

PUBLIC

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Death Penalty

19 October 1998

**JORDAN 'Abir Ibrahim, aged 24 and  
Rasha Ibrahim, aged 19, Egyptian nationals**

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In October 1998 the Court of Cassation ratified the death penalties passed on 'Abir and Rasha Ibrahim on 27 May 1998. The two Egyptian sisters had been sentenced to death by the Amman Criminal Court, having been found guilty of the murder of Fakhrieh Kurdi on 8 July 1997. Now the sentence is to be submitted to Crown Prince Hassan bin Talal for ratification.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Amnesty International does not condone violent crime, but opposes the death penalty in all cases as the ultimate form of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Capital punishment has never been shown to have a deterrent effect and the sentence is irrevocable.

Three persons have already been executed in Jordan this year. Mustafa 'Abd al-Mustafa was executed last week, on 15 October. Last year, at least 11 death sentences were carried out. Five women have been put to death in Jordan during the past five years.

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

- expressing sympathy for the victims of violent crimes and their families and acknowledging the role of governments in bringing the perpetrators of such crimes to justice, but expressing unconditional opposition to the death penalty, which has never been shown to have a unique deterrent effect and which is brutalizing to all involved in its application;
- urging His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan bin Talal to commute the sentence of death on 'Abir and Rasha Ibrahim and on all other persons sentenced to death;
- urging that no more executions be carried out in Jordan and that the government work towards abolishing the death penalty in the present year of the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

**APPEALS TO:**

His Royal Highness  
Crown Prince Hassan bin Talal  
Office of H.M. the King  
Royal Palace  
Amman  
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  
**Telegrams: Crown Prince Hussan, Amman, Jordan**  
**Faxes: + 962 6 463 4755**  
**Salutation: Your Royal Highness**

Dr Fayez Tarawneh  
Prime Minister and Minister of Defence  
Office of the Prime Minister  
P.O.Box 1577  
Amman  
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  
**Telegrams: Prime Minister, Amman, Jordan**  
**Faxes: + 962 6 464 2520**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Jawdat Sboul  
Minister of Justice  
Ministry of Justice  
P.O.Box 6040  
Amman  
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  
**Telegrams: Justice Minister, Amman, Jordan**  
**Faxes: + 962 6 462 9949**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Nayef al-Kadi  
Minister of Interior  
Ministry of Interior  
P.O.Box 100  
Amman  
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  
**Telegrams: Interior Minister, Amman, Jordan**  
**Faxes: + 962 6 560 6908**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

**COPIES TO:**

diplomatic representatives of Jordan accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 November 1998.

***"Every human being has the inherent right to life."***

*Article*

*6, Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

Visit the Amnesty International UDHR campaign website on <http://www.amnesty.excite.com>