

PUBLIC

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Incommunicado detention/fear of torture or ill-treatment

EGYPT

Yunis Ali Badr (m), aged 36

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Yunis Ali Badr, who has dual Egyptian and Libyan nationality, is feared to be detained incommunicado by State Security Intelligence (SSI) forces at an unknown location, where he is at risk of torture or ill-treatment.

Yunis Ali Badr was arrested on 27 February and reportedly held at the SSI headquarters in Lazoghly Square in the capital Cairo, where he was allegedly tortured or ill-treated. In late April, he was transferred to Bab al-Sharq Police Station in Alexandria. On 21 May he was transferred from Bab al-Sharq Police Station but his lawyer has not been informed of his whereabouts.

It is feared that Yunis Ali Badr is at risk of being extradited to Libya, where he would be at risk of serious human rights violations. His lawyer has filed a case with an administrative court in Cairo against the extradition. A hearing has been scheduled for 11 June. Yunis Ali Badr is reportedly wanted by the Libyan authorities for his alleged Islamist activities.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In Egypt political detainees are frequently tortured, particularly at the SSI headquarters in Lazoghly Square, Cairo, but also other SSI branches, at police stations and occasionally prisons. The methods most commonly reported are electric shocks, beatings, suspension by the wrists or ankles, burning with cigarettes, and various forms of psychological torture, including death threats and threats of rape or sexual abuse of the detainee or their female relatives.

In November 2002, the UN Committee against Torture expressed "particular concern at the widespread evidence of torture and ill-treatment in administrative premises under the control of the State Security Investigation Department, the infliction of which is reported to be facilitated by the lack of any mandatory inspection by an independent body of such premises". The UN Special Rapporteur on torture has called for a total ban on incommunicado detention.

Hundreds of political prisoners and detainees reportedly continue to be held in Libya. Amnesty International continues to receive reports of torture into which no investigations are known to have been carried out and in which no one has been brought to justice. Legislation criminalizing non-violent political activities and providing for unfair trials remains in force.

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in Arabic, English or your own language:**

- expressing concern that Yunis Ali Badr is reportedly being held in incommunicado detention;
- urging the authorities to reveal where Yunis Ali Badr is held, and to give him access to his lawyer, relatives and any medical attention he may require;
- seeking guarantees that Yunis Ali Badr will not be tortured or ill-treated in detention;
- calling for an immediate and impartial investigation into reports that he was tortured or ill-treated, for the results to be made public and for those responsible to be brought to justice;
- expressing concern that Yunis Ali Badr may be at risk of being forcibly returned to Libya, where he would be at risk of serious human rights violations.

**APPEALS TO:**

His Excellency Mohammad Hosni Mubarak  
President of the Arab Republic of Egypt  
'Abedine Palace, Cairo, Egypt

**Telegram:** **President Mubarak, Cairo, Egypt**

**E-mail:** [webmaster@presidency.gov.eg](mailto:webmaster@presidency.gov.eg) - (e-mails sent to this address may bounce; please re-send by air-mail)

**Fax:** **+ 202 390 1998**

**Telex:** **93794 WAZRA UN**

**Salutation:** **Your Excellency**

His Excellency General Habib al-Adeli  
Minister of the Interior  
Ministry of the Interior  
Al-Sheikh Rihan Street  
Bab al-Louk, Cairo, Egypt

**Telegram:** **Minister of Interior, Cairo, Egypt**

**E-mail:** [moi@idsc.gov.eg](mailto:moi@idsc.gov.eg)

**Fax:** **+ 202 579 2031**

**Salutation:** **Dear Minister**

His Excellency Mr Faruq Sayf al-Nasr  
Minister of Justice  
Ministry of Justice  
Midan Lazoghly, Cairo, Egypt

**Telegrams:** **Minister of Justice, Cairo, Egypt**

**E-mail:** [mojeb@idsc.gov.eg](mailto:mojeb@idsc.gov.eg) - (e-mails sent to this address may bounce; please re-send by air-mail)

**Fax:** **+ 202 795 8103**

**Salutation:** **Dear Minister**

Counsellor Maher 'Abd al-Wahid  
Public Prosecutor  
Dar al-Qadha al-'Ali  
Ramses Street, Cairo, Egypt

**Telegrams:** **Public Prosecutor, Cairo, Egypt**

**Fax:** **+ 202 577 4716**

**Salutation:** **Dear Public Prosecutor**

**COPIES TO:** diplomatic representatives of Egypt accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 3 July 2003.