

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 28/023/2001

6 August 2001

**Further information on UA 200/01 (ASA 28/022/2001, 3 August 2001) - Fear of torture or ill-treatment/incommunicado detention/possible prisoners of conscience**

**MALAYSIAN** Norashid Sakid [m], *Parti Islam SeMalaysia* (PAS) youth leader  
Ahmad Tajuddin Abu Bakar [m], PAS youth leader  
Solehan Abdul Ghaffar [m], activist, PAS welfare unit  
Alias Ngah [m], activist, PAS welfare unit  
Zainun Ismail [m]  
Abu Bakar Che Doi [m]  
Asfawani Abdullah [m]  
Ahmad Pozi Darman [m]

**New names:** Nik Adli Nik Abdul Aziz [m], school teacher  
**Mohd Lothfi Ariffin [m]**

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Two more men have been detained under the Internal Security Act (ISA) and are at risk of torture or ill-treatment. Mohd Lothfi Ariffin was arrested on 3 August in the state of Kedah. Nik Adli Nik Abdul Aziz was arrested on 4 August, reportedly on the grounds of "threatening national security". He is the son of the Chief Minister of the state of Kelantan, which is under the control of the opposition *Parti Islam SeMalaysia* (PAS).

Leaders of Malaysia's main opposition parties have criticized the arrests as politically motivated and an attempt to stifle the activities of PAS. However, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad is reported to have claimed that some PAS members were "extremists" who would be prepared to use violence to topple the government. He recently described PAS's refusal to comply with a government ban on political rallies as a "strategy to get its members arrested so that Malaysia [would] be accused of being undemocratic and a police state". A number of PAS members have been arrested recently for taking part in the rallies.

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

- urging the authorities to guarantee that the 10 men named above will not be subjected to physical or psychological torture or other ill-treatment in detention;
- calling for them to be allowed immediate and regular access to lawyers, their families and independent medical attention;
- calling for them to be released immediately if they have been detained purely for their peaceful dissenting political activities, or otherwise charged with a recognizably criminal offence;
- urging that the ISA be repealed or amended so that it no longer allows for the detention of those exercising their right to peaceful freedom of expression or assembly;
- stating that anyone suspected of threatening national security should have the opportunity to defend themselves before a court of law in proceedings that meet international standards of fairness.

**APPEALS TO:**

Minister of Home Affairs & Deputy Prime Minister  
Dato' Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi  
Ministry of Home Affairs (Menteri Dalam Negeri)  
Aras 13, Blok D1

Parcel D, Pusat Pentadbiran Kerajaan Persekutuan  
65202 Putrajaya, Selangor  
Malaysia

**Fax: + 60 3 8886 8014**

**E-mail: tpm@smpke.jpm.my**

**Telegram: Minister of Home Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Selangor, Malaysia**

**Salutation: Dear Minister of Home Affairs**

Inspector General of Police

Tan Sri Norian Mai

Ketua Polis Negara

Ibu pejabat Polis Diraja Malaysia

Bukit Aman

50502 Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia

**Fax: + 60 3 22731326 (please note this number is not always available)**

**Telegram: Inspector General of Police, Ketua Polis Negara, Kuala Lumpur,  
Malaysia**

**Salutation: Dear Inspector General of Police**

**COPIES TO:**

Chairman, Human Rights Commission (SUHAKAM)

Ybhg. Tan Sri Musa Hitam

Suruhanjaya Hak Asasi Manusia Malaysia

29th Floor

Menara Tun Razak

Jalan Raja Laut

50350 Kuala Lumpur

Malaysia

**Fax: + 60 3 26125620**

**E-mail: humanrights@humanrights.com.my**

and to diplomatic representatives of Malaysia accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 17 September 2001.