



Weekly Report

APRIL 28 – MAY 2,
2014

Egypt

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- 1** UN human rights chief deplores Egypt's 'outrageous' mass death sentences
- 2** Honouring victims, UN urges full ratification of the Chemical Weapons convention
- 3** Egypt rights groups demand probe into Minya verdicts

UN human rights chief deplores Egypt's 'outrageous' mass death sentences

- The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, condemns the mass deaths sentence for 683 prisoners. She declares the sentence as a clear violation of international human rights law.
- This mass sentence follows the previous death sentence of 529 prisoners.
- Egypt has ratified the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)*. The commissioner demanded Egypt start taking human rights seriously.
- Source: United Nations News Centre

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=47677-.U202tV5N3wJ>

Honouring victims, UN urges full ratification of the Chemical Weapons convention

- 29 April marked the Day of Remembrance for all victims of chemical warfare. Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon took the opportunity to speak out against the remaining stockpiles of chemical weapons.
- Calling for universal membership, Ban Ki-Moon was referring to Egypt, as well as Angola, Israel, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Myanmar and South Sudan.
- In 2013 the Secretary General witness the horrific effect of the weapons in Syria firsthand and now cites the 92.5% compliance with the destruction as a success.
- Source: United Nations News Centre

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=47675-.U202EV5N3wJ>

Egypt rights groups demand probe into Minya verdicts

- 13 NGO's demand a probe into the mass death verdicts.
- The first set of mass death sentences were only after an hour and a half of trial and other sources are claiming this most recent decision was after 10 minutes.
- Appeals are still available for these sentences but no details have been released about the appeals.
- Source: The Turkish Press

<http://www.turkishpress.com/news/403614/>

"A mass trial of hundreds of people, rife with procedural irregularities is simply not good enough for the imposition of the death penalty."

- Navi Pillay, the United Nations Commission for Human Rights Chief
