

PUBLIC

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Possible

**INDONESIA** Syamsuddin (age 42), builder

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A builder was seen being taken by members of the Police Mobile Brigade (Brimob) from Krueng Anoe village in Aceh on the evening of 4 July. His family have no information about where he was taken or why. There are serious concerns for his safety.

According to a report from a local source, Syamsuddin was working on a house in Dureng Anoe village, Kuta Baro Subdistrict, Aceh Besar District when three vehicles carrying around 20 members of Brimob arrived. Eyewitness say that Syamsuddin was beaten and kicked before being taken away in one of the vehicles. Although there is no information about Syamsuddin's whereabouts the Brimob members involved in the incident are said to be posted at Kuta Baro Police Sub-district headquarters (Polsek).

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Grave human rights violations are continuing in Aceh during operations by the security forces against the armed pro-independence group, the Free Aceh Movement (*Gerakan Aceh Merdeka*, GAM). The human rights situation in the province has been deteriorating for many months, but new military operations, which began in May 2001, have led to an intensification of the conflict during which both sides have been responsible for abuses.

Those detained by the military or the police in Aceh are at serious risk of torture, "disappearance" or unlawful killing. On 18 June 2001, three high school students were unlawfully killed after they were detained together with 13 other students and two teachers. They were beaten in detention by members of Brimob before being shot dead.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in Bahasa Indonesia, English or your own language:**

- Urging the government to immediately clarify the whereabouts of Syamsuddin and to provide guarantees that he will not be subjected to torture or other human rights violations;
- Insist that Syamsuddin is immediately and unconditionally released unless he is to be charged with a recognizable criminal offence;
- Urge that there is an immediate, independent and impartial inquiry into why lawful arrest procedures were not followed and into reports that Syamsuddin was beaten and kicked on arrest.

#### **APPEALS TO:**

Chief of Police for Aceh  
Commissioner General Ramli Darwis  
Kapolda Aceh  
Jl Cut Meutia No 3  
Banda Aceh  
Aceh  
Indonesia

**Fax: + 62 651 26689**

**Telegrams: Chief of Police, Banda Aceh, Aceh, Indonesia**

**Salutation: Dear Commissioner General**

National Police Chief  
Kapolri  
Markas Besar Kepolisian RI  
Jl. Trunojoyo 3  
Kebayoran Baru  
Jakarta Selatan  
Indonesia  
**Fax: + 62 21 7201402**  
**Salutation: Dear Sir**

**COPIES TO:**

Coordinating Minister for Political, Social and Security Affairs  
Lt. Gen. Agum Gumelar  
Menteri Koordinator Bidang Politik dan Keamanan  
Jl. Medan Merdeka Barat No. 15  
Jakarta Pusat 10110  
Indonesia  
**Salutation: Dear Lieutenant General**

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 16 August 2001.