

EXTERNAL

AI Index: MDE 13/27/97

23 June 1997

Further information on UA 92/97 (MDE 13/13/97, 3 April 1997) - Possible extrajudicial execution / Fear for safety

IRANEbrahim Zalzadeh - killed
Other writers and journalists in Iran

Amnesty International is dismayed that the Iranian authorities have apparently failed to launch a thorough and impartial investigation into the death of Ebrahim Zalzadeh, thus contravening the UN Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-Legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions.

An Iranian newspaper, dated 12 April 1997, reportedly stated that Ebrahim Zalzadeh was killed by thieves after being kidnapped and robbed on 22 February 1997. However, there was no indication that any thorough and impartial investigation into his death had been carried out. Other reports have suggested that Ebrahim Zalzadeh was arrested by officials of the Ministry of Information (Iran's secret service) and later killed.

Amnesty International remains concerned at the pattern of human rights violations against writers and journalists in Iran. The apparent failure by the authorities to conduct an investigation into the death of Ebrahim Zalzadeh reinforces the organization's fears for the safety of other writers and journalists in the country.

Following a final round of appeals, this UA will be closed, and the International Secretariat will continue to monitor developments in the case. Please send a last round of faxes and letters in French, English or your own language:

- urging the Iranian authorities to conduct an immediate, thorough and impartial investigation into the death of Ebrahim Zalzadeh, the methods and findings of which should be made public;
- calling on the Iranian authorities to guarantee the safety of all other writers in Iran, ensuring that they are protected from "disappearance", extrajudicial execution and torture;
- urging that anyone found responsible for human right violations be brought to justice.

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

Salutation: Your Excellency

2) President

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

Faxes: +98 21 6465242

Salutation: Your Excellency

4) Minister of Information

His Excellency Hojjatoleslam Ali Fallahian

Ministry of Information

Tehran, Islamic Republic of 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

Fax: +98-21-674790

Chairman of the Islamic Consultative Assembly's Human Rights Committee,

Iman Khomeini Avenue, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Mr Mohammad Hassan Zia'i, Secretary, Islamic Human Rights Committee,

PO Box 13165-137, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

and to diplomatic representatives of Iran accredited to your country.

Check with the International Secretariat, or your Section office, if sending appeals after 2 August 1997.