

# URGENT ACTION

## **AUTHORITIES COMMIT TO ENSURING BRISHNA'S SAFETY**

**Following the conviction of Brishna's rapist on 25 October, the Afghan authorities have now committed to ensuring her protection. The 10-year-old girl from Kunduz province is receiving medical and psychological attention.**

Amnesty International delegates in Afghanistan have been contacted by the Office of the President, to inform them that the authorities are monitoring closely Brishna's case and to express the authorities' commitment to ensuring her safety. The authorities have acknowledged receiving thousands of appeals from activists around the world urging them to take action on this case.

Brishna was raped by a local mullah in May 2014 and was subsequently threatened with an "honour killing" by family and community members. Thanks to the assistance of the organisation Women for Afghan Women, she received medical treatment and protection following the attack, before being returned to her family.

Women for Afghan Women as well as the authorities and other organizations in Afghanistan, continued monitoring her situation closely. On 25 October the local mullah accused of raping Brishna was sentenced to a 20-year prison sentence for raping a minor. Male family members provided written guarantees that they would not harm the girl, on a condition of criminal punishment if they broke this guarantee.

Rape victims in Afghanistan are at risk of "honour killing" as they are deemed to have brought "shame" on their family and community by an act of which they are the victims.

Amnesty International will continue monitoring the situation and will take further action if needed.

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

This is the second update of UA 253/14. Further information: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/info/ASA11/014/2014/en>

Name: Brishna

Gender m/f: f

Further information on UA: 253/14 Index: ASA 11/015/2014 Issue Date: 21 November 2014

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