

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 13/28/99

24 November 1999

Further information on UA 160/99 (MDE 13/15/99, 9 July 1999) and follow-ups (MDE 13/16/99, 13 July 1999; MDE 13/24/99, 13 September 1999) - Death Penalty/Unfair Trial

IRAN Student Demonstrators

Three of the four student demonstrators sentenced to death have had their sentences upheld by a higher court, while one has had his sentence commuted on the grounds of insanity, according to press reports quoting the head of Tehran's Revolutionary Court, Gholamhossein Rahbarpour.

The four were reportedly sentenced to death in September for their alleged involvement in the student demonstrations in July. Amnesty International is concerned that their sentences were imposed after secret trials at special courts whose procedures fall short of minimum international standards for fair trial.

Gholamhossein Rahbarpour is also reported to have said in the newspaper *Sobh-e Emrooz* on 23 November that "The three who were condemned can ask for amnesty, which means their situations could change." He did not elaborate on this or provide the names of those sentenced.

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

- expressing grave concern at reports that three death sentences have been confirmed, and calling for them to be commuted immediately;
- asking to be told the names of all those sentenced, as well as details of the charges and trial proceedings against them;
- expressing concern that those sentenced may have been tortured to extract "confessions" and that they may have been sentenced to death after unfair trials.

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, Islamic Republic of Iran

Salutation: Your Excellency

2) President

His Excellency Hojjatoleslam val Moslemin Sayed Mohammad Khatami
The Presidency, Palestine Avenue
Azerbaijan Intersection, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: President Khatami, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Salutation: Your Excellency

3) Head of Judiciary

His Excellency Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi-Shahrudi
Ministry of Justice, Park-e Shahr,
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: Head of the Judiciary, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES TO:

Minister of Foreign Affairs,
His Excellency Kamal Kharrazi
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Sheikh Abdolmajid Keshk-e Mesri Avenue
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Mr Mohammad Hassan Zia'i-Far
Secretary, Islamic Human Rights Commission
PO Box 13165-137, Tehran,
Islamic Republic of Iran
Faxes: + 98 21 204 0541

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 5 January 1999.