

UA 184/02

Fear of iDetention without charge

IRANYousuf Torfi, (m) aged 16

'Abd al -Mu'min Torfi (m)

Bahram Azeri (m)  
Sayed Musa Kazemi (m)  
Sayed 'Isa Kazemi (m)  
Ahmad Kazemi (m)  
Zahid Anbari (m)  
Sa'id Ansari (m)  
Ahmad Mohammadi (m)  
Kazem Solimani (m)  
Nader Shirvani (m)  
Mahmoud Sabri (m)  
Ahmad 'Afri (m)

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Those named above, including sixteen year old Yousuf Torfi, who is a member of Iran's Arab minority, were reportedly detained without charge on 10 June at Tehran's Mehrabad airport. They were reportedly held in connection with passport and visa violations, though their arrest may have been politically motivated. There are fears for their safety, following reports that Yousuf Torfi is at risk of torture or ill-treatment.

The detainees are reportedly being held near the airport by the *Edare-ye Amaken*, (The Administration of Premises) an organization which is allegedly responsible for the enforcement of accepted moral codes in companies and other offices. They have reportedly been denied access to their families and legal representation.

Yousuf Torfi is said to be under "a great deal of pressure", leading to fears that he may be facing ill treatment and possibly torture. Members of his family have been contacted by an official from *Edare-ye Amaken* seeking over \$US 23 000 in return for his release and in order to insure that he is not imprisoned for 15 years.

There is no further information concerning the twelve other individuals arrested at the same time as Yousuf Torfi.

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

- seeking assurances that Yousuf Torfi and the twelve individuals named above, are not facing ill treatment or torture while in detention;
- urging the authorities to immediately and unconditionally release the detainees unless they are to be charged with an internationally recognized criminal offence;
- expressing concern that they have been denied access to their family and the right to legal representation while in detention;
- reminding the authorities that Iran is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which under Article 7 states: "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment".

**APPEALS TO:**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**

President

His Excellency Hojjatoleslam val Moslemin Sayed Mohammad Khatami  
The Presidency, Palestine Avenue  
Azerbaijan Intersection, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
**Telegrams: President Khatami, Tehran, Iran**  
**E-mail: khatami@president.ir**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Head of the Judiciary

His Excellency Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi Shahrudi  
Ministry of Justice  
Park-e Shahr  
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
**Telegrams: Head of Judiciary, Tehran, Iran**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Minister of the Interior

Abdolvahed Moussavi-Lari  
Ministry of the Interior  
Dr Fatemi Avenue  
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
**Telegrams: Interior Minister, Tehran, Iran**  
**Fax: + 98 21 896 0203 (it may be difficult to through but please keep trying)**  
**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  
**Telegrams: Foreign Affairs Minister, Tehran, Iran**  
**Faxes: + 98 21 390 1999 (it may be difficult to through but please keep trying.**  
**Please mark the fax "care of the Human Rights Department, Foreign Ministry)**  
**Salutation: Your Excellency**

Mr Mohammad Hassan Zia'i-Far

Secretary, Islamic Human Rights Commission  
PO Box 13165-137, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran  
**Telegrams: Secretary, Islamic Human Rights Commission, Tehran, Iran**  
**Faxes: + 98 21 204 0541**  
**E-mail: ihrc@Majlis.ir**  
**Salutation: Dear Sir**

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat,  
or your section office, if sending appeals after 31 July 2002.