

PUBLIC

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28 June 2006

Further Information on UA 175/06 (MDE 24/044/2006, 21 June 2006) Incommunicado Detention/ Fear of torture or ill-treatment/Medical Concern

SYRIA Sa'ad Noori Hussain al-Jiburi (m) aged 62

The Syrian authorities have reportedly confirmed that Sa'ad Noori Hussain al-Jiburi, an Iraqi with Danish citizenship, is in their custody but are not stating the reason for his detention or his whereabouts. Amnesty International however has received information that Sa'ad Noori Hussain al-Jiburi is being held at the Palestine Branch (*Far' Filistin*) of Military Intelligence in Damascus. He is reportedly being held in a small cell with 25 other Iraqis. They are reportedly being routinely beaten and humiliated and fed meals consisting of four loaves of bread between them every other day. There are reports that at least one of the Iraqis has had their nails forcibly extracted. Amnesty International fears that Sa'ad Noori Hussain al-Jiburi and other Iraqi detainees are at risk of torture and ill-treatment. In addition, Amnesty International continues to be concerned about Sa'ad Noori Hussain al-Jiburi's health as he suffered a stroke last year.

Sa'ad Noori Hussain al-Jiburi was detained at Aleppo airport in Syria on his way back from Iraq to Denmark on 6 June and not 7 June as reported previously. There are reports that a number of Iraqis were arrested at Aleppo airport at that time and an airport official has reportedly confirmed that Sa'ad Noori Hussain al-Jiburi was among those detained.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Torture is widespread in Syrian detention and investigation centres, particularly during pre-trial detention, and during periods of incommunicado detention. The Palestine Branch is renowned for subjecting detainees to very severe torture during interrogation.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or your own language:

To the Syrian authorities:

- calling on the authorities to release Sa'ad Noori Hussain al-Jiburi immediately and unconditionally unless he is charged with an internationally recognizably criminal offence and given a fair and prompt trial;
- expressing concern at reports that he continues to be held incommunicado, putting him at grave risk of torture or other ill-treatment;
- urging the authorities to ensure that Sa'ad Noori Hussain al-Jiburi is not tortured or ill-treated;
- reminding the authorities that Sa'ad Noori Hussain al-Jiburi must be given immediate access to a lawyer of his own choosing, his family and any medical attention he may require.

To the Danish authorities:

- welcoming efforts already being made by the Danish authorities on behalf of Sa'ad Noori Hussain al-Jiburi and urging them to continue to use their influence to secure his release.
- urging the Danish authorities to use their influence with the Syrian authorities to ensure that Sa'ad Noori Hussain al-Jiburi is not tortured or ill-treated and is allowed visits from the Danish consulate or diplomatic staff; his family, access to a lawyer of his choosing and any medical assistance that he may require.

**APPEALS TO:
SYRIAN AUTHORITIES**

President

His Excellency Bashar al-Assad
Presidential Palace
al-Rashid Street
Damascus

Syrian Arab Republic

Fax: **+ 963 11 332 3410**

Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Defence

His Excellency General Hassan Ali Turkmani
Ministry of Defence
Omayyad Square
Damascus

Syrian Arab Republic

Fax: **+963 11 223 7842**

Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency Walid Mu'allim
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
al-Rashid Street
Damascus

Syrian Arab Republic

Fax: **+ 963 11 332 7620**

Salutation: Your Excellency

DANISH AUTHORITIES

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Per Stig Møller
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Asiatisk Plads 2
DK-1448 Copenhagen K
Denmark

Fax: **+45 33 54 0533**

Email: **um@um.dk**

Salutation: Dear Minister for Foreign Affairs

and to diplomatic representatives of Syria accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 9 August.