

INTERNAL (for AI members only)

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To: All sections
Coordinators for the 1989 death penalty campaign
Death penalty coordinators
Campaign coordinators
Coordination groups on Iran

From: Campaign and Membership Department/Research Department

Date: 1 February 1989

1989 CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY: COUNTRY APPEALS SERIES

CIRCULAR NO. 17A: RECOMMENDED ACTIONS AND ADDRESSES ON IRAN

This circular is primarily for use by the person(s) responsible for coordinating AI's 1989 campaign against the death penalty in large and medium-sized sections. Small sections are asked to see recommended action number 2 on this pink sheet.

Summary

Seven countries have been selected for high-level campaigning (Category A) throughout the death penalty campaign (April-December 1989). The countries are: China, Iran, Iraq, Nigeria, South Africa, USSR, USA.

Attached are INTERNAL recommended actions and addresses on Iran. These are for use with the EXTERNAL background paper, circular number 16A, AI Index: MDE 13/06/89.

Distribution

As above

Recommended actions

1. Sections are asked to distribute this document to groups participating in work on Iran as a Category A country. The 83 addresses contained in this circular should be divided out among the groups. Sections unable to cope with the number of addresses in this circular should concentrate on the addresses marked with an asterisk (*).

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2. Small sections do not need to use this document. They may base their campaigning towards Category A countries on the Focus sections of the May and June AI Newsletters. However, wherever possible, small sections are asked to organize an embassy visit (see recommended action 3, below).

3. Wherever possible sections are asked to organize an embassy visit. A number of sections were asked in December 1988 to organize a visit to the Iranian Embassy through the Rapid Response technique. If your section has already had an embassy visit you should try to have a second one with the purpose of introducing AI's 1989 campaign and reiterating AI's concerns about the use of the death penalty in Iran. For general advice on embassy visits see campaign circular number 14.

4. Sections are asked to supply their own government with information about the death penalty in Iran to encourage their support for inter-governmental initiatives at the United Nations and elsewhere relating to the promotion of human rights in Iran. The IS will inform sections if it plans any such initiatives.

5. The IS intends to issue material about the death penalty campaign in Farsi which will be mailed directly from the IS to the addresses included in this action.

6. In addition to group letters, appeals to legal authorities can be sent by lawyers or lawyers' organizations in your country and appeals to women's organization by women organizations.

7. Groups who were asked to participate in the Pre-Campaign Death Penalty Action on Iran (campaign circular number 8, AI Index: MDE 13/03/89) who have not received a reply to their letters should renew their request for information on the prisoners assigned to their group.

8. The IS will provide EXTERNAL information about executions in Iran throughout the campaign and sections can use this for publicity purposes.

9. This document is not for action by the Israeli Section. The US Section may participate but should not send massive appeals.