

PUBLIC

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Further Information on EXTRA 01/03 (MDE 13/001/2003, 8 January 2003) and follow-up (MDE 13/034/2003, 03 October 2003) Fear of imminent amputation

IRAN

**Reza Nazaarit (m), aged 22
Mohammad Safaavi (m), aged 22**

Reza Nazaarit and Mohammad Safaavi have been pardoned by the Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

According to a 17 February letter to Amnesty International from the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in London, "the sentences of Mr Reza Nazaarit and Mr Mohammad Safaavi were commuted by the Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The amnesty of these persons was initially proposed to the 'Amnesty and Commutation Commission' of the Judiciary. Following the confirmation by this commission they were pardoned by the Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the occasion of the anniversary of the prophethood of prophet of Islam Muhammad."

Reza Nazaarit and Mohammad Safaavi were sentenced to "cross amputation" (right hand and left foot) on charges of "armed uprising against the Islamic regime" and theft by a Revolutionary Court in Shiraz on 9 August 2002.

Amnesty International welcomes this news from the authorities. No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.