

URGENT ACTION

MAN ABDUCTED IN RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Georgi Nakani, a 21-year-old man from village of Neitrino in the Russian Federation Republic of Kabardino-Balkaria in the North Caucasus, was abducted by unidentified men at around midnight on 15 December. He was shot at, pushed into a car and driven away. His whereabouts are unknown and Amnesty International fears he may be the victim of an enforced disappearance.

According to a female relative of **Georgi Nakani**, he left her flat in Neitrino at about 11.30pm on 15 December. Soon after he had left the house, witnesses saw him being shot at and apparently wounded, dragged into a car without number plates and driven away, followed by a second car.

The witnesses managed to notice the cars' models and alerted the relatives to what has happened. Some of the witnesses and Georgi Nakani's relative got into their cars and followed the abductors. They also notified the road police, who gave orders to stop the abductors' cars at a police roadblock.

When the car believed to be carrying Georgi Nakani was ordered to stop, his relative, who was in the car following close behind the abductor's cars, claims that she saw one of those in the car show what seemed to be identification documents to police officers, after which the abductors' cars were let through. After that, the pursuing witnesses lost sight of the two cars. Police officers at the roadblock told them later that the men in the abductors' cars had shown a form of identification used by security services. The car containing Georgi Nagani drove towards the city of Nalchik, capital of Kabardino Balkaria.

Georgi Nakani's whereabouts remain unknown. Police in Nalchik opened a criminal investigation into his abduction after receiving a complaint from his family.

PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in Russian or your own language:

- Noting that the Russian authorities have started an investigation into Georgi Nakani's abduction;
- Urging them to ensure that the investigation is thorough, impartial, independent and effective;
- Calling on the Russian authorities to inform the family of the whereabouts of Georgi Nakani;
- Urging them to ensure, that if he is found in detention, he is either notified of the charges against him immediately or released without delay.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 2 FEBRUARY 2010 TO:

Prosecutor General of the Russian Federation

Yurii Yakovlevich Chaika
Ul. Bolshaia Dmitrovka, 15a
Moscow GSP-3
125993
Russian Federation
Fax: +7 495 692 17 25
Salutation: Dear Prosecutor General

Head of the Investigative Committee of the Prosecutor General's Office

Aleksandr I Bastykin
ul. B. Dimitrovka, d.15a, GSP- 3
125993 Moscow
Russian Federation
Fax: +7 495 692 17 25
Salutation: Dear Deputy Prosecutor

Prosecutor of Kabardino-Balkaria

Oleg O.Zharikov
Pr.Kulieva, 16
Nalchik, Kabardino-Balkaria
360030 Russian Federation
Fax: +7 8662 40 45 51
Email: info@prokuror-kbr.ru
Salutation: Dear Prosecutor

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives of Russia accredited to your country. Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Georgi Nakani's older brother was allegedly detained on two occasions earlier this year, and taken to the so-called Center E (the police's anti-extremism department) in Nalchik and beaten there. On both occasions, according to his family, he was released after his relatives staged a protest in front of the police building. Both Georgi Nakani and his brother are practising Muslims. The police appeared to have arrested Georgi Nakani's brother on suspicion of being a supporter of terrorism.

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