

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 13/02/92
Distrib: PG/SC

Date: 10 January 1992

MEDICAL CONCERN

**@Nezameddin MOVAHED
IRAN**

Amnesty International is concerned for Nezameddin Movahed, a 74-year-old prisoner of conscience who is currently hospitalized, but may soon be returned to Evin prison. Mr Movahed has coronary heart disease, arthrosis of the spinal column and knees, and has a prostatic enlargement which has caused urine retention and infection of the bladder.

Background

Nezameddin Mohaved is one of a group of people arrested in June 1990 after signing an open letter to President Rafsanjani critical of government policies. He was a member of the central council of the Association for the Defence of Freedom and Sovereignty of the Iranian Nation (ADFSIN), which was dissolved in June 1990. He is an engineer by training and held several positions in government both before and after the creation of the Islamic Republic. During these periods, he was involved in a number of technical development programmes in engineering, electricity supply, irrigation and the railway system, etc. He has been arrested previously, in May 1988, when he was imprisoned in connection with an open letter calling for an end to the war with Iraq in which Iran was then engaged.

Nezameddin Movahed was sentenced to three years' imprisonment and 30 lashes in August 1991, a sentence which runs from the date of his trial. (The lashes have not been inflicted.) Since his arrest, there has been concern for his well-being given his age and his state of health. In November 1991 he was hospitalized in Tehran where he is at present under the care of a cardiologist and is also receiving treatment for his arthrosis. Surgery to remove his prostate was planned, but was initially delayed due to severe urinary tract infection and has now been postponed because of his coronary disease. He suffers severe chest pain and periods of loss of consciousness, but despite his condition authorities at Evin prison are reported to have requested his return to prison. It is believed that this may be imminent and there is considerable concern given his age and his state of health.

Of those initially arrested in June 1990, eight others are still believed to be in prison. Ali Ardalan, one of the prisoners, recently had his sentence suspended on grounds of age. (He is 76, suffers from long-standing ischaemic heart disease, and had been hospitalized in September 1991 after reportedly suffering kidney failure.)

Amnesty International considers Nezameddin Mohaved to be a prisoner of conscience and is appealing urgently for his release from prison.

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To: Medical professionals
From: Medical Office / Research Department - Middle East
Date: 10 January 1992

MEDICAL LETTER WRITING ACTION

**Nezameddin MOVAHED
IRAN**

Keywords: POC/ill-health/medical care

Summary

Amnesty International is concerned for Nezameddin Movahed, a 74-year-old adopted prisoner of conscience who is currently in hospital with a number of pathological conditions, but has been told that he must shortly return to prison. Amnesty International is appealing for his release.

Recommended Actions

Letters are requested from medical professionals to the addresses below:

- expressing concern at Nezameddin Movahed's state of health and at reports that he is shortly to be returned to prison despite his current state
- stressing that, given his age, medical history and current condition he remains in need of proper hospital care and attention
- urging that in view of the fact that he is a prisoner of conscience he be released immediately and unconditionally

Addresses

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Copies to:

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and to Iranian diplomatic representatives in your own country