

EXTERNAL

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To: Medical professionals  
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*FURTHER INFORMATION ON MEDICAL LETTER WRITING ACTION*

(See MDE 15/67/91 - 16 December 1991 and MDE 15/13/92 - 2 June 1992)

**Dr Rabah Hasan 'Abd al-'Aziz Mohanna**

**ISRAEL AND THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES**

**Keywords**

Theme: Administrative detention

Profession/association: Doctor/ Arab Medical Association in Gaza

Amnesty International has learned that Dr Rabah Mohanna, from Gaza, was released from detention on 26 October 1992. He was arrested on 29 October 1991 and served with a six-month administrative detention order; this was renewed for a further six-month period after it expired at the end of April 1992.

Dr Rabah Mohanna worked at al-Shifa hospital in Gaza where he was responsible for the diabetes program in the Gaza Strip. At the time of his arrest he was also Vice-President of the Arab Medical Association in Gaza. He is reported to have lost his hospital job of 16 years standing as a result of his detention.

Dr Mohanna was arrested on the eve of the October 1991 Middle East Peace Conference in Madrid, about which he had publicly expressed his reservations. He has said that he believes this to have been the reason for his arrest. The Israeli authorities have stated that he was arrested for active membership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) in Gaza and that his detention was a necessary preventive measure. Dr Mohanna has denied both membership of and activities on behalf of the PFLP.

During his time in detention Dr Mohanna is reported to have been suffering from gallstones with inflammatory complications to his liver and pancreas. In May 1992 he had written to the commander of the Ketziot detention centre where he was held expressing concern that he was in need of hospital tests and possible surgery. Nothing further is known of the treatment he received while in detention or about his present state of health.

**Thank you for all those who appealed on Dr Mohanna's behalf. No further action is requested at present.**