

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 44/65/94
Distrib: PG/SC

Date: 22 July 1994

MEDICAL CONCERN

**Fahrettin INAL
TURKEY**

Amnesty International is seriously concerned by reports that a man admitted to hospital with multiple fractures after falling five floors was removed from the hospital by police the following day. Fahrettin Inal was on his way home in the Ofis district of Diyarbakir on 16 July 1994 when he was followed by police. He had previously been detained and heavily tortured in 1992 and, reportedly in a desperate bid to escape the police on this second occasion, he jumped from a fifth floor. He was taken to Diyarbakir State Hospital by the police where he was admitted with fractures to both ankles and legs and injuries to various other parts of the body, including his back. The following day, 17 July, the police removed Fahrettin Inal from the hospital despite his obvious need for in-patient care.

Fahrettin Inal is now assumed to be in detention under interrogation and without access to medical care. There is considerable concern at his forcible removal from hospital when in need of treatment and, in addition to concern over his medical needs, there are fears that he may now be undergoing ill-treatment and torture while under interrogation.

Diyarbakir is one of 10 provinces in the predominantly Kurdish south-east which are under emergency legislation. In these provinces, detainees may be held incommunicado in police custody for interrogation for up to 30 days. Amnesty International considers anyone detained in these provinces to be particularly at risk of torture and there have been several deaths in police custody. In December 1992 the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture made a public statement on Turkey following three visits to the country. An ECPT delegation which visited in 1992 reported finding equipment apparently used for torture at Diyarbakir Police Headquarters while making a surprise visit there:

"In Diyarbakir, the delegation found the equipment necessary for suspension by the arms in place and ready for use (i.e. a three metre long wooden beam which was mounted on heavily-weighted filing cabinets on opposite sides of the room and fitted with a strap of strong material securely tied at the middle)... the delegation's discoveries caused considerable consternation among police officers present; some expressed regret, others defiance..."

This was the first time that the ECPT had made such a public statement since it had been established in 1987 with the task of examining the treatment of detainees.

Fahrettin Inal was previously detained in October 1992 during police operations in Batman which lasted for several months. Most of those detained at the same time as Fahrettin Inal alleged severe torture while in incommunicado detention and one of the detainees died while in police custody in late October 1992. This was one of three such deaths in police

custody in Batman province that year. At the time, Fahrettin İnal is reported to have been taken to a deserted area and threatened with death. He was later formally charged with aiding PKK guerrillas.

Amnesty International is appealing urgently to the Turkish authorities to return Fahrettin İnal to hospital immediately and to guarantee his physical safety. It is further expressing grave concern that the security forces should have been permitted to remove a patient from hospital in this manner, and is calling on the authorities to account for the behaviour of the police and to provide a full explanation of the powers under which the police were acting.

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To: Medical professionals
From: Medical Office / Research Department - Europe
Date: 22 July 1994

MEDICAL LETTER WRITING ACTION

**Fahrettin INAL
TURKEY**

Keywords

Theme: Torture/medical ethics

Summary

Urgent appeals are sought on behalf of Fahrettin Inal who was removed from hospital in Diyarbakir by police officers just one day after being admitted with multiple fractures. Please see the details attached.

Recommended Actions

Letters and faxes are requested from medical professionals to the addresses below:

- expressing grave concern at reports that Fahrettin _nal was removed from Diyarbakir State Hospital by police on 17 July, one day after he had been admitted to the hospital after sustaining multiple fractures in a fall from a fifth floor
- urging his immediate return to hospital and urging that he be afforded all necessary medical care
- expressing your concern, in particular to the Minister of Health, that police officers should have been permitted to enter a hospital and remove a patient still patently in need of treatment in this fashion, and asking for clarification as to whether the police were acting within their powers

APPEALS TO

1) Chief Prosecutor at Diyarbak_r State Security Court:

DGM Ba_savcisi

Devlet Güvenlik Mahkemesi

Diyarbak_r, Turkey

Telegrams: DGM Bassavcisi, Diyarbakir, Turkey

Salutation: Dear Sir

2) Minister of Health and Social Welfare

Kaz_m Dinç
Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
Sa_l_k ve Sosyal Yard_m
Bakanl____
06434 Ankara, Turkey

3) Minister of the Interior:

Mr Nahit Ment_e
_çi_leri Bakanl____
06644 Ankara, Turkey
Telegrams: Interior Minister, Ankara, Turkey
Faxes: +90 312 428 4346
Salutation: Dear Minister

4) Prime Minister:

Mrs Tansu Çiller
Ba_bakanl_k
06573 Ankara, Turkey
Telegrams: Prime Minister, Ankara, Turkey
Telex: 44061/44062/44063 bbmt tr
Faxes: +90 312 417 04 76 PRIME MINISTER
+90 312 230 88 96 (attn: Prime Minister)
Salutation: Dear Prime Minister

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Mr Hikmet Çetin
D__i_leri Bakanl____
06100 Ankara, Turkey
Faxes: 90 312 287 3869

and to diplomatic representatives of Turkey accredited to your country