

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 16/06/96

16 October 1996

Further information on UA 451/94 (MDE 16/06/94, 22 December 1994) and follow-up (MDE 16/04/95, 30 March 1995) - Death Penalty

JORDAN Abdullah Hushaikeh
Isma'il al-'Amayra
Zakaria Qassem
Muhammad 'Ali 'Issa
Muhammad Ahmad al-'Atharba
Suleiman 'Abd al-'Aal
Samir Taylakh
Yassin Zahra

On 28 September King Hussein bin Talal commuted to life imprisonment with hard labour the death penalty imposed on the eight people named above. Amnesty International welcomes these commutations.

The eight were first sentenced to death by the State Security Court on 21 December 1994. Charges included plotting to overthrow the government and bombings. On 29 March 1995 the Court of Cassation returned the case for retrial. On 19 July 1995 the State Security Court retried the case and confirmed the death sentences against the eight.

One final round of letters/faxes is requested, after which this Urgent Action will close. Many thanks to all who worked on this case.

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

- welcoming the commutations on the eight detainees sentenced to death;
- reiterating unconditional opposition to the death penalty and urging that no future death sentences be passed and that no further executions be carried out;
- urging the Jordan Government to abolish the death penalty and to sign the Second Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aimed at abolishing the death penalty.

APPEALS TO:

His Majesty King Hussein bin Talal
King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
The Royal Palace
Amman
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
Faxes: +962-6-634-755
Salutation: Your Majesty

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Jordan accredited to your country.