

**PUBLIC**

**AI Index: ASA 33/042/2006**

**16 October 2006**

**Further Information on UA 118/06 (ASA 33/014/2006, 04 May 2006) and follow-ups (ASA 33/019/2006, 24 May 2006; ASA 33/030/2006, 21 July 2006; ASA 33/031/2006, 04 August 2006; ASA 33/034/2006, 18 September 2006; ASA 33/041/2006, 16 October 2006) - Imminent Execution**

**PAKISTAN**

**Mirza Tahir Hussain (m)**

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A new execution date of Wednesday 1 November 2006 has been announced for Mirza Tahir Hussain. He had been granted a stay of execution until 1 October 2006, and the scheduling of his execution was further delayed by the Pakistani tradition of not holding executions during the Muslim holy month of Ramadhan.

Mirza Tahir Hussain was tried and convicted of murdering taxi driver Jamshid Khan while travelling to the village of Bhubar from Rawalpindi on 17 December 1988. The taxi driver reportedly stopped the car, produced a gun and attempted to physically and sexually assault Mirza Tahir Hussain who was 18 years old at the time. In the scuffle that followed, the gun went off, and the taxi driver was fatally injured.

Amnesty International has been campaigning for the commutation of Mirza Tahir Hussain's death sentence, which was handed down by the Federal Shariat Court of Pakistan in 1998 and upheld by the Supreme Court in 2004. Amnesty International believes that Mirza Tahir Hussain has been the victim of an unfair trial and that the death penalty should under no circumstances be upheld in such cases.

Amnesty International, along with a number of other notable organisations, is continuing to call on President Musharraf to use his powers under Article 45 of the Constitution of Pakistan to commute his death sentence. Article 45 clearly states: "The President shall have power to grant pardon, reprieve and respite and to remit, suspend or commute any sentence passed by a court, tribunal or authority".

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

- calling on the President use his powers under article 45 of the Constitution to commute Mirza Tahir Hussain's death sentence, he has been the victim of an unfair trial;
- noting that Amnesty International has observed a recent surge in executions in Pakistan, and urging the President to make all possible efforts to join a worldwide trend towards the abolition of the death penalty in law and practice.

**APPEALS TO:**

President Pervez Musharraf  
Pakistan Secretariat  
Islamabad, Pakistan

**Fax:** + 92 51 9221422 (please keep trying)

**Email: via website:** <http://www.presidentofpakistan.gov.pk/WTPresidentMessage.aspx>

**Salutation:** Dear President Musharraf

**COPIES TO:**

Please send copies of this appeal to well known Muslim clerics in your country who may be able to make statements condemning Mirza Tahir Hussain's execution based on principles of justice and fair trial.

Please also send copies of this appeal to diplomatic representatives of Pakistan accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.**