BAYRAM MAMMADOV + GIYAS IBRAHIMOV

Tortured for political graffiti

Students Bayram Mammadov and Giyas Ibrahimov were detained after spraying political graffiti on a statue of former president Heydar Aliyev. Their message, 'Happy Slave Day', was a play on the slogan 'Happy Flower Day', which is celebrated on 10 May in Azerbaijan. The current president is Heydar Aliyev's son.

Bayram and Giyas were arrested shortly after posting a photo of the graffiti on Facebook, and falsely accused of drug possession. The students, who were actually only questioned about the graffiti, were tortured after they refused to sign confessions and publicly apologise for their protest. Officers severely beat them and threatened them with rape.

Bayram and Giyas now face up to 12 years in prison on trumped-up drug possession charges.

SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Bayram Mammadov/Giyas Ibrahimov Baki Investigation Isolator (Kurdakhany Detention Facility) Sabunchu District Zabrat 2 settlement AZ1104 Azerbaijan

Although the cards may not reach Bayram and Giyas, they will still make the prison administration aware of the international attention the case is getting.

- Language: Azerbaijani, English, Russian or Turkish
- Suggested messages: Keep up Bayram and Giyas' spirits by sending them cards, letters and drawings. Please include the words 'Möhkem ol' ('Stay strong') in your message.

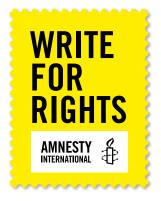


GET CREATIVE

Draw your own graffiti on a card or take photos of graffiti in your area and send them with a message of support.

CAN I

- Send a religious card or message?
- Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✓ Include my name and address?



SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Urge President Ilham Aliyev to ensure that Bayram Mammadov and Giyas Ibrahimov are released immediately.

Write to: President Ilham Aliyev

Office of the President of the Republic of

Azerbaijan

19 Istiqlaliyyat Street Baku, AZ 1066 Azerbaijan

Fax: (0099412) 492 35 43 or 492 06 25

Email: office@pa.gov.az
Twitter: @presidentaz

The Azerbaijan authorities are sensitive about the country's image abroad, so please also send copies of your letter to the embassy in London.

Write to: His Excellency Mr Tahir Taghizadeh

Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan

4 Kensington Court

London W8 5DL

Email: london@mission.mfa.gov.az

Salutation: Your Excellency

In your letter: Call for the immediate and unconditional release of Bayram Mammadov, Giyas Ibrahimov and other prisoners of conscience. Urge the authorities to protect the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly.



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