

I am writing this letter to express my deep concern for Meriam Yehya Ibrahim who was sentenced to death by hanging for 'apostasy', and to flogging for 'adultery'. She is a prisoner of conscience convicted because of her religious beliefs and identity.

Amnesty International considers the death penalty to be the ultimate cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment and a violation of the right to life and opposes its use in all cases and without exception, regardless of the nature of the crime. In addition, the punishment of flogging violates the absolute prohibition against torture and other ill-treatment in international human rights law.

So I urge you to ensure that Meriam Yehya Ibrahim is released immediately and unconditionally because she is a prisoner of conscience, convicted solely because of her religious beliefs and identity.

I also urge you to repeal Articles 126 and 146 of the Sudan Criminal Code that criminalise apostasy and adultery respectively, in conformity with Sudan's obligations under international human rights law.

Last but not least, I urge you to establish a moratorium on executions, as a first step towards abolishing the death penalty, and to abolish the punishment of flogging.

Thank you very much for your prompt attention to the above.

Sincerely yours,