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EXTRA 180/99 Death Penalty / Fear of imminent execution17 December 1999

TAJIKISTAN Davlatali HUSENOV (_____), J. KHOJAYEV (__. ____)

Amnesty International is concerned that Davlatali Husenov and J. Khojayev face imminent execution.

The two men were sentenced to death by the Khatlon Regional Court after they were convicted of organizing an illegal armed group and committing serious crimes including murder, robbery and rape.

Information about such cases in Tajikistan is extremely difficult to get. As a result it is very hard to ascertain the time between sentencing and possible execution.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases and without reservation, on the grounds that it is a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Amnesty International is appealing to the President of Tajikistan to exercise his constitutional authority to commute these death sentences.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Criminal Code of the former Soviet republic of Tajikistan has 15 articles carrying a possible death sentence. During this year at least nine death sentences have been handed down and two people executed, although the real number may be much higher. News of these executions seems to confirm that a reported *de facto* moratorium on the death penalty is no longer in place in Tajikistan.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/E-mails/faxes/express/airmail letters in Russian or in your own language:

- urging the President to use his constitutional authority to commute the death sentences passed on Davlatali Husenov and J. Khojayev as well as all other death sentences that come before him;

- urging that a moratorium be imposed on death sentences and executions pending a comprehensive review of the death penalty;

- expressing sympathy for the victims of crime and their families, but pointing out that the death penalty has never been shown to deter crime more effectively than other punishments, and is brutalizing to all those involved in its application.

APPEALS TO:

President of the Republic of Tajikistan, Imamali Sharipovich RAKHMONOV Respublika Tajikistan, g. Dushanbe, Apparat Prezidenta Respubliki Prezidentu RAKHMONOVU I.Sh. TAJIKISTAN Telegrams: Prezidentu Rakhmonovu, Dushanbe, Tajikistan E-mails: primer@pds.td.silk.org Salutation: Dear President Rakhmonov

Procurator General of the Republic of Tajikistan, Salomiddin SHAROPOV 734022 g. Dushanbe, prospekt A. Sino, 126, Prokuratura Respubliki Generalnomu prokuroru SHAROPOVU S. TAJIKISTAN Telegrams: Generalnomu prokuroru, Dushanbe, Tajikistan Salutation: Dear Procurator General

<u>Chair of the Clemency Commission of the Tajikistan Supreme Council</u> 734051 g. Dushanbe, pr. Rudaki, 42, Komissiya po voprosam pomilovaniya Verkhovnogo Soveta Predsedatelyu

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TAJIKISTAN

Telegrams: Predsedatelyu, Komissiya pomilovaniya, Dushanbe, Tajikistan Salutation: Dear Chairman

COPIES TO:

Chairman of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Tajikistan, Ubaydulo. A. DAVLATOV g. Dushanbe, Verkhovny Sud Respubliki Tajikistan Predsedatelyu DAVLATOVU U.A. TAJIKISTAN

Telegrams: Predsedatelyu, Verkhovny sud, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Chairman of the Tajikistan Supreme Council Committee for Legislation and Human Rights, Abdumannon KHOLIKOV 734051 g. Dushanbe, pr. Rudaki, 42, Komitet po zakonodatelstvu i pravam cheloveka pri Majlis Oli Predsedatelyu KHOLIKOVU S. TAJIKISTAN

Telegrams: Predsedatelyu, Komitet po pravam cheloveka, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan, Talbak Nazarovich NAZAROV 734051 g. Dushanbe, Rudaki 42, Ministerstvo inostrannykh del Ministru NAZAROVU T. TAJIKISTAN Telegrams: Ministru inostrannykh del, Dushanbe, Tajikistan + 7 3772 23 29 64 / + 7 3772 21 02 59 Faxes:

Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan to Russia, R.Z. MIRZOYEV 121069 g. Moskva, Skatertny per. 19, Posolstvo Respubliki Tajikistan, Poslu MIRZOYEVU R.Z. ROSSIYSKAYA FEDERACIYA Telegrams: Poslu Tajikistana, Skatertny 19, Moscow, Russia Faxes: + 7 095 290 06 09

and to diplomatic representatives of Tajikistan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.

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