

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Death Penalty

5 July 1994

**MALAYSIA**

**Abdul Rahman Ibrahim, farmer**

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On 27 June 1994 the Supreme Court dismissed the appeal of Abdul Rahman Ibrahim. He had been sentenced to death on 30 March 1991 for trafficking in 293.04 grams of cannabis. Amnesty International does not know when the offence took place or when Abdul Rahman Ibrahim was arrested.

Abdul Rahman Ibrahim's only hope for a pardon or commutation now resides with the Head of State for Penang.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

In Malaysia, the death penalty is mandatory for a number of offences: murder, drug-trafficking, unauthorised possession of firearms and use of firearms with intention to cause injury or death.

In 1975 the Dangerous Drugs Act of 1952 was amended, making the death penalty the maximum sentence for drug-trafficking. Since April 1983 the death penalty has been mandatory for drug-trafficking on conviction of possession of 15 grams of heroin or morphine, 200 grams of cannabis, or 1,000 grams of opium.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams, faxes and airmail letters either in English or in your own language:**

- expressing concern at the imposition of the death penalty on Abdul Rahman Ibrahim and urging that the sentence be commuted;
- stating that Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

**APPEALS TO**

Head of State for Penang

TYT Tun Haji Hamdan Sheikh Tahir  
Istana  
Georgetown  
Pulau Pinang  
MALAYSIA

**Faxes: +60 4 37 55 05**

**Telegrams: Head of State for Penang, Pulau Pinang, Malaysia**

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Prime Minister

YAB Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad  
Prime Minister's Department  
Jalan Dato' Onn  
50502 Kuala Lumpur  
MALAYSIA

**Faxes: +60 3 238 3784; +60 3 238 7214; +60 3 238 7215**

Minister of Justice

Datuk Syed Hamid bin Syed Jaafar Albar  
Ministry of Justice  
21st-22nd Floor  
Bangunan Kuwasa  
Jalan Raja Laut  
50506 Kuala Lumpur  
MALAYSIA  
**Faxes: +60 3 292 4754**

and to diplomatic representatives of Malaysia accredited to your country

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 15 August 1994.