

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 33/018/2001

5 July 2001

Further information on UA 150/01 (ASA 33/014/2001, 15 June 2001) - torture and ill-treatment

PAKISTAN (Azad Jammu and Kashmir) Around 35 political activists

New names: Amanullah Khan, chairman, Jammu and Kashmir  
Liberation Front  
Around 70 other political activists

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A total of just over 100 political activists are now believed to have been arrested. All have been told that they will be detained for at least 30 days under the Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance. Amnesty International believes that they are at risk of torture or ill-treatment.

There were further arrests on 8 and 14 June, and 3 July. Among those arrested is the chairman of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, Amanullah Khan. The activists who have been arrested are from his party, and from the United Kashmir People's National Party.

Both parties favour independence for Jammu and Kashmir. They put forward candidates for candidates from these parties for the 5 July Legislative Assembly elections, but the Election Commission refused to accept nomination papers for candidates who refused to sign a declaration of support for the accession of Azad Jammu and Kashmir to Pakistan.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please continue to send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/ airmail letters in English or your own language:**

- urging the authorities in Azad Jammu and Kashmir to guarantee that none of the detainees will be tortured or ill-treated;
- calling for them to be released immediately and unconditionally, if they are held solely for their conscientiously held political beliefs;
- asking the authorities not to detain people for taking part in peaceful political protests, and to change legislation which currently allows for people to be held as prisoners of conscience.

**APPEALS TO (The fax numbers below can be difficult to reach. Please be patient and keep trying):**

Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir  
Muzaffarabad  
Azad Jammu and Kashmir  
PAKISTAN  
**Fax: + 92 58810 39108 / + 92 51 9206288**  
**Salutation: Dear Prime Minister**

President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir  
Muzaffarabad  
Azad Jammu and Kashmir  
PAKISTAN  
**Fax: + 92 58810 42433 / + 92 51 9210540**  
**Salutation: Dear President**

COPIES TO:

Diplomatic representatives of Pakistan accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 17 August 2001.