

PUBLIC

AI Index:ASA 33/020/201

1 August 2001

Further information on Extra 40/01 (ASA 33/017/2001, 4 July 2001) and follow-up (ASA 33/019/2001, 10 July 2001) - Death penalty / imminent execution

**PAKISTAN**Rubina Khan [f]

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A new execution date of 5 August has been set for Rubina Khan, who was convicted of murdering an elderly woman in her home. She denies claims that she has confessed and maintains her innocence. The family of the victim is reportedly unwilling to forgive the crime. Under Pakistan's legal code, this means that Rubina Khan's death sentence cannot be commuted.

Amnesty International has recently received copies of the 1999 Anti-Terrorism Court judgment imposing the death penalty on Rubina Khan, and the High Court and the Supreme Court judgments upholding her conviction and death sentence. From these, doubts appear about her guilt. Strong evidence also indicates that international standards for fair trial were grossly violated during her trial.

Amnesty International calls on the President to stay Rubina Khan's execution in order to allow time for the Chief Justice to examine the legal issues in the case. The organization further calls on the Chief Justice to take the case up as a human rights case, and to allow for a regular court to review the conviction and sentencing of Rubina Khan.

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English or in your own language:**

- urging the President to further stay the execution of Rubina Kahn;
- urging the authorities to abolish the death penalty, pointing out that it violates the right to life and the prohibition of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment;
- calling on the Government of Pakistan to ratify human rights instrument aiming to abolish the death penalty such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights and its Second Optional Protocol.

**APPEALS TO:**

President & Chief Executive of Pakistan  
General Pervez Musharraf  
Pakistan Secretariat  
Islamabad  
Pakistan  
**Telegrams:President, Islamabad, Pakistan**  
**Faxes:+ 92 51 922 4768**  
**E-mail:CE@pak.gov.pk**  
**Salutation:Dear President**

**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 1 September 2001.