

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on 145/92 (MDE 13/09/92, 7 May 1992) - Legal concern

IRAN:           Naser Arabha, editor of a science magazine  
                  and three others

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Amnesty International has learned that Naser Arabha, the editor-in-chief of the science magazine Farad, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment following a trial held on 16 September 1992. He had been in detention since his arrest on 11 April 1992. Naser Arabha was tried by Branch 2 of the Criminal Court, in the presence of a jury of five members, which included the Head of the Bar Association. He was represented by an attorney at the trial. He was reportedly charged with "acting against internal security and insulting the exalted Imam Khomeini".

A colleague, named as Karimzadeh, who is believed to have been among those arrested at the same time, was tried and sentenced by an Islamic Revolutionary Court to one year imprisonment and a fine. It is not known whether he had access to legal counsel, and whether he was represented by a lawyer at his trial.

It is not clear on what date the sentences will start, and information as to the present status of two other colleagues arrested at the same time is not known to Amnesty International.

Amnesty International is continuing to seek further information from the authorities.

No further action is required from the UA network. Many thanks to all those who sent appeals on their behalf.