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	<b>Say (No.): 470/2007</b> <b>Tarix (Date): 08.12. 2007</b>
<p>The Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva,</p> <p>Please circulate this Communication to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders, also this of interest to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers</li><li>• The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention</li><li>• Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance</li><li>• The Independent Expert on Minority Issues</li></ul> <p>CC Mr. Dyke and Mrs. Harrison, Amnesty International, London UNESCO and various news media</p>	<p>Seid Metinpur</p>  <p>A Southern Azerbaijani prisoner of conscience</p>

Dear sir/madam

**UPDATE NO 1 ON HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER AND JOURNALIST MR. SEID METINPUR**

Please find enclosed **Update No 1** to our Communication No 2 (please refer to our Reference: 458/2007; Date 22 July 200) on Mr. Seid Metinpur. This prisoner of conscience is a journalist and a distinguished human rights defender of Southern Azerbaijan, and now deprived of his liberty by Iranian authorities for more than 200 days.

According to reports by ASMEK, Mr. Metinpur and another Southern Azerbaijani prisoner of conscience, Mr. Jelil Qenilu were transferred to the notorious Evin prison in Tehran on 4 December 2007. Mr. Metinpur had a glimpse of telephone call to his wife, Mrs. Etiyye Metinpur. Before this transfer, there was no news on him for some 50 days.

These two prisoners of conscience have been dragged repeatedly between Evin prison and detention centres in their native city of Zengan. The only explanation for this is that Iranian authorities are desperate for a propaganda coup by forcing Southern Azerbaijani activists to undergo a television interview and confess for false statements prepared by the authorities or at least sign documents to this end. In addition, the Iranian authorities are also responsible for all sorts of rumours to invoke anxiety among the family members of the victims and Southern Azerbaijanis by large, as well as to slow down the national movement of Southern Azerbaijan.

Whilst the detention of Mr. Metinpur is reaching 200 days, the mechanisms for violating his human rights include:

- Was only allowed two short visits by his mother and one short telephone call to his wife, Mrs. Etiyye Metinpur.
- According to meagre news smuggled out of detention centres by Southern Azerbaijani activists, he has been kept in isolation cells since the detention and suffered severe torture in many occasions.
- He is yet to be indicted by Iranian authorities
- He has been denied the right of access to a lawyer let alone the lawyer of his choice.

He is not the only one suffering the violation of human rights but other Southern Azerbaijanis suffer the same fate to name but few from his native Zengan are: Mr. Jelil Qenilu, Mr. Behruz Seferi and his wife Mrs. Leyla Seferi.

Only the mandates for the protection of human rights entrusted on you are capable of defending human rights of these prisoners of conscience. Thank you in advance for your care.

Yours sincerely,

Boyuk Resuloglu

Chairperson of the Committee for the Defence of the Rights of World Azerbaijanis