

URGENT ACTION

DETAINEE AT RISK OF TORTURE IN UZBEKISTAN

Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov a Tajikistani national, has been detained in Uzbekistan without access to his family since April. His family fear that he is at risk of being subjected to torture and other ill-treatment.

Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov, a 38-year-old ethnic Tajik, arrived in Uzbekistan on 25 April to visit his child from his first marriage. He was due to return to Tajikistan on 28 April. On 29 April, Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov's brother, living in Tajikistan, received a phone call from his brother's ex-wife saying that Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov had been detained on 27 April by members of the National Security Service of Uzbekistan. His relatives have not had any contact with him since. Reportedly, he was held for two days in a police station in Bekabad, eastern Uzbekistan, 150 km from Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan. On 10 June the family received a phone call, from a man who said he had been detained in a temporary detention facility in Tashkent, where Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov was being held. Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov's family do not know whether he has had access to a lawyer.

His brother contacted the consulate of the Republic of Tajikistan in Tashkent to obtain the reasons for Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov's detention. The consulate of Tajikistan asked the Uzbekistani Ministry of Foreign Affairs for information and on 30 May received a reply that Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov had not been detained by the police in Bekabad. Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov's father wrote to the human rights Ombudsman of Tajikistan in June to seek assistance and to help determine his son's whereabouts. The Ombudsman of Tajikistan forwarded the enquiry to the Ombudsman of Uzbekistan. To date, the Ombudsman of Tajikistan has not received a reply to his letter of enquiry.

Any periods of incommunicado detention put detainees at risk of torture and ill-treatment.

Please write immediately in Uzbek, Russian, English or your own language:

- Urging the Uzbekistani authorities to immediately clarify Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov's fate and whereabouts and, if he has been detained, reveal the reasons for this;
- Calling on the authorities to ensure that, if in custody, Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov's family has immediate access to him; and he is able to see a defence lawyer;
- Reminding the authorities of their obligations under international human rights law, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention Against Torture.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 02 OCTOBER 2013 TO:

Minister of Internal Affairs of Uzbekistan
Bahodir Matlubov
Ministry of Internal Affairs
ul. Junus Rajabiy 1
Tashkent 100029
Uzbekistan
Fax: + 998 71 233 89 34
Email: mvd@mvd.uz; info@mvd.uz
Salutation: Dear Minister

General Procurator of Uzbekistan
Rashidzhon Kodirov
General Prosecutor's Office of
Uzbekistan
ul. Gulyamova 66
Tashkent 700047
Uzbekistan
Fax: +998 17 133 39 17/133 73 68
Email: prokuratura@lawyer.uz
Salutation: Dear Prosecutor General

And copies to:
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Abdulaziz Kamilov
ul. Uzbekistan 9
Tashkent 100029
Fax: +998 71 239 1517
Email: info@tiv.uz

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

There has been a serious deterioration in the human rights situation in Uzbekistan since the events in Andizhan in May 2005, when security forces fired into crowds of thousands of mostly unarmed demonstrators, including women and children, as they were protesting against the government in the centre of town and while they were fleeing.

Despite repeated assertions by Uzbekistan that the practice of torture has significantly decreased, Amnesty International has continued to receive reports of widespread torture or other ill-treatment of detainees and prisoners. According to these reports, in most cases the authorities failed to conduct prompt, impartial and effective investigations into the allegations of torture and other ill-treatment.

Uzbekistan's record on torture and other ill-treatment of pre-trial detainees and prisoners has also been documented by UN bodies, including the UN Special Rapporteur on torture, who in 2003 found torture in Uzbekistan to be "systematic," and the UN Committee against Torture, which after its periodic review of Uzbekistan in 2007, found that torture in places of detention in Uzbekistan is "routine" and occurs "with impunity."

Name: Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov

Gender m/f: M

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