

AMENDED AI INDEX: MDE 16/10/91
(as amended by Archive Team)

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AI Index: MDE 60/10/91

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Further information on UA 411/91 (MDE 16/09/91, 25 November 1991) - Death Penalty/Unfair Trial

Jordan: Fu'ad Sulayman Fu'ad Da'na

Jawad Muhammad Sulayman al-Faqih

Habes 'Isa 'Abd al-Hafez Sanduqah al-Qaisi

Nabil Yusuf Muhammad Ahmad Abu Harthiyyah

Muhammad Tal'at Muhammad al-Dajani

Ziyad Yunes Talal Kashur

Isma'il Subhi 'Ubayd (*in absentia*)

Jamal Shaker 'Id Abu Jama' (*in absentia*)

On 4 December 1991 it was announced that the death sentences passed by the State Security Court on six of the prisoners named above have been commuted to life imprisonment by King Hussein bin Talal. The two men sentenced to death *in absentia* will have the opportunity of a retrial if arrested, according to Article 254 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

All the defendants were accused of belonging to an organization called *Jaysh Muhammad* (the Army of the Prophet Muhammad) and were convicted on charges including possession of explosives and automatic weapons, attempted murder, acts of terrorism and membership of an illegal violent organization.

Amnesty International welcomes the commutation of the death sentences. It is still calling for all defendants in this case to be granted a fair trial, specifically the right to appeal to a higher tribunal.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Airmail letters

- welcoming the commutation of the six death sentences;
- stressing that AI recognizes that governments are entitled to bring to justice people accused of violent offences, but opposes torture, unfair trials and the death penalty as a matter of principle;
- calling for all 20 defendants to be given the right to appeal to a higher tribunal against their conviction and sentence as laid out in Article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

APPEALS TO:

His Majesty King Hussein bin Talal

The Royal Palace
Amman , Jordan

[Salutation: Your Majesty]

His Excellency Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker
Prime Minister and Minister of Defence
Office of the Prime Minister
PO Box 80
Amman , Jordan

[Salutation: Your Excellency]

His Excellency Yusuf al-Mubayyidin
Minister of Justice
Ministry of Justice
PO Box 6040
Amman , Jordan

[Salutation: Your Excellency]

COPIES TO:

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan bin Talal
The Royal Palace
Amman , Jordan

Jordanian Bar Association
P O Box 588
Amman , Jordan

and to diplomatic representatives of Jordan in your country.

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