

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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UA 407/94 Fear of Torture

17 November 1994

IRAN Mohammad Khandjari, taxi driver, aged 33

Amnesty International fears that Mohammad Khandjari may be subjected to torture. He was reportedly arrested at dawn on 12 November 1994 and is believed to be held in Rasht Prison.

Mohammad Khandjari was arrested at his home in South Tehran, and reportedly beaten up in front of his wife by members of the Pasdaran (Revolutionary Guards) before being transferred to Rasht Prison. He was apparently arrested for his alleged participation in the riots that took place in Qazvin on 3 August 1994. The riots were sparked off by a government proposal to create a new province with Qazvin as its capital, which was narrowly defeated by the Majlis (Consultative Assembly). The demonstrators wanted Qazvin, a leading industrial city, to become the centre of a new province independent from neighbouring Zanzan. There were a number of arrests and at least 13 people were reportedly shot dead and 80 wounded.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in English or in your own language:

- urging that Mohammad Khandjari be given immediate access to a lawyer of his own choosing, to family members, and to independent medical care if required;
- seeking information about the precise charges that have been brought against him and any information regarding his trial;
- urging that he be humanely treated.

APPEALS TO

1) His Excellency Hojjatoleslam
Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani
The Presidency
Palestine Avenue
Azerbaijan Intersection
Tehran
Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: President Rafsanjani, Tehran, Iran
Telexes: 214231 MITI IR; 213113 PRIM IR
(marked for the attention of President Rafsanjani)
Salutation: Your Excellency

2) His Excellency Ayatollah
Seyed Ali Khamanei
The Presidency
Palestine Avenue
Azerbaijan Intersection
Tehran
Islamic Republic of Iran

Telexes: 214231 MITI IR; 213113 PRIM IR
Salutation: Your Excellency

3) His Excellency Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi
Head of the Judiciary
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 Interior Minister)
Salutation: Your Excellency

4) His Excellency
Mohammad Ali Besharati Jahromi
Minister of Interior
Ministry of 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:

His Excellency
Dr Ali Akbar Velayati
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Sheikh Abdolmajid Keshk-e Mesri Avenue
Tehran
Islamic Republic of Iran

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 29 December 1994.