

PUBLIC

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Further information on EXTRA 34/02 (MDE 25/002/2002, 30 April 2002) - Fear of forcible return/Fear of unlawful killing

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES/Sabrina Imtiaz Syed (f), aged 25
PAKISTAN

Sabrina Imtiaz Syed was reportedly taken back to Pakistan by her mother on 12 May. They flew from Dubai to Lahore, but it is not known where she is now, and she is uncontactable. She is facing "honour killing" at the hands of her father and his family, for marrying against his wishes.

She was released from "immigration jail" in Dubai some time between 1 and 3 May, and handed over to her parents.

Her husband, Ashfaq Muhammad, is planning to fly to Lahore on 25 May to find her. He hopes to leave Pakistan with her to seek asylum. He believes that she will not be killed as long as her father is not with her. However it is not clear where her father is. Amnesty International is concerned that Ashfaq Muhammad will also be at risk of "honour" killing at the hands of Sabrina Imtiaz Syed's relatives.

Amnesty International is working with local human rights organisations on this case. They will be giving legal advice to Ashfaq Muhammad, as well as providing him with general assistance on his arrival in Pakistan. At this stage this is the most likely way for her to be found and protected.

Many thanks to all those who sent appeals. No further action is requested at present, but Amnesty International is following the situation closely, and will inform the Urgent Action network of any developments.