

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 36/002/2002

7 January 2002

Further information on EXTRA 34/01 (ASA 36/003/2001, 5 June 2001) and follow-up (ASA 36/001/2002, 4 January 2001) - Death penalty / Imminent execution

SINGAPORE Mohammed Ali Hashim (m), aged 53, Pakistani national
 Mohammed Afzal Khan (m), aged 49, Pakistani national

It is now known that Mohammed Afzal Khan is also due to be executed along with Mohammed Ali Hashim on 11 January 2002, following the rejection of their appeals for clemency by the President of Singapore. The two men were sentenced to death in January 2001 for trafficking in heroin.

The death penalty is mandatory in Singapore for drug trafficking, murder, treason and certain firearms offences. Executions are by hanging and take place on Friday mornings at dawn. Families of convicts are normally only informed of the impending execution one week beforehand.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or your own language:

- urging the President to reconsider his decision in the case of Mohammed Ali Hashim and Mohammed Afzal Khan and appealing to him to commute their death sentences;
- expressing sympathy for the victims of crime, but pointing out that if the executions are carried out, they will only cause more suffering for the relatives of Mohammed Ali Hashim and Mohammed Afzal Khan;
- expressing your unconditional opposition to the death penalty as a violation of one of the most fundamental of human rights - the right to life;
- recognizing the need to combat drug trafficking, but emphasizing that there is no proof that the death penalty deters would-be traffickers more effectively than other punishments, and appealing to the authorities to find a more humane way to tackle this problem.

APPEALS TO:

The President

His Excellency S R Nathan

Office of the President

Istana, Orchard Road

Republic of Singapore 0922

Telegrams: President S R Nathan, Singapore

Faxes: + 65 738 4673 [NB: please note corrected fax number]

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO:

The Prime Minister

The Honourable Goh Chok Tong

Office of the Prime Minister

Istana Annexe,

Orchard Road

Republic of Singapore 0923

Telegrams: Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, Singapore

Faxes: + 65 732 4627

Minister of Law

Professor Shanmugham Jayakumar

Ministry of Law

250 North Bridge Road

07-00 Raffles City Tower

Republic of Singapore 179101

Telegrams: Minister of Law, Singapore

Faxes: + 65 332 8842

Minister of Home Affairs

Wong Kan Seng

Ministry of Home Affairs

Phoenix Park

Tanglin Road

Republic of Singapore 247904

Telegrams: Minister of Home Affairs, Singapore

Faxes: + 65 734 4420

and to diplomatic representatives of Singapore accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.