

PUBLIC

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EXTRA 38/00 Fear of Torture or ill-treatment / Legal Concern 14 April 2000

**PALESTINE AUTHORITY**      **Khaled Dhiab al-Fugaha, aged 38, bank employee of the Cairo Amman Bank**

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Amnesty International fears that Khaled Dhiab al-Fugaha may be at risk of torture or ill-treatment in police detention. Khaled Dhiab al-Fugaha was reportedly arrested by police at his workplace on 2 March 2000 yet his whereabouts have still not been disclosed by the authorities.

Khaled Dhiab al-Fugaha, a resident of Deir Sharaf, Nablus district, is married with five children. He is believed to be being held by the Hifz al-nizam, (Protection of Order), a department of the Palestinian Police, in Nablus. The reasons for his arrest are not known.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Torture by the different security forces and the police is still frequently reported in the Palestinian Authority. Those who have been ill-treated by the security services even include a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council. Detainees held in incommunicado detention are particularly at risk. Methods reportedly used include beatings and position abuse.

About four hundred detainees, including suspected members of Islamist groups and alleged "collaborators" with Israel, have been in detention for without charge or trial for years. Palestinian High Court orders to release them have been systematically ignored.

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

- expressing concern that, although Khaled Dhiab al-Fugaha was reportedly arrested at his workplace on 2 March 2000, the authorities still have not disclosed any news of his whereabouts;
- asking the authorities to immediately let his family and his lawyer know where he is being detained and asking them to allow them immediate and continuing access to him;
- seeking assurances that he will not be tortured or ill-treated in detention;
- asking them to release him immediately unless he is to be promptly charged with a recognizably criminal offence and given a fair trial consistent with international standards.

**APPEALS TO:**

President Yasser Arafat  
Palestinian Authority  
Office of the President  
The Beach Forum  
Gaza City  
Palestinian Authority

**Telegrams: President Arafat, Palestinian Authority, Gaza**

**Faxes: + 972 7 282 2365 (when voice answers, please request fax tone)**

**Salutation: Dear President Arafat**

Advocate Zuheir Sourani  
Attorney General  
Palestinian Authority

Attorney General Building  
Yarmouk, Gaza, Palestinian Authority  
**Telegrams: Attorney General, Palestinian Authority, Gaza**  
**Faxes: + 972 7 282 4502**  
**Salutation: Dear Advocate Sourani**

Brigadier General Ghazi al-Jabali  
Head of the Palestinian Police  
Police Headquarters  
Gaza City  
Palestinian Authority  
**Telegrams: Brigadier General Jabali, Palestinian Authority, Gaza**  
**Faxes: + 972 282 2335 (when voice answers, please request fax tone)**  
**Salutation: Dear Brigadier General Ghazi al-Jabali**

Head of Hifz al-Nizam  
**Faxes: + 972 92388666 (when voice answers, please request fax tone)**  
**Salutation: Dear Head of Hifz al-Nizam**

**COPIES TO:** Diplomatic representatives of the Palestine Authority accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 14 May 2000.