

**EXTERNAL (for general distribution)**

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**12 August 1993**

**Further information on UA 255/93 (EUR 44/76/93 of 5 August 1993) and follow-up EUR 44/77/93 of 6 August 1993 - "Disappearance"**

**TURKEY: Ferhat Tepe, correspondent for the daily newspaper Özgür Gündem in Bitlis**

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Amnesty International has learned of the death of Ferhat Tepe. On 5 August 1993, a body was found by a fisherman in Hazar lake near Elaz\_\_. The body was taken to the nearby town of Sivrice, and later that day on to the State Hospital in Elaz\_\_. Although Elaz\_\_ Police Headquarters were in possession of photographs of Ferhat Tepe which had been given to them by his father, and should therefore have been able to identify the body, the body was subsequently interred in Elazi\_ Cemetery as an "unknown person". There are numerous security forces' checkpoints and roadblocks on the road between Bitlis and lake Hazar and it is claimed that nobody could pass through them without the security forces knowing.

After receiving an anonymous telephone call on 9 August, the family travelled to Elaz\_\_ and, using photographs of the drowned person, identified him as Ferhat Tepe. The body was exhumed and reportedly found to have bruises around the neck and traces of blows about the body. The family have not yet received the autopsy report.

Ferhat Tepe was buried in Bitlis on 10 August.

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

- expressing your dismay at the murder under unclarified circumstances of yet another journalist from the newspaper Özgür Gündem: Ferhat Tepe abducted in Bitlis on 28 July 1993 and found dead some 250 kilometres away in lake Hazar on 5 August;
- calling for immediate release of the autopsy report;
- urging an immediate, full and independent investigation into the allegations surrounding his death;
- requesting to be informed of its methods and findings.

**APPEALS TO**

1) Prime Minister:

Mrs Tansu Çiller

Ba\_bakanl\_k

06573 Ankara, Turkey

**Telegrams: Prime Minister, Ankara, Turkey**

**Telexes: 44061/44062/44063 bbmt tr,  
42099 basb tr, 42875 bbk tr**

**Faxes: + 90 4 417 04 76**

**+ 90 4 230 88 96**

**Salutation: Dear Prime Minister**

2) Minister of the Interior:

Mr Mehmet Gazio\_lu

\_çi\_leri Bakanl\_\_\_\_

06644 Ankara, Turkey

**Telegrams: Interior Minister, Ankara, Turkey**

**Faxes: + 90 4 418 1795**

**Salutation: Dear Minister**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Mr Hikmet Çetin

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

D\_i\_leri Bakanl\_\_\_\_

06100 Ankara, Turkey

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 23 September 1993