

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 15/068/2001

25 July 2001

Further information on UA 132/01 (MDE 15/047/2001, 31 May 2001) and follow-ups (MDE 15/051/2001, 7 June 2001, (MDE 15/053/2001), 13 June 2001, (MDE 15/062/2001), 4 July 2001 - Prisoner of conscience/detention without charge or trial/torture/ill-treatment

ISRAEL/OT 'Abed al-Rahman al-Ahmar, aged 32, human rights defender

The Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group (PHRMG) has written to all who are working on behalf of one of their staff, 'Abed al-Rahman al-Ahmar, who was tortured during interrogation and who is currently the subject of a six-month administrative detention order which allows the Israeli authorities to detain him without charge or trial until February 2002, and which is renewable indefinitely.

To Amnesty International, all the AI national sections and all the individuals who wrote on behalf of Abed al-Rahman al-Ahmar

Jerusalem, 25 July 2001

Dear Friends,

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you, in the name of our field researcher Abed al-Rahman al-Ahmar, our deepest gratitude for the patient work and efforts of the Amnesty International network on his behalf.

We have already received copies of hundreds of letters, from Australia to Germany and from Canada to Taiwan, and the stream continues to reach us, handwritten or typewritten note, by surface mail or by fax. What might appear at your end as an insignificant contribution to human rights and democracy in the world grows and swells until folders after folders are filled with letters of protests at our end. I wish you could have seen your letters brandished in court by Abed's lawyer. Your work is both meaningful and powerful.

Yes, Abed is still held in administrative detention and your efforts are more important than ever. But I would already like to thank you, in his name and in the name of all our staff, because your support lends us great strength in our struggle for human rights, justice and democracy.

In peace,

Bassem Eid  
Executive director

**Amnesty International will continue to work on this case. No further action is required from the Urgent Action Network. Those who wish to do so may however continue to send appeals in English, Hebrew or in your own language:**

- asking for 'Abed al-Rahman al-Ahmar to be released immediately and unconditionally, as he appears to be a prisoner of conscience, arrested for his work in defence of human rights;
- expressing concern that he is being held without charge or trial;
- expressing concern at reports that 'Abed al-Rahman al-Ahmar has been tortured or otherwise ill-treated during interrogation, and calling for an independent and impartial investigation into these allegations;
- reminding the authorities that while he is in custody 'Abed al-Rahman al-Ahmar has the right to communicate with his lawyer, to see a doctor of his choice and to receive visits from his family.

**APPEALS TO:**

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon  
Office of the Prime Minister  
3 Kaplan Street, PO Box 187  
Kiryat Ben-Gurion  
Jerusalem 91919, via Israel  
**Telegrams: Prime Minister, Jerusalem, Israel**  
**Fax: + 972 2 651 2631**  
**Salutation: Dear Prime Minister**

Uzi Landau  
Minister of Public Security  
Ministry of Public Security (Police)  
Kiryat Hamemshala  
PO Box 18182  
Jerusalem 91181, via Israel  
**Fax: + 972 2 584 7872**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister of Public Security**

Meir Shetrit  
Minister of Justice  
Ministry of Justice  
29 Salah al-Din Street  
Jerusalem 91010, via Israel  
**Fax: + 972 2 628 8618**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister of Justice**

Eli Yishai  
Minister of the Interior  
Ministry of Interior  
2 Kaplan Street  
PO Box 6158  
Kiryat Ben Gurion  
Jerusalem 91061, via Israel  
**Fax: + 972 2 670 1628**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister of the Interior**

Elyakim Rubinstein  
Attorney-General  
Ministry of Justice  
29 Salah al-Din Street  
Jerusalem 91010, via Israel

**Fax:+ 972 2 628 5438**

**Salutation: Dear Attorney-General**

**COPIES TO:**

Palestinian Human Rights Monitoring Group

PO Box 19918

East Jerusalem 91198, via Israel

**Fax: + 972 2 582 3385**

and to diplomatic representatives of Israel accredited to your country.