

MAGAI MATIOP NGONG,
SOUTH SUDAN

SENTENCED TO DEATH AT 15

WRITE
FOR
RIGHTS

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



MAGAI MATIOP NGONG

SOUTH SUDAN

When Magai Matiop Ngong was 15, he loved running and singing. He was in high school and had ambitions to be the president of South Sudan so that he could help people when he grew up. But life as he knew it came to a sudden end in 2017 when he was convicted of murder.

Magai's cousin had argued with a neighbour. When the neighbour got a gun, Magai did too. Magai fired warning shots into the ground, but one of the shots ricocheted and injured Magai's cousin. He died later in the hospital. At his trial, Magai told the judge that he was only 15 and tried to explain that the killing he was accused of was an accident.

But the judge sentenced him to death by hanging. "The feeling is not good at all," he says, "to be informed that you are going to die, I am not happy for that..."

Magai didn't have a lawyer to help him when he was arrested or even during his first trial. The judge told him he had 15 days to write an appeal against his death sentence but "they had no advocates for me." He only got a lawyer when he moved prisons.

Last year, seven people were hanged in South Sudan: one of them, like Magai, was just a child.

Two years after his sentence, Magai is on death row in Juba Central Prison. He sings gosepl songs in the prison church to keep his spirits up and hasn't lost his hope "to be out and continue school."

Tell South Sudan to cancel Magai's death sentence.

#W4R19

#InSolidaritywithMagai

WRITE TO THE PRESIDENT

Remind him that under South Sudan's Transitional Constitution, international human rights law, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, persons below 18 at the time of the crime may not be sentenced to death.

Urge him to cancel Magai's death sentence.

President of South Sudan Salva Kiir Mayardit

*Permanent Mission of South Sudan to the UN
336 East 45th Street, 5th floor New York, NY 10017, USA*

Twitter: @RepSouthSudan / @PresSalva

Salutation: Your Excellency

SHOW MAGAI YOU'RE WITH HIM

Send a greeting to Magai. Before mailing it, please take a photo of your message and post it on social media, tagging it #InSolidaritywithMagai. On Twitter, use the same hashtag and tag your tweets @RepSouthSudan and/or @PresSalva and @AmnestyEARO.

Magai Matiop Ngong

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**WRITE A LETTER
CHANGE A LIFE**

