

PUBLIC

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ISRAEL/OTSamer Fawzi 'Awartani, aged 34, hospital administrator

Hospital administrator Samer Fawzi 'Awartani was arrested by the Israeli security forces on 7 May as he returned from a medical conference in Oxford, England. He is now reportedly detained without charge or trial, and he is at grave risk of torture.

He is now held in Tah Tikva detention centre, inside the Occupied Territories. He has not been allowed to see his lawyer or his family, in contravention of the basic principles of international law. On 14 May his lawyer discovered that an Israeli court had extended Samer's detention by another two weeks without informing him or his client.

Samer Fawzi 'Awartani is the administrative director of Rafidia Hospital, in the West Bank city of Nablus. He had gone to England to present a paper at a conference organised by the British government on "empowerment of patients and health care management". On his return he was arrested at the Allenby Bridge crossing point between the West Bank and Jordan.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English/Hebrew or your own language:

- asking the authorities to release Samer Fawzi 'Awartani immediately unless he is to be charged with a recognizable criminal offence;
- expressing concern at reports that other Palestinian detainees have been tortured or ill-treated during interrogation, and asking the authorities to ensure that Samer Fawzi 'Awartani is treated in accordance with international standards;
- reminding the authorities that while he is in custody Samer Fawzi 'Awartani has the right of access to a lawyer of his choice and his family.

APPEALS TO:

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon
Office of the Prime Minister
3 Kaplan Street, PO Box 187
Kiryat Ben-Gurion
Jerusalem 91919

Telegrams: Prime Minister, Jerusalem

Fax: + 972 2 651 2631

Salutation:Dear Prime Minister

Uzi Landau
Minister of Public Security
Ministry of Public Security (Police)
Kiryat Hamemshala
PO Box 18182
Jerusalem 91181

Fax: + 972 2 584 7872

Salutation:Dear Minister of Public Security

Meir Shetrit
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
29 Salah al-Din Street
Jerusalem 91010

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Fax:+ 972 2 628 8618

Salutation:Dear Minister of Justice

Eli Yishai
Minister of the Interior
Ministry of Interior
2 Kaplan Street
PO Box 6158
Kiryat Ben Gurion
Jerusalem 91061

Fax:+ 972 2 670 1628

Salutation: Dear Minister of Interior

Elyakim Rubinstein
Attorney-General
Ministry of Justice
29 Salah al-Din Street
Jerusalem 91010

Fax:+ 972 2 628 5438

Salutation: Dear Attorney-General

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Israel accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 2 July 2001.