

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 13/008/2004

04 February 2004

Further Information on UA 11/04 (MDE 13/003/2004, 12 January 2004) Death penalty/flogging/torture

IRAN An Unnamed male

Executed: His wife

Amnesty International has learned that an unnamed woman, who was sentenced to execution and flogging in connection with running a brothel, was hanged in Qazvin on 22 January 2004. It is not known if she was flogged before her execution.

According to a 25 January report in the *Iran* newspaper, the execution was carried out immediately after the 28th Branch of the Supreme Court confirmed the sentence, which was issued by a criminal court in Qazvin two weeks earlier.

Her husband was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment, five of which are to be served in another location. He is also to receive 80 lashes which will be followed a death sentence by stoning. His case has been referred back to the Qazvin's lower court, for "clarification" (*raf'-e ebham*).

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

- expressing dismay at the execution of an unnamed woman in Qazvin on 22 January 2004;
- stating that Amnesty International recognizes the rights and responsibilities of governments to bring to justice those suspected of criminal offences but strongly opposes the death penalty as the ultimate cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment;
- urging that the death sentence imposed on the executed woman's husband be commuted;
- urging the authorities to work towards the abolition of the death penalty, as encouraged by international human rights standards, including Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), to which Iran is a state party.

APPEALS TO:

Head of the Judiciary

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

Fax: + 98 21 879 6671 (please keep trying; please mark "care of Director of International Affairs, Judiciary")

Email: Irjpr@iranjudiciary.org (Public Relations Office of Judiciary; please mark for the attention of HE Ayatollah Shahrudi)

Salutation: Your Excellency

Leader of the Islamic Republic

His Excellency Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei,
The Presidency, Palestine Avenue,
Azerbaijan Intersection, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

E-mail: 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

E-mail: khatami@president.ir (please resend your message if it does not get through
the first time)

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO:

Minister of Foreign Affairs.

His Excellency Kamal Kharrazi

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Abdolmajid Keshk-e Mesri Av

Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Fax: + 98 21 390 1999 (please keep trying; please mark "care of Human Rights Department,
Foreign Ministry)

Spokesperson of the Government of Iran

Mr Abdollah Ramazanzadeh

Email: webmaster@information.spk-gov.ir

Salutation: Dear Sir

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 17 March 2004.