

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 21/002/2001

16 January 2001

Further information on Extra 90/00 (MDE 21/27/00, 08 December 2000) - Death penalty/fear of imminent execution/unfair trial

PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

'Alan Bani 'Odeh, labourer

'Alan Bani 'Odeh was executed by firing squad in the town of Nablus on 13 January.

He had been sentenced to death by the Higher State Security Court in Nablus on 7 December 2000 after an unfair trial, which lasted less than three hours. He was charged with collaborating with the Israeli security services in the killing of his cousin, Ibrahim Bani 'Odeh, who was killed by a car bomb on 23 November 2000.

'Alan Bani 'Odeh was not given the opportunity to appeal to a higher court against his death sentence, in violation of international standards for fair trial. The order for his execution was signed by President Yasser Arafat on Friday 12 January 2001.

Many thanks to all those who sent appeals on behalf of 'Alan Bani 'Odeh. No further action is requested, but those who wish to do so may send a final round of telegrams/faxes/express/airmail letters, in English, Arabic or your own language:

- condemning the execution of 'Alan Bani 'Odeh as the ultimate form of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment;
- expressing concern that he did not receive a fair trial and that he was denied the right to appeal against the sentence to a higher court, in violation of international human rights standards;
- reminding the authorities that under international law, the imposition of the death penalty following an unfair trial and where there is no right of appeal to a higher court violates the right to life;
- urging that no more executions be carried out in the Palestinian Authority and that the authorities work towards abolishing the death penalty.

APPEALS TO:

President Yasser Arafat
Palestinian Authority
Al-Muntada
Gaza

Palestinian Authority

Telegrams: President Arafat, Palestinian Authority, Gaza

Faxes: + 972 8 282 2366 (when voice answers, please ask for fax tone)

Salutation: Dear President Arafat

Mr Freih Abu Meddein
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
Abu Khadra Building
Omar al-Mukhtar Street
Gaza

Palestinian Authority

Telegrams: Justice Minister, Palestinian Authority, Gaza

Faxes: + 972 8 286 7109

Salutation: Dear Minister

Mr Khaled al-Qidreh
Attorney General for the State Security Courts
Police Headquarters
Gaza
Palestinian Authority

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Telegrams: Khaled al-Qidreh, Police Headquarters, Gaza, Palestinian Authority
Faxes: + 972 8 282 4253 (when voice answers, please ask for fax tone)
Salutation: Dear Mr al-Qidreh

COPIES TO:

diplomatic representatives of Palestinian Authority accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.