

**EXTERNAL (for general distribution)**

**AI Index: MDE 15/25/92**

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**9 October 1992**

*This is a limited action - please organize up to ten appeals per section.*

**Further information on UA 288/92 (MDE 15/22/92, 11 September 1992) and follow-up: MDE 15/24/92, 25 September 1992 - Torture/ill-treatment and legal concern**

**ISRAEL AND THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES: Ahmad Sulayman Musa Qatamesh  
Suha Barghouthi (female)**

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Ahmad Sulayman Musa Qatamesh (ID card no. 98370264), arrested on 1 September 1992, continues to be held in interrogation in Ramallah Prison where he has allegedly been tortured or ill-treated. His health is said to be deteriorating.

The last three times Ahmad Qatamesh met a lawyer were on 27 September, 1 and 5 October. His lawyer reports that he was allowed to sleep on the occasion of the Jewish New Year holiday on 28 September, but that since then he has been returned to intensive interrogation and is only being allowed to sleep for short periods. He is apparently being made to sit for most of the day on a low chair with his hands shackled behind his back with a hood on his head.

Ahmad Qatamesh is reportedly still suffering from a severe headache and other pains in his neck and stomach. He is apparently very disorientated, and is experiencing problems with his vision. His lawyer says that he told him he had been suffering from diarrhoea and had not been able to change his clothes since his arrest. He is apparently refusing treatment from the prison doctor.

Suha Barghouthi, Ahmad Qatamesh's wife, who was arrested on 24 September 1992, was released on 25 September after having been held overnight in the Moscobiyah detention centre in Jerusalem. In an affidavit dated 26 September, she said that she was kept in a small dirty cell with poor ventilation, and that she had vomited several times. In the morning she has lost consciousness and was treated with oxygen by the detention centre doctor. She said she was interrogated about her marriage and a press conference she organized about her husband's arrest. On several occasions she said she was threatened with life imprisonment for her and her husband and was verbally abused. Since her release Suha Barghouthi has again been summoned to appear at the Civil Administration in Ramallah. She is currently on hunger strike.

Amnesty International is concerned about the methods of interrogation being used against Ahmad Qatamesh, his deteriorating health and his refusal to accept medical treatment. The organization seeks immediate assurances from the Israeli authorities that any form of ill-treatment be immediately stopped and that he be allowed immediate access to adequate medical care from an independent

doctor of his choice.

Amnesty International also continues to seek information about the exact reasons for the arrest of both Ahmad Qatamesh and his wife Suha Barghouthi and about their current legal situation.

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**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters:**

- expressing concern at the continuing allegations of torture or ill-treatment of Ahmad Qatamesh and seeking immediate assurances that any such treatment be immediately stopped;

- expressing concern at the reports of Ahmad Qatamesh's poor health and his refusal of treatment and urging that he be given immediate access to adequate medical care by an independent doctor of his choice;

- urging that his allegations of torture or ill-treatment be immediately and impartially investigated;

- asking for information on the reasons for both his arrest and that of his wife, Suha Barghouthi, and their current legal situation.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) Mr Yitzhak Rabin  
Prime Minister and Minister of Defence  
Office of the Prime Minister  
3 Kaplan Street  
Jerusalem 91919  
State of Israel

**Salutation: Dear Prime Minister**

**Telegrams: Prime Minister Rabin, Jerusalem, Israel**  
**Telexes: 25279 mpres il**  
**Faxes: +972 2 664 838**

2) Major-General Dani Yatom  
Military Commander for the  
Central Command  
c/o Ministry of Defence  
7 "A" Street, Hakirya  
Tel Aviv 64734  
State of Israel

**Salutation: Dear Major-General Yatom**

**Telegrams: Military Commander Central Command, Tel Aviv, Israel**  
**Telexes: 371434 mod il**  
**Faxes: +972 3 219851**

3) Colonel Moshe Rosenberg  
Legal Adviser for the Central Command  
Beth-El  
West Bank  
Via Israel

**Salutation: Dear Colonel Rosenberg**

**Telegrams: Colonel Rosenberg, Beth-El, West Bank, Via Israel**  
**Faxes: +972-2-788738**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Judge Yosef Harish  
Attorney General  
P.O. Box 1087  
Jerusalem  
State of Israel

**Faxes: +972 2 869473**

and to diplomatic representatives of Israel and the Occupied Territories  
accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or  
your section office, if sending appeals after 15 November 1992.