
amnesty international

Death Sentences and Executions in 1998

APRIL 1999

AI INDEX: ACT 51/01/99

DISTR: SC/DP

During 1998, at least 1,625 prisoners were executed in 37 countries and 3,899 people were sentenced to death in 78 countries. These figures include only cases known to Amnesty International; the true figures are certainly higher.

Death sentences are known to have been imposed in the following countries and territories in 1998:

AFGHANISTAN
ALBANIA
ALGERIA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
AZERBAIJAN
BAHAMAS
BANGLADESH
BARBADOS
BELARUS
BELIZE
BENIN
BOTSWANA
BURUNDI
CAMEROON
CHILE
CHINA
CONGO (Democratic Republic)
CUBA

DOMINICA
EGYPT
EQUATORIAL GUINEA
ETHIOPIA
GAMBIA
GRENADA
GUATEMALA
GUYANA
INDIA
INDONESIA
IRAN
IRAQ
JAMAICA
JAPAN
JORDAN
KAZAKSTAN
KENYA
KUWAIT

KYRGYZSTAN
LEBANON
LIBYA
MOROCCO
MYANMAR
NIGERIA
OMAN
PAKISTAN
PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY
PHILIPPINES
RUSSIAN FEDERATION
RWANDA
SAINT CHRISTOPHER & NEVIS
SAINT LUCIA
SAINT VINCENT & GRENADINES
SAUDI ARABIA
SIERRA LEONE
SINGAPORE
SOMALIA
SOUTH KOREA
SRI LANKA

MALAYSIA
MALI
MAURITANIA
SUDAN
TAIWAN
TAJIKISTAN
TANZANIA
THAILAND
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
TURKEY
TURKMENISTAN
UGANDA
UKRAINE
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
UZBEKISTAN
VIET NAM
YEMEN
YUGOSLAVIA (Federal Republic)
ZAMBIA
ZIMBABWE

Executions are known to have been carried out in the following countries in 1998:

AFGHANISTAN
BAHAMAS
BELARUS
CHINA
CONGO (Democratic Republic)
CUBA
EGYPT
ETHIOPIA
GUATEMALA
IRAN
IRAQ
JAPAN
JORDAN
KUWAIT
KYRGYZSTAN
LEBANON
NIGERIA
OMAN
PAKISTAN

PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY
RUSSIAN FEDERATION
RWANDA
SAINT CHRISTOPHER & NEVIS
SAUDI ARABIA
SIERRA LEONE
SINGAPORE
SOMALIA
SUDAN
SYRIA
TAIWAN
THAILAND
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
UZBEKISTAN
VIET NAM
YEMEN
ZIMBABWE

In 1998, 80 per cent of all known executions took place in China, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the USA and Iran. In China, 1,067 people were known to have been executed, although the true figure was believed to be much higher. Over 100 executions were carried out in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Sixty-eight people were executed in the USA. In Iran, 66 executions were reported, but the total was believed to have been higher. In addition, hundreds of executions were reported in Iraq, although Amnesty International was unable to confirm most of the reports.