

URGENT ACTION

FEARS FOR MEN AND CHILD ARRESTED IN SYRIA

The whereabouts of three men and a child arrested on 27 November in Syria are unknown. They appear to have been subjected to enforced disappearance, and there are fears for their safety, particularly as two of the men have pre-existing medical conditions.

Lawyer **Fahd Musa al-Musa**, aged 41, and car mechanic **'Abd al-Razaq 'Abdo Jamus**, aged 38, were arrested from 'Abd al-Razaq's house in Hama, west-central Syria, on 27 November, along with Abd al-Razaq's 17-year old son, **Ahmad 'Abdo Jamus**, and 40-year-old brother **'Abd al-Rahman 'Abdo Jamus**.

The authorities have not contacted their families to disclose where they are being held, or the reasons for their arrest, and the families have been too frightened to ask directly about their whereabouts. However, a detainee recently released from detention at the Political Security branch in Hama has informed the families that he saw the four individuals there several days after they were arrested, but was not able to speak to them.

There are further health concerns for Fahd Musa al-Musa and 'Abd al-Razaq 'Abdo Jamus, as both men require regular medication and monitoring. Fahd Musa al-Musa suffers from a stomach ulcer and a herniated spinal disc, while 'Abd al-Razaq 'Abdo Jamus is diabetic and suffers from high blood pressure.

Amnesty International has received reports that 'Abd al-Razaq 'Abdo Jamus and Fahd Musa al-Musa may have taken part in popular protests in Hama. It is believed that 'Abd al-Rahman 'Abdo Jamus, a teacher with no reported connection to the protest movement, and Ahmad 'Abdo Jamus, were arrested because they were in the house during the raid.

Please write immediately in Arabic, English, French or your own language:

- Express concern that Fahd Musa al-Musa, 'Abd al-Razaq 'Abdo Jamus, 'Abd al-Rahman 'Abdo Jamus and Ahmad 'Abdo Jamus appear to have been subjected to enforced disappearance since their arrest on 27 November and calling on the authorities immediately to disclose their whereabouts and any charges brought against them;
- Urge the authorities to ensure that they are protected from torture and other ill-treatment, allowed immediate contact with their family and a lawyer of their choice, and provided with any medical care they require;
- Call for them to be released immediately and unconditionally if they have been held solely for peacefully exercising their rights to freedom of expression and assembly and are therefore prisoners of conscience.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 31 JANUARY 2012 TO:

President

Bashar al-Assad
 Presidential Palace
 al-Rashid Street
 Damascus
 SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
Fax: 011 963 11 332 3410
Salutation: Your Excellency

Ministry of Interior

His Excellency Major General
 Mohamad Ibrahim al-Shaar
 Minister of Interior
 'Abd al-Rahman Shahbandar Street
 Damascus
 SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
Fax: 011 963 11 311 0554
Salutation: Your Excellency

Also send copies to:

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Walid al-Mu'allim
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 al-Rashid Street
 Damascus
 SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC
**Fax: 011 963 11 214 6251 -OR-
 011 963 11 214 6252 -OR-
 011 963 11 214 6253**

Also send copies to:

Ambassador Dr Imad Moustapha, Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic
 2215 Wyoming Ave. NW, Washington DC 20008
Fax: 1 202 234 9548 -OR- 202 265 4585 -OR- 202 232 4357 | Email: info@syrembassy.net

Please check with the AIUSA Urgent Action Office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
 INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Pro-reform demonstrations began in Syria in February 2011 and evolved into mass protests in mid-March. The Syrian authorities have responded in the most brutal manner in their efforts to suppress them. Amnesty International has obtained the names of more than 3,300 people reported to have died or been killed during or in connection with the protests since mid-March. Many are believed to have been shot by security forces using live ammunition while participating in peaceful protests or attending funerals of people killed in earlier protests. Members of the security forces have also been killed, some by defecting members of the army and others who have taken up arms against the government.

Thousands of people have been arrested, with many held incommunicado at unknown locations at which torture and other ill-treatment are reported to be rife. Over 200 people are reported to have died in custody in highly suspicious circumstances since 1 April 2011, 15 of whom are from the town of Hama. Some of the dead, who include 14 children as young as 14 years old, were also mutilated either before or after death in particularly grotesque ways, apparently intended to strike terror into the families to whom their corpses were returned. For further information, please see *Syria: Deadly detention: Deaths in custody amid popular protest in Syria*, 31 August 2011 (<http://amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE24/035/2011/en>).

Fahd Musa al-Musa, 'Abd al-Razaq 'Abdo Jamus, 'Abd al-Rahman 'Abdo Jamus and Ahmad 'Abdo Jamus are all from Hama, a town that has been the subject of a brutal crackdown by the Syrian authorities since demonstrations began earlier this year. Neighbours noted that all land lines and mobile phone connections were cut off in the neighbourhood during the raid on 'Abd al-Razaq 'Abdo Jamus's house. Fahd Musa al-Musa's brother, who is no longer in Syria, has informed Amnesty International that in the period prior to his arrest, Fahd Musa al-Musa's house was raided five times by men in military and security force clothing, as reported by eyewitnesses.

Name(s): Fahd Musa al-Musa(m), 'Abd al-Razaq 'Abdo Jamus(m), 'Abd al-Rahman 'Abdo Jamus (m) and Ahmad 'Abdo Jamus (m)

Issue(s): Arbitrary arrest, Health concern

UA: 332/11

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Country: Syria