

EXTERNAL

AI Index: ASA 21/73/96

1 November 1996

Further information on EXTRA 84/96 (ASA 21/32/96, 6 June 1996) and follow-up (ASA 21/41/96, 18 July) - Health concern / Possible Prisoner of Conscience / Ill-treatment

INDONESIA Amin Baharuddin, 20, student

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On 25 October 1996, Amin Baharuddin was sentenced to a prison term of five months after he was found guilty of wounding a member of the security forces during a demonstration in June 1996. Baharuddin has been in detention since his arrest on 4 June. His prison term begins from the date of his arrest, leaving less than a week left to serve in detention.

Amin Baharuddin, a university student in Jakarta, was accused of throwing a stone which wounded a member of the Mobile Police Brigades during the demonstration. The conviction was based on four witnesses from the police. Amin Baharuddin's lawyer has complained about unfairness during his client's trial. According to the lawyer, witnesses for the prosecution gave the wrong descriptions of what Amin Baharuddin was wearing during the demonstration when the alleged offence took place. Photographs of the demonstration showing what Amin Baharuddin was wearing on the day, submitted as evidence by his lawyer, appear to have been discounted by the judge.

Amin Baharuddin was beaten during his arrest. Eyewitnesses also claimed that he was dragged by police for about 100 metres. He was also allegedly beaten and kicked by police after he was taken into police custody. He apparently suffered nausea, headaches and low blood pressure but was only granted medical treatment after the intervention of a lawyer. There is no indication that the allegations of police brutality against Amin Baharuddin will be investigated.

No further action by the UA Network is requested. Many thanks to all who sent appeals on behalf of Amin Baharuddin.