

**TURKEYAbdulkadir Yakut (m), aged 27**

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Abdulkadir Yakut has reportedly been tortured while in police detention in Diyarbak\_r, southeast Turkey. He is now in gendarmerie detention in Diyarbak\_r. Amnesty International is concerned that the reported torture will not be investigated by the Turkish authorities and that he may be at risk of further torture and ill-treatment.

Abdulkadir Yakut was detained and brought to the Anti-Terror Branch of Police Headquarters in Diyarbak\_r on 21 August. Lawyers from the local branch of the Human Rights Association (IHD) were able to meet with him on 23 August. They reported that Abdulkadir Yakut seemed exhausted and frightened, that there was extensive bruising under his right eye and on both wrists, that his fingernails were black, his denim trousers were torn and that he was incapable of standing and walking at the end of their meeting. Two policemen were present in the room throughout the meeting and Abdulkadir Yakut was apparently frightened of expressing himself. However, the presence of these types of injuries on his body indicate that he may have been tortured and ill-treated.

Abdulkadir Yakut was released from police detention on 26 August. He was immediately taken to gendarmerie detention in Diyarbak\_r prior to his compulsory military service. As a result, lawyers from the IHD have not been able to meet with him again.

Abdulkadir Yakut's own lawyer has filed an official complaint about his alleged torture.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Whereas torture is rarely reported from prisons, in police and gendarmerie stations it appears to be regularly used to extract confessions, elicit information about illegal organizations, intimidate detainees into becoming police informers or as unofficial punishment for presumed support of illegal organizations. Torture methods in Turkey documented by Amnesty International include severe beatings, being stripped naked and blindfolded, hosing with pressurized ice-cold water, suspending 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 appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or your own language:**

- expressing concern for the safety of Abdulkadir Yakut, who is in gendarmerie detention in Diyarbak\_r;
- expressing concern at reports that Abdulkadir Yakut may have been tortured or ill-treated while in police custody in Diyarbak\_r, and reminding the government that it is a state party to the European Convention on Human Rights, which says that "No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment";
- urging that Abdulkadir Yakut is not tortured or ill-treated while in gendarmerie detention;
- calling for a full and impartial investigation into the torture allegations, with the results made public and those responsible brought to justice;

- asking for Abdulkadir Yakut to be compensated for any psychological or physical damage resulting from the alleged torture, and urging that he is provided with appropriate treatment and rehabilitation;
- urging the authorities to suspend any police or gendarmerie officer accused of torture and ill-treatment from duty while they are under investigation, and to dismiss them if they are convicted.

**APPEALS TO:**

Minister of Interior

Muzaffer Ecemi\_

Ministry of Interior

\_çi\_leri Bakanl\_\_\_\_

06644 Ankara, Turkey

**Fax: + 90 312 418 17 95**

**Telegrams: Interior Minister, Ankara, Turkey**

**Salutations: Dear Minister**

Minister of Justice

Prof Aysel Çelikel

Ministry of Justice

Adalet Bakanl\_\_\_\_

06659 Ankara, Turkey

**Fax: + 90 312 417 3954**

**Telegrams: Justice Minister, Ankara, Turkey**

**Salutations: Dear Minister**

**COPIES TO:**

State Minister with responsibility for Human Rights

Mr Ali Do\_an

Office of the Prime Minister,

Ba\_bakanl\_k,

06573 Ankara, Turkey

**Fax: + 90 312 417 04 76**

**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 8 October 2002.