

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 44/54/96

12 April 1996

Further information on EXTRA 42/96 (EUR 44/40/96, 20 March 1996) - Fear of "disappearance" / Fear of torture

TURKEY Ali H_d_r Polat, musician/poet, aged 38

Ibrahim Çiçek, chief editor of At_l_m magazine

Füsün Erdo_an, wife of Ibrahim Çiçek [note correct surname]

Hac_Orman, correspondent

Asl_han Yücesan (f), owner of At_l_m

R_za Özden }

Sabahat Karahan (f) } staff working at At_l_m office

Zeynel Ye_il (f) }

Do_an_ahin }

Raziye Kat_rc_ (f), health worker

On 29 March 1996, the above-named detainees, plus four others, were taken to Istanbul State Security Court. Ali H_d_r Polat, Ibrahim Çiçek, Füsün Erdo_an and Hac_Orman and the four others were formally arrested on charges of membership of an illegal organization and committed to Sa_malc_lar Prison in Istanbul. The others were released pending trial on similar charges.

At a press conference, held on 2 April at the Istanbul office of the Human Rights Association, Sabahat Karahan, Do_an_ahin and Zeynel Ye_il alleged that they had been tortured while in police custody in Istanbul. Torture methods included being suspended in a crucifixion position, electric shocks, being subjected to pressurized cold water, being choked by having a bag pulled over the head, sexual harassment, threats of rape, and indiscriminate beating. Allegedly all fellow-detainees were subjected to such torture.

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

- expressing deep concern about the torture allegations made by Sabahat Karahan, Do_an_ahin and Zeynel Ye_il following their detention in Istanbul between 15 and 29 March;
- urging that an impartial and thorough investigation be carried out without delay into their allegations and that those responsible for human rights violations be brought to justice;
- requesting to be informed of the outcome of the investigation.

APPEALS TO:

1. Chief Prosecutor at Istanbul State Security Court:

Mr Ahmet Köksal

DGM Ba_savc_s_

Devlet Güvenlik Mahkemesi

Istanbul, Turkey

Telegrams: DGM Bassavcisi, Istanbul, Turkey

Telexes: 0607 30187 eist tr; 0607 30188 iemd tr

Salutation: Dear Sir

2. Minister of the Interior:

Mr Ülkü Güney

İçişleri Bakanl_

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Ankara, Turkey

Telegrams: Interior Minister, Ankara, Turkey

Faxes: +90 312 428 4346; 418 1795

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES 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 May 1996.