

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 12/10/91
Distrib: PG/SC

To: Medical professionals
From: Medical Office / Research Department - Middle East
Date: 15 February 1991

FURTHER INFORMATION ON MEDICAL LETTER WRITING ACTION

(See MDE 12/14/90 - 21 December 1990)

© Dr Ahmad Isma'il Mahmoud **سالم**
EGYPT

Keywords

Theme: torture complaint

Profession/association: doctor/Medical Association

Amnesty International has learned that Dr Ahmad Isma'il Mahmoud Salama was released from detention on 9 February 1991. He had been arrested on 17 November 1990 and held for two weeks in the custody of the State Security Intelligence Police before being transferred to prison. During these two weeks he is reported to have been subjected to torture and to have suffered a broken jaw as a result. Following his transfer to prison he was visited by a delegation from the Egyptian Medical Association which confirmed that he bore signs of having been ill-treated.

The reasons for Dr Salama's detention are still unclear. His arrest may have been part of a wave of arrests which took place throughout Egypt in October and November 1990 following the assassination of the Speaker of the People's Assembly. Under emergency legislation the Minister of Interior has broad powers of arrest allowing administrative detention without charge. Political detainees held incommunicado under these provisions have frequently been subjected to torture or ill-treatment.

Amnesty International hopes to receive news of Dr Salama's health in due course. No further action is requested at present. Thank you to all those who appealed on his behalf.