

URGENT ACTION

SENTENCED TO DEATH AFTER UNFAIR TRIAL

Two men were sentenced to death on 29 December in Bahrain. Amnesty International fears they did not receive a fair trial as the main evidence used against them was allegedly obtained under torture.

Mohamed Ramadhan 'Issa 'Ali Hussain (32) and Hussain 'Ali Moosa Hussain Mohamad (28) were sentenced to death on 29 December by the High Criminal Court in Manama, the capital of Bahrain, for the killing of a policeman during a bombing in al-Deir village on 14 February 2014. Another 10 people were sentenced in the same case to between six years and life in prison.

Mohamed Ramadhan and Hussain 'Ali Moosa told their lawyers that they were tortured or otherwise ill-treated during the first few days after their arrests between February and March, while they were being interrogated without the presence of their lawyers at the Criminal Investigations Directorate (CID). Mohamed Ramadhan refused to sign a confession but Hussain 'Ali Moosa said he was coerced to confess to the crime and incriminate Mohamed Ramadhan after being suspended by the limbs and beaten for several days. His confession was later used as main evidence in the trial to convict them. Hussain 'Ali Moosa told his lawyers that he reported his coerced confession and the torture he was subjected to to the Public Prosecutor but the latter dismissed his allegations and sent him back to the CID where he was allegedly tortured for two months. Mohamed Ramadhan claimed he also reported his torture to the Public Prosecution but that his allegation was dismissed as well.

No investigation is known to have taken place into the two men's allegations of torture. Mohamed Ramadhan 'Issa 'Ali Hussain has not been allowed to give power of attorney to his lawyer and therefore he cannot appeal his sentence. If he is not allowed to give power of attorney in the next few days his sentence should go to the Court of Cassation for final ratification. He is currently held in the Asri detention centre. Hussain 'Ali Moosa has appealed his sentence and he is currently held in Jaw prison.

Please write immediately in English or Arabic:

- Acknowledging the Bahraini government's responsibility to protect the public and bring to justice those who commit crimes, but insisting that this should always be done in accordance with international law and Bahrain's international human rights obligations;
- Urging the authorities to order a full re-trial of Mohamed Ramadhan and Hussain 'Ali Moosa where no evidence obtained under torture is used in court and investigate their allegations of torture;
- Urging them to commute all death sentences and to declare a moratorium on executions.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 18 FEBRUARY 2015 TO:

King

Shaikh Hamad bin 'Issa Al Khalifa
Office of His Majesty the King
P.O. Box 555
Rifa'a Palace, al-Manama, Bahrain
Fax: +973 1766 4587
Salutation: Your Majesty

Prime Minister

Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa
Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
P.O. Box 1000, al-Manama, Bahrain
Fax: +973 1753 3033
Salutation: Your Highness

Minister of Justice

Shaikh Khaled bin Ali al-Khalifa
Ministry of Justice and Islamic Affairs
P. O. Box 450, Manama, Bahrain
Fax: +973 1753 1284
Salutation: Your Excellency

Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment are recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, other international human rights instruments and many national constitutions. Amnesty International believes that the death penalty always violates these rights.

The UN General Assembly adopted a resolution in 2007 calling for a moratorium on executions. This means that a large majority of UN member states from all regions of the world are in favour of a moratorium on the use of the death penalty.

Bahrain has applied capital punishment only a few times in the past few years. A Bangladeshi national, Russell Mezan, was the last person executed in Bahrain, by firing squad in July 2010. However, since 2011, at least eight people have been sentenced to death, although some of the death sentences were quashed on appeal.

Name: Mohamed Ramadhan Issa 'Ali Hussain and Hussain 'Ali Moosa Hussain Mohamad

Gender m/f: m

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