at great distances from their families, and transferred on a frequent basis from prison to prison.

**UA participants may continue to call for the immediate and unconditional release of Abdel Moumen Belanes as a prisoner of conscience.**

**APPEALS TO:**

1) Minister of Justice

M. Abdallah Kallel  
Ministre de la Justice  
Ministère de la Justice  
Boulevard Bab Benat  
Tunis, Tunisia

**Faxes: +216 1 568 106**

**Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Your Excellency**

2) Minister of the Interior

M. Mohamed Ben Rejeb  
Ministre de l'Intérieur  
Ministère de l'Intérieur  
Av. Habib Bourguiba  
Tunis, Tunisia

**Fax: +216 1 340888**

**Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Your Excellency**

**COPIES TO:**

Tunisian Human Rights League  
Me Taoufik Bouderbala, Président  
Ligue Tunisienne des Droits de l'Homme, LTDH  
7 Rue Pierre Curie  
TUNIS, Tunisia  
**Faxes: + 216 1 336 338**

and to diplomatic representatives of Tunisia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 June 1997.