

6 September 1995

**Further information (1) on UA 32/95 (EUR 44/31/95, 13 February 1995) -
"Disappearance" / Fear for Safety**

TURKEYFaruk Dürre, aged 33, farmer

Amnesty International has obtained the following statement by Faruk Dürre describing what happened to him after he was detained in Adana on 27 January:

"On 27 January I was detained from the Kiremithane district of Adana by police who broke down the door. I was still in bed in my nightclothes. The police blindfolded me and dragged me off somewhere in a vehicle - I only later discovered that it was Adana Police Headquarters. I was held there in a cell for four days. I was not ill-treated in any way in Adana, but then I was taken to Mu_ Police Headquarters (my home village is in Mu_ province) where I was tortured very badly over the course of eight days. It was clear that one of the reasons they took me was because my father is a religious leader who opposes the State's policies in the southeast. They said: 'He is an Armenian, he is the church mufti' and so on. They wanted me to become an informer. They asked me a few things and when it became clear that I was not going to cooperate, they started torturing me. They squeezed my testicles all the time, and sprayed me with water, and they kept giving me electric shocks through my penis. They also threatened that they were going to kill me, if I did not become an informer. But they did not hang me up by the arms. At the end of it I was more or less in a coma.

In between torture sessions I was kept in a one-person cell about half a metre wide and a metre long - closed all round. It was difficult even to breathe when they closed the hole in the door. I was not handcuffed while in the cell, and I could lift the blindfold - but it was too dark to see anything. I was not given food while I was being interrogated - for the last two days they gave me milk and bread. I could not eat the bread - I was sick.

Because it was dark in the cell, and outside the cell I was blindfolded, I do not know if there were bruises on my body, but in the two days before I was brought up to the prosecutor they spread some ointment that had a medicinal smell over my body, and when I appeared before the prosecutor and the doctor, I noted that there were no marks at all. I was taken to the prosecutor, who arrested me.

I was in police custody for a total of 14 days. After I had been missing for some weeks. My family learned only from released friends that I had been remanded in custody - as far as I am aware my detention was never properly registered.

When I first came to prison there were no [torture] marks - but I could not walk. There was blood in my urine, which I took to be an effect of the repeated electric shocks and squeezing. I still get some bleeding in my urine now. In prison I was looked after by my cellmates. I applied for proper medical treatment. I was 'examined' by somebody who I took to be the prison doctor. He gave me some pills to stop the bleeding, and said there was no need to go to hospital.

While I was in Mu_ prison, the authorities decided that they wanted to transfer some of the prisoners out of my ward (D-6) into wards where 'confessors' were

being held, and they wanted to transfer some 'confessors' into our ward. The prisoners on the ward resisted being transferred, and on 10 April gendarmes and wardens entered the canteen and the exercise yard and beat us up with sticks and truncheons. I sustained two cracked ribs and a blow on the head.

I was in Mu_ Prison for five months before I was released at my first hearing. On 6 June I was brought to court at Diyarbak_r State Security Court and charged under Article 168/2 of the Turkish Penal Code.

I have frequently been detained in the past. I was taken into detention in 1990 and interrogated under torture in Mu_. I got a medical report certifying I was unfit to work for seven days - describing bruising on my face - I also had blood in my urine which was also noted. The doctor who examined me had only recently been appointed - he said he should give me a six-month- report. He was moved out of the area after that. I opened an official complaint about the torture with the help of [parliamentary deputy] Mahmut Al_nak but I received no result from that. A parliamentary question was submitted, and after that the police detained me again and said, 'Why did you complain against us. You will drop the complaint'. I said, 'I used my legal right'. They said, 'You have no right, you haven't got (pardon the phrase) shit' and laughed at me. A prosecution was never opened against the torturers.

This was not the first time that I had incurred the displeasure of the authorities. My village, Güla_l_ (Keran_k) was burned on 27 November [1993] by masked men, after soldiers with armoured vehicles had surrounded the place. I made a complaint to the public prosecutor in Malazgirt but he would not accept my complaint. Later a lawyer advised me to send the complaint by registered mail, and this I did in June 1994. The prosecutor called me to give a statement and asked me to bring witnesses. We told him what we had seen, but he only noted the bits about masked men, and gave a decision not to prosecute on the grounds that the masked men must have been PKK.

I am afraid that they will attack the house I live in and kill me. I really believe they are thinking of killing me. I have a last thing to say - if I do disappear, it will be the work of the State and the police . I have no other enemies."

NO FURTHER ACTION IS REQUESTED FROM THE URGENT ACTION NETWORK AT PRESENT. Thank you to all those who sent appeals. Amnesty International continues to monitor the case of Faruk Dürre.