

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 13/034/2001

4 September 2001

**Further information on UA 215/01 (MDE 13/032/2001, 31 August 2001) - Possible Prisoner of Conscience/ Fear for Safety**

**IRANTahmineh Milani (f), aged 41**

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Film director Tahmineh Milani was released on bail by the Islamic Revolutionary Court on 2 September.

She had been held for about a week. The head of the judiciary in Tehran, in his capacity as public prosecutor, had accused her of "abusing the arts as a tool for actions which will suit the taste of counter-revolutionary and *mohareb* (war against God) groups".

The deputy culture minister intervened to secure her release, acting as guarantor for her bail, set at 200 million rials (approximately US\$115,000). Court investigations are reportedly under way but no date has yet been set for her trial.

"Khaneh-ye Cinema" (House of Cinema), the professional body for Iranian filmmakers, welcomed her release.

**Many thanks to all who sent appeals. Please send a final round of appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English or your own language:**

- welcoming the release on bail of Tahmineh Milani, and urging that any charges against her be brought promptly;
- urging that if prosecuted she should only be charged with an internationally recognised criminal offence;
- reminding the judicial authorities of Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights: "Everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of his choice."

**APPEALS TO:**

Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran

His Excellency Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei

c/o The Presidency, Palestine Avenue, Azerbaijan Intersection,

Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

**Telegrams: Ayatollah Khamenei, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran**

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

President

His Excellency Hojjatoleslam Sayed Mohammad Khatami

The Presidency, Palestine Avenue, Azerbaijan Intersection,

Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

**Telegrams: President Khatami, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran**

**Faxes: + 98 21 649 5880**

**E-mails: khatami@president.ir**

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Head of the Judiciary

His Excellency Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi Shahrud

Ministry of Justice

Park-e Shahr  
Tehran

Islamic Republic of Iran

**Telegrams: Head of Judiciary, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran**

**Faxes: + 98 21 537 8827 (number may be unreliable. A recorded message, in English, will indicate when to send fax - please send before it gives you the tone to leave a voice message)**

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

**COPIES TO:**

Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Excellency Kamal Kharrazi, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Abdolmajid Keshk-e Mesri Avenue, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

**Faxes: + 98 21 390 1999 (Human Rights Department)**

**E-mail: matbuat@mfa.gov.ir (please ask for the message to be forwarded to the Human Rights Department)**

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance

His Excellency Ahmad Masjed-Jame'i  
Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance  
Baharestan Square

Kamal-ol-Molk Avenue

Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

**Faxes: + 98 21 311 7535**

**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Khaneh-ye Cinema (House of Cinema)

23 Semnan Alley,

South Bahar Street

Tehran 15617, Islamic Republic of Iran

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and to diplomatic representatives of Iran accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 16 October 2001.