

EXTERNAL

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@ FURTHER INFORMATION ON MEDICAL LETTER WRITING ACTION

(See MDE 13/06/92, 6 March 1992; MDE 13/02/92, 10 January 1992
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**Ali ARDALAN, Nezameddin MOVAHED
and 7 other prisoners of conscience**

IRAN

Keywords

Theme: POCs/ill-health/release

Amnesty International has learned that Ali Ardalán, Nezameddin Movahed and seven others imprisoned at the same time were pardoned and released in early April 1992. They had been arrested in June 1990 for having signed an open letter to President Rafsanjani critical of Iranian government policies. Amnesty International had adopted all nine as prisoners of conscience and had repeatedly called for their release from prison. Ali Ardalán, who is aged 76, suffers from ischaemic heart disease and in 1991 was reported to have suffered kidney failure. Nezameddin Movahed, aged 74, suffers from coronary heart disease and arthrosis of the spinal column and knees. Both had been hospitalized in late 1991.

The nine men were pardoned and released on the occasion of the 13th anniversary of the establishment of the Iranian Republic of 1 April. Amnesty International is currently seeking official confirmation that their release is unconditional and that they are not subject to any physical restrictions. Those released in addition to Ali Ardalán and Nezameddin Movahed are Dr Habibollah Davaran, Abdolali Bazargan, Khosrow Mansourian, Akbar Zarinehbab, Mohammad Tavassoli Hojati, Hashem Sabbaghian and Abol Fazl Mir Shams Shahshahani.

No further action is requested at present. Thank you to all who have appealed on their behalf over the last two years.