

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AFR 32/14/91

Distr: UA/SC

23 April 1991

Further information on UA 79/91, AFR 32/09/91, 4 March 1991 , and follow-up AFR 32/11/91 (11 March 1991) - Fear of Torture/Legal Concern and Medical concern (new concern) :

**KENYA: Gitobu Imanyara, journalist, lawyer, human rights activist**

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On Friday 19 April 1991, Gitobu Imanyara, editor of The Nairobi Law Monthly, currently held in Kamiti prison awaiting trial on sedition charges, collapsed in a cell at the Nairobi Law Courts, where he was awaiting a ruling on his application for bail. He was not admitted to hospital but was taken back to prison where he is reportedly held in a cell with no bed, mattress or other furniture.

The medical officer at Kamiti prison in Nairobi, where Gitobu Imanyara is held, is reported to have said that Imanyara suffers from severe migraine headaches and has collapsed five times since his arrest as a result of his headaches, and risks developing epilepsy if the attacks continue.

Gitobu Imanyara was arrested on 1 March 1991 and charged with publishing a seditious publication, namely The Nairobi Law Monthly. He was also charged with publishing the magazine without proper government clearance. Amnesty International has appealed for his immediate and unconditional release as a prisoner of conscience.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters

- expressing concern at reports that Gitobu Imanyara has collapsed in court due to serious ill-health;
- appealing for him to be admitted to hospital for urgent medical treatment;
- renewing appeals for his release as a prisoner of conscience.

APPEALS TO:

President Daniel arap Moi  
President of the Republic of Kenya  
Office of the President  
P O Box 30510  
Nairobi, Kenya

Telegrams: President arap Moi, Kenya  
Telexes: 22003 FOREIGNRB or 22696 FOREIGNRB  
(via Ministry of Foreign Affairs)  
Faxes: + 254 2 33 7340 (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Mr Matthew Muli  
Attorney General  
Office of the Attorney General  
PO Box 40112  
Nairobi, Kenya

Telegrams: Attorney General Muli, Nairobi, Kenya  
Telexes: 22003 FOREIGNRB or 22696 FOREIGNRB  
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Faxes: + 254 2 33 7340 (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

COPIES TO:

Mr James Kanyotu  
Director of Dept of State Security Intelligence  
Kenya Police HQ  
PO Box 30083  
Kenya

Mr Philip Kilonzo  
Commissioner of Police  
Kenya Police HQ  
PO Box 30083  
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Mr James Mareka  
Commissioner of Prisons  
Kenya Prison Service HQ  
PO Box 30175  
Nairobi, Kenya

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat or your section office if sending appeals after 4 June 1991.