

**TAMARA CHIKUNOVA,
Uzbekistan
Mother of Dmitry Chikunov,
executed in Uzbekistan in 2000**

In 1999, Tamara Chikunova's son Dmitry was accused of murder and sentenced to death. In July of the following year, Tamara went to Tashkent prison for an authorized visit with her son, but was told that she should return the next day. When she did, she was told that Dmitry had been executed two days earlier.

As founder of the group Mothers Against the Death Penalty and Torture, Tamara has worked on dozens of death penalty cases and worked with Amnesty International to campaign against the death penalty in Uzbekistan, right up until the passage, in June 2007, of a law that abolished the death penalty there. Shortly afterward, Tamara traveled to the U.S. to speak with other MVFHR members on a panel at the International Women's Peace Conference, and she continues to draw attention to the needs of families of prisoners and families of people who have been executed, even after abolition.

"It is one of the worst things for me that I do not know where Dmitry is buried. If I knew, I would at least have a place where I can go with my grief and where I can talk to him. I work against the death penalty to honor my son's memory and to work towards a world where no one will have to suffer what we have suffered.."

Links to more information:

<http://mvfhr.blogspot.com/2007/10/voices-of-families-of-executed-part-5.html>



Tamara Chikunova with a photo of Dmitry

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