

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 44/26/96

EXTRA 24/96

Fear of torture

13 February 1996

TURKEY Teyfik Eren, editor of Govend arts magazine

At 9.45am on 12 February 1996 Teyfik Eren was detained by plainclothes police officers as he was talking to two neighbours in front of the state hospital in Diyarbak_r. Teyfik Eren is the editor of the Kurdish arts magazine *Govend* (drama, play), the owner of which was detained in December 1995 (see EXTRA 153/95, 4 December 1995, EUR 44/147/95) and alleged severe torture during interrogation in police custody. It is feared that Teyfik Eren may also be subjected to torture while in incommunicado detention.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

People suspected of offences under the Anti-Terror Law can be held in police custody without access to family, friends or legal counsel for up to 30 days in the 10 provinces under State of Emergency in the southeast such as Diyarbak_r, and for 15 days in the rest of Turkey. When not being interrogated, detainees are held in cramped, airless and insanitary conditions. With no access to the outside world they are at the mercy of their interrogators. Torture methods include being stripped naked and blindfolded, hosing with pressurized ice-cold water, hanging by the arms or wrists bound behind the victim's back, electric shocks, beating the soles of the feet, death threats and sexual assault.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English or your own language:

- expressing concern for the safety of Teyfik Eren, detained on 12 February 1996 in Diyarbak_r and since held in unacknowledged detention;
- urging that his whereabouts be established and his detention duly registered without further delay, and that his lawyer and family be informed accordingly;
- seeking assurances that he not be subjected to torture or any other form of ill-treatment;
- asking to be informed of any charges brought against him.

APPEALS TO:

1. Chief Prosecutor at Diyarbak_r State Security Court:

Mr Bekir Selçuk

DGM Ba_savc_s_

Devlet Güvenlik Mahkemesi

Diyarbak_r, Turkey

Telegrams: DGM Bassavcisi, Diyarbakir, Turkey

Salutation: Dear Sir

2) Deputy Prime Minister:

Mr Deniz Baykal

Office of the Prime Minister

Ba_bakanl_k

06573 Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Deniz Baykal, Basbakanlik, Ankara, Turkey

Telexes: 44061/44062/44063 bbmt tr; 42099 basb tr

Faxes: +90 312 417 0476; +90 312 419 1547

Salutation: Dear Deputy Prime Minister

3) Interior Minister:

Mr Teoman Ünüsan

Ministry of Interior

_çi_leri Bakanl____

06644 Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: İcisleri Bakanligi, Ankara, Turkey

Faxes: +90 312 418 1795

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

State Minister with responsibility for Human Rights:

Mr Adnan Ekmen

Office of the Prime Minister

Ba_bakanl_k

06573 Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Adnan Ekmen, Basbakanlik, Ankara, Turkey

Faxes: +90 312 417 0476; +90 312 420 5394

Salutation: Dear Minister

and to diplomatic representatives of TURKEY accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 March 1996.