

PUBLIC

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16 December 1999

Further information on EXTRA 144/99 (ASA 39/03/99, 13 October 1999) and follow-up (ASA 39/05/99, 24 November 1999) - Fear of imminent execution

**KINGDOM OF THAILAND** 16 people on death row

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Amnesty International has learnt that 30 people on death row had their sentences commuted to life imprisonment as part of a Royal Amnesty on the occasion of the 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej on 5 December 1999. According to reports 16 people who have exhausted all their appeals remain on death row. More than 100 people sentenced to death have still to complete the appeals procedure.

On 23 November the Supreme Court upheld the death sentence imposed on two Israeli nationals - Yosef Ohana and Avraham Huri - for heroin trafficking. They now have 60 days to appeal for clemency. Four other foreign nationals from Hong Kong, Myanmar, Nigeria and Taiwan are reported to be on death row.

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

- welcoming the commutation of 30 people's death sentences as part of the Royal Amnesty on the occasion of the birthday of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej;
- expressing concern that 16 people who have exhausted all their appeals against their death sentences remain on death row and may be scheduled for execution;
- urging the authorities to establish an immediate moratorium on all executions, to commute all outstanding death sentences, and to take steps to remove the death penalty from all legislation, in line with international standards and recommendations from the United Nations Commission for Human Rights adopted in its most recent resolution in April 1999.

**APPEALS TO:**

Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai  
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Government House  
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Bangkok 10300  
Thailand

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**Faxes: + 66 2 280 1443**

**Salutation: Dear Prime Minister**

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Ministry of Interior  
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**Salutation: Dear Minister**

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and to diplomatic representatives of the Kingdom of Thailand accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 27 January 2000.