

# URGENT ACTION

## DETAINEE LOCATED BUT STILL AT RISK OF TORTURE

**Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov, Tajikistani national, has now been in pre-trial detention in Uzbekistan without access to a lawyer for over five months. Representatives of the Tajikistani Embassy were able to visit him in detention, but his family have still not been permitted to do so, and the reasons for his detention are still unknown.**

It is confirmed that Tajikistani national **Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov**, whose whereabouts were unknown between the end of April and September this year, is detained in pre-trial detention centre in Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan. He has now been in pre-trial detention for over five months. Representatives of the Embassy of Tajikistan visited Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov in detention and said he seemed to be alright, but the reasons for Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov's detention are still unknown to his family. Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov's relatives have not had any direct contact with him since his detention in April, and he doesn't have access to a lawyer. This indicates a continued risk of torture, despite the visit from the Tajikistani authorities.

Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov, a 38-year-old ethnic Tajik and citizen of Tajikistan, arrived in Uzbekistan on 25 April to visit his child from his first marriage. He was due to return to Tajikistan on 28 April. On 29 April, Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov's brother, living in Tajikistan, received a phone call from Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov's ex-wife saying that he had been detained on 27 April by members of the National Security Service of Uzbekistan. Reportedly, he was held for two days in a police station in Bekabad, eastern Uzbekistan, 150 km from Tashkent. On 10 June the family received a phone call from a man who said he had been in a temporary detention facility in Tashkent together with Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov.

International standards are clear that detainees are entitled to have immediate access to a lawyer of their choice, to have a family member or other third party notified of their detention and to have contact with their family. These standards have not been respected during the five months that Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov has been in pre-trial detention in Uzbekistan.

### Please write immediately in Uzbekistani, Russian, English or your own language:

- Urging the authorities to immediately reveal the reasons for Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov's detention;
- Calling on the authorities to ensure that Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov is able to see a lawyer;
- Reminding the authorities of their obligations under international human rights law, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention Against Torture.

### PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 21 OCTOBER 2013 TO:

Minister of Internal Affairs

Bahodir Matlubov  
Ministry of Internal Affairs  
ul. Yunus Rajabiy 1  
Tashkent 100029  
Uzbekistan  
Fax: + 998 71 233 89 34  
Email: mvd@mvd.uz  
info@mvd.uz

**Salutation: Dear Minister**

Prosecutor General of Uzbekistan

Rashidzhon Kodirov  
Prosecutor General's Office of  
Uzbekistan  
ul. Gulyamova 66  
Tashkent 700047  
Uzbekistan  
Fax: +998 71 133 39 17  
+998 71 133 73 68  
Email: prokuratura@lawyer.uz

**Salutation: Dear Prosecutor General**

**And copies to:**

Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Abdulaziz Kamilov  
ul. Uzbekistan 9  
Tashkent 100029  
Fax: +998 71 239 1517  
Email: info@tiv.uz

**Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.**

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the first update of UA 231/13. Further information: [www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR62/004/2013/en](http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR62/004/2013/en)

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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

There has been a serious deterioration in the human rights situation in Uzbekistan since the events in Andizhan in May 2005, when security forces fired into crowds of thousands of mostly unarmed demonstrators, including women and children, as they were protesting against the government in the centre of town and while they were fleeing.

Despite repeated assertions by Uzbekistan that the practice of torture has significantly decreased, Amnesty International has continued to receive reports of widespread torture or other ill-treatment of detainees and prisoners. According to these reports, in most cases the authorities failed to conduct prompt, impartial and effective investigations into the allegations of torture and other ill-treatment.

Uzbekistan's record on torture and other ill-treatment of pre-trial detainees and prisoners has also been documented by UN bodies, including the UN Special Rapporteur on torture, who in 2003 found torture in Uzbekistan to be systematic, and the UN Committee against Torture, which after its periodic review of Uzbekistan in 2007, found that torture in places of detention in Uzbekistan is routine and occurs with impunity.

Name: Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov

Gender m/f: M

Further information on UA: 231/13 Index: EUR 62/006/2013 Issue Date: 9 September 2013