

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on 389/94 (EUR 61/02/94, 31 October 1994) -
"Disappearance". New concerns - Fear of torture/possible prisoners of
conscience

TURKMENISTANYusup Kuliyeu, journalist
and new names
Khoshali Garayev, Russian citizen
Mukhammad Aymuradov, Russian citizen
(in cyrillic _____
_____)

It is now known that Yusup Kuliyeu, who was feared to have "disappeared" following his arrest on 20 October 1994 by agents of the Committee for State Security (KGB), was detained in the KGB's investigation-isolation prison in the capital, Ashgabat, until around 6 November, when he was released. Sources report that he was released because of serious ill health which was the consequence of his having been tortured during detention. The sources allege that Yusup Kuliyeu was severely beaten and forcibly administered with drugs to cause him pain.

Yusup Kuliyeu is now under house arrest in Ashgabat. He has reportedly been charged with preparing an attempt to assassinate President Saparmurad Niyazov.

To Amnesty International's knowledge, no such attempt on the life of the President has taken place, and unofficial sources claim that the charge is a fabrication intended to punish Yusup Kuliyeu for being a sympathizer of the political opposition in Turkmenistan.

Two other people are in detention in the KGB investigation-isolation prison in Ashgabat on the same charge as Yusup Kuliyeu. They are Khoshali Garayev and Mukhammad Aymuradov. Although of ethnic Turkmen origin, both men are citizens of Russia. They were arrested on 27 October 1994 in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, by Turkmen KGB agents allegedly acting with the cooperation of the Uzbekistan authorities. As with Yusup Kuliyeu, sources claim that the charge against these men is also fabricated and is intended to punish them for opposition sympathies.

Amnesty International believes that Yusup Kuliyeu, Khoshali Garayev and Mukhammad Aymuradov may be prisoners of conscience, and is seeking more information about the charge against them. In the light of the reports about the treatment of Yusup Kuliyeu while in detention, Amnesty International is gravely concerned that Khoshali Garayev and Mukhammad Aymuradov may also be at risk of torture.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express and airmail letters

- calling for an explanation of the exact nature of and basis for the criminal charges against Yusup Kuliyeu, Khoshali Garayev and Mukhammad Aymuradov;
- calling on the authorities to guarantee the physical safety and well-being of Khoshali Garayev and Mukhammad Aymuradov and to ensure that they are not subjected to torture;
- expressing concern about reports that Yusup Kuliyeu was tortured while in the custody of the KGB, and urging the authorities to ensure that Yusup Kuliyeu receives proper medical treatment.

APPEALS TO:

1. The President of Turkmenistan, Saparmurad Niyazov
Turkmenistan
744000 g. Ashgabat
Apparat Prezidenta
Prezidentu Niyazovu S.A.

**Telegrams: Turkmenistan, Ashgabat, apparat Prezidenta,
Prezidentu Niyazovu S.A.**

Faxes: + 7 3632 25 51 12

Salutation: Dear President Niyazov

2. The Chairman of the Committee for State Security,
Allashur Ovedzhov
Turkmenistan
g. Ashgabat
KGB Turkmenistana

Predsedatelyu Ovedzhovu A.

**Telegrams: Turkmenistan, g. Ashgabat, KGB, Predsedatelyu
Ovedzhovu A.**

Salutation: Dear Chairman

3. The Procurator General, Turbanmukhamed Kasimov
Turkmenistan
g. Ashgabat
Prokuratura Turkmenistana
Generalnomu Prokuroru Kasimovu T.

**Telegrams: Turkmenistan, g. Ashgabat, Prokuratura, Gen.
Prokuroru Kasimovu. T.**

Salutation: Dear Procurator General

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan
Turkmenistan
744000 g. Ashgabat
ulitsa Magtymguly, 87
MID Turkmenistana
Ministru

Faxes: +7 3632 25 14 63

and to diplomatic representatives of TURKMENISTAN accredited to your country, where these exist.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 December 1994.