

EXTERNAL

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UA 89/96

Legal Concern / Fear of Torture

2 April 1996

SAUDI ARABIADr Abdul Rahim Turan Gari Bai, consultant haematologist, aged 38

Amnesty International has recently received reports that Dr Abdul Rahim Turan Gari Bai has been tortured and that he is currently being held under conditions whereby he could again be subjected to torture. He was arrested at the beginning of 1995 in Jeddah and has been reportedly detained since then without charge and has been denied access to legal representation. He is currently being held in a prison in Taif, where he has allegedly been subjected to beatings a number of times since his arrest.

Amnesty International does not know the exact reasons for his arrest, but it is reportedly because he is suspected of political activities. The organization is concerned that he may be held solely for the non-violent expression of his beliefs, and as such would be a prisoner of conscience.

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

- urging investigation into reports that Dr Abdul Rahim Turan Gari Bai has been subjected to torture and calling for anyone found responsible to be brought promptly to justice;
- seeking assurances that he is being humanely treated and asking that he be allowed access to family members, a defence counsel and an independent doctor, if necessary;
- urging that he be charged with a recognizable criminal offence and given a prompt and fair trial or released.

APPEALS TO:

The Custodian of the Two Holy Shrines
His Majesty King Fahd bin 'Abdul-'Aziz
Office of H.M. The King
Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Telegrams: King Fahd, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Salutation: Your Majesty

Minister of the Interior
His Royal Highness
Prince Naif bin 'Abdul-'Aziz
Ministry of the Interior
P O Box 2833
Airport Road, Riyadh 11134
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Telegrams: Minister of the Interior, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Telexes: 404416
Salutation: Your Royal Highness

Minister of Foreign Affairs
His Royal Highness
Prince Saud al-Faisal bin 'Abdul 'Aziz
Nasseriya Street, Riyadh 11124
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Telegrams: Minister of Foreign Affairs, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Telexes: 405000
Salutation: Your Royal Highness

Minister of Justice

His Excellency

Dr. Abdullah bin Muhammad bin Ibrahim Al-Sheikh

Ministry of Justice

Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Telegrams: Minister of Justice, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Telexes: 405 980 MINJUS SJ

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Saudi Arabia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 14 May 1996.