

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 13/16/92
Distr: UA/SC

15 July 1992

Further information on 188/92 (MDE 13/13/92, 5 June 1992) and follow-up
MDE 13/14/92 of 10 June 1992 - Legal Concern/Fear of Torture/Fear of Execution

IRAN: Mass arrests in Mashhad, Shiraz, Arak, and Bukan

On 11 June 1992 the official Islamic Republic News Agency announced that four people had been executed and five others had been sentenced to death for their part in last month's riots in Shiraz. One of those who had been executed was named as Masoud Gholami. This brings the official total for executions following riots in Shiraz, Arak and Mashhad to eight. Amnesty International fears that the actual figure may be considerably higher.

Mohammad Karami, Prosecutor of the Islamic Revolutionary Court of Shiraz, was quoted as saying that 45 people had been given prison terms ranging from four months to ten years for their role in the 15 April riots in Shiraz. On 12 June Tehran Radio reported that 29 people had been sentenced to prison terms ranging from one to 10 years for their part in the riots in Arak. The radio stated that, according to the Ministry of Justice director for Central Province, "the special court will, in line with the Arak public prosecutor's indictment, deal decisively and severely with the perpetrators of the unrest, and in addition to the sentences issued, the files of another group of the perpetrators were being examined and dealt with".

According to unconfirmed reports received by Amnesty International, at the beginning of June violent demonstrations took place in Bukan, in west Azerbaijan, followed by the arrest of at least 100 people. Further demonstrations are reported to have taken place elsewhere in the country, including parts of Tehran and Tabriz.

Amnesty International is concerned that the actual number of executions in connection with the riots may be much higher, and fears that those arrested risk torture, ill-treatment and execution following summary trials.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes and airmail letters

- expressing regret and concern at the reported eight executions in connection with the riots in Shiraz and Mashhad, and seeking urgent clarification of the precise charges brought against these eight people, the date and place of their trials, whether they had had access to legal counsel and whether they had been given the right to appeal;
- expressing your opposition to the death penalty in all cases and strongly urging that the reported five death sentences be commuted and that no more death sentences be carried out;
- urging that those arrested for political reasons be given immediate and regular access to lawyers of their own choosing, their family members and medical doctors where necessary, and seeking assurances that their trial procedures will comply with internationally recognized standards for fair trial, as set down in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which Iran has ratified;

- seeking urgent assurances that all those who have been arrested are being humanely treated.

Page 2 of 2FU 188/92

APPEALS TO:

1) His Excellency Hojatoleslam
Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani
The Presidency
Palestine Avenue
Azerbaijan Intersection
Tehran
Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: President Rafsanjani, Tehran, Iran

Telexes: 214231 MITI IR; 213113 PRIM IR

(marked for the attention of President Rafsanjani)

Salutation: Your Excellency

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

Telegrams: Justice Minister, Tehran, Iran

Telexes: 214231 MITI IR; 213113 PRIM IR

(marked for the attention of the Head of the Judiciary)

Salutation: Your Excellency

3) His Excellency
Hojatoleslam Abdollah Noori
Minister of Interior
Ministry of Interior
Dr Fatemi Avenue
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: Interior Minister Noori, Tehran, Iran

Telexes: 214231 MITI IR; 213113 PRIM IR

(marked for the attention of the Interior Minister)

Salutation: Your Excellency

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

His Excellency
Dr Ali Akbar Velayati
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Sheikh Abdolmajid Keshk-e Mesri Avenue

Tehran
Islamic Republic of Iran

and to diplomatic representatives of Iran accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. No further action requested after
26 August 1992.