

PUBLIC

AI Index: AFR 54/005/2002

20 February 2002

Further information on UA 7/02 (AFR 54/001/2002, 8 January 2002) - Imminent executions/Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Punishment

SUDAN
Abok Alfa Akok (f)
Abdu Ismail Tong (m)
Yousif Yaow Mombai (m)
Mohamed Adam Yahya (m)
Ahmed Suleiman Mohamed (m)
Mohamed Hassan Mahmoud (m)
Ahmed Yassin (m)
23 men

The death sentence against Abok Alfa Akok was overturned on 9 February following an appeal. On 12 February, upon review, the Criminal Court re-sentenced her to 75 lashes, a punishment which was carried out immediately.

Abok Alfa Akok had been sentenced to death by stoning by the Criminal Court in Nyala, Southern Darfur after being convicted of adultery. Her lawyer successfully appealed against the court judgement on the grounds that as a non-Muslim she should not be subjected to death by stoning.

Following her punishment, Abok Alfa Akok was released and is now staying with relatives. Her lawyer reportedly appealed against the fact that the sentence was carried out immediately, on the grounds that it restricted her to the right to legal counsel and also did not give her enough time to appeal against the sentence.

The other sentences of death and amputation featured in the original urgent action, are not reported to have been carried out and some of the sentences are still believed to be subject to appeal. Amnesty International is continuing to monitor the situation and will take further steps as appropriate.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or Arabic or your own language:

- expressing your concern that Abok Alfa Akok was subjected to lashings, a punishment which Amnesty International considers to be cruel, inhuman and degrading;
- expressing concern that the re-sentencing may have fallen far short of international standards for fair trial;
- calling for the other sentences of death and amputation to be commuted immediately;
- explaining that in your view such sentences contravene the prohibition in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) of all forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment, as well as Sudan's obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and The Convention against Torture (CAT);
- calling on the government to uphold the right of all to receive a fair trial, in accordance with international standards and without recourse to the death penalty;
- appealing for the law in Sudan to be amended to bring it in line with international standards.

APPEALS TO:

His Excellency Lieutenant General Omar Hassan al-Bashir
President of the Republic of Sudan
President' s Palace
PO Box 281, Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: **President al-Bashir, Khartoum, Sudan**
Fax: **+ 24911 771651/ 787676 / 783223**
Salutation: **Your Excellency**

Mr Ali Mohamed Osman Yassin
Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Ministry of Justice
Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: **Justice Minister, Khartoum, Sudan**
Fax: **+24911 788941 / 774842/ 774906**
Salutation: **Dear Minister**

Mr Mustafa Osman Ismail
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
PO Box 873, Khartoum, Sudan

Telegrams: **Foreign Minister, Khartoum, Sudan**
Fax: **+ 24911 779383**
Salutation: **Dear Minister**

Dr Ahmed al-Mufti
Advisory Council for Human Rights
PO Box 302
Khartoum, Sudan

Salutation: **Dear Dr al-Mufti**

COPIES TO:

Mr Hafez al-Sheikh al-Zaki
Chief Justice, Supreme Court
Khartoum, Sudan

and to diplomatic representatives of Sudan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 3 April 2002.