

## AZERBAIJAN

# BAYRAM MAMMADOV + GIYAS IBRAHIMOV

UPDATED  
OCTOBER 2016

WRITE  
FOR  
RIGHTS

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL 

## Students detained for graffiti protest

Students Bayram and Giyas were angry with the Azerbaijani government, which strictly controls what people can do in the country. So they decided to protest by spraying a graffiti message on a statue of the former president. It read 'Happy slave day', a play on the slogan 'Happy Flower Day', which is celebrated on 10 May in Azerbaijan.

But after posting a photo of the graffiti on Facebook, Bayram and Giyas were arrested. The police falsely accused them of having illegal drugs and beat them up until they 'confessed'. We believe they were actually arrested because of their graffiti protest.

On 25 October Giyas was sentenced to 10 years in prison. Bayram's court hearing continues – he could face a similar sentence if found guilty.



### SOLIDARITY ACTION

Send a message of solidarity and support to Bayram and Giyas to keep their spirits up. The messages may not be given to them, but they will show the prison authorities how much international attention is on the case.

- **Language:** Azerbaijani, English, Russian or Turkish
- **Suggested message:** Try to include the phrase 'Möhkəm ol' ('Stay strong') in your message.



### GET CREATIVE

Why don't you write your message in a graffiti style?

### CAN I

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

### APPEAL ACTION

Write a letter urging the President of Azerbaijan to drop all the charges against Bayram and Giyas and immediately release them. Start your letter or card with 'Your Excellency'.



### SEND ALL YOUR ACTIONS TO:

Community Organiser (Youth)  
Amnesty International UK  
17-25 New Inn Yard  
London  
EC2A 3EA



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CAMPAIGN FOR YOUNG ACTIVISTS (AGED 11-14)