

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 203/93 (EUR 62/14/93, 22 June 1993) - Fear of Imminent Execution

**UZBEKISTAN:Venera KASIMOVA (female) (correct spelling) (in cyrillic _____
_____)
New name: Yashar KHASANOV (in cyrillic _____)**

Amnesty International fears that Venera Kasimova and Yashar Khasanov face imminent execution after having been sentenced to death in the former Soviet republic of Uzbekistan. Amnesty International has learned that Venera Kasimova and Yashar Khasanov were sentenced to death by the Criminal Cases Collegium of Tashkent City Court on 12 November 1992 for premeditated murder under Article 80 of the Uzbek Criminal Code. Venera Kasimova was accused of having planned the murders of two of her business acquaintances and Yashar Khasanov of having carried out these murders and concealed the bodies of the victims.

The Supreme Court of Uzbekistan turned down the appeal of Venera Kasimova and Yashar Khasanov against their death sentence on 19 April 1993. Their only hope of avoiding execution is a petition for clemency to the President of Uzbekistan, which is currently still pending. Both claim that their initial confessions were obtained under duress and they retracted their admissions of guilt in court.

Venera Kasimova was born on 31 July 1967 and worked as a teacher of Russian for foreign students at Lenin State University in Tashkent. After resigning from her post, she started dealing in imported foreign goods in short supply in Uzbekistan. She is separated from her husband and has two young children.

She has no previous convictions. Yashar Khasanov was born on 1 November 1966. He was a postal worker and has a previous conviction. He is married and has two young children.

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

- urging President Islam Karimov to grant clemency to Venera Kasimova and Yashar Khasanov, and to commute their death sentence;

- urging President Karimov to commute all other death sentences that come before him.

APPEALS TO:

1) The President of Uzbekistan, Islam Karimov:
Respublika Uzbekistan

g. Tashkent
pl. Mustakillik
Dom pravitelstva

Prezidentu Karimovu I.

Telegrams: Uzbekistan, Tashkent, dom pravitelstva, Prezidentu Karimovu I.

Faxes: + 7 3712 39 55 25 + 7 3712 39 54 00

Salutation: Dear President Karimov

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COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

1. Chairman of the Clemency Commission of the Uzbekistan Supreme Soviet,
Pulatov (first name unknown):

Respublika Uzbekistan

g. Tashkent

Verkhovny Sovet Respubliki Uzbekistan

Kommissiya po voprosam pomilovaniya

Predsedatelyu Pulatovu

2. Chairman of the Supreme Court of Uzbekistan, Ubaydulla Mingbayev:

Respublika Uzbekistan

g. Tashkent

ul. Kodiri, 1

Verkhovny Sud Respubliki Uzbekistan

Predsedatelyu Mingbayevu U.

3. Procurator General of Uzbekistan, Buritosh Mustafoyev:

Respublika Uzbekistan

g. Tashkent

ul. Gogolya, 66

Prokuratura Respubliki Uzbekistan

Generalnomu Prokuroru Mustafoyevu B.

4. Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan, Sadyk Safayev:

Respublika Uzbekistan

g. Tashkent

Ministerstvo inostrannykh del

Ministru Safayevu S.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat,
or your section office, if sending appeals after 24 September 1993.