

URGENT ACTION

PROTECT MEN FROM FURTHER ILL-TREATMENT

Four men accused of involvement in the killing of two police officers on 21 July, have reported being beaten repeatedly while in police and prison custody, most recently on 19 August, and denied access to medical treatment for their injuries. They are being held in pre-trial detention in Adana, southern Turkey, and remain at risk of further ill-treatment.

Sedat Aydın, Mehmet Naci Yılmaz, Ömer Kılınc and Murat Abir are accused of involvement in the killing of two police officers in the Ceylanpınar district of Şanlıurfa, in south-eastern Turkey, on the night of 21 July.

Sedat Aydın and Mehmet Naci Yılmaz were remanded in custody by a court in the south eastern province of Şanlıurfa on 26 July. Speaking to Amnesty International, Sedat Aydın's brother A.A. stated that they had been ill-treated in police custody during their initial detention in Şanlıurfa.

On 19 August, the four men were transferred from the Şanlıurfa E-type closed prison to the Osmaniye No.1 T-type closed prison in Adana province. According to Sedat Aydın's brother and the Chair of the Adana branch of the NGO Human Rights Association who visited them in prison, they were severely beaten by gendarmes and prison guards, threatened with further abuse and denied access to medical treatment for their injuries. The four men said they had been beaten on their legs and others parts of their bodies while in the vehicle in which they were being transferred to the prison on 19 August. The men also explained that upon their arrival at the prison they were beaten by between 20 to 30 gendarmes after being taken in pairs into two separate rooms. They were also beaten again, by prison guards, after objecting to being strip searched.

Their representatives told Amnesty International that they were taken to hospital but were not examined by a doctor. According to them, the doctor instead signed a pre-drafted document stating that they were healthy and had no injuries.

They continue to be at risk of further ill-treatment.

Please write immediately in Turkish or your own language:

- Urging the Turkish authorities to ensure that Sedat Aydın, Mehmet Naci Yılmaz, Ömer Kılınc and Murat Abir are not subjected to further ill-treatment;
- Calling on them to ensure that they have access to a medical assessment and any necessary medical treatment;
- Urging the authorities to investigate promptly, independently and thoroughly the allegations of ill-treatment and bring those found to be responsible to justice.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 7 OCTOBER 2015 TO:

Prison Director
Hasan Öz
Osmaniye No.1 T-tipi Kapalı Ceza İnfaz
Kurumu
Toprakkale
Osmaniye
Fax: +90 328 826 8730
Salutation: Dear Director

Minister of Justice
Kenan İpek
Ministry of Justice
Adalet Bakanlığı
06659 Ankara,
Turkey
Fax: +90 312 417 71 13
E-mail: ozelkalem@adalet.gov.tr
Salutation: Dear Minister

And copies to:
Minister of Interior
Mr. Sebahattin Öztürk
İçişleri Bakanlığı
Bakanlıklar
Ankara, Turkey
Fax: +90 312 425 85 09
E-mail: ozelkalem@icisleri.gov.tr
Salutation: Dear Minister

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Sedat Aydın's brother A.A. told Amnesty International that on 22 July late afternoon, Sedat Aydın and Mehmet Naci Yılmaz were with three others in their car when they were stopped by police near Sedat Aydın's family home in the Ceylanpınar district of Şanlıurfa province in south-eastern Turkey. The police told them that the car had an impounding order due to a debt of its owner. The group were not detained but went with the police officers to the police station to resolve the issue.

Sedat Aydın's brother told Amnesty international that around midnight two of the five left the police station while Sedat Aydın, Hasan Aydın and Mehmet Naci Yılmaz were required to provide statements to the police. At around 4am on 23 July, A.A. learnt that the three men had been taken to the Anti-Terror Branch in Şanlıurfa. A group of lawyers from Şanlıurfa Bar Association finally managed to see the men in the evening on 23 July, who informed them that they had been severely beaten, attempted to be suffocated with a plastic bag over their heads and accused of the killing of two police officers in Ceylanpınar on the night of 21 July. According to the information received by Amnesty International, they were taken to hospital following the lawyers' request but were not examined by a doctor, who allegedly signed a medical report stating that they were healthy.

On 26 July, a court ruled for the release of Hasan Aydın and the remand in custody of Sedat Aydın and Mehmet Naci Yılmaz who were sent to Şanlıurfa E-type prison. On 19 August, together with Ömer Kılınç and Murat Abir who had been separately arrested on 24 July and also accused with involvement in the killings of the police officers, they were transferred to Osmaniye No. 1 T-type prison in Adana where it is alleged they were all severely beaten by between 20 to 30 gendarmes and by prison guards. Speaking to Amnesty International, the Chair of the Adana Branch of Human Rights Association said he had met them on Saturday 22 August and confirmed that they had been ill-treated during transfer to and when they arrived at the prison, after objecting to a strip search. They have since then been threatened with further beatings.

Name: Sedat Aydın, Mehmet Naci Yılmaz, Ömer Kılınç, Murat Abir
Gender m/f: m

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