

URGENT ACTION

BAHRAIN SENTENCES TWO BANGLADESHIS TO DEATH

Two Bangladeshi men have been sentenced to death in Bahrain for murder. They have the right to appeal the sentence.

A High Criminal Court in the capital, Manama, sentenced two Bangladeshi men, **Salam Julas** and **Suzan Badsha**, both aged 29, to death on 22 March for the premeditated murder of another Bangladeshi national, Taher Antez, with the intention of robbing him.

According to local media reports, the two men had been charged in April 2013 with the premeditated murder of the victim in a row over prostitution earnings, residing in the country illegally and being involved in prostitution: cleaners found the victim's body inside a suitcase near a rubbish container. The two men admitted they had committed the murder before the public prosecution.

Please write immediately in English or Arabic:

- Urging the authorities not to execute the two Bangladeshi nationals and immediately establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty;
- Acknowledging the Bahraini government's responsibility to protect the public and bring to justice those who commit crimes, but insisting that this should always be done in accordance with international law and Bahrain's international human rights obligations;

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 5 MAY 2015 TO:

King

Shaikh Hamad bin 'Issa Al Khalifa
Office of His Majesty the King
P.O. Box 555
Rifa'a Palace, al-Manama, Bahrain
Fax: +973 1766 4587
Salutation: Your Majesty

Prime Minister

Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa
Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
P.O. Box 1000, al-Manama, Bahrain
Fax: +973 1753 3033
Salutation: Your Highness

Minister of Justice

Shaikh Khaled bin Ali al-Khalifa
Ministry of Justice and Islamic
Affairs
P. O. Box 450, Manama, Bahrain
Fax: +973 1753 1284
Salutation: Your Excellency

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.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Bahrain has applied the death penalty only a few times in the past few years. The last person executed in Bahrain was a Bangladeshi man, Jassim Abdulmanan, who was put to death in 2010. However, since 2011, at least 11 people have been sentenced to death, although some of the death sentences have since been quashed on appeal.

In December 2014, a record number of countries - 117 of the UN's 193 member states - voted in favour of the 5th UN General Assembly resolution on a moratorium on the use of the death penalty. Bahrain abstained, after having voted against the resolution in previous years.

The right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment are recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and other international human rights instruments. Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases without exception, regardless of the nature or circumstances of the crime, the guilt, innocence or other characteristics of the offender or the method used by the state to carry out executions. The death penalty violates the right to life as proclaimed in the UDHR. It is the ultimate cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment.

Names: Salam Julas, Suzan Badsha
Gender m/f: m

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