

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 15/99/97

UA 379/97

Fear of Torture / Legal Concern

3 December 1997

**ISRAEL/SOUTH LEBANON** Almaza Ibrahim (f), aged 40  
Nadim Husayn Sa'b, aged 44, driver  
'Atef Hassan Hashem, soldier

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The three above-named residents of Israel's self-styled "security zone" in South Lebanon have reportedly been arrested in recent days and placed in detention at the Khiam Detention Centre. Amnesty International fears they may be facing torture or ill-treatment and prolonged detention without trial.

Almaza Ibrahim, a resident of the village of Deir Siryan, was reportedly arrested on 26 November 1997. Nadim Husayn Sa'b, a driver and resident of the village of Shab'a, and 'Atef Hassan Hashem were reportedly arrested on 28 November. 'Atef Hassan Hashem, a soldier in the South Lebanon Army (SLA), is the brother of Muhammad Hassan Hashem and Khalil Hassan Hashem, both held at Khiam Detention Centre since 22 November and the subject of UA 375/97 (MDE 15/97/97, 28 November 1997).

Khiam Detention Centre is the main SLA detention and interrogation centre in the Israeli-occupied "security zone" in South Lebanon. More than 150 detainees are presently believed to be held in Khiam, some of whom have been held without charge or trial for up to 12 years. Former detainees have described systematic torture and ill-treatment including beating, whipping, application of electric shocks and dousing with hot and cold water. Detainees are routinely denied access to their lawyers.

From 1987 to 1995, detainees in Khiam Detention Centre were denied visits from both the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and their families. These conditions have been reinstated since 10 September, heightening concern for the well-being of the detainees.

Although Israel asserts that it is not responsible for Khiam Detention Centre and directs all inquiries to the SLA it is, nevertheless, the occupying power in South Lebanon and therefore has ultimate responsibility.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters in English, Arabic, French or your own language:**

- urging that Almaza Ibrahim, Nadim Husayn Sa'b and 'Atef Hassan Hashem be granted immediate and continuing access to their families, lawyers and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC);
- seeking assurances that they will not be subjected to any form of torture or ill-treatment;
- calling for their immediate and unconditional release if they are not charged with criminal offences and tried according to international standards for a fair trial.

**APPEALS TO:**

Binyamin Netanyahu  
Prime Minister  
Office of the Prime Minister  
3 Kaplan Street  
Hakirya, Jerusalem 91007, Israel  
**Telegrams: Prime Minister, Jerusalem, Israel**  
**Faxes: + 972 3 691 7915**

**Salutation: Dear Prime Minister**

General Yitzhak Mordechai  
Minister of Defence  
Ministry of Defence  
7 'A' Street, Hakirya, Tel Aviv, Israel  
**Telegrams: Defence Minister, Tel Aviv, Israel**  
**Faxes: + 972 3 697 6218**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

General Antoine Lahad  
South Lebanon Army  
c/o Lieutenant-General Amnon Shahak  
Chief of General Staff  
7 'A' Street  
Hakirya, Tel Aviv, Israel  
**Telegrams: General Lahad, c/o Chief General Staff, Tel Aviv, Israel**  
**Faxes: + 972 3 691 6940 (write c/o Lieutenant-General Amnon Shakak, Chief of General Staff)**  
**Salutation: Dear General**

**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 14 January 1998.