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Freedom for the Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor.

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Letter from the Editor

Edited by Stephen P. Stone, MD

Freedom for the Bulgarian Nurses and a Palestinian Doctor

On July 24, 2007, the five Bulgarian nurses and the Palestinian, unjustly accused of infecting Libyan children with the AIDS virus, were freed by the Libyan government. They had spent a tumultuous seven years in prison, much of the time on death row, having been accused of injecting the children with tainted blood they had brought with them. This was not only preposterous but also an impossibility as the particular strain of the AIDS virus had been found in Libya, two years prior. [1]

In the September-October 2005 issue of *Clinics in Dermatology*, Nikolai Tsankov, MD, PhD and Andrey Kehayov, MD called attention to this horrible situation. To these physicians, we are most appreciative that called the attention of our readers to this flagrant violation of humans rights. [2] In recognition of the help provided by our publication, The Bulgarian Medical Association presented the Honorary Sign of the Association to Lawrence Charles Parish, MD, Editor-in-Chief on behalf of the Editors and Editorial Board of *Clinics in Dermatology* on October 19, 2007 in Sofia, Bulgaria. We thank the authors of their contribution.

References:

[1] Butler D. Libyan ordeal ends: medics freed. *Nature*. 2007;448:398.

[2] Tsankov N, Kehayov A. Crisis in Libya: Doctor and nurses under death sentence. *Clinics in Dermatology*. 2005;23:527.

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CHARTER

THE BULGARIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

AWARDS

Prof. Lawrence Parish

with the

Honorary Sign of the Association

*for the support provided in connection with the trial of the 5
Bulgarian nurses in Libya*

19.10.2007
Sofia

D-R ANDREY KEHAYOV
PRESIDENT
BULGARIAN MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION

