

[Description of the life within the prison. Military training, reciting marches, education in Ataturk ideology, etc.]

The reason why I wrote this petition after I left the prison is because of the pressures inside.

I request an investigation to be started, into the Security Headquarters and the prison, to stop this unlawful ill-treatment and the people responsible for it.

With respect  
Abdurrahman Tasci  
5 January 1981  
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4. Letter from Ibrahim Kilic, brother of Hasan Kilic who died in Tunceli

16 February 1981

Dear . . .

I am the elder brother of Hasan Kilic and a civil servant in a government office. I will explain the events that led to my brother's death, without any additions, as they happened.

After the declaration of martial law in Turkey, Tunceli Gendarmerie station made inquiries about Hasan Kilic once or twice. Hasan is a 1976 - 77 lycee graduate. He took the university entrance exam twice but was not successful. After this he might have been working at a place (we might have some explanations about his job in the future). His communication with the village was cut. Two people were arrested by the martial law authorities at Antep. This was before Hasan's arrest. These two, as a result of torture and pressure, attributed some crimes to Hasan. I do not know the exact details of the attributions. One of them was Hasan's school mate, maybe he had some grudge against him.

On 22 December 1980 an operation was organized, to the village. Two jeeps, nine armoured personnel carriers and an ambulance surrounded the village at night. In the morning they went to my father's house and banged on the door. My father opened the door with his pyjamas on. They pulled him outside. Then my mother was subjected to the same kind of behaviour. They asked about Hasan, who had arrived late that night, Hasan came outside with his arms up . . .

After Hasan's surrender, two captains and two policemen took him near the stream which is 200m away from the houses. His hands were tied. A sergeant also joined them. They lay Hasan over a rock near the stream and started beating him with sticks, with the butts of their rifles, with truncheons, with their shoes and with stones.

Hasan screamed with pain and asked what he had done. After that they broke the door of a mill and continued beating Hasan inside. The owner of the mill states that Hasan was unable to stand on his feet at that stage. Later a captain and the plain-clothed policeman took Hasan by the arm and carried him to the fountain to wash his face. They also acted as if they were trying to keep Hasan out of sight. The operation started at 7 o'clock in the morning and the beating session lasted till 11-12 o'clock lunchtime. From then on nobody knows where Hasan was taken, where he was being tortured and beaten . . .

They searched the house in my father's absence and told him that they had found a gun. They took my parents and my brother Musa to the Tunceli regiment. Later they sent them to Tunceli martial law command. They were kept in detention there and tortured. Hasan's parents recognized their son's moans. He was lying on cold concrete covered with wounds. The moaning sounds lasted till 27 December 1980. People who were set free later said that, "When Hasan was brought in, none of us were tortured and he was tortured for 24 hours." These people are all ready to act as witnesses if necessary. On 27 December 1980 Hasan's body could not longer stand the torture and he became unconscious. Then he was taken to Elazi military hospital . . .

Hasan's parents were set free on 30 December 1980 without their statements having been taken . . . Later they were called back and asked whether Hasan had any illness. When they said, "no", they were told that Hasan had died at the military hospital as a result of pneumonia . . .

Later I learned about the events and I went to collect Hasan's body from the hospital. The state of his body was very saddening . . . We buried Hasan Kilic on 1 January 1981 at the village cemetery.

On 7 January 1981 a first lieutenant from the Elazi Military Prosecutor's office and a civilian (I think he was a prosecutor or a judge) came to ask for an evidence statement from one of Hasan's close relatives. I was taken to martial law command. They took my evidence. They asked for witnesses. I gave some names. I also wrote a petition to the Army Corps Military Prosecutor. They did not give me the autopsy report saying that the case was secret. They said I would receive it in the court.

In February evidence was collected from witnesses. I do not know how the case will develop from now on.

15 to 20 days before my brother's death, Suleyman Olmez who was a teacher at Tunceli's Yesilkaya village was taken into custody by the military air brigade and brought to Tunceli. Four days later we heard that he had committed suicide by hanging himself. They pressured the doctor and the prosecutor to sign his suicide report. They said he had tied himself to the radiator. (It is rather strange for one to hang himself from a radiator which is at the same level as he is and where did he find the rope to do such an act).

He was given a suicide report and no investigation was started. His father has sent a petition requesting an investigation to the Elazi Martial Law Command. But nothing so far has come out . . .

This is an answer to your letter to my brother Musa dated 28 January 1981.

Ibrahim Kilic

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5. Extracts from Court Proceedings against "members of an illegal organization."

Hearings on 25 February 1981 in Balikesir and on 24 March 1981. On the second date the judges were:

Head: Niyazi Oguz  
 Members: Nusret Tahaoglu  
 Nazif Efe  
 Ihsan Kocacay

Secretary: Hasan Gun

Charges were read out against 17 accused, some of whom were members of Dev Maden Sen, the Revolutionary Metal Workers' Union. The following 16 made accusations of torture:

Behcet Topal, student in the School of Management in Balikesir, born 1958: "I have not acted to overthrow the constitution by force and to bring another regime. I did not belong to illegal organizations. I did not read and distribute banned newspapers. I did not write banned slogans on the walls. . . . I do not accept my statements made to the police as they were taken under force. They are not true. I was given electric shocks while this statement was taken. And if I had not given a statement I would have been kept waiting for days, I was told, and I was under emotional stress and fear of torture. I do not accept the statements I gave under torture. The statement I made in the prosecutor's office is true." [ Said he had a statement in his court file on torture but that no action had been taken because of it.]

Hasan Altinel, worker in Bilgadic Etibank mines, born 1950. Said he distributed the newspaper of the union to workers, had no other illegal activities and was not a member of Kurtulus. "My hand-written statement given to the police was extracted with punches and beatings, not under democratic procedures and therefore I do not accept it."