



**amnesty  
international**

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT  
1 Easton Street London WC1X 8DJ  
United Kingdom

**URGENT  
ACTION**

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 13/17/89  
Distr: UA/SC

UA 139/89

Fear of Execution

18 May 1989

IRAN : A group of between 25 and 45 women

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Amnesty International has received reports that women political prisoners are again at risk of execution in Evin Prison, Tehran, despite the amnesty recently announced for many political prisoners in Iran. (See also UA 46/89, MDE 13/11/89, 10 February 1989).

A group of between 25 and 45 women are alleged to have been transferred to solitary confinement where they are said to be awaiting execution, having refused to repent of their former political activity on behalf of left-wing opposition groups. It has also been reported that some have been tortured, and that some may have already been executed.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since July 1988, Amnesty International has recorded the names of over 1,700 reported execution victims. It is unclear what, if any, judicial process was followed prior to the executions taking place. The organization has long been concerned that political trials in Iran do not meet international standards for a fair trial. The organization has received reports that during the celebrations for the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the Islamic Republic in February, the so called "ten day dawn", many political prisoners were reportedly granted amnesties. However, political prisoners still remain in detention, and are reportedly still at risk of execution.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telexes/telegrams/express and airmail letters:

- urging that any death sentence passed on women political prisoners in Evin Prison be commuted, and that no more executions be carried out;
- expressing regret at the very large numbers of executions which have taken place since the end of July 1988, and concern at continuing reports of executions;
- urging the immediate release of all prisoners of conscience held solely for their non-violent opposition to the government.

Telephone 01-833 1771    Telegrams: Amnesty London WC1    Telex: 28502    PM000077

Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working for the international protection of human rights. It seeks the *release* of men and women detained anywhere because of their beliefs, colour, sex, ethnic origin, language or religious creed, provided they have not used or advocated violence. These are termed *prisoners of conscience*. It works for *fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners* and works on behalf of such people detained without charge or trial. It opposes the *death penalty* and *torture* or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of *all prisoners*.

APPEALS TO:

H.E. Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani  
Speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly  
Majles-e Shouray-e Eslami  
Imam Khomeini Avenue  
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: Speaker, Majles-e Shoura, Tehran, Iran  
Telexes: 212450 ext ir  
212600 ext ir  
214242 ext ir

H.E. Ayatollah Abdolkarim Musavi Ardebili  
Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Judicial Council  
Ministry of Justice  
Park-e Shahr, Tehran  
Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: Justice Ministry, Tehran, Iran  
Telexes: 214231 miti ir  
213113 prim ir  
marked for attention Chief Justice

H.E. Dr Hassan Ebrahim Habibi  
Minister of Justice  
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 attention Justice Minister

COPIES TO:

H.E. Ali Akbar Velayati  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Sheikh Abolmajid Avenue  
Kooshk-e Mesri  
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

and to diplomatic representatives of Iran in your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 29 June 1989.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— Please take action as soon as you receive this Urgent Action appeal. Carefully read the recommended action. If possible, send a telegram or express letter immediately to one or more of the addresses given. Other letters can be sent afterwards.</li><li>— Telegrams and letters should be brief and courteous. Stress that your concern for human rights is not in any way politically partisan. Refer to relevant provisions in international law, such as the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights:<br/><br/>Article 3 — "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person."<br/><br/>Article 5 — "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."<br/><br/>Article 9 — "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile."</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— The name of Amnesty International may be used, although letters written in a private or personal capacity may be more effective.</li><li>— Copies of appeals should be sent to relevant diplomatic representatives in your country.</li><li>— In Urgent Action cases, Amnesty International has to act rapidly to prevent the ill-treatment of prisoners. An appeal is issued when Amnesty International believes it has received reliable and accurate information in such cases. It is not always possible to verify all details independently and in some instances the situation outlined in the appeal may change. Urgent Action participants are always notified of any significant new facts.</li><li>— Copies of any replies received from government authorities should be sent immediately to your section's Urgent Action coordinator or direct to the Campaign and Membership Department of the International Secretariat. If appropriate, thank the official who has replied and ask to be kept informed about the case.</li></ul> |
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