

# URGENT ACTION

## TEENAGER DETAINED WITHOUT CHARGE OR TRIAL

**Nineteen year old Zaffar Shafi Hakeem has been held in administrative detention since 29 January by police in Jammu and Kashmir, India.**

**Zaffar Shafi Hakeem** was arrested on 28 January by police in Anantnag, Jammu and Kashmir. His family members were not informed of the arrest which took place at around noon, in a mobile phone and accessories shop run by Zaffar Shafi Hakeem.



The grounds of detention issued by the authorities state: “You have got separatist allegations and are organizing campaigns on regular basis... aimed at motivating the people to hold demonstrations against the Government”. The police allege that Zaffar Shafi Hakeem led two demonstrations – in October 2009 and July 2010 – during which demonstrators pelted police and security personnel with stones, injuring them and damaging vehicles. It is unclear why the police made no attempt to arrest him for nearly 6 months.

Zaffar Shafi Hakeem was initially arrested on criminal charges of rioting, assault and “causing grievous hurt”. Although a court ruled that he be released on bail on 3 February, the State authorities had already additionally detained him in administrative detention – without charge or trial – on 29 January. His family members were not given the grounds of detention or any other information relating to his administrative detention.

Zaffar Shafi Hakeem is being held at Kathua District Jail, nearly 300 km from his home. A number of allegations of violations of prisoners’ human rights in this jail have previously been documented, particularly with respect to inadequate medical facilities.

### **PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in English or your own language:**

- Demand that the state authorities immediately end the administrative detention of Zaffar Shafi Hakeem.

### **PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 23 JUNE 2011 TO:**

Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir

Omar Abdullah

Civil Secretariat

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Jammu – 180 001

Fax: +91 191 2546466

**Salutation: Dear Chief Minister**

### **And copies to:**

Minister of Home Affairs

P Chidambaram

North Block, Central Secretariat

New Delhi – 110 001

Fax: + 91 11 23094221

Email: [hm@nic.in](mailto:hm@nic.in)

**Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.** Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Zaffar Shafi Hakeem is detained under the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, a law that allows the state authorities to detain persons for up to two years without any judicial review of the allegations against them. Repeat detentions are also commonly ordered. As a result, the state authorities do not appear to be pursuing the criminal case initially prepared, denying Zaffar Shafi Hakeem a chance to prove his innocence in a court of law.

At least 322 people are reported to have been detained without trial under the provisions of the Public Safety Act in Jammu and Kashmir from January to September 2010 alone. A number of them, including children, have been detained on similar grounds of stone pelting and rioting during various protests against the Indian government throughout the summer of 2010.

Zaffar Shafi Hakeem is a cousin of 14 year old Faizan Rafiq Hakeem who was held in administrative detention for 6 weeks from February to April 2011 and released after intervention by Amnesty International.

UA: 136/11 Index: ASA 20/017/2011 Issue Date: 12 May 2011

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