

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 168/90 (ASA 11/06/90, 1 May 1990) - Death Penalty

AFGHANISTAN: Seyed Hamza son of Seyed Mahboob

Seyed Hamza was sentenced to death by a Special Revolutionary Court in April/May 1988 for his alleged involvement in an armed confrontation with the government.

In August 1991 the Afghan government was reported to have agreed to release 25 Afghan Mujahideen prisoners in exchange for a Soviet prisoner held by a Mujahideen group inside Afghanistan. Following this agreement, released Mujahideen prisoners were flown to Pakistan by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Soviet prisoner, Qurban Ali Tashrifov, was handed over to a Soviet envoy in Pakistan.

We have now learned that among those released was Seyed Hamza son of Seyed Mahboob.

May we take this opportunity to thank you for all your efforts to stop the execution of Seyed Hamza's reported death sentence, which is believed to have been reduced to 20 years' imprisonment prior to his release.

No further action is required.