

**PUBLIC**

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To: Health professionals  
From: Medical team / Middle East Program  
Date: 14 January 2003

*Further information on*

**MEDICAL ACTION**

**Mamum al-Humsi, prisoner of conscience: end to hunger strike  
Syria**

(see original action MDE 24/006/2002, 6 March 2002 and update MDE 24/051/2002, 17 December 2002)

**Key words** prisoner of conscience / ill-health / medical care / hunger-strike

**Mamum al-Humsi has stopped hungerstrike**

Amnesty International has learnt that Mamum al-Humsi, prisoner of conscience and former parliamentarian, stopped his hunger-strike after nine days, reportedly after pressure from the authorities.

Mamum al-Humsi was arrested on 9 August 2001 and charged with offences including “attempting to change the constitution by illegal means”. In March 2002 he was sentenced to five years’ imprisonment and continues to be held at ‘Adra prison near Damascus.

Amnesty International reiterates its call for Mamum al-Humsi’s immediate and unconditional release.

**Recommendations**

Please write another round of letters in Arabic, French, English or your own language to the authorities below, using professionally-headed paper if you use this in your profession:

- Introducing yourself in your professional capacity and/or as a member of Amnesty International;
- Referring to your previous letter (if applicable);
- Calling on the authorities to release Mamum al-Humsi who has been imprisoned for the peaceful expression of his opinion.

## **Addresses**

### **His Excellency**

#### **President Bashar al-Assad**

Presidential Palace

Abu Rummaneh

Al-Rashid Street

Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic

Salutation: Your Excellency

### **His Excellency**

#### **Nabil al-Khatib**

Minister of Justice

Ministry of Justice

Al-Nasr Street

Damascus, Syrian Arab Republic

Fax: + 963 11 224 6250

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Salutation: Your Excellency

### **His Excellency**

#### **Maj-Gen Ali Hammud**

Minister of the Interior

Ministry of the Interior

Merjeh Circle

Damascus

Syrian Arab Republic

Faxes: + 963 11 222 3428

Salutation: Your Excellency

## **Copies of appeals**

Please send copies of your appeals to diplomatic representatives of Syria accredited to your country.

If you receive no reply from the government or other recipients within six weeks of dispatch of your letter, please send a follow-up letter seeking a response, referring to your previous letter(s). Please check with the medical team if you are sending appeals after 10 March 2003, and send copies of any replies you do receive to the International Secretariat (att: medical team).

## **Monitoring of actions**

If you have access to e-mail you can help our attempt to monitor letter writing actions. If you write one, two or more letters please send us an e-mail and let us know. Please write in the subject line of your e-mail the index number of the action and the number of letters you write e.g. MDE 24/003/2003 - 3

Please send your message to [medical@amnesty.org](mailto:medical@amnesty.org)

Thank you