EXTERNAL AI Index: MDE 13/32/96

20 August 1996

Further information on UA 266/95 (MDE 13/21/95, 29 November 1995) and follow-ups (MDE 13/03/96, 23 January 1996, MDE 13/10/96, 22 March 1996 and MDE 13/20/96, 26 June 1996) - Fear of torture / Legal concern / Fear of death penalty

IRANHojjatoleslam val muslimin Mohammad Taqi al-Dhakeri, aged 41
Hojjatoleslam val muslimin 'Abdolrahman al-Ha'eri, aged 32 - RELEASED
Hojjatoleslam val muslimin Sayed 'Abdolrasul al-Musawi, aged 40 RELEASED

Hojjatoleslam Taleb al-Salehi, aged 24

Hojjatoleslam Mohammed Fazel Mohammad al-Saffar, aged 23

Hojjatoleslam Mohammad 'Ali Ma'ash, aged 24 - RELEASED

Sighatoleslam Fu'ad Fujian, aged 30

Mohammad al-Ghaffari, aged 42

Hadi al-Akhound al-Dhakeri, aged 29

Iyad Fujian, aged 25 - RELEASED

Hojjatoleslam val muslimin Sayed Morteza Shirazi, aged 29

Hojjatoleslam val muslimin Ja'far Ghani al-Ha'eri - RELEASED

Hojjatoleslam Muhammad Saleh Hedayati

Hojjatoleslam Sayed Abbas al-Musawi - RELEASED

Ahmad Akhound - RELEASED

Jalal Akhound - RELEASED

Hojjatoleslam val muslimin Sayed Mehdi Shirazi (brother of Sayed Morteza), aged about 20

Ali al-Rumaythi

Sheikh Hossein al-Dhakeri (brother of Mohammad Taqi and Hadi) - RELEASED Hojjatoleslam Sheikh Azizollah Hassani, aged about 60 - RELEASED and 7 others

Amnesty International has received reports of the release of those indicated in the list above. There are also unconfirmed reports that two others, Taleb al-Salehi and 'Ali al-Rumaythi may have been released about a week ago.

Most, if not all, of the remaining 15 are believed to remain in detention, and to have been subjected to various kinds of torture. Most, if not all, are believed not yet to have been brought to trial. Fears remain that, if tried and convicted, at least some could face the death penalty.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express/airmail letters in English, French or in your own language:

- welcoming the 10 releases, seeking confirmation of the release of Taleb al-Salehi and 'Ali al-Rumaythi and whether the releases were unconditional; urging that all those detained be granted access to prompt and regular family visits, and to lawyers and doctors of their choice;
- seeking details of the legal status of all those who remain detained including full details of all the charges and evidence against them and details of any trial proceedings, judgements and sentences;
- urging that all those detained be released if not promptly and fairly tried on recognizably criminal charges. Any prisoners of conscience should be released immediately and unconditionally;
- calling for a prompt, thorough and independent investigation into all allegations of torture, the methods and findings of which should be made public.

Note: In the previous update (MDE 13/20/96, 26 June 1996) it was incorrectly stated that Sayed Abdolrasoul al-Musawi had been sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment. It was Sayed Abbas al-Musawi who had received this sentence.

APPEALS TO:

1) 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

Salutation: Your Excellency

2) The President

His Excellency Hojjatoleslam Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani The Presidency, Palestine Avenue

Azerbaijan Intersection, Tehran, The Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: President Rafsanjani, Tehran, Iran

Salutation: Your Excellency

3) Head of the Judiciary His Excellency Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi Ministry of Justice Park-e Shahr, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: Head of the Judiciary, Tehran, Iran

Salutation: Your Excellency

4) Minister of the Interior His Excellency Mohammad Ali Besharati Jahromi Ministry of the Interior Dr Fatemi Avenue Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Faxes: +98 21 655 426

Telegrams: Minister of the Interior, Tehran, Iran

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO:

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

Chairman of the Islamic Consultative Assembly's Human Rights Committee Imam Khomeini Avenue, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Mr Hussain Farahi, Secretary, Islamic Human Rights Commission PO Box 13165-137, Tehran Islamic Republic of Iran

COPIES 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 30 September 1996.