

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: AFR 20/09/92

Distr: UA/SC

UA 254/92

Extrajudicial executions

5 August 1992

CHAD:

Faky Ali Ahmat, 52-year-old Quranic teacher

Abakar Chahadine, 13 years old

Abderkerim Arabi

Abderkerim Hissein

Dahié, 15 years old

Faky Amine

---

The six people mentioned above and one other unnamed person died from gunshot wounds on 1 August 1992 when members of the Chadian National Gendarmerie in the capital, N'Djamena, opened fire with automatic weapons on a group of people attending Quranic lessons in a mosque. The six died on the spot while one other unnamed person died in hospital. At least 14 others, including an eight-month-old baby, are reported to have sustained serious injuries caused by gunshots.

The authorities are reported to have sent a group of Gendarmes to arrest Faky Ali Ahmat (Faky is the title of a Quranic teacher) and his followers in a mosque at Diguel-Est, a suburb of the capital, N'Djamena, apparently because they had built a mosque on an unapproved site. Independent sources in N'Djamena have claimed that a senior Interior Ministry official instructed the Gendarmes to open fire if Faky Ali Ahmat resisted arrest. The Gendarmes reportedly opened fire, apparently without being attacked or their lives being at risk, when Faky Ali Ahmat refused to give himself up.

Following the killings, a Chadian government minister is reported to have said that the Gendarmes opened fire in self-defence. However, another government minister is reported to have publicly blamed officials of the Ministry of Interior for giving the Gendarmes permission to shoot if Faky Ali Ahmat resisted arrest.

Amnesty International is concerned that Faky Ali Ahmat and his followers were killed unlawfully and may have been victims of extrajudicial execution. Furthermore, the authorities are not known to have taken any measures to formally investigate the killings or to bring those responsible to justice. Amnesty International is also calling on the authorities to take urgent steps to prevent further killings of this sort. Following previous extrajudicial executions this year, no actions have been announced by the government to prevent their repetition.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Tens of thousands of people in Chad have been executed extrajudicially by members of the security forces since the country's independence in 1960. A commission of inquiry was set up by the current government in December 1990 to investigate human rights violations and other crimes perpetrated between 1982 and 1990 when former President Hissein Habré was in power. The commission published a report in May 1992 claiming that about 40,000 people had been executed extrajudicially under President Habré's rule.

Several hundred more have been executed extrajudicially since President Deby came to power

in December 1990. Many of them have been killed in custody or during attacks by members of the security forces on known or suspected government opponents. Most recently, in March 1992 several dozen people who were among Chadian nationals forcibly returned from Nigeria are reported to have been executed extrajudicially while in custody in N'Djamena. None of these unlawful killings has been the subject of any investigation in order to bring those responsible to justice. This seems to have convinced members of the security forces that they can continue to violate human rights, including the basic right to life, with impunity.

Page 2 of UA 254/92

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes and airmail letters:**

- expressing concern at the killings of Faky Ali Ahmat and six others by members of the security forces, observing that these were an extreme violation of human rights;
- calling for an independent and impartial public inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the killing of Faky Ali Ahmat and his followers, and the wounding of at least 14 others, and urging that those found responsible, including government officials, be brought to justice;
- expressing concern that the Chadian authorities have failed to order investigations into reports that hundreds of other Chadian nationals have been executed extrajudicially since December 1990, and urging that a commission of inquiry be set up to investigate the killings and make recommendations to the government on how such killings and other human rights violations can be avoided in future;
- expressing concern that recent killings in Chad show that the Chadian authorities have routinely allowed or condoned the use of lethal force by the security forces in circumstances which violate internationally recognized standards and recommending that standing orders on the use of force and firearms be urgently prepared and introduced, based on the United Nations Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials (adopted by the Eighth UN Congress of the UN General Assembly in Resolution 45/121 on 14 December 1990).

**APPEALS TO:**

1) President:  
Général Idriss DEBY  
Président de la République  
  
Présidence de la République  
N'DJAMENA, République du Tchad  
**Telegrams: President Deby, N'Djamena, Chad**  
**Telexes: 5201 PRESIREP KD;**  
**5307 PRESIREP KD**  
**Faxes: + 235 51 4501**  
**Salutation: Monsieur le President de la**  
**République/Dear President**

**Telegrams: Premier Ministre Yodoyman,**  
**N'Djamena, Chad**  
**Telexes: 5201 PRESIREP KD;**  
**5307 PRESIREP KD**  
**Faxes: + 235 51 4501**  
**Salutation: Monsieur le Premier Ministre/**  
**Dear Prime Minister**

2) Prime Minister:  
Monsieur Joseph YODOYMAN  
Premier Ministre

N'DJAMENA, République du Tchad

3) Minister of Justice:

Monsieur Youssouf TOGOIMI  
Monsieur le Ministre  
Ministre de la Justice, Garde des Sceaux  
Ministère de la Justice  
N'DJAMENA, République du Tchad  
**Telegrams: Ministre Justice, N'Djamena,  
Chad**

**Telexes: c/o 5328 MINAFFET KD**  
**Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre/  
Dear Minister**

4) Minister of Interior:

Monsieur Koibla DJIMASTA  
Ministre d'Etat à l'Intérieur  
Ministère d'Etat à l'Intérieur  
N'DJAMENA, République du Tchad  
**Telegrams: Ministre Intérieur, N'Djamena,  
Chad**

**Telexes: c/o 5328 MINAFFET KD**  
**Salutation: Monsieur le Ministre/  
Dear Minister**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

1) Minister of Defence:

Monsieur Nadjita BEASSOUMAL  
Monsieur le Ministre  
Ministre de la Défense nationale  
Ministère de la Défense nationale  
N'DJAMENA, République du Tchad

3) Newspaper:

Rédacteur-en-Chef  
N'Djamena-Hebdo  
11 Avenue Charles de Gaulle  
République du Tchad  
BP 760, N'Djamena, République du Tchad

2) Human Rights Organization:

Monsieur Djondang TCHAKNONE  
Président  
Ligue tchadienne des droits de l'homme  
BP 2037, N'Djamena, République du Tchad

and to diplomatic representatives of Chad accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 16 September 1992