



**amnesty
international**

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT
1 Easton Street London WC1X 8DJ
United Kingdom

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

**URGENT
ACTION**

AI Index: EUR 44/118/90
Distr: UA/SC

19 July 1990

Further information on UA 262/90 (EUR 44/104/90, 26 June, and follow-ups
EUR 44/108/90, 4 July, and EUR 44/113/90, 13 July) - Fear of Torture

TURKEY:

Muzaffer Tekeş	Ahmet Ateşli
Güzel Ak	Seyfettin Dilekçe
Ramazan Karaarslan	Talip Nusral
Ramazan Kahramaner	Zülküf Özel, teacher
Şükrü Kahramaner	Metin Çilgin, student of medicine
Aziz Karakaş	Mustafa Pakdemir, musician
Mehmet Demirel	Rıfat Yüksekaya, student
Mehmet Diren	Aslan Şeker, student
Zeki Budak	Osman Aytar

**Still
detained:**

Hayrettin Bozkurt (mentioned in follow-up of 13 July)
Ismail Aydın
Hanifi Turan
Mehmet Şirin Ay
Mehmet Şah Hazer
Isa Bozkurt
Abdurrahman Yavaş
Salih Yalcın

Amnesty International has learned that 34 persons in all (of which 26 are named above) have been detained since 24/25 June 1990 in Diyarbakır and Silvan in south-eastern Turkey. On 18 July 1990, 18 of them were released uncharged. The remaining 16 detainees were taken to court: the last eight named above were charged and committed them to prison; eight others were released, but may face charges later.

Four of those charged are accused of illegal possession of weapons, while the other four were charged with membership of the illegal Kurdistan Avantgarde Workers' Party, KÖİP. It is not known exactly who faces which charge.

Released detainees reported that they had been held at the "anti-riot police" station and subjected to severe torture which included being suspended, electric shocks, squeezing of testicles, being forced to drink salt water, being left without food and water, beatings and pulling of hair. Hayrettin Bozkurt, Ismail Aydın and Hanifi Turan are said to be in particularly bad condition following torture.

One of those named above in the earlier lists, Osman Aytar, was detained in Istanbul on 17 June and subsequently transferred to Diyarbakır; he is so far unaccounted for and there are fears that he may have died under torture.

☎ (44)(71) 413 5500 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502 FAX: 956 1157

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UA 303/90

Fear of Torture

19 July 1990

TURKEY:

**Hasan Beksek
M. Emin Kardeş
Ismail Ay
Hanifi Yıldız
Zahit Bozaslan
Ömer Kaplan
Reşat Tunç
Abdullah Soysal
Kenan Kızıl
Hüseyin Ekmen
Abdülcelil Kaplan**

Since the early hours of 19 July 1990 some 20 people, including several former political prisoners, have been detained in Diyarbakır. One of them is Hasan Beksek, board member of the Human Rights Association in Diyarbakır. They are being held incommunicado either at Diyarbakır Police Headquarters or by the "anti-riot police" (çevik kuvvet) in Diyarbakır on unknown charges. There is fear that they may be interrogated under torture.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Turkey has a Kurdish ethnic minority estimated to be some 10 million people, which is not officially recognized by the authorities. The Kurdish population lives mainly in southeastern Turkey. Frequent allegations of torture and ill-treatment have been received from the region and the number of torture allegations increased substantially after the 1980 military coup. Since August 1984, when Kurdish guerrillas, members of the Kurdish Workers' Party, PKK, started armed attacks, an alarming number of reports of ill-treatment have come from the eastern and southeastern provinces, where some 2000 lives so far have been lost in the continuing fighting.

Turkey ratified the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture on 25 February 1988 and the UN Convention Against Torture on 2 August 1988. However, all information available to Amnesty International indicates that torture is still widespread and systematic in Turkey. Allegations of torture have continued since the transfer of power to a civilian government in 1983. Most allegations relate to ill-treatment of detainees in police custody during their initial interrogation when they are usually denied access to relatives or a lawyer. Under current legislation the maximum detention period before being formally charged or released is 24 hours; in cases involving three or more suspects or due to the 'nature of the crime' it may be extended to 15 days. This period may be extended to 30 days in areas under emergency legislation or martial law. Emergency legislation is in force in Diyarbakır and nine other eastern provinces.

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Further information on UA 109/90 (EUR 44/50/90, 16 March, and follow-ups
EUR 44/53/90, 19 March and EUR 44/62/90, 28 March) - Fear of Torture

TURKEY: Adnan Kılıç
Şafak Ergün Eniş
Mesut Hakan Korkmaz (please note corrected name)
Murat Rıza Arı
Yüksel Doğan
Nergis Yalçın (f)
Osman Yılmaz
Ali Hikmet Yıldız (please note corrected name)

and new
name: Hasan Inanlı

The first hearing before the Ankara State Security Court in a case involving 19 defendants, including those named above, was held on 13 July 1990. The defendants had been detained in connection with protests during March 1990 by workers at the Aselsan factory and had been presented to court on 26 March on charges of membership of the illegal Turkish Revolutionary Communist Party (TDKP). Eighteen of them had been committed to prison to await trial.

At the hearing almost all of the defendants alleged that they had been tortured at Ankara Police Headquarters. One of the defendants, Hasan Inanlı, identified one of the spectators as a plain-clothes detective who had been among his torturers. Some of the defendants presented medical reports issued after their transfer to prison which certified injuries that would prevent some from working for several days.

The court did not make any decision to investigate the defendants' claims that they were tortured during interrogation but referred them to their right of appeal to the public prosecutor. The court ordered the release of seven defendants including: Adnan Kılıç, Şafak Ergün Eniş, Murat Rıza Arı and Yüksel Doğan. The hearing was adjourned until 8 August 1990.

Replies have been received to the previous Urgent Actions on this case from the Turkish Embassies in Madrid and London stating that those named above had been detained in connection with anti-constitutional activities. They further stated that Mesut Hakan Korkmaz and Murat Rıza Arı had been allowed to see their families whilst they were being held in detention. The Madrid Embassy also reported that Mesut Hakan Korkmaz had received a medical report certifying burn marks on his right hand and that an investigation was being carried out.

According to Amnesty International's information Mesut Hakan Korkmaz was taken home twice during his detention for a search of his house. He had no further access to his family or his lawyer.

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Mesut Hakan Korkmaz (please note corrected name)
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Distr: UA/SC**

UA 299/90

Fear of Torture

16 July 1990

TURKEY:
Veyis Deprem
Ali Çınar
Aslı Kaygusuz (f)
Fatma Kaygusuz (f)
Cemal Yıldırım
and four others

During a five-hour shoot-out with police on 12 July 1990 in the Cihangir district of Istanbul, two alleged members of the illegal Revolutionary Communist Party/Armed People's Unit (DKP/SHB), Gülay Arıo (f) and Alper Ersoy, were killed. Two others who were involved in the incident, Veyis Deprem and Ali Çınar, were detained. Soon afterwards Cemal Yıldırım and Fatma Kaygusuz were detained in Istanbul, seemingly in connection with the same incident. On 13 July Aslı Kaygusuz, a school friend of Gülay Arıo, was detained in Ankara and taken to Istanbul Police Headquarters for interrogation.

These five and another four unnamed detainees are being held incommunicado at Istanbul Headquarters, all apparently in connection with the incident on 12 July, and Amnesty International is concerned that they are being interrogated under torture.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Turkey ratified the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture on 25 February 1988 and the UN Convention Against Torture on 2 August 1988. However, all information available to Amnesty International indicates that torture is still widespread and systematic in Turkey. Allegations of torture have continued since the transfer of power to a civilian government in 1983. Most allegations relate to ill-treatment of detainees in police custody during their initial interrogation when they are usually denied access to relatives or a lawyer. Under current legislation the maximum detention period before being formally charged or released is 24 hours; in cases involving three or more suspects or due to the 'nature of the crime' it may be extended to 15 days. This period may be extended to 30 days in areas under emergency legislation or martial law.

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13 July 1990

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TURKEY: Muzaffer Tekeş
Güzel Ak
Ramazan Karaarslan
Ramazan Kahramaner
Şükrü Kahramaner
Aziz Karakaş
Mehmet Demirel
Mehmet Diren
Zeki Budak
Ahmet Ateşli
Seyfettin Dilekçe
Talip Nusral

**Further names
were:** Zülküf Özel, teacher
Metin Çilgin, student of medicine
Mustafa Pakdemir, musician

Now also: Osman Aytar
Hayrettin Bozkurt
Rıfat Yüksekaya, student
Aslan Şeker, student

During the night of 24 to 25 June 1990 some 15 people were detained in Diyarbakır and Silvan in southeastern Turkey. Their detention appears to be related to staff and readership of the political magazine Medya Güneşi. Detentions have continued up until at least 6 July and the total number of detainees is reported to be around 50. Osman Aytar was detained in Istanbul on or around 23 June, but was later transferred to Diyarbakır for questioning. Rıfat Yüksekaya and Aslan Şeker, two students who had been held between 3 May and 26 June in connection with celebrations of the Kurdish New Year at Diyarbakır University, were detained immediately after their release and have been held incommunicado since 26 June.

Only two detainees, Zülküf Özel and Zeki Budak, a dentist, were able to see their lawyers and this was only once on 29 June. The lawyers could only speak to them briefly and got the impression that the detainees were intimidated and did not dare to speak about ill-treatment. At least one of them appeared exhausted and the lawyers thought he was being subjected to torture such as water hoses.

The detainees are being held at the headquarters of the "anti-riot police" but Diyarbakır Police Headquarters is responsible for their interrogation. For most of the detainees the 15-day period of detention expired on 9 or 10 July, but so far none of them has been charged. Their detention period may have been extended to the maximum possible which is 30 days under emergency legislation. There is fear that they might be tortured in order to extract confessions that they are members of an illegal organization.

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12 July 1990

**Further information on UA 94/90 (EUR 44/41/90, 1 March and EUR 44/47/90,
12 March 1990) - Fear of Torture**

**TURKEY: Dilber Cantekin (female)
Meral Çoşkun (female)
Dilek Arslan (female)
Rafet Arslan
Doruk Aydoğmuş (please note corrected name)
and some 25 others**

Thirty people, including those named above, were taken to Izmir State Security Court on 9 March 1990. Dilek and Rafet Arslan, Doruk Aydoğmuş and five others were charged with membership of the illegal organization Devrimci Gençlik (Revolutionary Youth) and were then committed to Buca Prison to await trial. Others, including Dilber Cantekin and Meral Çoşkun, were released without charge. One of the prisoners, Rafet Arslan, is reported to have sent a letter to his father saying that the detainees were tortured during police custody.

The trial against fourteen alleged members of Devrimci Gençlik, eight of them in pre-trial detention, including Doruk Aydoğmuş, Dilek and Rafet Arslan, started on 7 June 1990 in Izmir State Security Court. Almost all the defendants alleged that they had been interrogated under torture at Izmir Police Headquarters between 24 February and 8 March 1990. However, reportedly only two defendants "confessed" under torture. At the end of the hearing all eight imprisoned defendants were released.

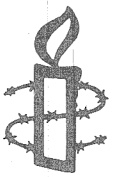
On 18 and 21 May 1990 the Turkish Embassy in Spain sent replies to Urgent Action participants stating that the five people named in the action had been among a group of people suspected of membership of the illegal organization Devrimci Gençlik. Eight of them had been imprisoned on these charges and judicial procedures against others were continuing. Detainees requesting to see a lawyer had been granted access and none of them had been ill-treated, a fact obvious by medical reports issued on their behalf.

This statement obviously contradicts the defendants' allegations in court. Amnesty International is currently trying to obtain more detailed torture testimonies and will pursue the matter outside the Urgent Action network if necessary.

No further action is therefore required at the present time. Thank you to all those who sent appeals.

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11 July 1990

**Further information on UA 65/90 (EUR 44/32/90, 13 February and
EUR 44/38/90, 23 February 1990) - Fear of Torture**

TURKEY: Ali Riza Kurt

Ali Riza Kurt was arrested on 12 February 1990 and was taken to Istanbul State Security Court on 21 February 1990 where he was charged with membership of the illegal organization Devrimci Gençlik (Revolutionary Youth). Ali Riza Kurt was allowed access to his lawyer during police custody, but only on the fourth day of his detention. He alleges that during the first two days of detention he was tortured particularly severely.

Amnesty International has learnt that several court hearings have now taken place in this case. During the first hearing on 10 April 1990 Ali Riza Kurt and his lawyer lodged a formal complaint about torture in police custody. Istanbul State Security Court decided to pass the complaint on "to the competent authorities" (ie the public prosecutor). Amnesty International does not know the result of the investigation by the Istanbul Public Prosecutor into the allegations of torture.

Following another hearing in this case Ali Riza Kurt was released on 22 June 1990, but his trial is still continuing.

Amnesty International will continue to monitor the situation but no further action is necessary at the present time. Thank you to all those who sent appeals on Ali Riza Kurt's behalf.

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INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT
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**URGENT
ACTION**

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

**AI Index: EUR 44/110/90
Distr: UA/SC
10 July 1990**

Further information on UA 112/90 (EUR 44/54/90, 19 March 1990 and EUR 44/63/90, 28 March 1990) - Fear of Torture

TURKEY: Eyüphan Baser
Hüseyin Erdoğan
Murat Yalçın
Cinar Say

Following a forum at the Law Faculty in Ankara on 16 March 1990 in commemoration of seven students who were killed in Istanbul in 1978, Eyüphan Baser, the president of the Students' Association at Ankara Law Faculty, and three other students (named above) were detained and taken to Ankara Police Headquarters. They were held incommunicado and it was feared that they were being interrogated under torture.

On 26 March 1990 the students were taken to court. Three of them were charged with violating Law 2911 on Demonstrations and Assembly, but only Eyüphan Baser was committed to Ankara Central Closed Prison to await trial. The other three students were released.

At the end of May Amnesty International received a detailed six-page testimony written by Eyüphan Baser shortly after his release from prison. He stated that whilst he was in detention he was stripped and subjected to electric shocks. He was first accused of being a member of the Turkish Workers and Peasants' Liberation Army (TIKKO) and later of being a member of the Turkish Revolutionary Communist Party (TDKP). Eyüphan Baser requested to see a lawyer without success. He was allegedly forced to sign a statement and on 26 March he was arrested on charges of having violated the Law on Demonstrations and Assembly and with being a member of an illegal organization. Following a hearing in Ankara State Security Court on 10 May Eyüphan Baser was released. He concluded his testimony by saying "This is the second time that I was tortured at the first branch of Ankara Police . . . My complaint about torture in September resulted in a decision that there were no grounds for prosecution. This time I made a formal complaint to the prosecutor in prison. I hope that it will not have the same result as the first one."

In response to the urgent action appeals in this case a reply was received from the Turkish Embassy on 6 June 1990 stating that according to file notes scratches certified in a medical report could have been inflicted when the detainee struggled with the police during the act of detention.

No further action is required at the present time, although any further developments in the case will be monitored. Thank you to all those who sent appeals.

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EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

**URGENT
ACTION**

AI Index: EUR 44/108/90
Distr: UA/SC

4 July 1990

Further information on UA 262/90 (EUR 44/104/90, 26 June) - Fear of Torture

TURKEY: Muzaffer Tekes
Güzel Ak
Ramazan Karaarslan
Ramazan Kahramaner
Sükrü Kahramaner
Aziz Karakas
Mehmet Demirel
Mehmet Diren
Zeki Budak
Ahmet Atessi
Seyfettin Dilekçe
Talip Nusral

and Zülküf Özel, teacher
Metin Cilgin, student of medicine
Mustafa Pakdemir, musician

During the night of 24 to 25 June 1990 some 15 people were detained in Diyarbakir and Silvan in southeastern Turkey. Their detention appears to be related to staff and readership of the political magazine Medya Günesi (Sun of the Media).

The names of three of the detainees were unknown, however Amnesty International has since obtained them (see above).

They are all held incommunicado in Diyarbakir and there is fear that they might be tortured in order to extract a confession that they are members of an illegal organization. The exact location is not known, but could be either Diyarbakir Police Headquarters or the headquarters of the "anti-riot police" (çevik kuvvet) in Diyarbakir.

They have not been given access so far to relatives or lawyers. No charges have been brought as yet. The total number of detainees is reported to be at least 20.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telexes/faxes/telegrams/express letters/airmail letters:

- urging that the detainees named above are granted prompt access to their families and lawyers and that they are not ill-treated while in detention;
- requesting to be informed of any charges against them.

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