

February 21, 2001

Call against Injustice of Juridical Power in Iran

A Statement of Iranian intellectuals and activists addressed to the public and International Human Rights Organizations

Iranians have witnessed a new wave of strangulation by Juridical Power since last spring including the arrest of critics and the independent press and journalists, the acquittal of intruders of the university and the arrest of the student victims' lawyers, and the closed trial of commanders and officers who committed continuous murders in order to close this national dossier without informing people of its details, conversely, there has been an infliction of harsh punishments on those who revealed murders, trial and punishment of Berlin Conference participants, the removal of political prisoners to illegal and unofficial jails and use of force to make exact false confessions.

All these cases have resulted in the illegitimacy of juridical power inside the country and abroad and made it mad to do more actions:

Ahmad Zaidabadi, an independent journalist who was arrested last August, was moved to many different jails more than ten times, as a result of which he went on a food strike. After Zaidabadi, Hoda Saber, another journalist, was violently arrested early in February: his house was attacked, and his books and papers were seized by officers, according to his wife, Farideh Saber, who is being threatened currently by the revolutionary court, in a statement dated on February 11, 2001.

The consecutive arrests and exertion of force are still continuing; especially student and political activists have been targeted:

Currently Fariba Davoodi and Morteza Ahmadi, two reformist students, and Reza Alijani, editor of Iran Farda magazine have been captured. Ezatollah Sahabi, one of the old political champions and Ali Afshari, the leading member of the student association (Daftar Tahkim Vahdat), are detained in a secret location for interrogation and false confession. Moreover, Hassan Yusefi Eshkevari, after his closed trial several months ago, has still not been officially sentenced.

Based on reliable documented evidence, we announce that these events are only a fraction of the injustices and oppression by juridical power in Iran. There have been and continue to be countless cases. The special style of the juridical system in

Iran is tyrannical and it has given rise to ridicule. It does not even observe rights and laws within framework of Islamic Republic constitutional law.

Given this situation, the leader of the Islamic Republic regime in Iran has to be responsible for answering to world objections against the violation of the most fundamental human rights in Iran. However, against the majority of people's will, his appointed institutions were accompanied by a conservative faction which is not even able to introduce candidates who are acceptable to a minority of people, and which is attempting to stop the reformist movement by force and threat.

The nation of Iran calls on the collective conscious of the world to support it in its attempts toward the formation of a democratic and just system.

Copy to: United Nations High Commission for Human Rights (UNHCHR), UNESCO, European Parliament, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch (HWR), and World News Agencies and the Press

[The List of the names of signatories will be submitted with the statement]