

PUBLIC

AI Index: EUR 60/02/00

EXTRA 28/00 Fear of imminent execution/ death penalty/fear for safety/
harsh prison conditions 30 March 2000

TAJIKISTAN Dilfuza Numonova (_____), aged 21

Dilfuza Numonova is believed to be in danger of imminent execution. She was sentenced to death by Dushanbe City Court in January, at a reportedly unfair trial, for the November 1999 shooting of her lover, Kamil Kurbanov. On 14 March the Supreme Court upheld the death sentence. Her only hope of escaping execution is clemency from the President, who has the power to commute death sentences when all other appeals have been exhausted.

Dilfuza Numonova states that her confession was extracted under duress, and that she did not kill Kamil Kurbanov. She also claims that in prison she was forced to have an abortion, in late January. Under Tajik law pregnant women may not be executed. She was reportedly beaten several times in pre-trial detention, and is now held in very harsh conditions in Dushanbe City Prison. According to unofficial sources her health has deteriorated seriously.

Unofficial observers at her trial, at Dushanbe City Court, say it was unfair and biased. Kamil Kurbanov's relatives reportedly threatened the judge to force him to sentence Dilfuza Numonova to death. She was convicted of murder and illegal possession of firearms.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases and without reservation, as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Fifteen articles of the Criminal Code of Tajikistan carry the death penalty. In 1999, Amnesty International learned of at least 15 death sentences and two executions, but since no official statistics are published the real number may be much higher. It seems that a previously reported *de facto* moratorium on the death penalty is no longer in effect.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in Russian or your own language:

- urging the President to use his constitutional authority to commute the death sentence passed on Dilfuza Numonova, as well as all other death sentences that come before him;
- urging a moratorium on death sentences and executions until a comprehensive review of the death penalty is carried out;
- expressing concern at allegations that Dilfuza Numonova's confession was extracted by force;
- expressing concern at allegations that Dilfuza Numonova underwent a forcible abortion;
- urging the authorities to launch an independent and impartial investigation into the allegations of a forcible abortion and beatings in custody;
- urging the authorities to guarantee that Dilfuza Numonova is not ill-treated and ensure that she receives appropriate medical treatment.

APPEALS TO: (Please note that fax numbers are difficult to obtain. If a voice answers, repeat 'fax' until connected; otherwise it is advisable to leave your fax machine on auto-redial).

President of the Republic of Tajikistan

Imamali Sharipovich RAKHMONOV

Respublika Tajikistan, g. Dushanbe, Apparat Prezidenta Respubliki

Prezidentu RAKHMONOVU I.Sh.

TAJIKISTAN

Telegrams: Prezidentu Rakhmonovu, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

E-mail: primer@pds.td.silk.org
Salutation: Dear President Rakhmonov

Chair of the Clemency Commission of the Tajikistan Supreme Council
Respublika Tajikistan, 734051 g. Dushanbe, pr. Rudaki, 42; Komissiya po voprosam pomilovaniya Verkhovnogo Soveta Respubliki Tajikistan
Predsedatelyu
TAJIKISTAN

Telegrams: Predsedatelyu, Komissiya pomilovaniya, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
Salutation: Dear Chairman

Procurator General of the Republic of Tajikistan
Salomiddin SHAROPOV
Respublika Tajikistan, 734022 g. Dushanbe, prospekt A. Sino 126, Prokuratura Respubliki Tajikistan, Generalnomu prokuroru
SHAROPOVU S.
TAJIKISTAN

Telegrams: Generalnomu prokuroru, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
Salutation: Dear Procurator General

COPIES TO:

Chairman of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Tajikistan
Ubaydulo A. DAVLATOV
Respublika Tajikistan, g. Dushanbe, Verkhovny Sud Respubliki Tajikistan
Predsedatelyu DAVLATOVU U.A.
TAJIKISTAN

Chairman of the Tajikistan Supreme Council Committee for Legislation and Human Rights
Abdumannon KHOLIKOV
Respublika Tajikistan, 734051 g. Dushanbe, pr. Rudaki, 42; Komitet po zakonodatelstvu i pravam cheloveka pri Majlis Oli Respubliki Tadjikistan
Predsedatelyu KHOLIKOVU A.
TAJIKISTAN

Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan
Talbak Nazarovich NAZAROV
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Rossiyskaya Federatsiya, 121069 g. Moskva, Skatertnyy per., 19; Posolstvo Respubliki Tajikistan,
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and to diplomatic representatives of Tajikistan accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 27 April 2000.