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EXTERNAL
12 February 1993

£Kosovo province (Yugoslavia)

@Police ill-treatment of Baki Grainca

AI CONCERN: Amnesty International is concerned that Baki Grainca was beaten by police in Srpski Babuš on 30 October 1992 as a result of which he was severely injured.

BACKGROUND: Baki Grainca, aged 58, is an ethnic Albanian from Kosovo province. According to his family, he has suffered from depressions since 1981. A medical certificate issued by a psychiatric hospital in Skopje in 1982 declared that he suffered from depression and had attempted suicide. Since then he has regularly taken medication for his condition.

According to information received by Amnesty International, on 30 October 1992 police officers came to the house of Baki Grainca looking for his 21-year-old son, Ilir, who had allegedly been observed singing anti-Serbian songs at a football match in a local village. On several previous occasions when the police had come to his house, Baki Grainca had told them his son was not at home. On this occasion, four armed police officers came to his house at 5.00am and carried out a search. As they did not find Ilir, they arrested Baki Grainca and immediately began to kick him and beat him with rubber truncheons. They then took him to the police station in Srpski Babuš where they again beat him until 10.30am, when they released him.

Medical findings

A medical certificate issued by a medical centre in Priština on 30 October 1992 notes: Bruising to both sides of the face; bruising to the left knee; bruising and abrasion to both calves; bruising to the upper side of both feet; bruising to the left shoulder; bruising to the right hand. The certificate also notes that the patient felt severe pain all over his body, particularly in his back and legs and could only walk with the help of his family. A second medical certificate issued on 2 November 1992 notes that Baki Grainca had multiple bruising and acute psychotic-depressive reaction.