

PUBLIC

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Further Information on UA 201/04 (MDE 24/043/2004, 16 June 2004) Prisoner of conscience/fear of torture

SYRIA Muhammad Jum'ah Quban (m), aged 57, former Politburo member of the Democratic Ba'th Party

Muhammad Jum'ah Quban was released from jail on the evening of 16 June and has now been reunited with his family. He was reported as stating that he had been ill-treated while held in the custody of the Military Security.

As a former leading member of the banned Democratic B'ath Party, Muhammad Jum'ah Quban was arrested by two different security departments within a short space of time in a governmental crack-down on freedom of expression and association.

Many thanks to all those who sent appeals. No further action is requested from the UA Network.