

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 235/91 (MDE 16/04/91, 12 July 1991) - Death Penalty

JORDAN: 'Abdullah Yusuf 'Abd al-Muhsen Mansur  
Qasi Subhi 'Abd al-Rahman Abu Salem  
Majed Hasan Dawud al-Saifi  
Muhammad Hasan Dawud al-Saifi  
Darar Mustafa Dawud al-Saifi

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During a visit to Jordan in mid-August 1991, Amnesty International delegates were informed by the Prime Minister that these five death sentences had been commuted to various terms of imprisonment.

Amnesty International publically welcomed the news of these commutations. The prisoners and their families first learned of the commutations through Amnesty International.

The five were charged with belonging to an illegal Palestinian organization; with possession and actual use of explosives for illegal purposes; and with possession for illegal purposes of automatic weapons. The charges were brought under the 1960 Penal Code, the 1953 Law on Explosives and the 1952 Law on Firearms and Ammunition. All five defendants were convicted in March 1991 by the Martial Law Court and sentenced to death.

Many thanks to all those who participated in this action. It has no doubt contributed to saving these prisoners' lives. No further action is now required.