

EXTERNAL

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Fear of imminent execution

28 April 1997

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE)Zad Khan Shah, Pakistani national

Amnesty International has received reports that the Federal Supreme Court in the city of al-'Ain has upheld the sentence of death against Zad Khan Shah, a Pakistani national, for the murder of an Indian national in December 1993. The case will now be referred to the President of the UAE, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan, for ratification. The organization is concerned that Zad Khan Shah will be executed if the president ratifies the sentence.

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

- expressing concern that Zad Khan Shah's death sentence has been upheld by the Federal Supreme Court;
- urging the President of the United Arab Emirates to exercise his right to grant clemency and commute this and other outstanding death sentences;
- acknowledging the serious nature of the crime in this case, but pointing out that the death penalty has never been shown to deter violent crime more effectively than other punishments;
- stating opposition to the death penalty as the most extreme form of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment and a violation of the right to life, irrespective of the crime for which it is imposed.

APPEALS TO:

President

His Highness

Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahyan

President of the United Arab Emirates

Ruler of Abu Dhabi, Manhal Palace

PO Box 280, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Telexes: 22220 PALACE EM

Telegrams: President Al-Nahyan, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Faxes: +971 266 4799

Salutation: Your Highness

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

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Please check with your Section office, or the International Secretariat, if sending appeals after 1 June 1997.