

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 13/001/2002

21 January 2002

Further information on UA 314/01 (ASA 13/008/2001, 11 December 2001) and follow-up (ASA 13/009/2001, 18 December 2001) - Prisoner of Conscience/Fear of torture

**BANGLADESH**Shahriar Kabir (m)

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Prisoner of conscience Shahriar Kabir was released on 20 January, on six months' interim bail. The police are reportedly seeking to appeal against the bail order, which was granted by the High Court Division of the Supreme Court on 19 January.

The court ordered the government to explain why Shahriar Kabir should not be given permanent bail. He is still facing trial on a charge of treason. He and his lawyers have denied the charge, and so far the government has not made public any evidence to substantiate it.

**Special thanks to everyone who took part in this UA and whose efforts no doubt helped secure the release of Shahriar Kabir on bail. No further action is required at present. Amnesty International is monitoring the situation and will issue a further update to this UA if it becomes necessary.**