

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 291/93 (EUR 60/15/93, 26 August 1993) - and follow-ups: EUR 60/18/93, 14 September and EUR 60/20/93, 14 October - Death penalty and new concern - Fair trial

TADZHIKISTAN: Adzhik ALIYEV, Islamic scholar
(in cyrillic _____)

Amnesty International has learned that the execution of political prisoner Adzhik Aliyev did not take place on 18 October 1993, as had been feared. He is still alive, but remains under threat of execution.

Amnesty International is concerned by new allegations that Adzhik Aliyev did not receive a fair trial. It has been reported that the main evidence against him was a confession which his lawyers allege he made under duress following his arrest in January 1993. It has also been reported that witnesses at the trial in August failed to place Adzhik Aliyev at the scene of crimes for which he was eventually convicted. Furthermore, Amnesty International remains concerned that for about four months of his pre-trial detention Adzhik Aliyev was not represented by a lawyer, and that this may have jeopardized the fairness of the investigation of his case and consequently his trial.

It has been reported that the defence lawyers are currently waiting for an official decision about whether a petition has been accepted for a review of the case against Adzhik Aliyev.

Unofficial sources have also pointed to pressure placed on the judge by people attending Adzhik Aliyev's trial, including relatives of people who died in the civil war, allegedly at the hands of Islamic forces. Sources report that during trial proceedings threats were shouted to burn down the Supreme Court building unless a death sentence was passed on Adzhik Aliyev.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express and airmail letters in Russian, English or your own language:

- calling on the Chairman of the Supreme Court and the Procurator General to order a judicial review of the case against Adzhik Aliyev, on the grounds that he has been sentenced to death following what Amnesty International fears was an unfair trial;
- calling on the Chairman of the Supreme Council (parliament) to commute the death sentence passed on Adzhik Aliyev should a petition for clemency come before him;
- calling for commutation of all pending death sentences in Tadzhikistan.

APPEALS TO:

1. The Chairman of the Supreme Court, Sh.D. Makhmudov

Respublika Tadjikistan
g. Dushanbe
Verkhovny sud Respubliki Tadjikistan
Predsedatelyu Khodizhayevu I.Kh.

Telegrams: Tadjikistan, Dushanbe, Verkhovny Sud, Predsedatelyu Makhmudovu Sh.D.

Salutation: Dear Chairman

2. The Procurator General, Mamadnazar Salikhov

Respublika Tadjikistan
g. Dushanbe
prospekt Pravdy, 4
Prokuratura Respubliki Tadjikistan
Generalnomu prokuroru Salikhovu M.

Telegrams: Tadjikistan, Dushanbe, Prokuratura Respubliki, Glav. prokuroru Salikhovu M.

Salutation: Dear Procurator General

3. The Chairman of the Supreme Council, Imamali Rakhmonov

Respublika Tadjikistan
g. Dushanbe
Verkhovny Sovet Respubliki Tadjikistan
Predsedatelyu Rakhmonovu I.

Telegrams: Tadjikistan, Dushanbe, Verkhovny Sovet, Predsedatelyu Rakhmonovu I.

Faxes: + 7 3772 22 69 71

Salutation: Dear Chairman

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Rashid Olimov
Respublika Tadjikistan
734051 Dushanbe
MID Respubliki Tadjikistan
Ministru Olimovu R.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 December 1993.