

Kenya's President Commutes Sentence Of 2,747 Death Row Prisoners

On October 24, 2016 Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta commuted the sentence of all 2,747 persons on death row to a sentence of life imprisonment. In addition, the president issued pardons to 102 prisoners serving long sentences. President Kenyatta's office issued the [following statement](#):

President Uhuru Kenyatta has signed commutation documents commuting all death sentences into life jail terms.

Following the signing of the documents at State House, Nairobi, some 2747 death row convicts will now serve life imprisonment. This includes 2655 male convicts and 92 female convicts who will be removed from the death row to serve life sentences.

The last commutation of death sentences to life imprisonment was done in 2009 by the then President Mwai Kibaki.

Invoking the Power of Mercy provided for under Article 133 of the Constitu-



Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta (wikileaks.org)

tion, President Kenyatta today also signed a pardon warrant and released 102 long-term serving convicts.

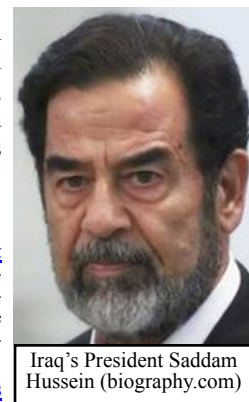
The reprieve for the 102 convicts came after a thorough vetting by the Power of Mercy Advisory Committee.

The Power of Mercy is a prerogative power conferred on the President by the Constitution and entails granting pardon to reformed and rehabilitated convicted criminal offenders deserving early release from prison.

Present were Attorney General Githu Muigai, Interior Cabinet Secretary Joseph Nkaissery, Power of Mercy Advisory Committee Secretary Michael Kagika Prisons Commissioner General Isaiah Osugo, and Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service Joseph Kinyua.

The blanket commutation of all death sentences by Kenyatta and in 2009 by his prede-

cessor, President Mwai Kibaki, and the pardoning of large numbers of prisoners is not unprecedented. On October 20, 2002 Iraq's President Saddam Hussein issued a [decree ordering](#) "a complete, comprehensive and final amnesty" for all prisoners in Iraq. The prisoners were ordered to be "freed immediately." Many thousands of prisoners were released from Abu Ghraib in Baghdad and the other prisons in Iraq. It was reported that in response to President Hussein's decree there were "Tens of thousands of people, dancing and singing their delight... Joyful relatives of prisoners waved portraits of Saddam in the air, singing their gratitude." On March 20, 2003 the United States and several allies invaded Iraq and toppled Iraq's government. President Hussein was executed on December 30, 2006, after being found guilty of crimes against humanity.



Iraq's President Saddam Hussein (biography.com)

Sources:

[Death row convicts get a reprieve](#), Press Release, The Presidency -- Official Website of the President of Kenya, October 24, 2016

[Saddam empties Iraq's jails](#), *The Telegraph* (London), Oct. 21, 2002

James Comey Is Most Dishonest FBI Director In U.S. History

By Hans Sherrer

Dishonesty by state and federal prosecutors and law enforcement officers was involved in a majority of the thousands of known wrongful conviction cases. With only a few exceptions, those people were steamrolled because they lacked the wealth to hire competent lawyers, private investigators and experts, or they lacked the insider/political connections that would have either outright deterred their prosecution, or prevented their prosecution after their exclusion following an honest review of the evidence. That systemic corruption is reflected in Justice Denied's logo that shows the snake of evil tilting the scales of justice.

The converse of an innocent person being unable to avoid a wrongful conviction because they lack money or insider/political connections, is a blatantly guilty person avoiding conviction for the crimes they did



FBI Director James Comey

commit because they have the money or political connections necessary to do so.

There is nothing new about this. The great investigative reporter George Seldes (1890-1995) began his newspaper career in Pittsburgh in 1909. One of Seldes' early assignments as a reporter was to investigate a complaint by a female employee of a large store that she had been raped by the owner's son. Seldes obtained evidence substantiating the woman's claim. Seldes wrote a story exposing the rapist that he expected to be printed. His story wasn't published. When Seldes asked why, he was told the advertising department sent a copy of his story to the store's owner. The owner was told the story would run if he didn't increase his advertising with the paper. The owner agreed to increase his advertising, and the story was killed. That incident was a rude awakening of Seldes to the unseemly reality

that insider connections could protect a criminal from getting his or her just deserts. That reality was reinforced many times during his career. Seldes describes many such incidents in his autobiographical book, "Tell The Truth And Run" (New York: Greenberg, 1953).

FBI's Investigation of Hillary Clinton's use of a private e-mail server while Secretary of State

Hillary Clinton was the U.S. Secretary of State from February 2009 to February 2013.

On July 5, 2016 FBI Director James B. Comey Jr. issued a statement regarding the FBI investigation of Clinton's use of personal e-mail systems during her time as Secretary of State.

Comey described that based on a criminal referral from The Intelligence Community Inspector General, the FBI began an investigation of Clinton's use of personal e-mail systems for government work during her time as Secretary of State. That investigation discovered that Clinton used multiple private

Comey cont. on p. 17