URGENT ACTION

FOUR IRAQI ACTIVISTS RELEASED

Four activists detained in Iraq on 27 May were released on 7 June. They allege that they were tortured in detention.

Ahmed Alaa al Baghdadi, Jihad Jalil Ibrahim, Muayyad Faisal al-Tayeb and Ali Abdul Khaliq al Jaf were taken from Tahrir Square in central Baghdad at 9.30am on 27 May, just before a planned demonstration started. They were apparently driven away in an ambulance by men in plain clothes, believed to be security officials. The four activists had previously called for and participated in peaceful demonstrations in protest against deteriorating economic and other living conditions in Iraq.

The four men, aged between 19 and 29, were held in the al-Muthanna airbase prison in Baghdad until they were released on bail on 7 June. The charges against them have not been dropped and they might face trial on charges of possessing false ID cards.

The four men allege that they were beaten while in detention and forced to remain standing for hours under the hot sun.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals. Amnesty International will keep on monitoring this case and take further action as necessary.

This is the second update to UA 158/11. Further information: http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE14/030/2011/en



