

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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UA 253/94 Prisoners of conscience / Unfair trial / Ill-treatment 1 July 1994

MOROCCO

Abderrahim CHAIB  
Abdelali BOUTAIBI  
Abdelkader KALAI  
Yucef LAMZAH  
Mohamed BOUYACOUBI  
Abdallah BAHIR  
Abdelila BOUKALEB  
Ahmed CHAOU  
Lekbir ANYAD  
Mohamed KARAOUT  
Mohamed HMIMID  
Fouad HARACHANE  
Mohamed NAJI  
Hamid OUAGGAF

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On 5 July 1994, the appeal of the 14 people named above will be heard. They were sentenced to two years' imprisonment on 14 June, after trial procedures which failed to conform to international standards for fair trial. Amnesty International considers them to be prisoners of conscience, imprisoned solely for exercising their right to freedom of expression and association without using or advocating violence, and calls for their immediate and unconditional release.

The 14, all members of the association of unemployed graduates, were arrested in Guercif on 3 June after a meeting at the Municipality where they protested peacefully about unemployment. They were tried on 14 June and sentenced on charges of holding an unauthorized meeting.

They stated to the judicial authorities that they had been beaten and ill-treated during incommunicado detention in police custody, and some reportedly still bore the marks several days later. However, a medical examination ordered by the Public Prosecutor was never carried out and further requests for a medical examination by defence lawyers were refused by the court.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in French/Arabic, or in your own language:**

- expressing concern that the above 14 individuals have been imprisoned as prisoners of conscience solely for exercising their right to freedom of expression and association - a right guaranteed by international standards including the UN International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Morocco is a state party;
- urging the Moroccan authorities to immediately and unconditionally release them;
- expressing concern at reports that they were beaten and ill-treated in police custody, and urging the authorities to ensure that these reports be independently and impartially investigated, and that any members of the security forces found responsible for their ill-treatment be brought to justice.

**APPEALS TO**

King Hassan II  
Palais Royal  
Rabat, Maroc

**Telegrams: King Hassan II, Rabat, Morocco**  
**Telexes: 31744 or 32908**  
**Salutation: Your Majesty / Sire**

M. Omar Azziman  
Ministre délégué chargé des Droits de l'Homme  
Bureau du Premier Ministre  
Palais Royal  
Rabat, Maroc  
**Faxes: + 212 7 77 68 37**  
**Telexes: 36161**  
**Telegrams: Minstre Azziman, Palais Royal, Rabat, Morocco**  
**Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre / Dear Minister**

M. Abdellatif Filali  
Premier Ministre  
Bureau du Premier Ministre  
Palais Royal  
Rabat, Maroc  
**Telexes: 36008**  
**Telegrams: Premier Ministre Filali, Rabat, Morocco**  
**Salutation: Monsieur le Premier Ministre / Dear Prime Minister**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

M. Mohamed Mikou  
Secrétaire général  
Conseil consultatif des droits de l'homme  
BP 1341  
24 Place des Chouhada  
Rabat, Maroc

Association marocaine des droits de l'homme  
14 rue Calcutta  
BP 1740  
Rabat, Maroc  
**Faxes: + 212 7 707 871**

Organisation marocaine des droits de l'homme  
24, Avenue de France  
Quartier Agdal  
Rabat, Maroc  
**Faxes: + 212 7 774615**

and to diplomatic representatives of Morocco accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your Section office, if sending appeals after 12 August 1994.