

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 313/93 (MDE 14/08/93, 8 September 1993) - Fear of Torture/Fear of Death Penalty

IRAQ: 'Abd al-Karim Hani
Majid Adham
Jassem Mukhlis
Sufian Mukhlis

and

Rajeh al-Tikriti

Amnesty International has learned that several Sunni Arabs arrested in the second half of August were executed in the second week of November. Others died very shortly after their release from prison. The families of the victims were forbidden from holding public mourning for them.

Among those executed were 'Abd al-Karim Hani, a former Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, and Rajeh al-Tikriti, a doctor and former president of The Iraqi Medical Association. His body was returned to his family on 14 November. Two cousins from Tikrit, Jassem and Sufian Mukhlis, also died. One of them was executed and the other died 48 hours following his release from prison (it is not known at present which one of them was executed). Another detainee from this group also died very shortly after his release, but his name has not been confirmed as yet. The fate and whereabouts of Majid Adham remain unknown.

No information has been received regarding any trial proceedings which may have been followed in their cases.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The five individuals mentioned above were among scores of prominent people arrested in Iraq in August in a crackdown which began after the Gulf War, targeting sectors of Iraqi society traditionally thought to be loyal to the regime. The majority of those arrested were Sunni Arabs, including some from Tikrit, the home town of President Saddam Hussein.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telexes and airmail letters either in English or your own language:

- expressing concern about the execution or death of 'Abd al-Karim Hani, Rajeh al-Tikriti, Jassem and Sufian Mukhlis;

- requesting details of the fate and whereabouts of Majid Adham and scores of others arrested in August 1993, urging their immediate release unless they are to be charged with a recognisable criminal offence;

- requesting details of the charges against them, the legal procedures followed in their cases and the circumstances surrounding two of the detainees who died shortly after their release;

- appealing for the commutation of any other death sentences passed.

APPEALS TO:

1) H.E. President Saddam Hussain
President of the Republic
Presidential Palace
Karadat Mariam
Baghdad, Iraq

Telexes: 212299 alqasr ik

Salutation: Your Excellency

2) H.E. Ahmad Hussain Khudayyer al-Samarra'i
Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
Karadat Mariam
Baghdad, Iraq

Telexes: 212299 alqasr ik

Salutation: Your Excellency

3) H.E. Watban Ibrahim al-Hassan
Minister of Interior
Ministry of Interior
Baghdad, Iraq

Salutation: Your Excellency

4) H.E. Shabib Lazem al-Maliki
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
Baghdad, Iraq

Salutation: Your Excellency

Regular postal services to Iraq have been suspended since the imposition of sanctions in 1990. However, it appears that recently postal services to Iraq have resumed in some countries on a limited basis. **Before sending appeals, please check with the postal services in your country to find out what services are available.** If you cannot write directly to Baghdad, send appeals to Iraq's diplomatic representative in your country.

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Diplomatic representatives of Iraq accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat or your section office, if sending appeals after 5th January 1993.