

# URGENT ACTION

## KURDISH FOLK SINGER RELEASED

**Kurdish folk singer ‘Abd al-Rahman Mohammed ‘Omar, who performs under the name of Bavê Selah, was released on 5 March, after being arrested by Syrian security forces on 24 January.**

**‘Abd al-Rahman Mohammed ‘Omar** was arrested by Military Security at his home in Aleppo, in north-west Syria, on 24 January and was held incommunicado at an unknown location until his release on 5 March.

‘Abd al-Rahman Mohammed ‘Omar is not known to be affiliated with any political organization and his detention may have been related solely to his promotion of traditional Kurdish music. The reasons for his arrest are not yet confirmed.

Amnesty International has received reports that ‘Abd al-Rahman Mohammed ‘Omar was tortured or otherwise ill-treated during his detention but has been unable to verify them.

**Thanks to all those who took action on behalf of ‘Abd al-Rahman Mohammed ‘Omar. No further appeals from the UA network are required at present.**

This is the first update of UA: 35/11. Further information: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE24/005/2011/en>

Further information on UA: 35/11 Index: MDE 24/012/2011 Issue Date: 18 March 2011

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