



amnesty international

INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT
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URGENT ACTION

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

AI Index: MDE 13/01/88
Distr: UA/SC

Please organize up to 10 appeals per section.

UA 32/88

Death Penalty

2 February 1988

IRAN: 67 prisoners sentenced to death
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Amnesty International has received reports that 67 prisoners, alleged to be members of different political groups, have been sentenced to death in Iran. They are said to be held in different prisons, including Evin and Gohar Dasht.

On 15 January 1988 Amnesty International sent a telex to Ayatollah Ardebili, Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Judicial Council, asking for clarification of a report that these 67 death sentences had been sent to the Council for approval, and urging that if so they be commuted. No reply was received. Amnesty International has now heard that the sentences have been approved, and fears that those concerned may be in imminent danger of execution.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases on the grounds that it is a violation of the right to life and the right not to be subjected to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Telegrams/telexes/airmail letters:

- requesting clarification of the above report, and details of the charges brought against the 67 accused;
- urging that any death sentences against them be commuted and that no further executions take place in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

APPEALS TO:

His Excellency the President
Hojatoleslam Seyed Ali Khamenei
The Presidency
Palestine Avenue
Azerbaijan Intersection
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

His Excellency Ayatollah Abdulkarim
Musavi Ardebili
Chief Justice and President of the
Supreme Judicial Council
Ministry of Justice
Park-e Shahr
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

Telegrams: President Khamenei,
Tehran, Iran

Telegrams: Chief Justice Ayatollah
Musavi Ardebili, Justice Ministry,
Tehran, Iran

Telexes for both officials: 214231 miti ir; 213113 prim ir, marked
for the attention of ...

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

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*.

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