



SULIAMON OLYFEMI NIGERIAN NATIONAL, AGED 31

Suliamon Olyfemi was sentenced to death in Saudi Arabia in 2004 or 2005 after being convicted of the murder of a policeman in September 2002. A migrant worker, he was one of 13 Nigerian nationals arrested and charged in connection with the murder. During the closed trial, which was conducted in Arabic, he had no access to legal representation or consular assistance and reportedly was not provided with adequate translation.

During interrogation, he was reportedly instructed to sign with his fingerprints statements that he could not read and whose contents were not clear to him. There is concern that these statements contained "admissions" that were then used as evidence against him in the trial. He is detained in Briman Prison in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

Suliamon Olyfemi has now exhausted all levels of appeal and there is concern that he could be executed at any time. One of the 12 other Nigerian men tried, Nurideen Sani, reportedly died in prison in September 2008. The exact circumstances of his death are unknown to Amnesty International, but reports indicate that he was not provided with adequate medical attention for his deteriorating health and that this may have been a contributing factor.

The exact sentences of the remaining 11 people are not clear. Some reports suggest that they were originally sentenced to five years' imprisonment and 500 lashes each. Other reports claim that the sentences have been changed three times since: they were increased first to seven years' imprisonment and 700 lashes each, then to 10 years' imprisonment and 1,000 lashes each, and finally to 15 years' imprisonment and 1,000 lashes each. There are concerns that the trial proceedings against them may not have concluded and that they are therefore at risk of being sentenced to death.

SULIAMON OLYFEMI HAS NOW EXHAUSTED ALL LEVELS OF APPEAL AND COULD BE EXECUTED AT ANY TIME

ACT NOW

Call on the Saudi Arabian Head of State to urgently:

Commute Suliamon Olyfemi's death sentence along with those of others currently on death row in Saudi Arabia as a step towards the abolition of the death penalty;

Ensure that Suliamon Olyfemi is able to exercise effectively his rights to judicial review and to seek a pardon;

Prevent the 11 Nigerian men from being flogged and ensure that any death sentences which may be passed on them are not carried out.

WRITE TO:

King Abdullah Bin 'Abdul 'Aziz Al-Saud Office of His Majesty The King Royal Court Riyadh, Saudi Arabia Tel/Fax: +966 1 488 2222 Salutation: Your Majesty

copies to:

Mr Turki bin Khaled Al-Sudairy President, Human Rights Commission PO Box 58889, Riyadh 11515

King Fahad Road, Building No.373 Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Fax: +966 1 4612061 Salutation: Mr Al-Sudairy Amnesty International International Secretariat Peter Benenson House 1 Easton Street London WC1X ODW United Kingdom www.amnesty.org October 2008 Index: MDE 23/033/2008





AFFRONT TO JUSTICE WHO ARE THE PEOPLE BEING EXECUTED IN SAUDI ARABIA?



