

PUBLIC

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Further information on EXTRA 69/98 (EUR 44/44/98, 30 September 1998) - Fear of "Disappearance" / Fear of Torture

TURKEYSelahattin Ökten form Çatak/Yorgançayir village, Karlioiva, Bingöl

Ahmet Çiftçi, aged 56	}	
Selim Y_ld_r_m, aged 37	}	
Yüksel Demiralp, aged 37	}	
Celalettin Harmanc_, aged 62	}	from Kargapazar_ village,
Allahverdi Söylemez, aged 48	}	Karl_ova, Bingöl
Izzet Söylemez, aged 62	}	
Ali Ince, aged 38	}	
S_rr_Çiftçi, aged 28	}	

Amnesty International has learned that four of the above-named villagers, including Selahattin Ökten, have been released from custody without charge.

The remaining five have been remanded in custody and are therefore no longer at risk of "disappearance" or torture.

Selahattin Ökten is now known to have been in the custody of the narcotics branch of the Bingöl Police Headquarters for a period of eight days. No access to legal counsel was provided during this time. He was reportedly ill-treated, including being beaten, being hit on the soles of his feet and given electric shocks.

The villagers were detained on 26 and 27 September 1998 by gendarmes and Special Team members (heavily armed police) and held in unacknowledged incommunicado detention. It is understood that others were also detained during the course of this operation but there is no indication that any remain unaccounted for.

No further information is available at the present time concerning either the state of health of Selahattin Ökten or the treatment and condition of the others.

The organization is currently endeavouring to obtain this.

No further action is required by the Urgent Action Network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.