

**SAYED
ZIAODDIN (ZIA)
NABAVI
IRAN**

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



**ONE YEAR ON
FREE
THE PRISONERS
OF CONSCIENCE**

PLEASE HELP SAYED ZIAODDIN (ZIA) NABAVI

Zia Nabavi, aged about 27, is a member of the Council to Defend the Right to Education, a body set up in 2009 by students barred from further study because of their political activities. He was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment and 74 lashes in January 2010. He is a prisoner of conscience, held solely for the peaceful exercise of his rights to freedom of expression and association and because he is a relative of members of the banned People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI), currently based in Iraq.

Zia Nabavi was arrested on the night of 14 June 2009, shortly after attending a mass protest against the previous day's announcement that incumbent President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad had won the presidential election. Among others arrested at the same time was his cousin Atefeh Nabavi, herself now sentenced to four years in prison for attending a demonstration. He says that he was beaten, kicked, insulted and humiliated during his interrogation.

Held since then in Evin Prison, Tehran, Zia Nabavi was sentenced in January 2010 to three years for "gathering

‘Every person is, without a doubt, responsible for their own actions. Therefore, condemning someone for the actions and records of his relatives is illegal and unjust. If such a condemnation was justified, there would be no innocent person on earth...’

Sayed Ziaoddin Nabavi in a letter to Iran's Head of the Judiciary, February 2010

and colluding against national security”; one year for “propaganda against the system”; one year for “disturbing public order”; as well as 10 years for “links to and co-operation with the PMOI” to be served in internal exile in Izeh, Khuzestan province. He was also sentenced to 74 lashes for “creating unease in the public mind”.

The Iranian authorities have claimed that the PMOI and other groups were responsible for organizing the post-election demonstrations. Zia Nabavi denies all the charges, stressing that he has never had contact with the PMOI and has been extremely careful never to give the impression of doing so, since he has relatives living in PMOI-run camps in Iraq. His family cannot afford the extremely high bail set for his release pending appeal.

Zia Nabavi was previously arrested while studying at Mazandaran University, and was later barred from resuming his studies.

ACT NOW

WRITE POLITELY WORDED LETTERS TO THE HEAD OF THE JUDICIARY:

- calling for Sayed Ziaoddin Nabavi to be released immediately and unconditionally as he is a prisoner of conscience, held solely for peacefully exercising his rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly;
- urging that Sayed Ziaoddin Nabavi is not subjected to the cruel punishment of flogging;
- urging that while imprisoned, he is granted access to his family, his lawyer and to adequate medical care;
- calling for an immediate, thorough and impartial investigation into reports that Sayed Ziaoddin Nabavi was beaten, kicked and insulted during his interrogation and for anyone found responsible for torture or other ill-treatment to be brought to justice promptly and fairly.

Send your letters to:

Head of the Judiciary
Ayatollah Sadegh Larijani
Office of the Head of the Judiciary
Pasteur Street, Vali Asr Avenue, south of
Serah-e Jomhouri
Tehran, 1316814737
Islamic Republic of Iran

Salutation: Your Excellency
Email: info@dadiran.ir, bia.judi@yahoo.com
(in the subject line: FAO Ayatollah Larijani)

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