

EXTERNAL

AI Index: EUR 62/30/95

4 December 1995

Further information on UA 383/94 (EUR 62/27/94, 24 October 1994) - Fear of imminent execution and new concern - Possible "disappearance"

UZBEKISTAN Valizhon Akhmedzhanovich AKHMEDZHANOV

Amnesty International has received reports that Valizhon Akhmedzhanov may have "disappeared" from death row in Uzbekistan.

Valizhon Akhmedzhanov, who worked as the deputy director of a brick factory in the town of Toytyuba in the Tashkent region, was sentenced to death by Tashkent Regional Court on 17 February 1994 for premeditated aggravated murder (Article 97 of the Uzbek Criminal Code). He maintained that he was innocent. The Presidium of the Supreme Court of Uzbekistan turned down his appeal on 18 October 1994 and a clemency petition was lodged with the President of Uzbekistan.

Valizhon Akhmedzhanov's relatives subsequently received a letter from the office of birth and death registration stating that Valizhon had died sometime in late October or early November 1995. The cause and circumstances of his death as well as the precise date were not given. It was assumed that his petition for clemency had been turned down by the President and that he had been executed.

However, Amnesty International has now received reports from unofficial sources in Uzbekistan that the official version is not true and that in fact Valizhon Akhmedzhanov is alive and has been transferred from death row in Tashkent to an unknown place of detention in or around the city of Bukhara and that he is being used for forced labour.

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

- in view of these conflicting reports, asking the authorities to clarify Valizhon Akhmedzhanov's fate and, if he is alive, make public his current whereabouts;
- urging the authorities to put an end to the agonizing uncertainty the families of death row prisoners are experiencing, as in this case, by keeping them fully and promptly informed about each stage of the prisoner's case.

APPEALS TO:

1. The President of Uzbekistan, Islam Karimov:

Respublika Uzbekistan
700000 g. Tashkent
pr. Uzbekistansky
Rezidentsiya Prezidenta
Prezidentu Karimovu I.A.

Telegrams: Uzbekistan, 700000 Tashkent, Prezidentu Karimovu I.

Telexes: 116116 BAHOR SU

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

Salutation: Dear President Karimov

2. Procurator General of Uzbekistan, Buritosh Mustafoyev:

Respublika Uzbekistan
700000 g. Tashkent
ul. Gogolya, 66

Prokuratura Respubliki Uzbekistan
Generalnomu Prokuroru Mustafoyevu B.

Telegrams: Uzbekistan, Tashkent, Prokuratura, Gen. prokuroru Mustafoyevu B.

Salutation: Dear Procurator General

3. Minister of Internal Affairs of Uzbekistan, Zakirzhan Almatov:

Respublika Uzbekistan

700029 g. Tashkent

ul. G. Lopatina, 1

Ministerstvo vnutrennikh del Respubliki Uzbekistan

Ministru Almatovu Z.

Telegrams: Uzbekistan, Tashkent, Ministerstvo vnutrennikh del, Ministru

Almatovu Z.

Salutation: Dear Minister

COPIES TO:

Head of the Directorate of Corrective Labour Institutions,
Uzbek Ministry of Internal Affairs, Tokmanov (first name unknown)

Respublika Uzbekistan

700029 g. Tashkent

ul. G. Lopatina, 1

UITU MVD Respubliki Uzbekistan

Nachalniku Tokmakovu

Oliy Majlis Commissioner for Human Rights, Shavkat Urazayev

Respublika Uzbekistan

700008 g. Tashkent

pl. Mustakillik

Oliy Majlis Respubliki Uzbekistan

Upolmomochochennomu po pravam

cheloveka pri Oliy Majlis

Urazayevu Sh.

Chairman of the Oliy Majlis Commission on issues of Legislation, Legality,
Law and Order, name unknown

Respublika Uzbekistan

700008 g. Tashkent

pl. Mustakillik

Komissiya po voprosam zakonodatelstva, zakonnosti, prava i

poryadka pri Oliy Majlis

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Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan, Abdulaziz Komilov

Respublika Uzbekistan

700029 g. Tashkent

pl. Mustakillik, 5

Ministerstvo inostrannykh del

Ministru Komilovu A.

Faxes: +7 3712 394348 or 391545 or 391517

and to diplomatic representatives of Uzbekistan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 16 January 1996.