



**amnesty  
international**

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT  
1 Easton Street London WC1X 8DJ  
United Kingdom

**URGENT  
ACTION**

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 13/20/88  
Distr: UA/SC

UA 293/88 Fear of Torture/Fear of Execution

8 November 1988

IRAN: Fereidoun FAROUGHFI

=====

Amnesty International is concerned by a report it has received that a supporter of the Kurdish opposition group, Komala, is in prison in Saghez in north western Iran, that he may be suffering torture, and that he is at risk of execution. Fereidoun Faroughi was arrested at the end of September 1988 in Saghez. Since his arrest he has not been permitted any visitors and, in common with all political prisoners in Iran, he has not been given the right to legal representation.

There have been substantial numbers of political executions in Iran in the last three months. A ban on visits by family members to their relatives in prison continues to make it very difficult to ascertain the number of executions that have taken place. Some opposition groups put the figure at over 2,000 while a wide range of opposition opinion agrees that hundreds of executions have taken place. The government has made statements apparently advocating the execution of political opponents (see UA 235/88, MDE 13/14/88, 2 September and MDE 13/1/7/88, 20 October). There have been reports from witnesses of large numbers of bodies being discovered in shallow graves in the area of Behesht-e Zahra cemetery in Tehran usually reserved for executed political prisoners, and in other parts of the country.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases as a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In the case of Iran it is particularly concerned by the lack of provisions for a fair trial in political cases, and the absence of a right to appeal against a death sentence.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Telegrams/telexes/airmail letters:

- expressing concern at the report that Fereidoun Faroughi is at risk of execution in Saghez Prison and calling for the commutation of the death sentence imposed on him;
- asking for the reasons for the arrest of Fereidoun Faroughi and details of the charges brought against him. Also ask for details of his trial;

(recommended actions continue overleaf)

**Telephone 01-833 1771 Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1 Telex: 28502**

**Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working for the international protection of human rights. It seeks the release of men and women detained anywhere because of their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religious creed, provided they have not used or advocated violence. These are termed prisoners of conscience. It works for fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners and works on behalf of such people detained without charge or trial. It opposes the death penalty and torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of all prisoners.**

- seeking assurances that he received a fair trial in accordance with Article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including the right to call witnesses in his defence, the right to be represented by a lawyer of his own choosing and the right to appeal to a higher court against both verdict and sentence. Stress the particular importance of fair trial procedures in cases where the death penalty is a possible punishment.

- seeking assurances that he is being well-treated and that he is being permitted access to relatives, his lawyer and a medical doctor, if necessary.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** DO NOT mention the opposition group Komala in your appeals.

**APPEALS TO:**

H.E. Ayatollah Abdulkarim  
Musavi Ardebili  
Chief Justice and President of  
the Supreme Judicial Council  
Ministry of Justice  
Park-e Shahr  
Tehran  
Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: Chief Justice, Justice  
Ministry, Tehran, Iran  
Telexes: 214231 miti ir; 213113 prim ir

Mehdi Tabeshi  
Governor General of  
Kordestan Province  
Sanandaj  
Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: Mehdi Tabeshi, Governor  
General Kordestan Province,  
Sanandaj, Iran

**COPIES TO:** diplomatic representatives of Iran in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 8 December 1988.

— Please take action as soon as you receive this Urgent Action appeal. Carefully read the recommended action. If possible, send a telegram or express letter immediately to one or more of the addresses given. Other letters can be sent afterwards.

— Telegrams and letters should be brief and courteous. Stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. Refer to relevant provisions in international law, such as the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

Article 3 — "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

Article 5 — "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."

Article 9 — "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile."

— The name of Amnesty International may be used, although letters written in a private or personal capacity may be more effective.

— Copies of appeals should be sent to relevant diplomatic representatives in your country.

— In Urgent Action cases, Amnesty International has to act rapidly to prevent the ill-treatment of prisoners. An appeal is issued when Amnesty International believes it has received reliable and accurate information in such cases. It is not always possible to verify all details independently and in some instances the situation outlined in the appeal may change. Urgent Action participants are always notified of any significant new facts.

— Copies of any replies received from government authorities should be sent immediately to your section's Urgent Action coordinator or direct to the Campaign and Membership Department of the International Secretariat. If appropriate, thank the official who has replied and ask to be kept informed about the case.