

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 15/48/97

UA 276/97 Medical concern/Fear of torture/Legal concern 18 August 1997

ISRAEL/SOUTH LEBANON Huda Assad Alla Hamada (f) 17, worker and student
Ghassan Ali Eisa, 20, worker } Brothers
Haydar Ali Eisa, soldier }
Khalil Karnaib, 26, worker } Brothers
Suleiman Karnaib, 23, soldier }

Amnesty International is concerned for the well-being of the above-named Lebanese nationals who are at risk of torture and ill-treatment whilst reportedly in detention at Khiam detention centre in the Israeli occupied 'security zone' in South Lebanon.

There is particular concern for the health of Huda Hamada who suffers from epilepsy and who has reportedly been denied access to medication she needs to take on a regular basis. She has also, reportedly, been subjected to torture and ill-treatment.

Ghassan Ali Eisa and his fiancée Huda Assad Alla Hamada were arrested on 9 and 10 July 1997 respectively. Khalil Karnaib and Suleiman Karnaib were arrested on 13 July. The exact date of the arrest of Haydar Ali Eisa is not known. They were reportedly arrested by members of the South Lebanon Army (SLA), in the village of Maron al-Rass in South Lebanon. All have been denied access to their families and lawyers.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Khiam detention centre is the main South Lebanon Army detention and interrogation centre in the Israeli occupied 'security zone' in South Lebanon.

Around 130 detainees are presently believed to be held in Khiam, some of them without charge or trial for up to 12 years. Former detainees have described systematic torture and ill-treatment including beating, whipping, application of electric shocks and dousing with hot and cold water.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in English, Arabic, French or your own language:

- calling for the immediate and unconditional release of the five detainees unless they be given a fair trial according to international standards and charged with recognizable criminal offence;
- requesting that Huda Hamada be given immediate access to a doctor and any necessary medication;
- asking that the detainees be allowed immediate access to their families and lawyers.

APPEALS TO:

Binyamin Netanyahu
Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
3 Kaplan Street
Hakirya, Jerusalem 91007, Israel
Telegrams: Prime Minister, Jerusalem, Israel
Faxes: + 972 3 691 7915
Salutation: Dear Prime Minister

General Yitzhak Mordechai

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Minister of Defence
Ministry of Defence
7 'A' Street, Kakir, Tel Aviv, Israel
Telegrams: Defence Minister, Tel Aviv, Israel
Faxes: + 972 3 697 6218
Salutation: Dear Minister

General Antoine Lahad
South Lebanon Army
Marjayoun
South Lebanon
Via Israel
Telegrams: General Lahad, SLA, Marjayoun, via Israel
Salutation: Dear General

and to diplomatic representatives of Israel accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 29 September 1997.