THE USE OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN 2010: THE GLOBAL PICTURE

GLOBAL NUMBERS
At least 23 countries were known to have carried out judicial executions in 2010. This is four more than 2009, when Amnesty International recorded the lowest number of executing countries since the organisation began monitoring death penalty figures. ¹

There were no reported executions in Afghanistan, Indonesia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Saint Kitts and Nevis and United Arab Emirates, although these countries were known to have carried out executions up to 2008 or 2009. However, after a hiatus, Bahrain, Belarus, Equatorial Guinea, the Palestinian Authority², Somalia and Taiwan all carried out at least one execution in 2010.

At least 527 executions were carried out in 2010. This figure does not include the thousands of executions that were believed to be carried out in China last year. Last year Amnesty International decided not to publish minimum figures for the use of the death penalty in China, where such statistics are considered to be state secrets. Instead Amnesty International has challenged the Chinese authorities to publish figures for the number of people sentenced to death and executed each year to confirm their claims that there has been a reduction in the use of the death penalty in the country.

REPORTED EXECUTIONS IN 2010
Bahrain (1), Bangladesh (9+), Belarus (2), Botswana (1), China (1000s), Egypt (4), Equatorial Guinea (4), Iran (252+), Iraq (1+), Japan (2), Libya (18+), Malaysia (1+), North Korea (60+), the Palestinian Authority (5), Saudi Arabia (27+), Singapore (+), Somalia (8+), Sudan (6+), Syria (17+), Taiwan (4), United States of America (46), Viet Nam (+), Yemen (53+).

At least 2024 new death sentences were known to have been imposed in 67 countries in 2010. This is a minimum figure which is the safest that can be inferred from our research.

REPORTED DEATH SENTENCES IN 2010
Afghanistan (100+), Algeria (130+), Bahamas (5+), Bahrain (1), Bangladesh (32+), Barbados (1), Belarus (3), Benin (1+), Brunei Darussalam (+), Burkina Faso (1+), Cameroon (+), China (+), Central African Republic (14), Chad (1), Democratic Republic of Congo (+), Egypt (185), Equatorial Guinea (4), Ethiopia (5+), Gambia (13), Ghana (17), Guatemala (1), Guyana (1+), India (105+), Indonesia (7+), Iran (+), Iraq (279+), Jamaica (4), Japan (14), Jordan (9), Kenya (5+), Kuwait (3+), Laos (4), Liberia (11), Lebanon (12+), Libya (+), Madagascar (2+), Malaysia (114+), Malawi (2), Maldives (1), Mali (14+), Mauritania (16+), Morocco/Western Sahara (4), Myanmar (2), Nigeria (151+), North Korea (+), Palestinian Authority (11+), Pakistan (365), Saudi Arabia (34+), Sierra Leone (1), Singapore (8+), Somalia (8+), South Korea (4), Sri Lanka (+), Sudan (10+), Syria (10+), Tanzania (5+), Taiwan (9), Thailand (7+), Trinidad and Tobago (+), Tunisia (22+), Uganda (5+), United Arab Emirates (28+), United States of America (110+), Viet Nam (34+), Yemen (27+), Zimbabwe (8), Zambia (35).

At least 17,833 were under sentence of death worldwide at the end of 2010, which is a minimum from the addition of the partial figures available.
COUNTRIES WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF EXECUTIONS IN 2010

CHINA executed 1000s – more people than the rest of the world put together

IRAN 252+

NORTH KOREA 60+

YEMEN 53+

USA 46

SAUDI ARABIA 27+

LIBYA 18+

SYRIA 17+

BANGLADESH 9+

SOMALIA 8+

+ indicates that the figure Amnesty International has calculated is a minimum

Number of people  400  350  300  250  200  150  100  50
EXECUTIONS IN 2010

+ indicates that the figure Amnesty International has calculated is a minimum. Where + is not preceded by a number, it indicates that there were executions (at least more than one) but that it was not possible to specify a figure.

- USA 46
- Palestinian Authority 5
- Libya 18+
- Egypt 4
- Sudan 6+
- Equatorial Guinea 4
- Botswana 1
- Belarus 2
- North Korea 60+
- Japan 2
- China 1,000s
- Taiwan 4
- Bangladesh 9+
- Viet Nam +
- Singapore +
- Malaysia 1+
- Belarus 2
- North Korea 60+
- Japan 2
- China 1,000s
- Taiwan 4
- Bangladesh 9+
- Viet Nam +
- Singapore +
- Malaysia 1+
- Belarus 2
- North Korea 60+
- Japan 2
- China 1,000s
- Taiwan 4
- Bangladesh 9+
- Viet Nam +
- Singapore +
- Malaysia 1+
THE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES CARRYING OUT EXECUTIONS
1991-2010

THE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES ABOLITIONIST FOR ALL CRIMES
1991-2010