

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 13/12/91  
Distrib: PG/SC

Date: 7 November 1991

*MEDICAL CONCERN*

**@Further information on Ali ARDALAN  
IRAN**

(See MDE 13/04/91 - 25 January 1991 & MDE 13/11/91, 22 September 1991)

Amnesty International has learned that Ali Ardalan, a 75-year-old prisoner of conscience, has been admitted to hospital in Tehran. He suffers from ischaemic heart disease for which he had been receiving treatment for some 20 years prior to imprisonment in 1990. Concern has been expressed to the Iranian authorities about his state of health on several occasions and in mid-1991 there was increased concern when he was reported to be suffering from frequent fainting spells and from failure of one of his kidneys. Heart surgery for installation of a pacemaker is reported to have been recommended.

Ali Ardalan was one of a number of people arrested in June 1990 for having signed an open letter to President Rafsanjani critical of Iranian government policies. In mid-1991 he was sentenced to three years' imprisonment dating from the time of sentencing rather than arrest. He was also sentenced to 20 lashes, although it is not known whether this latter punishment was carried out.

Amnesty International continues to call for his immediate and unconditional release from prison and is seeking information on his current condition and the treatment he is receiving in hospital.

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To: Medical professionals  
From: Medical Office / Research Department - Middle East  
Date: 7 November 1991

*FOLLOW-UP TO MEDICAL LETTER WRITING ACTION***Ali ARDALAN**

(See MDE 13/04/91, 25 January 1991 & MDE 13/11/91, 22 September 1991)

**IRAN****Keywords**

Theme: ill-health/POC

**Summary**

Ali Ardalán, a 75-year-old adopted prisoner of conscience, was recently admitted to hospital. It is not known what treatment he is receiving, but he is known to suffer from ischaemic heart disease and earlier this year is reported to have been suffering kidney failure. Amnesty International continues to seek his immediate and unconditional release.

**Recommended Actions**

Letters are requested from medical professionals to the addresses given below

- noting that Ali Ardalán is recently reported to have been admitted to hospital from his place of detention
- expressing concern for his well-being and politely seeking information on his present condition and the treatment he is receiving in hospital
- urging that in view of the fact that he is a prisoner of conscience he be released immediately and unconditionally

**Addresses**

H.E. Hojatoleslam Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani  
President of the Islamic Republic of Iran  
Office of the President  
Palestine Avenue  
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Hojatoleslam Abdollah Noori  
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