

PUBLIC

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03 May 2005

Further Information on UA 99/05 (MDE 31/006/2005, 26 April 2005) Imminent execution

YEMEN **Amina Ali Abdulatif (f) aged 21**
Muhammad Ali Said Qaba'il (m), aged 26

The execution of Amina Ali Abdulatif, which was scheduled to take place on 2 May, has been stayed pending a review of her case.

The Attorney General in Yemen has reportedly appointed a "special committee" to review Amina Ali Abdulatif's case. One of the aims of the review is to investigate whether Amina was indeed under 18 when she allegedly committed the crime. Her execution will be stayed until the committee submits its findings on the case to the Attorney General, who will then review her sentence. The Attorney General can recommend that the President commutes or ratifies her death sentence.

Amina Ali Abdulatif was sentenced to death when she was 16 years old for the murder of her husband. Her sentence was in breach of the Yemeni Penal Code, which expressly prohibits the use of the death penalty against anyone convicted of crimes committed when they were under 18.

There is no news on the case of Muhammad Ali Said Qaba'il, who was also sentenced to death for the murder of Amina Ali Abdulatif's husband.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or your own language:

- welcoming the stay of execution granted to Amina Ali Abdulatif, and the review of her case commissioned by the Attorney General;
- stressing that the Yemeni Penal Code prohibits the execution of people convicted of crimes committed when they were under 18;
- calling on the President to commute the death sentences passed against Amina Ali Abdulatif and Muhammad Ali Said Qaba'il;
- calling on the authorities to ensure that the review of Amina Ali Abdulatif's case includes an investigation into her rape, allegedly by a prison guard, and to guarantee that she is treated humanely while she is in prison.

APPEALS TO:

President
His Excellency General 'Ali 'Abdullah Saleh
President of the Republic of Yemen
Sanaa
Republic of Yemen
Fax: + 967 127 4147
Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Interior
His Excellency Dr Rashid Muhammad al-Alimi

Ministry of Interior
Sanaa
Republic of Yemen

Faxes: + 967 1 332 511

Salutation: Your Excellency

Minister of Human Rights

Her Excellency Amat al Aeem al Suswah
Ministry for Human Rights
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

Faxes: + 967 1 444 838

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO: diplomatic representatives of Yemen accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 14 June 2005.