

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 13/016/2002

30 September 2002

Further information on EXTRA 75/02 (MDE 13/015/2002, 25 September 2002) - Fear of imminent execution

IRANAmir Fakhri (m)]

Amir Karbala'i (m)] names
Payam Amini (m)] previously
Majid Qasemi (m)] unknown
Farhad Aq-Nariyan (m)]

Reza Parsa (m), aged 21

Arash Tajbakhsh (m)

Amnesty International has learned that despite appeals, five of the men sentenced to death were publicly hanged on 29 September in two separate districts of the capital Tehran.

Amir Fakhri, Payam Amini and Majid Qasemi were hanged from cranes in Lavizan, east Tehran and Amir Karbala'i and Farhad Aq-Nariyan were hanged from cranes in Azadi, west Tehran.

All five men were reportedly members of a gang known as *Karkas-haye Siyah*, or Black Vultures, and were allegedly convicted of numerous offences. Amnesty International has received no further information on the scheduled execution times of Reza Parsa and Arash Tajbakhsh.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English, Farsi, Arabic or your own language:

- expressing dismay at the recent executions in Tehran of Amir Fakhri, Payam Amini, Majid Qasemi, Amir Karbala'i and Farhad Aq-Nariyan;
- urging that the death sentences imposed on Reza Parsa and Arash Tajbakhsh be commuted immediately, possibly by means of commutation of their sentences by the Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in line with Article 6 (4) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), to which Iran is a state party;
- expressing your sympathy for the victims of violent crime and recognizing the rights and responsibilities of governments to bring to justice those suspected of criminal offences, but stating your unconditional opposition to the death penalty irrespective of the crime for which it is imposed, as the ultimate violation of the right to life;
- seeking details of the trials of the two men involved, including details of any appeals against their convictions;
- urging judicial officials to inform the families of the victims (those killed) of their right to spare those convicted from the carrying out of the sentence, converting it to life imprisonment;
- reminding the Iranian authorities of their commitment to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in particular Article 3: "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."

APPEALS TO:

Leader of the Islamic Republic

His Excellency Ayatollah Sayed 'Ali Khamenei,
The Presidency, Palestine Avenue,

Azerbaijan Intersection, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: Ayatollah Khamenei, Tehran, Iran

Email: webmaster@wilayah.org; (on the subject line write: For the attention of the office of His Excellency, Ayatollah al Udhma Khamenei, Qom)

Salutation: Your Excellency

President

His Excellency Hojjatoleslam val Moslemin Sayed Mohammad Khatami
The Presidency, Palestine Avenue
Azerbaijan Intersection, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: President Khatami, Tehran, Iran

E-mail: khatami@president.ir

Salutation: Your Excellency

Head of the Judiciary

His Excellency Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi Shahrudi
Ministry of Justice
Park-e Shahr
Tehran
Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: Head of Judiciary, Tehran, Iran

Faxes: + 98 21 879 6671 (number may be unreliable; please mark "Care of Director of International Affairs, Judiciary")

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO: Diplomatic representatives of Iran accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.