

IRAN

Plea to end persecution

GENEVA, Thursday (AAP-Reuter). — A United Nations human-rights panel asked the UN Secretary-General, Dr Waldheim, yesterday to make efforts to stop "systematic persecution" of Baha'is in Iran.

A resolution from an expert subcommittee said attacks on Iran's estimated 300,000 Baha'is were "motivated by religious intolerance and a desire to eliminate the Baha'i faith from the land of its birth".

The experts had heard statements "clearly demonstrating the systematic persecution of the Baha'is in Iran, including summary arrests, torture, beat-

ings, executions, murders, kidnappings, disappearances, abductions and many other forms of harassment".

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