

EXTERNAL

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EXTRA 105/95

Death penalty

13 September 1995

IRANVahid Ghadimi, aged 47

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Amnesty International fears that Vahid Ghadimi may be at risk of imminent execution. According to Iranian newspaper reports, he has been sentenced to death, possibly by an Islamic Revolutionary Court, after being convicted of crimes including at least three murders, various armed robberies, drug-related offences and cooperating with groups abroad which advocate the overthrow of the present government. The sentence is reported to have been confirmed by the Supreme Court. Vahid Ghadimi is said to have been sought by the authorities since escaping from prison in 1965 after conviction for robbery.

Amnesty International, while recognizing the rights and responsibilities of governments to bring to justice those responsible for crimes, opposes the death penalty in all cases as the ultimate violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English, French or your own language:**

- urging that the death sentence against Vahid Ghadimi and all other pending death sentences in Iran be commuted;
- drawing attention to world trends to abolish or reduce the use of the death penalty, the desirability of which was reaffirmed in Resolution 32/61 of 8 December 1977 of the United Nations General Assembly.

**APPEALS TO:**

1) Leader of the Islamic Republic

His Excellency Ayatollah Sayed 'Ali Khamanei  
The Presidency  
Palestine Avenue

Azerbaijan Intersection  
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

**Telegrams: Ayatollah Khamanei, Tehran, Iran**

**Telexes: 214231 MITI IR (marked for the attention of Ayatollah Khamanei)**

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

2) His Excellency Hojjatoleslam

Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani  
The Presidency

Palestine Avenue  
Azerbaijan Intersection  
Tehran

The Islamic Republic of Iran

**Telegrams: President Rafsanjani, Tehran, Iran**

**Telexes: 214231 MITI IR**

**(marked for the attention of President Rafsanjani)**

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

3) Head of the Judiciary

His Excellency Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi  
Ministry of Justice

Park-e Shahr  
Tehran

Islamic Republic of Iran

**Telegrams: Justice Minister, Tehran, Iran**

**Telexes: 214231 MITI IR; 213113 PRIM IR**

**(marked for the attention of the Justice Ministry)**

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

4) Minister of the Interior

His Excellency Mohammad Ali Besharati Jahromi

Ministry of the Interior

Dr Fatemi Avenue

Tehran

Islamic Republic of Iran

**Telegrams: Interior Minister, Tehran Iran**

**Telexes: 214231 MITI IR, 213113 PRIM IR**

**(marked for the attention of the Interior Minister)**

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

**COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:**

Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency

Dr Ali Akbar Velayati

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Sheikh Abdolmajid Keshk-e Mesri Avenue

Tehran

Islamic Republic of Iran

Sa'id Raja'i Khorasani

Chairman of the Islamic Consultative Assembly's Human Rights Committee

Imam Khomeini Avenue

Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

and to diplomatic representatives of Iran accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.**