

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 21/11/97

13 October 1997

Further information on UA 205/97 (10 July 1997) and follow-ups MDE 21/04/97, 28 August 1997, MDE 21/05/97, 5 August 1997, MDE 21/07/97, 28 August 1997 and MDE 21/09/97, 22 September 1997 - Prisoner of Conscience / Legal Concern

PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY Fathi Subuh, 43, lecturer in education

On 6 October 1997, the Palestinian High Court of Justice delivered its ruling on a *habeas corpus* petition seeking the release of Fathi Subuh, submitted by his lawyer. The court declined to order his release on the grounds that the case was outside its jurisdiction, being before the State Security Court. To date, Fathi Subuh's lawyer has received no information that his client has been charged with any criminal offence in proceedings before the State Security Court. Amnesty International has in the past criticised this court for holding grossly unfair trials which contravene international standards for fair trial.

Fathi Subuh was visited by his lawyer on 9 October. He is in good health.

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

- noting that Fathi Subuh has now been held in detention for more than three months, without charge or trial;
- expressing deep concern at the allegations of torture and ill-treatment of Fathi Subuh during his detention in Tel al-Hawa Prison and calling for an investigation into these allegations;
- asking what the precise reasons are for Fathi Subuh's arrest and for his case being brought before the State Security Court;
- stating that you continue to consider Fathi Subuh to be a prisoner of conscience, detained solely for his alleged critical attitude towards the Palestinian Authority, and calling for his immediate and unconditional release.

APPEALS TO:

President Yasser Arafat
Palestinian Authority
Al-Muntada

Gaza, Palestinian Authority

Faxes: +972-7-822365 (ask to send a fax)

Telegrams: President Arafat, Palestinian Authority, Gaza

Salutation: Dear President Arafat

Colonel Muhammad Dahlan
Head of Preventive Security Service in the Gaza Strip
Gaza

Palestinian Authority

Faxes: +972-7-825425

Telegrams: Head of Preventive Security, Gaza, Palestinian Authority
Salutation: Dear Colonel Dahlan

Fayez Abu-Rahma
Attorney General
Palestinian Authority
Attorney-General's Building
Yarmouk, Gaza, Palestinian Authority

Faxes: +972-7-824503

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Telegrams: Attorney-General, Gaza, Palestinian Authority
Salutation: Dear Mr. Abu-Rahma

COPIES TO:

Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights
Gaza Office
Al-Wehda Street
Dabiet Building - Second Floor
Gaza, Palestinian Authority

Faxes: +972-7-824438

Dr. Riyad Khudari
The Rector
Al-Azhar University
Gaza, Palestinian Authority

Faxes: +972-7-823180

and to diplomatic representatives of the Palestinian Authority accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 24 November 1997.