

EXTERNAL

AI Index: ASA 21/21/97

3 April 1997

Further information on EXTRA 48/97 (ASA 21/20/97, 2 April 1997) - Possible prisoners of conscience / Fear of Torture

INDONESIA24 students (named in original EXTRA)

new names: Titok Haryanto

Aman

Hari Prabow

Indit

Aturma

Agung

Ardiansyah

Maria Karmelia

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A protest against the arrest of 24 students in Yogyakarta, Central Java on 1 April has resulted in eight further arrests and beatings of protestors in the city.

According to unconfirmed information, the protest involving up to 600 people took place in Yogyakarta on 2 April. The demonstrators, mainly students from Yogyakarta universities, marched around the various university colleges shouting slogans including "free our comrades" and "we will boycott [the elections]". Speeches were also made in support of the pro-democracy movement and attacking military brutality. At around midday a scuffle broke out between some of the demonstrators and government intelligence agents. Five students are reported to have been beaten by the police. Another seven students - Titok Haryanto, Aman, Hari Prabow, Indit, Aturma, Agung and Ardiansyah - and one high school student - Maria Karmelia were arrested. It is believed that they were taken to the police headquarters.

The 24 students arrested on 1 April are now also believed to have been transferred from military to police custody. According to the local military resort commander, Colonel Gaffar, the 24 are now under investigation by the police. It is not known if they, or the eight arrested on 2 April, have access to lawyers or to their families. Amnesty International remains concerned that they are at risk of torture or ill-treatment.

The organization is further concerned that the eight may have been arrested for the peaceful expression of their views. In a statement to the news daily Kompas on 2 April by the Deputy Attorney General for Special Crimes the authorities made clear its intention to punish those accused of disrupting the forthcoming parliamentary elections "[a]nyone disrupting the elections will definitely face the arm of the law... The Attorney General's office has prepared a group of laws..."

CORRECTION: Please note that in third sentence of Background Information in original EXTRA, the Indonesian title of the United Democratic Party of Indonesia is *Partai Uni Demokrasi Indonesia*).

**PLEASE CONTINUE ACTION FOR THE 24 STUDENTS AS OUTLINED IN ORIGINAL EXTRA, IN FURTHER APPEALS NOW ADDING THE EIGHT STUDENTS MOST RECENTLY DETAINED.**