

URGENT ACTION

EXECUTION POSTPONED, EXTRA PRESSURE NEEDED

Chandran s/o Paskaran was spared execution in Malaysia on 7 February after an outcry from human rights groups, including Amnesty International. However, he remains under sentence of death and at risk of execution if international pressure on the Malaysian authorities is not maintained.

On 19 February Amnesty International learned that **Chandran s/o Paskaran's** family, who are trying to get further information from the authorities, have been told by Kajang prisons officials to "wait" for another letter from the authorities. It is not clear whether the letter will inform them of another execution date. They have been given no other information since the postponement of his execution by hanging on 7 February.

Chandran s/o Paskaran was convicted of murder and sentenced to death on 16 April 2008. He has been imprisoned for the last 11 years in Kajang Prison, in the Selangor state of Malaysia.

On 5 February Chandran s/o Paskaran's family were notified of his imminent execution. They were allowed to visit him on 6 February, after 9am. Chandran s/o Paskaran has exhausted all his legal appeals and his clemency petition has been rejected by the Malaysian King.

Hundreds of people remain under sentence of death in Malaysia, where executions have been carried out in a secretive manner, without prior or posthumous announcements. Please continue to send appeals.

Please continue to write in English, Malaysian or your own language:

- Calling on the Malaysian Prime Minister to facilitate an official commutation of Chandran s/o Paskaran's and other prisoners' death sentences to terms of imprisonment;
- Urging the Malaysian Prime Minister to immediately take all the necessary steps to halt Chandran s/o Paskaran's execution and any other scheduled executions;
- Calling on the Malaysian Prime Minister to immediately establish a moratorium on executions as a first step towards abolition of the death penalty, as the government of Malaysia reviews its mandatory laws.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 2 APRIL 2014 TO:

Prime Minister Najib Razak

Office of the Prime Minister

Main Block, Perdana Putra Building

Federal Government Administrative

Centre, 62502 Putrajaya, Malaysia

Fax: +603 8888 3444 or +603 8888 3904

Email ppm@pmo.gov.my

Salutation: Dear Prime Minister

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date. This is the first update of UA 22/14. Further information:

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA28/001/2014/en>

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Lack of transparency surrounded the use of the death penalty in Malaysia in recent years. Executions are not announced to the public before or after they are carried out. Transparency on the use of the death penalty is an essential safeguard in death penalty cases, as it not only allows for informed and meaningful debates on the issue, but also gives the possibility of appeals being filed to ensure that due process has been followed.

Against international law, murder in Malaysia is mandatorily punished by death. The mandatory imposition of the death penalty denies judges the possibility of considering the mitigating circumstances of a case. A review of Malaysia's mandatory laws was announced in 2012.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty unconditionally, in all cases and all countries, without exception, regardless of the crime for which the person was condemned or the execution method the state uses. The death penalty violates the right to life and is the ultimate cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment.

Name: Chandran s/o Paskaran
Gender m/f: m

Further information on UA: 22/14 Index: ASA 28/002/2014 Issue Date: 19 February 2014