

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 408/94 (EUR 44/136/94, 18 November 1994) - Fear of torture / "Disappearance"

TURKEY **Murat Fani**

Murat Fani was one of 22 people detained around 9 November in a police operation in Mersin against suspected supporters of the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK). Reports indicate that all were severely tortured while in police custody.

Murat Fani was held for 15 days and brought to court on 23 November. He was formally arrested on charges, under Article 169 of the Turkish Penal Code, of sheltering PKK militants, in particular two men who he said were old friends, and who were also among those detained. He was then committed to Mersin Prison.

On the way to prison, he and fellow-prisoners were so severely beaten that they required medical treatment. Some prisoners had visible cuts and bruises, while others reported that they had blood in their urine. On 5 December they were transferred to a prison in Konya to await trial at the State Security Court.

When his lawyer visited him in Mersin Prison on 29 November, Murat Fani had two teeth missing and one loose, and he complained of pain in his chest. The lawyer learned that Murat Fani had been subjected to electric shocks, hanging by the wrists, beating, and spraying with pressurized ice-cold water. One of the other detainees had a burned thumb from the electric shocks; another had been raped in the anus with a truncheon; while yet another was unable to walk because of the severity with which his testicles had been squeezed. Although the detainees had been sent from prison for medical examination, they were not given medical certificates, allegedly because of pressure from the gendarmes who took the prisoners for examination.

While in police custody, the detainees had been shown on Turkish television behind a large display of weapons. However, allegedly no weapons had been found during the search in Murat Fani's house, and the other detainees later claimed that they had not had any weapons.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express and airmail letters:

- expressing concern about allegations that Murat Fani and other detainees were severely tortured in police custody in Mersin between 9 and 23 November;
- urging that these allegations be investigated without delay and that those responsible be brought to justice;
- asking to be informed of the results of the investigation;
- calling for the prisoners to receive all the medical care they may still require.

APPEALS TO:

1) State Minister with responsibility for Human Rights:

Mr Azimet Köylüo_lu
Office of the Prime Minister
Ba_bakanl_k
06573 Ankara, Turkey

Faxes: +90 312 417 0476

Telegrams: Minister Azimet Köylüo_lu, Ankara, Turkey
Salutation: Dear Minister

2) Minister of the Interior:

Mr Nahit Ment_e
Içisleri Bakanl____
Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Interior Minister, Ankara, Turkey
Faxes: +90 312 418 1066; +90 312 418 1795
Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

President of the Parliamentary Human Rights Commission:

Mr Sabri Yavuz
nsan Haklar Ara_t_rma Komisyonu Ba_kan_
TBMM
Ankara, Turkey
Faxes: +90 312 420 5394

and to diplomatic representatives of Turkey accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 20 January 1995.