

URGENT ACTION

UZBEK MAN FACING EXTRADITION, TORTURE

The Russian authorities are preparing to extradite an Uzbek man, Yusup Salimakhunovich Kasymakhunov. He will face a real risk of torture and other ill-treatment if he is extradited to Uzbekistan.

Yusup Salimakhunovich Kasymakhunov came to Russia in 1995 where in 2004 he was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment on a charge of involvement in the Islamist political party Hizb-ut-Tahrir, which is considered a terrorist organization in Russia and banned in Uzbekistan. Near the end of his sentence, in June 2011, the Uzbekistani authorities requested his extradition on the grounds that he was involved in Hizb-ut-Tahrir.

On 26 April 2012, Yusup Kasymakhunov was notified that the General Prosecutor's Office of the Russian Federation had decided on 19 April to extradite him to Uzbekistan on the basis of the criminal proceedings against him in Uzbekistan. Yusup Kasymakhunov has appealed. The next hearing of his extradition proceedings is scheduled for 18 July at the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation.

Amnesty International believes that Yusup Kasymakhunov will be at serious risk of grave human rights violations, in particular incommunicado detention, torture and other ill-treatment and imprisonment in cruel, inhuman and degrading conditions following an unfair trial. Amnesty International has documented many cases of people forcibly returned to Uzbekistan at the request of the Uzbekistani authorities who have been tortured and sentenced after unfair trials. The organization continues to receive reports of widespread torture and other ill-treatment of detainees and prisoners in Uzbekistan. If they extradited him, the Russian authorities would be violating the absolute prohibition of torture under international law.

Please write immediately in Russian, English or your own language:

- Call on the authorities to rescind the extradition order granted by the General Prosecutor's Office against Yusup Kasymakhunov;
- Call on them to honour and uphold the Russian Federation's obligations under international law, particularly not to forcibly return anyone to a country where they would be at risk of serious human rights violations, including torture or other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 20 AUGUST 2012 TO:

Prosecutor General
Yurii Ya. Chaika
Bolshaia Dmitrovka 15 A
Moscow
125993
Russian Federation
Fax: +7 495 987 58 41
Email: prgenproc@gov.ru
Salutation: Dear Prosecutor-General

Minister of Foreign Affairs
Third department on CIS countries
M. A. Peshkov - Director
Ul. Smolenskaya-Sennaia pl, 32/34
Moscow
119200
Russian Federation
Fax: +7 499 241 21 75 (if voice answers,
ask for "Fax")
E-mail: 3dsng@mid.ru
Salutation: Dear Minister

And copies to:
Chair of the Supreme Court
Vyachslav Mikhailovich Lebedev
Povarskaya ul. 15
Moscow
121260
Russian Federation
Fax: +7 495 695 51 72
+7 495 691 98 77
Email: nikibor@vsrf.ru

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Amnesty International has closely monitored the human rights situation in Uzbekistan since its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. The organization is particularly concerned that the Uzbekistani authorities have continued actively seeking the extradition from neighbouring countries, in the name of national security and the fight against terrorism, of suspected members of Islamic movements or Islamist parties banned in Uzbekistan, such as Hizb-ut-Tahrir. Amnesty International's research has found that most of those forcibly returned to Uzbekistan are held incommunicado, thereby increasing their risk of being tortured or otherwise ill-treated.

Amnesty International is concerned that thousands of devout Muslims sentenced in Uzbekistan for alleged membership of banned Islamist organizations are being held in conditions which amount to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.

In June 2012, the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation issued a decree regarding extradition requests by second governments. This reiterated Russia's obligations under international human rights law, including the prohibition of torture, and ordered courts not to approve extradition requests if there was a well-founded fear that the person extradited might be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, or might face the death penalty.

Name: Yusup Salimakhunovich Kasymakhunov

Gender m/f: m

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