

Wayne Update

28 July

UA: 189/14

Issue Date: 28 July 2014

Country: Iran

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa18914.pdf>

JOURNALIST HELD INCOMMUNICADO

Iranian journalist Saba Azarpeik has been detained in solitary confinement without access to her lawyer and family since 28 May. Her whereabouts are unknown, sparking fears that she may be at risk of torture and other ill-treatment. She is a prisoner of conscience.

Name: Saba Azarpeik (f)

Issues: Prisoner of conscience, Risk of ill-treatment/torture, Freedom of expression

UA: 190/14

Issue Date: 28 July 2014

Country: China

http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa19014_0.pdf

FAMILIES FACE FORCIBLE RETURN TO NORTH KOREA

A group of around 29 people, including a one-year-old baby, are at risk of being forcibly returned to North Korea after being detained in China. If returned to North Korea, they would be at serious risk of torture and other ill-treatment, forced labor and death.

Name: A group of 35 people (m/f)

Issues: Risk of ill-treatment/torture, Legal concern, Fear for safety

Further information on UA: 86/14 (11 April 2014) and updates (18 July 2014)

Issue Date: 28 July 2014

Country: Swaziland

http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f2u08614_0.pdf

TWO MEN SENTENCED TO TWO YEARS IN PRISON

On 25 July Bhekithemba Makhubu, editor of Swaziland's monthly news magazine The Nation and human rights lawyer Thulani Maseko were sentenced to two years in prison without the possibility of paying a fine.

Name: Thulani Maseko (m), Bhekithemba Makhubu (m) and Michael Ramodibedi (m), Mumcy Dlamini (f), Mpendulo Simelane (m)

Issues: Prisoners of conscience, Unfair trial, Freedom of expression

****No UAs issued 29 July**

30 July

UA: 191/14

Issue Date: 30 July 2014

Country: Pakistan

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa19114.pdf>

AHMADIYYA COMMUNITY ATTACKED, THREE KILLED

A mob burned down the homes of a small Ahmadiyya community in Pakistan's Punjab province on 27 July, after a resident was accused of blasphemy. Two children and their grandmother died of smoke inhalation and several others were seriously injured.

Name: Ahmadiyya community (m/)

Issues: Freedom of expression, Fear for safety, Persecution

Wayne Update

30 June

Further information on UA: 136/14 (21 May 2014) and updates (13 June 2014)

Issue Date: 30 June 2014

Country: Sudan

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f2u13614.pdf>

THREE ACTIVISTS IN DETENTION WITHOUT CHARGE

Three Sudanese activists remain in detention without charge in Khartoum's Kober prison. Their family members say they show signs of having been tortured and otherwise ill-treated.

Name: Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman (m), Moamar Musa Mohamed (m), Taj Alsir Jaafar (m)

Issues: Risk of torture/ill-treatment, Arbitrary detention, Unjust imprisonment

Further information on UA 253/13 (7 September 2013) and updates (20 September 2013)

Issue Date: 30 June 2014

Country: Sudan

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f2u25313.pdf>

WOMEN'S RIGHTS ACTIVIST CONTINUES TO FACE CHARGES

Amira Osman Hamed, a Sudanese women's rights activist, continues to face charges of 'indecent dress' for refusing to wear her headscarf. Charges against her must be dropped and the law under which she was charged abolished.

Name: Amira Osman Hamed (f)

Issues: Women's rights, Freedom of expression, Legal concern

****Stop Action****

Further information on UA: 118/14 (13 May 2014) and update (16 May 2014)

Issue Date: 30 June 2014

Country: Sudan

MERIAM IBRAHIM RELEASED, OTHER CHARGES PENDING

Meriam Yeyha Ibrahim, a Sudanese Christian and mother of two, was released from prison on 23 June after her sentence to flogging and death was reversed by an appeals court. She is now with her family in the United States Embassy in Khartoum but is unable to leave Sudan due to further charges against her. Meriam Yehya Ibrahim was sentenced to death by hanging for 'apostasy', and to flogging for 'adultery' on 15 May. Her case originated in August 2013 when she was charged with adultery, allegedly after relatives reported her to authorities for her marriage to a Christian man. Under Shari'a law as practised in Sudan, a Muslim woman is not permitted to marry a non-Muslim man, and any such marriage is considered adultery.

Meriam was detained in February after the court added the charge of apostasy when Meriam informed the court that she had been raised by her mother as an Orthodox Christian. On 11 May the court gave her three days to renounce her Christian faith or she would be sentenced to death, an option that Meriam rejected.

At the time of her trial Meriam was eight months pregnant. On 27 May she gave birth to her second child in the clinic of Omdurman Women's Prison where she was detained. Her 20-month-old son was detained with her.

Meriam's case attracted widespread international attention with over one million people responding to Amnesty International's appeal for her release. On 23 June she was released from prison after her sentence was overturned by an appeals court. The following day Meriam had intended to fly to the United States along with her two children and husband, who holds dual South Sudanese and American nationality. She was detained at Khartoum Airport by a group of 40 agents from the National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS) and taken into custody for questioning in relation to her travel documents. Her family accompanied her. On 25 June Meriam was charged with forgery and providing false information for attempting to travel with South Sudanese travel documents. Although the Embassy of South Sudan in Khartoum has asserted that the travel documents are genuine, the Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs told Sudan's SUNA news agency that Meriam should have used a Sudanese passport. Meriam has been released on bail and is currently with her family at the United States Embassy in Khartoum. She is unable to leave Sudan until Sudanese authorities close this new case.

No further action is requested by the UA Network at this point. Amnesty International will continue to monitor Meriam Yehya Ibrahim's case. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

Name: Meriam Yehya Ibrahim (f)

Issues: Prisoner of conscience, Death penalty, Torture/ill-treatment

2 July

UA: 168/14

Issue Date: 2 July 2014

Country: Ukraine

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa16814.pdf>

JOURNALISTS KIDNAPPED BY SEPARATISTS IN UKRAINE

Amnesty International is concerned for the welfare of a Ukrainian journalist and her cameraman who were kidnapped by armed separatists in Luhansk, east Ukraine. They are believed to be at risk of ill-treatment.

Name: Anastasia Stanko (f), Ilya Bezkorovaini (m)

Issues: Risk of ill-treatment, Unjust imprisonment, Freedom of expression

Stop Action

Further information on UA: 300/13 (31 October 2013)

Issue Date: 2 July 2014

Country: Egypt

FATHER OF MORSI'S AIDE RELEASED FROM PRISON

Adly al-Qazzaz was released in the early morning of 25 June after eight months in detention. He had suffered two heart attacks in detention and needed heart surgery.

The Public Prosecution had ordered Adly al-Qazzaz's release on "compassionate grounds", according to an official statement published in the Egyptian press. He is currently in al-Nile Badrawy Hospital in Cairo for a coronary bypass operation.

Adly al-Qazzaz's release was not believed to be conditional and he did not have to post bail. It is unclear if the Prosecution will continue with its investigation into his case. His family have thanked Amnesty International's members and supporters for their actions on his behalf.

Armed security forces arrested Adly al-Qazzaz at his home in Cairo in the early morning of 24 October 2013. He is the father of Khaled al-Qazzaz, an aide to deposed Egyptian president Mohamed Morsi who

has been detained since 3 July 2013. Amnesty International believes that it is likely that Adly al-Qazzaz was targeted because of his son.

Adly al-Qazzaz is in poor health. He suffered heart attacks in Tora Prison in February and May. Around a month ago he was transferred to al-Nile Badrawy, a private hospital, at his family's expense, but continued to be watched by the security forces until his release.

Since 3 July 2013, the security forces have arrested thousands of Mohamed Morsi's supporters, including most of the leadership of the Muslim Brotherhood.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

Amnesty International will continue to monitor the case and take further action as appropriate.

Name: Adly al-Qazzaz (m)

Issue(s): Arbitrary detention, Health concern, Legal concern

3 July

UA: 167/14

Issue Date: 3 July 2014

Country: Brazil

http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa16914_0.pdf

SEX WORKERS EVICTED AND ABUSED BY POLICE

Isabel (anonymized name), a sex worker in the city of Niterói, was assaulted and threatened after she publicly denounced the rape and extortion of sex workers by police during illegal raids and evictions on 23 May. Around 300 sex workers are now without a home and the safety of Isabel and her family remains at risk.

Name: Isabel (anonymized name) (f)

Issues: Extortion, Ill-treatment, Housing rights

Further information on UA: 68/13

Issue Date: 3 July 2014

Country: Azerbaijan

http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f2u06813_0.pdf

YOUTH ACTIVISTS SENTENCED, AWAITING APPEAL

Eight youth activists from the Azerbaijani civic movement NIDA were sentenced to between six and eight years' imprisonment on 6 May. Their lawyers appealed the sentence. The decision of the appeals court is expected on 11 July.

Name: Rashadat Akhundov (m), Mammad Azizov (m), Bakhtiyar Guliyev (m), Zaur Gurbanli (m), Rashad Hasanov (m), Uzeyir Mammadli (m), Shahin Novruzlu (m) and Ilkin Rustamzade (m)

Issues: Prisoner of conscience, Risk of ill-treatment/torture, Freedom of expression

UA: 169/14

Issue Date: 3 July 2014

Country: Brazil

http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa16914_0.pdf

POLICE ABUSE DURING PEACEFUL PUBLIC ASSEMBLY

Military police in São Paulo, southeast Brazil, threw tear gas, pepper spray and rubber bullets in an attempt to block a public assembly gathered to discuss and protest against police abuses in the city. Protesters were surrounded, harassed and intimidated by police. Several protesters, including lawyers, were arbitrarily arrested and assaulted.

Name: Daniel Biral (m), Silvia Daskal (f), Fábio Hideki Harano (m), Rafael Lusvarghi (m) and around 500 other peaceful protesters in São Paulo

Issues: Arbitrary arrest, Freedom of expression

4 July

****Stop Action****

Further information on UA: 168/14

Issue Date: 4 July 2014

Country: Ukraine

journalists released in east ukraine

Ukrainian journalists Anastasia Stanko and Ilya Bezkorovaini were released on 2 July. They have subsequently revealed that they were ill-treated.

Journalists Anastasia Stanko and Ilya Bezkorovaini, abducted by armed group members on 30 June and held captive in Luhansk, east Ukraine, were released on 2 July despite being charged the previous day with “spying for the Ukrainian army” by the leader of the so-called “Luhansk People’s Republic”, Valeriy Bolotov. Following their release, he announced that the two journalists had been freed due to appeals from three Russian television stations.

In a televised interview given on their return to Kyiv, the journalists said that they had been blindfolded and kept in a basement.

No further action is required from the UA network. Amnesty International will continue to monitor events in east Ukraine and issue further actions, when possible. Many thanks to those who sent appeals.

Name: Anastasia Stanko (f), Ilya Bezkorovaini (m)

Issues: Risk of ill-treatment, Unjust imprisonment, Freedom of expression

UA: 170/14

Issue Date: 4 July 2014

Country: Iran

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa17014.pdf>

HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST ON HUNGER STRIKE IN IRAN

Human rights activist Latif Hasani, a member of Iran’s Azerbaijani minority who is serving a nine-year prison sentence, has been on hunger strike since 18 May in protest at the treatment of political prisoners in Iran. He is a prisoner of conscience who must be released immediately and unconditionally.

Name: Latif Hasani (m), Mahmoud Fazli (m), Ayat Mehr-Ali Beyglou (m), Shahram Radmehr (m) and Behboud Gholizadeh (m)

Issues: Human rights activist, Hunger strike, Prisoner of conscience

UA: 171/14

Issue Date: 4 July 2014

Country: Ethiopia

http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa17114_0.pdf

ETHIOPIAN ACTIVIST AT RISK OF TORTURE

Andargachew Tsige, an Ethiopian political activist in exile, appears to have been arrested in transit in Yemen on 24 June and forcibly returned to Ethiopia. He is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment.

Name: Andargachew Tsige (m)

Issues: Forced return, Risk of torture/ill-treatment, Incommunicado detention

7 July

****Stop Action****

Further information on UA: 124/13 (15 May 2013) and update (6 February 2014)

Issue Date: 7 July 2014

Country: Zambia

COURT ACQUITS TWO MEN IN ZAMBIA

On 3 July a Zambian court in Kapiri Mposhi acquitted two men charged with having sex “against the order of nature”. The court ruled that the State had failed to prove the case against James Mwape and Philip Mubiana who had spent more than a year in remand prison awaiting trial.

James Mwape and Philip Mubiana were freed on 3 July after having been held for over a year in remand prison after their arrest on 5 May 2013. They were charged with having sex “against the order of nature” under Section 155 of the Zambian Penal Code. In terms of section 155 of the Penal Code, any person who (a) has carnal knowledge of any person against the order of nature; or (c) permits a male person to have carnal knowledge of him against the order of nature; commits a felony and is liable, upon conviction, to imprisonment for at least 15 years to life. The men denied the charges.

Both men were prisoners of conscience arrested solely on the basis of their real or perceived sexual orientation. In addition to Urgent Actions Amnesty International has worked together with local activists in Zambia to support the men in prison and to monitor the trial. The organization also lobbied the Zambian authorities to drop the charges against both men.

Freeing the two men is the right decision, but sadly it was reached for the wrong reasons. The Zambian authorities must fulfil their obligations to respect and protect all human rights and end the persecution of individuals on the basis of their real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals. Amnesty International will continue to monitor the case and take further action as appropriate.

Name: Philip Mubiana (m) and James Mwape (m)

Issues: Torture/ill-treatment, Legal concern, LGBT rights

****Stop Action****

Further information on UA: 108/14 (2 May 2014)

Issue Date: 7 July 2014

Country: Myanmar

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE RELEASED IN MYANMAR

Prisoners of conscience Zaw Pe and Win Myint Hlaing have been released from prison in Myanmar after their jail sentences were reduced on appeal.

Zaw Pe (aka Thu Ya Thet Tin), a reporter for the media organization Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB), and Win Myint Hlaing were released from Thayet prison in Myanmar’s Magwe region on 4 July 2014. The release came after a court in Magwe region reduced their prison sentences from one year to three months on 3 July 2014.

While Amnesty International welcomes the release of Zaw Pe and Win Myint Hlaing, they should not have been arrested and imprisoned in the first place. Both men were jailed on the pretext that they had committed a crime but in reality they were convicted and imprisoned solely because of their attempted criticism of the authorities. They were arrested in August 2012 after they tried to film an interview with an education department official in Magwe city, Magwe region about allegations of corruption. Despite their early release, Zaw Pe and Win Myint Hlaing have not been acquitted.

Many other prisoners of conscience – including journalists – remain jailed in Myanmar, and Amnesty International is demanding that they are all immediately and unconditionally released. The Myanmar

authorities must stop using oppressive legislation to punish peaceful dissent, or more people will continue to be imprisoned simply for peacefully exercising their human rights.

Thank you to all those who sent appeals. No more action is required from the UA network.

Name: Zaw Pe and Win Myint Hlaing (m)

Issues: Freedom of expression, Prisoners of conscience, Harsh prison conditions

UA: 174/14

Issue Date: 7 July 2014

Country: Honduras

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa17414.pdf>

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER AND FAMILY AT RISK

Honduran journalist and human rights defender Dina Meza has faced increasing harassment and intimidation in recent weeks. This harassment has also extended to a close family member. The safety of Dina and her family remains at risk.

Name: Dina Meza (f)

Issues: Human rights defender, Harassment, Freedom of expression

8 July

Further information on UA: 98/14 (25 April 2014)

Issue Date: 8 July 2014

Country: Saudi Arabia

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f1u09814.pdf>

WALEED ABU AL-KHAIR JAILED FOR 15 YEARS

Saudi Arabian human rights activist Waleed Abu al-Khair has been sentenced to 15 years in prison followed by a 15-year travel ban. He is a prisoner of conscience.

Name: Waleed Abu al-Khair (m)

Issues: Human rights defender, Ill-treatment, Harsh prison conditions

9 July

UA: 172/14

Issue Date: 9 July 2014

Country: Bahrain

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa17214.pdf>

DOCTOR JAILED FOR "INSULTING THE KING"

Dr. Sa'eed Mothaher Habib al-Samahiji was arrested on 1 July to serve a one-year sentence for "insulting the King of Bahrain". He is a prisoner of conscience.

Name: Dr. Sa'eed Mothaher Habib al-Samahiji (m)

Issues: Prisoner of conscience, Freedom of expression, Torture

Further information on UA: 164/14 (24 June 2014)

Issue Date: 9 July 014

Country: Egypt

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa16414.pdf>

GROUP DETAINED FOLLOWING MARCH

Twenty-three people have been detained in Cairo following a march against Egypt's repressive protest law on the evening of 21 June. They include noted women's rights activist and human rights defender Yara Sallam. She is a prisoner of conscience.

Names: Sanaa Ahmed Seif (f), Mohamed Ahmed Youssef Saad (m), Bassam Mohamed Aly El Saed (m), Ahmed Samir Mahmoud Mohamed (m), Islam Tawfik Mohamed Hassan (m), Yasser Samir Fadel Sayed (m), Ibrahim Ahmed ElSaed AbdelRahaman (m), Salwa Aboud Aly Mehrez (m), Karim Moustafa Yassin (m), Yara Sallam (f), Islam Mohamed AbdelHamid Mohamed (m), Nahed Sherif Abdelhamid ElSaed (m), Fekrya Mohamed Mohamed (m), Mohamed Anwar Massoud (m), Hanan Moustafa Ahmed Soliman (m), Moataz Mahmoud Mansour Ragheb (m), Mohamed ElSaed AlSayed (m), Ahmed Mohamed Abdelhamid Mohamed (m), Mahmoud Hesham Hassanien AbdelAziz (m), Mo'men Mohamed Radwan (m), Mohamed ElSayed Mohamed (m), Moustafa Mohamed Ibrahim (m), Samar Ibrahim Mahmoud Ibrahim (m)

Issues: Human rights defender, Prisoner of conscience, Freedom of expression

UA: 175/14

Issue Date: 9 July 2014

Country: Ukraine

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa17514.pdf>

CRIMEAN TATAR LEADER BANNED FROM HOMELAND

The leader of the Crimean Tatar community, Refat Chubarov, has been banned from entering Crimea for five years. This highlights a broader campaign of harassment and intimidation against the Crimean Tatar community since Russia annexed the Ukrainian peninsula in March.

Name: Refat Chubarov (m)

Issues: Freedom of movement, Harassment

UA: 176/14

Issue Date: 9 July 2014

Country: Sri Lanka

http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa17614_0.pdf

ASYLUM SEEKERS AT RISK OF RETURN TO SRI LANKA

153 Sri Lankan asylum seekers travelling by boat from India and intercepted by the Australian Navy are at risk of being returned to Sri Lanka, where they could face serious human rights violations.

Name: 153 asylum seekers (m/f)

Issues: Refoulement, Forcible return, Risk of torture/ill-treatment

10 July

UA: 173/14

Issue Date: 10 July 2014

Country: Russian Federation

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa17314.pdf>

DETAINEE FACES TORTURE IN RUSSIA

A detainee in a temporary detention facility on the territory of Russian prison colony no. 14, whose anonymity has to be preserved for security reasons, has complained of numerous incidents of beating and rape to extort his confession. These complaints have not been effectively investigated and he remains in danger of further abuse.

Name: Anonymous (m)

Issues: Torture, Ill-treatment, Health concern, Harsh prison conditions

****Stop Action****

Further information on UA: 275/13 (7 October 2013)

Issue Date: 10 July 2014

Country: Bahrain

MAHDI SAHWAN RELEASED

Bahraini political activist Mahdi Sahwan was released on 8 July after serving a one-year prison sentence for “insulting” the King and “calling for and participating in an illegal gathering”.

Mahdi Sahwan, a 44-year-old Bahraini Islamist activist, was released from Jaw Prison on 8 July after serving his one-year prison sentence. He had been arrested on 7 July 2013 over speeches he had given two days earlier during political rallies and in which he was said to have “insulted” the King and called for and participated in an illegal gathering.

On 30 September 2013 he was sentenced by Branch 3 of the Lower Criminal Court to 15 months’ imprisonment which was later reduced to one year on appeal.

No further action is requested from the UA network. Amnesty International will keep monitoring the situation and will take action when necessary. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

Name: Mahdi Sahwan

Issues: Prisoner of conscience, Freedom of expression, Unfair trial

UA: 177/14

Issue Date: 10 July 2014

Country: Mexico

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa17714.pdf>

LAND RIGHTS DEFENDER THREATENED

Two threatening telephone calls were made to staff members of a human rights organization in Oaxaca State, south-western Mexico. It is believed the threats are a direct result of their work supporting local Indigenous communities who oppose the construction of a wind farm project on their land.

Name: CODIGO-DH staff, Carmen Ruiz (f) and APPJ members

Issues: Death threats, Human rights defenders, Indigenous rights

11 July

Further information on UA: 66/14 (20 March 2014)

Issue Date: 11 July 2014

Country: Russian Federation

http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f1u06614_1.pdf

ACTIVIST SENTENCED ON FABRICATED CHARGES

Civil society activist Ruslan Kutaev has been sentenced to four years imprisonment following an unfair trial in Russia. He is a prisoner of conscience, and was allegedly tortured to force him to confess to possessing illegal drugs.

Name: Ruslan Kutaev (m)

Issues: Prisoner of conscience, Torture, Unfair trial

UA: 178/14

Issue Date: 11 July 2014

Country: Iran

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa17814.pdf>

JUVENILE OFFENDER AT RISK OF EXECUTION IN IRAN

Iranian juvenile offender Rasoul Holoumi is at risk of execution for allegedly causing fatal injuries to a boy in a fight. He was 17 years old at the time. His death sentence has been sent to the Office of the implementation of Sentences in Ahwaz, and could be carried out at the request of the family of the deceased victim at any time.

Name: Rasoul Holoumi (m)

Issues: Rights of the child, Unfair trial, Imminent execution

Stop Action

Further information on UA: 146/14 (9 June 2014)

Issue Date: 11 July 2014

Country: Slovakia

ANZOR CHENTIEV EXTRADITED TO RUSSIA

Ethnic Chechen Anzor Chentiev, who was seeking asylum in Slovakia, has been extradited to Russia, where he might be at risk of torture and unfair trial.

The Slovak Ministry of Interior has confirmed that Anzor Chentiev was extradited to Russia on 6 July, as requested by the Russian Federation, approved by the Slovak Ministry of Justice. This is despite the fact that Anzor Chentiev had re-applied for asylum in Slovakia on 3 June.

The forcible return of Anzor Chentiev to Russia carried out while his asylum application was pending, amounts to a violation of Slovakia's international legal obligations. These include the obligation not to return anyone to a country where he or she would be at real risk of torture or ill-treatment or other serious human rights violations or abuses.

Anzor Chentiev had been detained without charge for nine years in Slovakia. According to his lawyer, this was due to the Russian Federation's extradition request, which was based on a charge of "banditry".

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals. Amnesty International will continue to monitor Anzor Chentiev's situation.

Name: Anzor Chentiev (m)

Issues: Extradition, Risk of torture/ill-treatment, Legal concern

15 July

Further information on UA: 201/13 (2 August 2013) and updates (27 June 2014)

Issue Date: 15 July 2014

Country: Cuba

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f2u20113.pdf>

SENTENCING OF THREE BROTHERS POSTPONED

The sentencing of three prisoners of conscience originally scheduled for 1 July has been postponed with no further information. They are prisoners of conscience and should be released immediately and unconditionally.

Names: Alexeis Vargas Martín (m), Vianco Vargas Martín (m) and Django Vargas Martín (m)

Issues: Prisoner of conscience, Freedom of expression, Unfair trial

Further information on UA: 82/14 (8 April 2014)

Issue Date: 15 July 2014

Country: Myanmar

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f1u08214.pdf>

MEDIA WORKERS IMPRISONED IN MYANMAR

Five media workers in Myanmar have been sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment with hard labor in connection with their journalistic activities. All five are prisoners of conscience who must be immediately and unconditionally released.

Name: Lu Maw Naing (m), Yarzar Oo (m), Paing Thet Kyaw (m), Sithu Soe (m) and Tint San (m)

Issues: Prisoners of conscience, Freedom of expression, Risk of ill-treatment

Further information on UA: 47/14 (6 March 2014) and updates (10 March 2014, 1 April 2014)

Issue Date: 15 July 2014

Country: Kuwait

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f3u04714.pdf>

TWO BIDUN ACTIVISTS REARRESTED AFTER DEMOS

Kuwaiti Bidun activists 'Abdulahakim al-Fadhli and 'Abdullah 'Atallah were arrested again on 7 July after demonstrations in Kuwait. They may be prisoners of conscience.

Name: 'Abdullah 'Atallah (m), 'Abdulahakim al-Fadhli (m)

Issues: Unfair trial, Health concern, Freedom of expression

18 July

UA: 181/14

Issue Date: 18 July 2014

Country: United Arab Emirates

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa18114.pdf>

EGYPTIAN NATIONAL DETAINED, RISKS TORTURE

An Egyptian national, Ahmad Mas'ad al-Ma'dawi, was arrested at Abu Dhabi's International Airport as he was leaving the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 13 January. His whereabouts are unknown and he may be at risk of torture and other ill-treatment

Name: Ahmad Mas'ad al-Ma'dawi (m)

Issues: Arbitrary arrest, Incommunicado detention, Risk of ill-treatment/torture

Further information on UA: 86/14 (11 April 2014)

Issue Date: 18 July 2014

Country: Swaziland

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f1u08614.pdf>

TWO MEN CONVICTED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT

On 17 July Bhekithemba Makhubu, editor of Swaziland's monthly news magazine The Nation and human rights lawyer Thulani Maseko were convicted on two charges of contempt of court in the High Court in Mbabane, Swaziland.

Name: Thulani Maseko (m), Bhekithemba Makhubu (m), Michael Ramodibedi (m), Mumcy Dlamini (f), Mpendulo Simelane (m)

Issues: Prisoners of conscience, Unfair trial, Freedom of expression

UA: 179/14

Issue Date: 18 July 2014

Country: Myanmar

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa17914.pdf>

ACTIVISTS FACING JAIL FOR PEACEFUL PROTEST

Eight Chin human rights defenders in Myanmar are facing imprisonment for peacefully protesting against impunity for sexual violence in Chin State. If convicted and jailed, Amnesty International would consider them prisoners of conscience.

Names: Ngun Chin Par (f), Sui Sui Kyi (f), Kaw Htwe, Khin Khin Zi (f), Thang Zing (f), Khin Thluai Par (f), Maung Han (m) and Tei Mang (m)

Issues: Human rights defenders, Freedom of expression, Fear for safety

UA: 180/14

Issue Date: 18 July 2014

Country: Russian Federation

http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa18014_0.pdf

DETAINEE ATTEMPTS SUICIDE DEMANDING JUSTICE

Chechen detainee Timur Tangiyev attempted suicide on 15 July to demand justice and complain at ill-treatment. The European Court of Human Rights has ruled that he was wrongfully convicted, and the Chechen Supreme Court is now reviewing his case.

Name: Timur Tangiyev (m)

Issues: Ill-treatment/torture, Unfair trial, Risk of ill-treatment/torture

UA: 182/14

Issue Date: 18 July 2014

Country: Azerbaijan

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa18214.pdf>

POLICE HARASS ACTIVIST WORKING FOR PEACE

Azerbaijani human rights defender Leyla Yunus is being harassed by police. She and her husband are under surveillance and being subjected to regular interrogations, and have had their passports confiscated.

Names: Leyla Yunus (f), Arif Yunus (m)

Issues: Harassment, Human rights defender, Fear for safety

21 July

UA: 183/14

Issue Date: 21 July 2014

Country: Uzbekistan

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa18314.pdf>

JAILED PARLIAMENTARIAN DENIED MEDICAL HELP

Former Uzbekistani parliamentarian Murad Dzhuraev, convicted and imprisoned after an unfair trial in 1995, is in urgent need of medical care. His prison sentence has been extended four times on politically motivated grounds

Name: Murad Dzhuraev (m)

Issues: Health concern, Unfair trial, Torture, Legal concern

UA: 184/14

Issue Date: 21 July 2014

Country: Mexico

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa18014.pdf>

MIGRANT TORTURED AND CHARGED IN MEXICO

A Honduran migrant of Afro-descendant origin has been in prison in Mexico since 2009. He was tortured to falsely implicate himself in criminal activity. As his torture arose from racial discrimination and resulted in his unfounded prosecution, Amnesty International considers him a prisoner of conscience.

Name: Ángel Amílcar Colón Quevedo (m)

Issues: Ill-treatment, Prisoner of conscience, Fear for safety

22 July

UA: 185/14

Issue Date: 22 July 2014

Country: Honduras

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa18514.pdf>

AFRO-DESCENDANT COMMUNITY AT RISK IN HONDURAS

Members of an Afro-descendant Garífuna community in north-eastern Honduras, including human rights defender Miriam Miranda, were temporarily abducted by armed men after discovering an illegal runway used by drug traffickers on the Garífuna community's territory. The safety of Miriam and the Garífuna community remains at risk.

Name: Miriam Miranda (f) and members of the Garífuna community

Issues: Human rights defender, Abduction, Fear for safety, Risk of ill-treatment

Further information on UA: 341/13 (19 December 2013)

Issue Date: 22 July 2014

Country: United Arab Emirates (UAE)

http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa34113_0.pdf

POLITICAL ACTIVIST ACQUITTED, BUT NOT RELEASED

Political activist Obaid Yousef al-Zaabi has been arbitrarily detained in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) since 23 June, despite being acquitted that day by the Federal Supreme Court. He has not been told why he has not been freed. He is a prisoner of conscience

Name: Obaid Yousef al-Zaabi (m)

Issues: Prisoner of conscience, Unlawful detention, Legal concern, Health concern

23 July

Further information on UA: 173/14 (10 July 2014)

Issue Date: 23 July 2014

Country: Russian Federation

http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f1u17314_0.pdf

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION INTO DETAINEE'S TORTURE

The anonymous detainee's lawyers have been sent a copy of an order to open a criminal case against prison staff. More appeals will help to ensure the authorities pursue this complaint.

Name: Anonymous (m)

Issues: Torture, Ill-treatment, Health concern, Harsh prison conditions

****Stop Action****

Further information on UA: 136/14 (21 May 2014) and update (13 June 2014)

Issue Date: 23 July 2014

Country: Sudan

THREE ACTIVISTS RELEASED FROM DETENTION

Three Sudanese activists have been released after two months in detention without charge. Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman, Moamar Musa Mohamed and Taj Alsir Jaafar were released from detention on 11 July. The three were detained by the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) outside the University of Khartoum on 12 May. All three are youth activists and were involved in protests at the University of Khartoum in late March after a student was shot dead by security forces at a demonstration on 11 March.

After their arrests, Moamar Musa Mohamed was taken to Kober prison, while Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman and Taj Alsir Jaafar were held in the NISS detention facility in Bahri, Khartoum. Both Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman and Taj Alsir Jaafar reported being subjected to ill-treatment during their detention. They were held in cells known as "the fridges", which are kept deliberately cold to make detainees feel uncomfortable. Both were also reportedly beaten, resulting in bruises on their bodies

and faces. Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman is still struggling to see through his right eye. In late June Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman and Taj Alsir Jaafar began a hunger strike, which, according to their parents, lasted three days before they were taken to a nearby hospital.

At no point were Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman, Moamar Musa Mohamed or Taj Alsir Jaafar charged or granted access to a lawyer. The NISS rejected four applications by the families of Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman and Taj Alsir Jaafar to visit them in detention, only allowing family members to briefly visit them on 13 June. The NISS twice refused to accept medication that Taj Alsir Jaafar's family tried to send him via the NISS office. Moamar Musa Mohamed's family did not manage to visit him while he was in detention.

During the week of 7 July the NISS informed the families of all three men that they would be detained without charge for further investigations for another three months, in line with Sudan's 2010 National Security Act. Four days later, on 11 July, the NISS released Moamar Musa Mohamed from Kober prison before releasing Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman and Taj Alsir Jaafar that evening. No explanation was given for their release, although Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman and Taj Alsir Jaafar were required to sign a pledge stating that they would not participate in or incite further demonstrations. Shortly after their release all three reunited with their friends and then returned to their families' homes.

Many thanks to all who sent appeals. No further action is requested from the UA Network at this point.

Name: Mohamed Salah Mohamed Abdelrahman (m), Moamar Musa Mohamed (m), Taj Alsir Jaafar (m)

Issues: Risk of torture/ill-treatment, Arbitrary detention, Unjust imprisonment

Further information on UA: 157/14 (19 June 2014) and update (25 June 2014)

Issue Date: 23 July 2014

Country: Tajikistan

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/f2u15714.pdf>

ACADEMIC RELEASED ON BAIL, STILL FACING PRISON

Prisoner of conscience Alexander Sodiqov was released on bail on 22 July in Tajikistan. He still faces a prison sentence. He has been targeted for his work as an academic researcher and for the legitimate exercise of his right to freedom of expression.

Name: Alexander Sodiqov (m)

Issues: Fear for safety, Risk of ill-treatment/torture, Legal concern

24 July

UA 188/14

Issue Date: 24 July 2014

Country: Iran

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa18814.pdf>

IRANIAN WRITER SENTENCED TO DEATH

Iranian prisoner of conscience Arzhang Davoodi, already in prison for nearly 11 years, has now been sentenced to death on a new charge of "enmity against God", in relation to his peaceful political activism and writings.

Name: Arzhang Davoodi(m)

Issues: Prisoner of conscience, Freedom of expression, Death penalty, Unfair trial

UA 187/14

Issue Date 24 July 2014

Country: Colombia

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa18714.pdf>

ARMED FORCES THREATEN PEACE COMMUNITY

Members of the armed forces have threatened to “exterminate” the Peace Community of San José de Apartadó in north-western Colombia.

Name: members of the Peace Community of San José de Apartadó and other civilians living in the area (m/f)

Issues: Fear for safety, Risk of ill-treatment

Further Information on UA 104/14

Issue Date: 24 July 2014

Country: Colombia

http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa10414_0.pdf

DEFENDER THREATENED WITH EXTREME VIOLENCE

Paramilitaries threatened to “dismember” a human rights defender and continue to threaten members of the Humanitarian Space of Puente Nayero in the port city of Buenaventura, southern Colombia.

Name: Jacob Jenezen (m), families of the Humanitarian Space of Puente Nayero in Buenaventura and those accompanying them

Issues: Human rights defender, Risk of torture, Risk of ill-treatment

25 July

UA: 186/14

Issue Date: 25 July 2014

Country: Azerbaijan

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/sites/default/files/uaa18614.pdf>

ACTIVIST HELD INCOMMUNICADO, RISKS TORTURE

Political activist Faraj Karimov, a dedicated critic of the Azerbaijani government, went missing on 23 July. It was later revealed that police had detained him, but his whereabouts are still not known, and he is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment. His brother Siraj Karimov had been arrested six days earlier.

Name: Faraj Karimov, Siraj Karimov

Issues: Risk of ill-treatment/torture, Freedom of expression, Health concern

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