



Middle East Studies Association of North America, Inc.

The University of Arizona · 1232 North Cherry Avenue · Tucson, Arizona 85721

30 November 1995

General Ilan Biran
Commander of the Central Division
Bethel, West Bank, ISRAEL

Fax: 972-2-305741

Dear General Biran:

Birzeit University student `Abd al-Raziq Yasin Farraj (ID #988941043) is due to be released after 18 months of administrative detention without trial or charge on November 30, 1995. His detention has already been extended three times. The Committee for Academic Freedom of the Middle East Studies Association of North America is deeply concerned that his detention may be extended for a fourth time.

The Middle East Studies Association comprises 2400 academics worldwide who teach and conduct research on the Middle East and North Africa. The association publishes the respected *International Journal of Middle East Studies* and is committed to ensuring respect for the principles of academic freedom and human rights throughout the region.

Several Birzeit University students, including `Abd al-Raziq Farraj, are currently under administrative detention at Ketziot prison. Such detention is a serious disruption of their studies and to the normal functioning of Birzeit University. Moreover, administrative detention without charge constitutes imprisonment without trial and is a violation of Article 9 and 10 of the International Bill of Human Rights.

We respectfully request that `Abd al-Raziq Yasin Farraj be released on November 30th as scheduled.

Respectfully,

Anne H. Betteridge
Executive Director

cc: Brigadier General Ilan Shiff, Judge Advocate General
Brigadier General Shaul Mofaz, Commander of the West Bank
Colonel Moshe Rosenberg, Legal advisor for the Central Command
David Liba'i, Minister of Justice
Judge Yosef Harish, Attorney General
Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich