
amnesty international

Death sentences and executions in 2003

6 April 2004

AI Index: ACT 50/006/2004

During 2003, at least 1,146 people were executed in 28 countries. At least 2,756 people were sentenced to death in 63 countries. These figures include only cases known to Amnesty International; the true figures were certainly higher.

Executions are known to have been carried out in the following countries in 2003:

BANGLADESH

BELARUS

BOTSWANA

CHAD

CHINA

CONGO (Democratic Republic)

CUBA

EGYPT

IRAN

IRAQ

JAPAN

JORDAN

KAZAKSTAN

KOREA (NORTH)

MONGOLIA

PAKISTAN

SAUDI ARABIA

SINGAPORE

SOMALIA

SUDAN

TAIWAN

THAILAND

UGANDA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

UZBEKISTAN

VIET NAM

YEMEN

ZIMBABWE

Death sentences are known to have been imposed in the following countries and territories in 2003:

ALGERIA	MALAYSIA
ARMENIA	MEXICO
BAHAMAS	MOROCCO
BANGLADESH	MYANMAR
BELARUS	NIGERIA
BELIZE	PAKISTAN
BURKINA FASO	PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY
BURUNDI	PAPUA NEW GUINEA
CAMEROON	PHILIPPINES
CHAD	QATAR
CHINA	RWANDA
CONGO (Democratic Republic)	SAINT LUCIA
CUBA	SAMOA
EGYPT	SAUDI ARABIA
ETHIOPIA	SINGAPORE
GHANA	SOMALIA
GUATEMALA	SRI LANKA
GUYANA	SUDAN
INDIA	SWAZILAND
INDONESIA	TAIWAN
IRAN	TAJIKISTAN
IRAQ	TANZANIA
JAMAICA	THAILAND
JAPAN	TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
JORDAN	UGANDA
KAZAKSTAN	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
KOREA (SOUTH)	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
KUWAIT	UZBEKISTAN
KYRGYZSTAN	VIET NAM
LAOS	YEMEN
LEBANON	ZAMBIA
MALAWI	

As in previous years, the vast majority of executions worldwide were carried out in a tiny handful of countries. In 2003, 84 per cent of all known executions took place in China, Iran, the USA and Viet Nam. In China, limited and incomplete records available to Amnesty International at the end of the year indicated that at least 726 people were executed, but the true figure was believed to be much higher: a senior Chinese legislator suggested in March 2004 that China executes "nearly 10,000" people each year. At least 108 executions were carried out in Iran. Sixty-five people were executed in the USA. At least 64 people were executed in Viet Nam.

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