

Libya to rule on medics' fate next month

by UPI

TRIPOLI, Libya - The death sentences for five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor will be reviewed by Libya's Supreme Court next month, a judge in Tripoli ruled Wednesday.

The appeal will be heard July 11 and the court could confirm, revoke or change the already imposed sentences but cannot order a retrial, the Sofia News Agency reported.

The medical personnel are charged with deliberately infecting 426 children with HIV in a Benghazi hospital and have been in jail since 1999. They have been tried and convicted twice but Tripoli has been under international pressure to free the six, who all deny the charges and blame the infections on unsanitary conditions. They also claim the confessions prosecutors used against them were obtained under torture.

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