

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 13/044/2001

12 November 2001

Further information on UA 157/01 (MDE 13/019/2001, 22 June 2001) and follow-up (MDE 13/027/2001, 2 August 2001) - Death penalty

IRAN                   Azizullah Shenwari [m], Pakistani national, aged 13  
(May be known as Aziz Afghan, of Afghan nationality)

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Amnesty International has learned that the death sentence passed against Azizullah Shenwari (who may be known as Aziz Afghan) has been commuted to life imprisonment by an appeal court in Yazd, central Iran. Azizullah Shenwari's father has lodged an appeal against this sentence at a higher court in Tehran, but the status of this appeal is not currently known.

Some members of the Urgent Action network have received letters from embassies of the Islamic Republic of Iran, suggesting that Azizullah Shenwari is aged 21. Amnesty International has been in contact with Azizullah Shenwari's family in Peshawar, Pakistan, and has been assured that he was under 14 years old at the time of his disappearance in Pakistan. Amnesty International can confirm that Azizullah Shenwari's father has been given permission on at least two occasions to visit his son in prison in Yazd.

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

- asking the authorities to clarify whether Azizullah Shenwari has been detained and sentenced under the name of Aziz Afghan;
- seeking details of trial proceedings and any appeals related to the case, and calling for him to be granted full and immediate access to legal and consular assistance as well as medical attention if necessary, in line with Article 40(d) of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Iran is a state party;
- asking for clarification regarding whether juvenile courts and detention centres have been established in line with previous commitments made by the authorities;
- urging the Iranian authorities to take immediate steps to halt and eventually abolish the imposition of the death penalty, particularly for crimes committed by persons under 18 years of age.

**APPEALS TO:**

Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran,  
His Excellency Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei  
c/o The Presidency, Palestine Avenue, Azerbaijan Intersection,  
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
**Telegrams: Ayatollah Khamenei, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

President  
His Excellency Hojjatoleslam Sayed Mohammad Khatami  
The Presidency, Palestine Avenue, Azerbaijan Intersection,  
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
**Telegrams: President Khatami, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran**  
**Faxes: + 98 21 649 5880**  
**E-mails: khatami@president.ir**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Head of the Judiciary  
His Excellency Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi Shahrudi  
Ministry of Justice, Park-e Shahr  
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
**Telegrams: Head of Judiciary, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran**  
**Faxes: + 98 21 879 6671 (number may be unreliable, please be patient)**

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

**COPIES TO:**

Minister of Foreign Affairs,  
His Excellency Kamal Kharrazi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Abdolmajid  
Keshk-e Mesri Avenue, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

**Faxes:** + 98 21 390 1999 (Human Rights Department)

**E-mails:** matbuat@mfa.gov.ir (*please ask for the message to be forwarded  
to the Human Rights Department*)

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Director, Organization for Defending Victims of Violence  
PO Box 16765-911, Tehran, Iran

**Fax:** + 98 21 896 3091

**Email:** odvv@neda.net

and to diplomatic representatives of Iran accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 17 December 2001.