

EXTERNAL

AI Index: ASA 20/21/96

21 May 1996

Further information on EXTRA 66/96 (20/19/96, 14 May 1996) - Fear of arbitrary killing / Fear for safety

INDIACivilian electoral officials in the state of Jammu and Kashmir

Amnesty International has received responses from the Hizbul Mujahideen and other components of the United Jihad Council indicating that they support a peaceful boycott of elections in Jammu and Kashmir. Whilst Amnesty International welcomes this response, which indicates that members of the Hozbul Mujahideen and the United Jihad Council will not be resorting to violence against civilian electoral officials, the organization reiterates its call on the seven armed opposition groups -- *Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, Tehreek-ul-Mujahideen, Al-Jihad, Al-Barq, Hizbollah, Al-Umer* and *Hizb-ul-Momineen* -- to publicly withdraw their death threat against civilian electoral officials who carry out polling duties during the forthcoming elections in the Kashmir valley.

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

- welcoming the response from the United Jihad Council indicating that members of the council will not be resorting to violence against civilian electoral officials at the time of elections;
- calling once again on *Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, Tehreek-ul-Mujahideen, Al-Jihad, Al-Barq, Hizbollah, Al-Umer* and *Hizb-ul-Momineen* to issue a public withdrawal of the death threat as a matter of priority;
- urging members of all armed opposition groups to fully respect international humanitarian standards and to not resort to kidnapping, arbitrary killings, torture or harassment of civilians.

**APPEALS TO:**

Please organize appeals to Multitude Jihad Council in Pakistan, which AI believes has links with all seven armed opposition groups, urging the Council to use its influence to ensure your appeals are received by the groups' leadership. Then please organize as many appeals as you are able, in equal numbers, to the two subsequent addresses:

(FAXES ONLY)

Mr Salah-ud-Din, Chairman  
Multitude Jihad Council / United Jihad Council  
Muzaffarabad, Azad Kashmir, Pakistan  
**Faxes: + 92 58 2178 (telephone - ask for fax tone)**  
**Salutation: Dear Mr Salabuddin**

Please request the All Parties Hurriyet Conference, an umbrella organization of over 30 opposition groups in Jammu and Kashmir, to use all available channels to pass on your appeals to the leadership of the seven armed opposition groups:

(FAXES, TELEGRAMS, MAIL)

All Parties Hurriyet Conference  
Kashmir Awareness Bureau  
1-181, Shivalik, Malviya Nagar  
New Delhi, 110017, India  
**Faxes: + 91 11 6215258 (telephone - ask for fax tone)**  
**Telegrams: 1-181, Shivalik, Malviya Nagar, Delhi, India**

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**Salutation: Dear Sir/Madam**

(FAXES AND REGISTERED LETTERS ONLY)

All Parties Hurriyet Conference

Mirwaiz Manzil, Rajouri Kadal

Srinagar, 190002, Jammu & Kashmir, India

**Faxes: + 91 194 452006 (telephone - ask for fax tone)**

**Salutation: Dear Sir/Madam**

**NO COPIES**

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
if sending appeals after 20 June 1996.