

Video of a stoning

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rgSH0h45Eo&feature=related>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPqNCr8KKdU>

Afghanistan woman stoned to death

BBC News, Saturday April 23, 2005

A woman has been stoned to death in Afghanistan, reportedly for committing adultery. The killing is said to have taken place in the Urgu district of north-eastern Badakhshan province.

A local Afghan government official confirmed the death, and said the government would investigate the case. The Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission said the woman had been sentenced to death by a decree from the local religious scholar.

Under Afghan law, cases such as this should go through the local courts. A reporter for the BBC Pashto service in Afghanistan said the woman's husband recently returned from Iran after five years away.

The wife asked for a separation on the grounds that her husband could not support her. However, he said she was having improper relations with another man. It is not known if the couple had any children.

Correspondents say this is the second time a woman has been stoned to death since the ousting of the Taleban in 2001. Both events happened in the same area. During the Taleban's rule, women were regularly stoned to death for adultery.

Amina Lawal: Sentenced to death for adultery

By Tony Smith (New York Times) Published: September 13, 2003

President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva has offered asylum to Amina Lawal, a woman sentenced by an Islamic court in Nigeria to be stoned to death for having extramarital sex. Ms. Lawal has appealed the death sentence, and a decision is expected later this month.

Vera Rota, spokeswoman for Brazil's secretariat for women's rights, said if Ms. Lawal was acquitted or has her sentence commuted, she and her child would be offered asylum. The ambassador had indicated that Ms. Lawal would be allowed to leave Nigeria, Ms. Rota said.

Nigeria's 'adulteress' set free

BBC News Wednesday, 23 January, 2002, 21:42 GMT

An Islamic court in the northern Nigerian state of Sokoto has acquitted a woman accused of having sex outside marriage, in the second such case since the introduction of full Islamic law there.

The judge said there were discrepancies in the evidence against the 18-year-old, Hafsat Abubakar, which had raised doubts about the case.

Safiya Husaini is waiting for her appeal against the death sentence of Hafsatu Abubakar, who is divorced, was accused by neighbours after she gave birth to a child several weeks ago. She and the baby have been held in prison pending the trial.

When the judgement was announced on Wednesday afternoon, there were cheers from about 500 supporters who attended the court session.

Speaking to reporters outside the court house Hafsatu expressed her deep gratitude to God, who, she said, had given her strength through the trying period.

There was an international outcry against Nigeria over the case of another woman in Sokoto, Safiya Husaini, who was sentenced to death by stoning for adultery, a verdict that she has appealed against.

Under a revised Sharia criminal code recently introduced in the mainly Muslim states of northern Nigeria, the punishment for adultery is either death by stoning or flogging, depending on whether or not the woman is married.

The death sentence is used for married women who have sex with a man other than their husband.