

PUBLIC

AI Index: ASA 21/005/2007

23 April 2007

UA 96/07 Imminent execution

INDONESIA Ayub Bulubili (m), aged 40

Ayub Bulubili is at risk of imminent execution. He was sentenced to death by Kapuas District court in Central Kalimantan province on 28 October 1999, for the premeditated murder of a family of six people – a husband and wife and their four children, ranging in age from four to 13 years old, on 5 February 1999. His sentence was upheld by the Central Kalimantan High Court and by the Indonesian Supreme Court.

The Central Kalimantan Provincial Prosecutor's office announced on 19 April it was making preparations for Ayub Bulubili's execution. Although the date and place for the execution have yet to be announced, it will reportedly take place at night by firing squad before the end of April in Kapuas regency, Central Kalimantan. Ayub Bulubili must be notified of the execution date at least 72 hours before it is due to take place.

Ayub Bulubili has exhausted his right to appeal against his sentence. His two appeals for Presidential clemency were both rejected, firstly by former President Megawati Sukarnoputri on 9 July 2004, and a second appeal was rejected by President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, in March 2007.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Death sentences in Indonesia are carried out by firing squad. The person under sentence of death has the choice of standing or sitting and of using a blindfold or cover for their head. Firing squads consist of 12 people, six of whom are supplied with live ammunition and six whose guns are loaded with blanks. The squad fires from a distance of between five and 10 metres.

To Amnesty International's knowledge, at least 91 people are believed to be under sentence of death in Indonesia. Thirteen of these were convicted and sentenced to death in 2006.

Indonesia executed three people in 2006: Fabianus Tibo, Dominggus da Silva and Marinus Riwu (see UA 286/05, ASA 21/020/2005, 15 November 2005, and follow-ups). These were the first recorded by Amnesty International in Indonesian since May 2005. Their execution sparked violence in several Indonesian provinces, including Central Sulawesi, which has repeatedly been the scene of ethnic and religious violence.

Amnesty International recognizes the need to address serious crime, including murder, but is convinced that the death penalty does not provide a solution. There is no clear evidence that the death penalty deters crime any more effectively than other forms of punishment. Amnesty International opposes the death penalty unreservedly in all cases. Today 129 countries are abolitionist in law or practice. An execution cannot be undone, yet the risk of error is inescapable.

In 2006, Indonesia ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which states that "every human being has the inherent right to life." However, the Indonesian authorities did not authorize ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR, aimed at the abolition of the death penalty.

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

- calling for the preparations for the execution of Ayub Bulubili to be halted immediately, and for his sentence to be commuted;

- calling on the Indonesian authorities to commute all death sentences in Indonesia, as they constitute the violation of one the most fundamental of human rights – the right to life;
- urging the authorities to release information on the number of prisoners currently under sentence of death in Indonesia, the date of sentencing, and the status of appeals against sentences, and release information on the procedures for informing prisoners and their families when their execution is imminent;
- calling on the Government of Indonesia to sign and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and commit themselves to working towards the abolition of the death penalty.

APPEALS TO:

Attorney General

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Fax: + 62 21 725 0213

Salutation: Dear Attorney General

President

President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President RI, Istana Merdeka, Jakarta Pusat 10110, Indonesia

Fax: + 62 21 345 2685

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Salutation: Dear President

COPIES TO:

Head of Central Kalimantan Prosecutor's Office

Harry Hermansyah

Fax: + 62 536 322 4333

Salutation: Dear Mr Hermansyah

and to diplomatic representatives of Indonesia accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.