PUBLIC AI Index: MDE 31/04/00

Fear of e

YEMENNabil Saleh Jubayr

UA 168/00

Nabil Saleh Jubayr was reportedly sentenced to death on 17 June. His body is to be crucified for one day after execution. He was convicted of murder by a criminal court in Sana'a.

His defence lawyer immediately lodged an appeal.

Amnesty International's concern about Nabil Saleh Jubayr is heightened by an apparent trend in Yemen towards speedy executions after unfair trials. In March 1997 Muhammad Ahmad Mislah al-Nadhiri was executed five days after he was first sentenced to death by the Court of First Instance. Later that year two other men were executed five months after they were sentenced to death and crucifixion. In both cases, the defendants were reportedly denied adequate opportunity to present a defence.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

While Amnesty International recognizes the rights and responsibilities of all governments to bring to justice those suspected of criminal offences, it is unconditionally opposed to the death penalty in all cases as the ultimate violation of the right to life, as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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

- expressing concern at the death sentence and crucifixion, and urging that it be commuted if upheld on appeal;
- acknowledging the Yemeni government's right to bring to justice anyone found responsible for recognizably criminal offences, but expressing your unconditional opposition to the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life;
- reminding the government of international standards for fair trial in capital cases, including the right to legal assistance at all stages of the proceedings, the right to appeal, and the right to seek pardon or commutation of the sentence.

APPEALS TO:

General 'Ali 'Abdullah Saleh President of the Republic of Yemen Sana'a

Republic of Yemen

Telegrams: President 'Ali 'Abdullah Saleh, Sana'a, Yemen

Telexes: 2422 RIASAH YE Faxes: +967 1 274 147

Salutation: Your Excellency

Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani
Prime Minister of the Republic of Yemen
Sana'a

Republic of Yemen Faxes: +967 1 282 669

Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Interior
Hussain Muhammad 'Arab

Ministry of Interior Sana'a

Republic of Yemen

Telegrams: Interior Minister, Sana'a, Yemen

Faxes: + 967 1 251 529 / 251 566

Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Justice Isma'il Ahmad Al-Wazir Ministry of Justice Sana'a, The Republic of Yemen

Telegrams: Justice Minister, Sana'a, Yemen

Faxes: + 967 1 252 138
Salutation:Your Excellency

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Yemen accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 1 August 2000.