

PUBLIC

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UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE) Fatima Mohammad Ra'uf (f), Sri Lankan
national
Mohammad Koya, Indian national

The two people named above have been sentenced to flogging and imprisonment by a *Shari'a* (Islamic) court in the Emirate of Fujairah.

On 4 September 2000, Fatima Mohammad Ra'uf was reportedly sentenced to 100 lashes and one year's imprisonment, and Mohammad Koya to 90 lashes and 10 months' imprisonment for adultery. Both will be deported after serving their sentences. No further details are available.

Amnesty International considers flogging to be a cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment, which may amount to torture. Such treatment is prohibited under international standards such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English, Arabic or your own language:

- urging the authorities to commute the sentence of flogging against Fatima Mohammad Ra'uf and Mohammad Koya;
- pointing out that flogging is a cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment, which may amount to torture, in violation of international human rights standards;
- urging that the use of flogging as a judicial punishment be stopped.

APPEALS TO:

Minister of Justice & Islamic Affairs
His Excellency Mohammad Nukhairah al-Dhahiri
Minister of Justice & Islamic Affairs
Ministry of Justice & Islamic Affairs
PO Box 753 Abu Dhabi
United Arab Emirates (UAE)
Telegrams: Justice Minister, Abu Dhabi, UAE
Faxes: + 971 4 282 5557
Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of the United Arab Emirates accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 18 October 2000.