

URGENT ACTION

JAKARKHON SHEIKHO 'ALI RELEASED!

Prisoner of conscience Jakarkhon Sheikho 'Ali was released without charge on 3 October. He had been detained incommunicado for nearly three-and-a-half months, during which he was apparently tortured.

Syrian Kurd Jakarkhon Sheikho 'Ali, who is 28, had been arrested on 20 June by Military Security in the city of Aleppo. On 21 June he was transferred to a Military Security interrogation and detention centre in Damascus, the Palestine Branch, which is notorious for torture. He was previously believed to have been detained in Aleppo for a longer period of time.

On 12 August he was transferred from there to a detention centre in Damascus run by Political Security, the al-Fayha' Branch.

Jakarkhon Sheikho 'Ali is believed to have been detained because of his activities as a senior member of an unauthorized Kurdish Syrian political party, the Kurdish Democratic al-Wifaq Party.

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

This is the first update of UA 176/09 Index: MDE 24/017/2009. Further information: www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/MDE24/017/2009/en

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further information on UA 176/09 Index: MDE 24/029/2009 Issue Date: 23 October 2009

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