

[Home](#) [News](#) [Sport](#) [Radio](#) [TV](#) [Weather](#) [Languages](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

Airbus A380.
See the bigger picture.
>> airbus.com

☐ UK version ☒ International version | [About the versions](#)[Low graphics](#) | [Accessibility help](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

BBC NEWS **One-Minute World News****News services**
Your news when you want it**News Front Page**

[Africa](#)
[Americas](#)
[Asia-Pacific](#)
[Europe](#)
[Middle East](#)
[South Asia](#)
[UK](#)
[Business](#)
[Health](#)
[Science/Nature](#)
[Technology](#)
[Entertainment](#)
[Also in the news](#)

[Video and Audio](#)[Have Your Say](#)[In Pictures](#)[Country Profiles](#)[Special Reports](#)**RELATED BBC SITES**[SPORT](#)[WEATHER](#)[ON THIS DAY](#)[EDITORS' BLOG](#)**LANGUAGES**

Last Updated: Monday, 17 December 2007, 18:37 GMT

Nigeria confirms state executions

A Nigerian state official has confirmed that at least seven people have been executed in recent years, despite denials by the national government.

Amnesty International said the executions had taken place in secret after convictions in Kano State.

Last month a Nigerian representative at the United Nations said: "Nigeria has not carried out any capital punishment in recent years."

A Kano official told the BBC that armed robbers could face the death penalty.

Kano governor's spokesman Sule Yau Sule told the BBC's Focus on Africa programme that the cases had been taken all the way to Nigeria's Supreme Court under the previous government.

He also said that Kano State would be willing to carry out further executions "as long as due process" had been followed.

According to the UN's official record of the committee debate on a death penalty moratorium on 15 November, the representative of Nigeria said the death penalty was still on his country's statute books for national security reasons and as a deterrent against serious crimes.

The Nigerian representative, whose name was not given, said "punishment only comes after exhaustive legal and judicial processes, including recourse to the Supreme Court of the land."

The moratorium proposal will be put to a full vote in the 192-member UN general assembly on 18 December and Nigeria has already indicated it will vote against.

Misleading

In a statement sent by Amnesty to media organisations, Africa programme director Erwin van der Borgh said: "The Nigerian government has been misleading the world".

He called on Nigeria to "come clean on their death penalty record, establish an immediate moratorium on all executions in the country and fully investigate."

Amnesty said the seven men had all been convicted in Kano State, before being transferred elsewhere in the country for their executions:

- Kenneth Ekhon and Auwalu Musa, executed at Kaduna Central Prison, May 2006.



Nigeria retains the death penalty as a "deterrent"

NIGERIA - TROUBLED GIANT

KEY STORIES

Cabinet shows Obasanjo clout
Challenges for new president
Tackling violent oil swamps
What next for corruption crusade?
Optimism over war on poverty
Profile: President Umaru Yar'Adua
Monitors slam poll 'charade'

PERSONAL STORIES



Voters' views:
Nigerians reflect on their future after disputed elections

A monitor's experience
'Against my wish'
A barber's life
Roadside chef

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Troubled heart

BACKGROUND

Obasanjo's legacy
Facts and figures
Elections Q&A
Timeline
Country profile

HAVE YOUR SAY

[Will new Nigeria cabinet succeed?](#)

RELATED INTERNET LINKS

[Nigeria police](#)
[Human Rights Watch](#)

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external internet sites

TOP AFRICA STORIES

'Enough evidence' to charge Zuma
Ethiopia PM attacks UN on Somalia
Zimbabwe to issue new banknotes
 | [News feeds](#)

MOST POPULAR STORIES NOW

US passes tighter gun control law
Queen reaches oldest monarch mark
Whale 'missing link' discovered
Day in pictures
'Enough evidence' to charge Zuma

[Most popular now, in detail](#)

AIRBUS

Airbus A380.
See the bigger picture.

>> airbus.com

- Salisu Babuga, executed at Jos prison, June 2006
- Reported hangings of four men in Enugu and one in Port Harcourt

In May this year a Nigerian presidential commission report called for "an official moratorium on executions until the Nigerian criminal justice system can ensure fundamental fairness and due process in capital cases."

The report also highlighted that inmates on death row are "almost exclusively poor and without legal representation."

 [E-mail this to a friend](#)

 [Printable version](#)

Bookmark with:

[Delicious](#)

[Digg](#)

[reddit](#)

[Facebook](#)

[What are these?](#)

[StumbleUpon](#)

FEATURES, VIEWS, ANALYSIS



Aid and politics

How much difference can aid to the Palestinians make?



Day in pictures

Some of the most striking images from around the world



Crossing borders

Tourists cheer as Schengen removes more border controls

PRODUCTS & SERVICES

[E-mail news](#)

[Mobiles](#)

[Alerts](#)

[News feeds](#)

[Podcasts](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

Airbus A380.
See the bigger picture.
>> airbus.com



MMVII

Most Popular Now | The most read story in Europe is: Whale 'missing link' discovered

[Back to top](#) ^^

[Help](#) | [Privacy and cookies policy](#) | [News sources](#) | [About the BBC](#) | [Contact us](#) | [Advertise with us](#)