

UA 328/02

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**INDONESIA Zakaria (m), aged 34**

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Zakaria has not been seen since 28 October, and there are serious fears for his safety. He is the head of the Regional Committee of the Aceh People's Democratic Resistance Front (FPDRA), a non-violent pro-independence organization in Bireun town, Aceh province. Local human rights organizations fear that he may have been detained by a branch of military intelligence.

In mid-October, Zakaria had been threatened that he would be detained because of his political activism by someone believed to be from military intelligence stationed in Ulul Al-Bab religious school, Cot Gapu Sub-district, Jeumpa District. It is believed that he may be held there.

Zakaria has been detained on two previous occasions. In March 2002 he was detained from the office of FPDRA in Bireun town by members of the Special Forces Command (Kopassus). On 15 August twelve members of FPDRA, including Zakaria were detained following a demonstration in the provincial capital Banda Aceh. On both occasions he was released after being held for one day.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Grave human rights violations, including unlawful killings, "disappearances", torture and detention without charge are continuing in Aceh where military and police operations are being carried out against the Free Aceh Movement (GAM). Local human rights groups estimate that at least 1,200 people have been killed as a result of these operations so far this year. Many of those killed are believed to be civilians.

Anyone detained by the police or the military in Aceh is at grave risk of torture, ill-treatment or other human rights violations. Human rights defenders have also been the target of human rights violations. At least nine are thought to have been unlawfully killed since 1999; others have been unlawfully detained and tortured. As with most other human rights cases in Aceh, no investigations have taken place and the perpetrators have not been brought to justice.

FPDRA members are among those who have been subjected to human rights violations. In July 2002, three FPDRA members were detained while travelling to a demonstration. Two were released the following day but the head of the FPDRA, Kautsar, was charged with spreading hatred. He was detained for four months before being acquitted in November 2001.

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

- expressing concern for Zakaria's safety;
- urging the authorities to clarify if he has been detained, and if so to make public his whereabouts and the reason for his detention immediately;
- urging the authorities to release him immediately and unconditionally unless he is to be charged with a recognizable criminal offence;
- calling on the authorities to provide guarantees for his safety, including assurances that he is not subjected to torture or other human rights violations;
- calling on the authorities to allow him access to his relatives, lawyers and any medical attention he may need.

**APPEALS TO:**

Commander, Kodam / Iskander Muda

Maj. Gen. M Djali Yusuf

Pangdam / Iskander Muda

Markas Besar

Jl. Ahmad Yani

Simpang Lima

Banda Aceh

Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam

Indonesia

**Telegrams: Pangdam Iskander Muda, Banda Aceh, Aceh, Indonesia**

**Fax: + 62 651 27063 (if someone answers ask for the fax, "saya mau kirim fax")**

**Salutation: Dear Major General**

Resort Police Chief - Aceh Utara

Lt. Col. Drs. Wanto Sumardi SH

Kapolres Aceh Utara

Markas Polisi Aceh Utara

Jl. Banda Aceh-Medan No. 1

Aceh Utara

Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam

Indonesia

**Telegrams: Kapolres Aceh Utara, Aceh Utara, Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam**

**Salutation: Dear Lieutenant Colonel**

**COPIES TO:**

Commander of the Armed Forces

Maj. Gen. Endriartono Sutarto

Panglima TNI

Markas Besar TNI

Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No 13

Jakarta Pusat

Indonesia

**Fax: + 62 21 35 6404 (it may be difficult to get through; please keep trying)**

**Salutation: Dear Lieutenant General,**

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 19 December 2002.