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**AFGHANISTAN: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL CONCERNED ABOUT THE SAFETY  
OF OPPOSITION GENERAL**

According to reports, Ismael Khan, an opposition general and former governor of Afghanistan's western Herat province now in the custody of the Taleban is to be tried by an Islamic court for killing "innocent" people.

A Taleban spokesman is quoted as saying that he would be prosecuted by an Islamic court. He was taken prisoner around 19 May 1997 by other opposition commanders and handed over to the Taleban. He was reportedly then sent to the Taleban's headquarters in the southern city of Kandahar.

"There is a genuine fear that Ismael Khan may be ill-treated or even killed in the custody of the Taleban," Amnesty International said.

The organization urged Taleban authorities not to subject him to ill-treatment, and not to execute him. "No one must be be ill-treated or deprived of the most fundamental right every person has; that is the right to life," Amnesty International said..  
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