

**EXTERNAL (for general distribution)**

**AI Index: EUR 62/16/95**

**Distr: UA/SC**

**EXTRA 57/95**

**Fear of imminent execution**

**17 May 1995**

**UZBEKISTAN**

**Rinat NAZIPOV, aged 27**

**( \_\_\_\_\_ in Russian)**

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Rinat Nazipov faces imminent execution after having been sentenced to death in the former Soviet republic of Uzbekistan. An appeal against his sentence has been turned down by the Supreme Court, and his only hope of avoiding execution now is a petition for clemency to the President of Uzbekistan.

Rinat Nazipov was sentenced to death by Tashkent City Court on 23 June 1994 for premeditated, aggravated murder (Article 80 of the Uzbek Criminal Code). The Presidium of the Supreme Court turned down his appeal against the death sentence on 5 September 1994. A petition for clemency has been lodged with the President of Uzbekistan.

Rinat Nazipov is married and has a three-year old daughter. Relatives report that Rinat Nazipov and his wife, both unemployed and destitute, were struggling to make ends meet and that Rinat was driven to armed robbery to feed his family.

During a struggle which ensued during his first attempted robbery Rinat Nazipov wounded the manager of a shop, who later died in hospital.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Criminal Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan retains the death penalty for 19 peacetime offences. However, senior officials told an Amnesty International delegation which visited Uzbekistan in April 1992 that regulations introduced in December 1991 reduced the number of offences which in practice still carry the death penalty to four: treason; murder under aggravating circumstances; murder of a minor; and aggravated rape. Execution is by shooting. The Minister of Justice told Amnesty International that the use of the death penalty in Uzbekistan was declining, but he was unable to provide the delegation with statistics.

Amnesty International has consistently pressed the Uzbek authorities to reduce the scope of the death penalty as a step towards total abolition; to impose a moratorium on death sentences and executions pending a review of this punishment; and to publish comprehensive statistics on the application of the death penalty.

Besides Rinat Nazipov featured in this Urgent Action, from unofficial sources Amnesty International currently knows of five other pending death sentences in Uzbekistan. At least five executions were carried out in 1994.

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/faxes/express and airmail letters either in Russian, English or in your own language:**

- expressing concern that Rinat Nazipov has been sentenced to death in Uzbekistan;
- urging President Islam Karimov to grant clemency to Rinat Nazipov, and to commute his death sentence;
- urging the authorities to make the outcome of appeals and petitions of clemency known to the relatives of prisoners on death row and to Amnesty International;

- urging President Karimov to commute all other death sentences that come before him.

**APPEALS TO**

The President of Uzbekistan, Islam Karimov:

Respublika Uzbekistan

g. Tashkent

pl. Mustakillik

Apparat prezidenta

Prezidentu Karimovu I.

**Telegrams:Uzbekistan, Tashkent, apparat prezidenta, Prezidentu Karimovu I.**

**Faxes:+ 7 3712 39 55 25 or + 7 3712 39 54 00 (can be difficult to get connection)**

**Salutation:Dear President Karimov**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

1. Chairman of the Clemency Commission of the Uzbekistan Supreme Soviet, Pulatov  
(first name unknown):

Respublika Uzbekistan

g. Tashkent

Verkhovny Sovet Respubliki Uzbekistan

Komissiya po voprosam pomilovaniya

Predsedatelyu Pulatovu

2. Chairman of the Supreme Court of Uzbekistan, Ubaydulla Mingbayev:

Respublika Uzbekistan

g. Tashkent

ul. Abdulla Kodiri, 1

Verkhovny Sud Respubliki Uzbekistan

Predsedatelyu Mingbayevu U.

3. Procurator General of Uzbekistan, Buritosh Mustafoev:

Respublika Uzbekistan

g. Tashkent

ul. Gogolya, 66

Prokuratura Respubliki Uzbekistan

Generalnomu Prokuroru Mustafoevu B.

4. Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan, Saidmukhtar Saidkasymov

Respublika Uzbekistan

g. Tashkent

Ministerstvo inostrannykh del

Ministru Saidkasymovu S.

and to diplomatic representatives of Uzbekistan accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 14 June 1995.