

URGENT ACTION

PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE DANGEROUSLY ILL

Prisoner of conscience, Ulugbek Abdusalamov, has suffered a stroke while under arrest in hospital in Kyrgyzstan. Amnesty International is concerned that his current hospital has insufficient expertise to treat him and believes he should be moved to the capital, Bishkek, in order to receive adequate medical treatment.

Ulugbek Abdusalamov suffered a stroke on 17 September, following repeated statements from national and international organizations that he has not been receiving adequate medical care in detention. His trial, which was due to start on 22 September, was postponed. He had been transferred to hospital in the southern city of Jalal-Abad just days before he had the stroke.

According to sources close to Ulugbek Abdusalamov, he is unable to speak or move one side of his body. He remains in hospital under house arrest. He is not handcuffed or under police supervision. Amnesty International is concerned that the hospital is inadequately equipped and that staff have insufficient expertise to treat his current medical needs. Ulugbek Abdusalamov should be transferred to a hospital in Bishkek in order for him to receive adequate medical care.

Ulugbek Abdusalamov was due to stand trial with two co-defendants but the trial was postponed due to his ill-health. While the trial of his co-defendants was resumed, Ulugbek Abdusalamov's trial is expected to only continue once his health has sufficiently recovered.

PLEASE WRITE IMMEDIATELY in Kyrgyz, Russian, Uzbek or your own language:

- Reiterate that Ulugbek Abdusalamov is a prisoner of conscience and that the charges against him should be dropped immediately and unconditionally;
- Call on the authorities to move Ulugbek Abdusalamov to a hospital in Bishkek so that he can receive adequate medical treatment;
- Call on the authorities not to return Ulugbek Abdusalamov to police detention under any circumstances.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 3 DECEMBER 2010 TO:

Minister of Internal Affairs

Zarylbek Rysaliev
Frunze Street, 469
Bishkek 720040, KYRGYZSTAN
Fax: +996 312 62 38 53
Email: pressa429@gmail.com
Salutation: Dear Minister

General Prosecutor

Kubatbek Baibolov
72, Orozbekova Street
Bishkek 720040, KYRGYZSTAN
Fax: +996 312 66 54 11
**Salutation: Dear General
Prosecutor**

And copies to:

President
Roza Otunbaeva
Dom Pravitelstva
Bishkek 720003, KYRGYZSTAN
Fax: +996 312 62 50 12
Email: admin@kyrgyz-el.kg

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives of Kyrgyzstan accredited to your country. Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the fourth update of UA 144/10. Further information: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/EUR58/006/2010/en>

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

On 10 August, following almost two months of investigations, Ulugbek Abdusalamov was charged according to four Articles of the Kyrgyzstani Criminal Code, including 'organizing and participating in mass disorder', 'inciting ethnic hatred' and 'separatist activities aimed at destroying the territorial integrity of the state.' Ulugbek Abdusalamov risks being sentenced to between three and 12 years' imprisonment.

Amnesty International maintains that the charges against Ulugbek Abdusalamov are unfounded and constitute part of a broader pattern of obstruction and harassment by the Kyrgyzstani authorities, predominantly of active members of the ethnic Uzbek community, following the violence which broke out on 10 June in southern Kyrgyzstan.

Further update on UA: 144/10 Index: 58/019/2010 Issue Date: 22 October 2010

