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# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE 100/93

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**JORDAN: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REGRET OVER EXECUTIONS**

Amnesty International today said it had expressed deep regret to King Hussein of Jordan over the execution of four men on 14 August in the Swaga Reform and Rehabilitation Centre. The organization said that it was particularly discouraged by the news, as no executions had been recorded in Jordan in 1992. At least six executions have been carried out this year.

"We wrote to King Hussein in May 1993 welcoming human rights reforms in Jordan over recent years and asking him to maintain the encouraging trend of 1992 by exercising clemency in death penalty cases," Amnesty International said. "We are deeply saddened to see this return to the use of the death penalty and hope that this will not be followed by further executions."

The four men executed have not been fully identified. Two of them, Fathi, aged 48, and Muhammad, aged 50, had reportedly been convicted of spying for the enemy and of collecting classified information to be passed to the enemy. A death sentence passed on a third man implicated in the affair in absentia was also apparently ratified. The third man executed, identified as Ahmad and in his twenties, had been convicted of raping and murdering his mother. The fourth, Khaldun, also in his twenties, had been convicted of killing his father, stepmother and half-brother.

Amnesty International reiterated its appeals for clemency in all current and future death penalty cases.