

PUBLIC

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Death pen

**JORDAN 'Abdallah Sa'di 'Abd al-Rahman al-Itbahi, 20, student**

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On 7 April 1999 the Criminal Court in Amman sentenced 'Abdallah Sa'di 'Abd al-Rahman al-Itbahi to death after finding him guilty of the December 1997 murder of Ra'ed Ibrahim.

The case will be reviewed by the Court of Cassation within 30 days. If the Court of Cassation upholds the death penalty, it must also be ratified by King 'Abdallah bin Hussein.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases as the ultimate form of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Capital punishment has never been shown to have a deterrent effect and the sentence is irrevocable.

Jordan executed at least nine people last year.

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English or Arabic or your own language:**

- expressing sympathy for the victims of violent crimes and their families and acknowledging the role of governments in bringing the perpetrators of such crimes to justice, but expressing unconditional opposition to the death penalty, which has never been shown to have a unique deterrent effect and which is brutalizing to all involved in its application;
- urging His Majesty King 'Abdallah bin Hussein to commute the death sentence on 'Abdallah Sa'di 'Abd al-Rahman al-Itbahi;
- urging that no more executions be carried out in Jordan and that the government work towards abolishing the death penalty.

**APPEALS TO:**

His Majesty  
King 'Abdallah bin Hussein  
Office of HM the King  
Royal Palace  
Amman  
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  
**Telegrams: King 'Abdallah bin Hussein, Amman, Jordan**  
**Faxes: + 962 6 463 4755**  
**Salutation: Your Majesty**

Abdel Raouf al-Rawabdeh  
Prime Minister and Minister of Defence  
Office of the Prime Minister  
PO Box 1577  
Amman  
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  
**Telegrams: Prime Minister, Amman, Jordan**  
**Faxes: + 962 6 464 2520**  
**Salutation: Dear Prime Minister**

Dr Hamzeh Haddad  
Minister of Justice  
Ministry of Justice

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PO Box 6040  
Amman  
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  
**Telegrams: Justice Minister, Amman, Jordan**  
**Faxes: + 962 6 462 9949**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

Nayef al-Kadi  
Minister of the Interior  
Ministry of the Interior  
PO Box 100  
Amman  
The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan  
**Telegrams: Interior Minister, Amman, Jordan**  
**Faxes: + 962 6 560 6908**  
**Salutation: Dear Minister**

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

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 25 May 1999.