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UA 181/04 <u>Imminent Execution</u>

PAKISTAN Three brothers: Waheed, Saeed and Khursheed

Three brothers, Waheed, Saeed and Khursheed (their surname is currently unknown) are scheduled to be executed on 25 May 2004 at Mianwali District Jail, Punjab province. The final hope for the three brothers is that they are granted clemency by the President of Pakistan.

The men were each found guilty of the murder of two brothers, Mohammed Bashir and Mohammad Sagheer. Appeals to overturn their death sentences have been rejected by the higher judiciary, and all other legal avenues have been exhausted.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At the end of 2003 there were 6,593 people on death row in Pakistan; in the province of Punjab every third prisoner was waiting to be hanged. Eighteen people were executed in Pakistan during 2003.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases. The death penalty has not been shown to have any special deterrent effect, it carries the risk of irrevocable error, and it is a symptom of a culture of violence, not a solution. It is the ultimate form of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and a violation of the right to life, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments.

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

-urging that President Musharraf uses his powers under article 45 of the Constitution of Pakistan to commute the death sentences of Waheed, Saeed and Khursheed, who are due to be executed in Mianwali District jail, Punjab on 25 May 2004;

-calling for an immediate moratorium on the use of the death penalty in Pakistan, pending its abolition.

APPEALS TO:

President

Pervez Musharraf Office of the President Islamabad, Pakistan

Telegram: President Pervez Musharraf, Islamabad, Pakistan

Fax: + 92 51 922 4768 (there may be a delay before the fax tone engages)

Email: ce@pak.gov.pk

Salutation: Dear President Pervez Musharraf

COPIES TO: Diplomatic representatives of Pakistan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 25 May 2004.