

**EXTERNAL (for general distribution)**

**AI Index: MDE 25/02/94  
Distr: UA/SC**

**UA 41/94      Death Penalty**

**9 February 1994**

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES:      Name unknown - Pakistani national**

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Amnesty International fears that a Pakistani national sentenced to death in the United Arab Emirates is at imminent risk of execution.

According to press reports he was sentenced to death on charges of drug trafficking and had his sentence confirmed by the Court of Appeal in Sharjah, the United Arab Emirates, (UAE) in January. Eleven others, also Pakistani nationals, received sentences of between 10 and 15 years' imprisonment. This is reportedly the first case in which the death sentence has been imposed for drug-trafficking offences in the UAE.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

No information is available regarding the trial and appeal procedures in this case. However, all death sentences must be referred to the President of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, who may exercise clemency, in accordance with the Constitution.

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

- expressing concern that this death sentence has been confirmed by the Sharjah Court of Appeal;
- explaining that the death penalty has not been shown to be an effective deterrent to drugs-related offences;
- explaining that Amnesty International considers the death penalty to be the most extreme form of cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment and a violation of the right to life;
- urging that the President of the United Arab Emirates exercise his right to grant clemency and commute this and any other outstanding death sentences.

**APPEALS TO:**

His Highness  
al-Shaykh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan  
President of the United Arab Emirates  
Ruler of Abu Dhabi  
Manhal Palace  
P O Box 280, Abu Dhabi, The United Arab Emirates  
Telexes: 22220 PALACE EM  
Salutation:      Your Highness

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:** diplomatic representatives of the United Arab Emirates accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 23 March 1994.