

URGENT ACTION

TWO MEN AT IMMINENT RISK OF EXECUTION

Yemeni national Ibrahim bin Mohammad bin Saghir Hassan and Syrian national Jum'a Ali al-Talib may be at imminent risk of execution in Saudi Arabia for drug-related offences.

Yemeni national **Ibrahim bin Mohammad bin Saghir Hassan** and Syrian national **Jum'a Ali al-Talib** were arrested in Saudi Arabia in May 2006, along with another unnamed Saudi Arabian national, on suspicion of smuggling drugs. On 20 October 2006, the General Court in Qurrayat in the northern province of al-Jawf sentenced both Ibrahim Hassan and Jum'a al-Talib to 15 years in prison and 2,000 lashes. Ibrahim Hassan is believed not to have had access to a lawyer in pre-trial detention. He reportedly signed a "confession" after being assaulted and beaten. The Saudi Arabian national was sentenced to eight years in prison and 800 lashes, although he is not believed to be at risk of execution.

On 8 April 2008 the Court of Cassation in Riyadh increased the sentences against both Ibrahim Hassan and Jum'a al-Talib to the death penalty, and the sentence against the Saudi Arabian national to 15 years in prison and 1,500 lashes.

It is not known if the King has ratified the death sentences. If ratified, both Ibrahim Hassan and Jum'a al-Talib could be executed at any time. Concerns are exacerbated by the fact that the Saudi Arabian authorities have executed at least 21 people for drugs-related offences this year.

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

- Urging the King to halt the executions of both Ibrahim bin Mohammad bin Saghir Hassan and Jum'a Ali Talib;
- Calling on him to commute the death sentence of the two men – and all others under sentence of death in Saudi Arabia – as a matter of urgency, with a view to abolishing the death penalty;
- Reminding the authorities that, pending full abolition, they should act in accordance with international minimum standards and limit the use of the death penalty to "most serious crimes", which do not include drugs-related offences; likewise, they should abide fully with the UN Safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty, which state that capital punishment may only be imposed after a fair trial in which the defendant is provided with "adequate legal assistance at all stages of the proceedings".

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 20 DECEMBER 2012 TO:

King

His Majesty King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud
The Custodian of the two Holy Mosques
Office of His Majesty the King
Royal Court, Riyadh
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Fax: (via Ministry of the Interior)
+966 1 403 3125 (please keep trying)

Salutation: Your Majesty

Minister of the Interior

His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Naif bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud
Ministry of the Interior, P.O. Box 2933,
Airport Road, Riyadh 11134
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Fax: +966 1 403 3125 (please keep trying)

Salutation: Your Royal Highness

And copies to:

Governor of al-Jawf Province

His Highness Prince Fahed Bin Bader bin Abdul Aziz Al Saud
Sakaka, al-Jawf Province
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Email: 61300@aljouf.gov.sa

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

So far in 2012, at least 65 people have been executed in Saudi Arabia, 21 of them for drug-related offences. There has been a marked increase in executions for these offences over the past two years, which comprised 11 of 89 total executions in 2011 and only one of 27 executions in 2010.

Saudi Arabia applies the death penalty for a wide range of offences. Court proceedings fall far short of international standards for fair trial. Defendants are rarely allowed formal representation by a lawyer, and in many cases are not informed of the progress of legal proceedings against them. They may be convicted solely on the basis of confessions obtained under duress or deception. Amnesty International has grave concerns for more than 100 prisoners who are currently known to be under sentence of death in the country.

In a report published in 2008 on the use of the death penalty in Saudi Arabia, Amnesty International highlighted the extensive use of the death penalty as well as the disproportionately high number of executions of foreign nationals from developing countries. For further information please see *Saudi Arabia: Affront to Justice: Death Penalty in Saudi Arabia* (Index: MDE 23/027/2008), 14 October 2008: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/report/saudi-arabia-executions-target-foreign-nationals-20081014>

Name: Ibrahim bin Mohammad bin Saghir Hassan, Jum'a Ali al-Talib
Gender m/f: m

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