

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 79/91 (AFR 32/09/91, 4 March 1991) and follow-ups AFR 32/11/91 (11 March), AFR 32/14/91 (23 April) and AFR 32/16/91 (2 May) - Fear of Torture/Legal Concern/Medical Concern

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

Gitobu Imanyara, lawyer and editor/publisher of the Nairobi Law Monthly, was released from custody on Tuesday 28 May 1991, and all sedition charges against him have been dropped.

Gitobu Imanyara, arrested on 1 March 1991 and charged with publishing a seditious publication - the Nairobi Law Monthly - was held under armed guard in the Kenyatta National Hospital, where he was transferred from Kamiti maximum security prison on 24 April 1991. He had been taken to hospital following his collapse in court on 19 April 1991, and widespread expressions of concern about his state of health.

Gitobu Imanyara, who was previously arrested in July 1990 and detained for three weeks without charge or trial and was released, re-arrested and charged with publishing a seditious publication (again, the Nairobi Law Monthly), was considered by Amnesty International to be a prisoner of conscience.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Airmail letters:

- welcoming the release of Gitobu Imanyara considered by Amnesty International to be a prisoner of conscience, and the dropping of sedition charges against him.

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APPEALS TO:

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PO Box 40112
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COPIES TO:

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Mr James Mareka
Commissioner of Prisons
Kenya Prison Service HQ
PO Box 30175
Nairobi, Kenya

and to diplomatic representatives of Kenya in your country.

PLEASE SEND YOUR APPEALS AS SOON AS YOU CAN.