

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 15/18/98

3 March 1998

Further information on EXTRA 04/98 (MDE 15/03/98, 9 January 1998) and follow-up (MDE 15/04/98, 12 January 1998, and MDE 15/08/98, 5 February 1998) - Torture/Fear of Torture

ISRAEL/OCCUPIED TERRITORIES' Abd al-Rahman Isma'il Ghanimat  
new Name: Jamal al-Hur

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'Abd al-Rahman Isma'il Ghanimat and Jamal al-Hur have now been charged with a number of offences, including aiding a suicide bombing and several counts of murder. However, Amnesty International is now concerned that their conditions of detention amount to ill-treatment.

'Abd al-Rahman Ghanimat and Jamal al-Hur have been on hunger strike since 23 February 1998 to protest their conditions of detention. Even though their interrogation is completed, they continue to be held in a cell in the interrogation block of Shikma Prison, Ashkelon. The cell's dimensions are 3m x 5m, and they share it with eight to 15 others. The cell is windowless and has an unscreened toilet. 'Abd al-Rahman Ghanimat and Jamal al-Hur are only taken out to have a shower, to meet their lawyer, or to attend court. On their way to meet their lawyer they are forced to wear dark goggles. They are not allowed any fresh air or exercise. The Qu'ran is the only reading material allowed. Neither has been allowed a haircut, a shave or a change of clothes, including underwear, since November 1997. The detainees have been denied visits from family members since their arrest.

'Abd al-Rahman Ghanimat has been held in this cell since November 1997. Jamal al-Hur was held in total isolation until he was moved into this cell in February. The detainees' lawyer petitioned the Israeli High Court of Justice for an improvement in their conditions, but it refused to grant any interim order and postponed the case for hearing until 15 March 1998. The detainees' lawyer is now petitioning the High Court of Justice for an expedited hearing.

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

- stating that Amnesty International believes that those who have committed crimes should be brought to justice. However, no person should be kept in conditions amounting to ill-treatment; or subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;
- urging that 'Abd al-Rahman Ghanimat and Jamal al-Hur's conditions of detention immediately be improved so as to comply with the Body of Principles for the Protection of Persons Under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment;
- asking that 'Abd al-Rahman Ghanimat and Jamal al-Hur be granted immediate access to their families;
- asking for assurances that 'Abd al-Rahman Ghanimat and Jamal al-Hur will be promptly tried in a proper court of law in accordance with internationally accepted standards for fair trial.

**APPEALS TO:**

Mr Binyamin Netanyahu  
Prime Minister  
Office of the Prime Minister  
3 Kaplan Street  
Jerusalem 91007, Israel

**Telegrams: Prime Minister, Jerusalem, Israel**

**Telexes: 25279 mpres il**  
**Faxes: +972-2-566-4838**  
**Salutation: Dear Prime Minister**

Judge Aharon Barak  
President of the Supreme Court of Israel  
Supreme Court of Israel  
Shaarey Mishapt Street  
Qiryat David Ben-Gurion  
Jerusalem 91909  
**Faxes: +972-2-675-9648**  
**Telegrams: President Supreme Court, Jerusalem, Israel**  
**Salutation: Dear Judge Barak**

Mr Avigdor Kahalani, Minister of Internal Security  
Ministry of Internal Security  
PO Box 18182, 3 Sheikh Jarrah  
Kiryat Hamemshala  
Jerusalem 91181, Israel  
**Faxes: +972-2-582-6769**  
**Telegrams: Internal Security Minister, Jerusalem, Israel**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

**COPIES TO:** diplomatic representatives of Israel accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 31 March 1998.