

**PUBLIC**

**AI Index: ASA 31/058/2005**

**04 July 2005**

**Further Information on UA 31/05 (ASA 31/012/2005, 9 February 2005) and follow-up (ASA 31/045/2005)  
- Fear for safety/fear of torture**

**NEPAL Krishna Pahadi (m), founding chairman of the Human Rights and Peace Society**

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Krishna Pahadi was released on 4 July at the Kathmandu district court. He had spent nearly five months as a prisoner of conscience, detained solely for carrying out his peaceful and legitimate work in defence of human rights.

He had been held at the armed police compound in Naxal, Kathmandu, since his arrest on 9 February. Upon his release, a police official at Naxal gave Krishna Pahadi a box of more than 200 letters and postcards sent by UA network members and Amnesty International supporters around the world, and told him that hundreds more had been received at the detention center. Though Krishna Pahadi did not receive all the appeals directly, he believes that the letters were instrumental in ensuring his safety and eventual release.

"I want to give special thanks to everyone at Amnesty International," he said in a phone call to AI staff. "I wrote many letters for prisoners of conscience [in the past], but now I realize how important it is."

Krishna Pahadi is the founding chairman of Nepal's Human Rights and Peace Society, and former chair of AI Nepal. He gave thanks to Secretary General Irene Khan, who visited him in police custody during her mission to Nepal in February, and to the directors of AI Denmark, AI Japan, and AI Ireland who also visited him during his detention.

**No further action is requested from the Urgent Action network. Thanks to all who sent appeals.**