



RELEASE SA'ID METINPOUR NOW

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**





Your Excellency,

Sa'id Metinpour, a member of the Iranian Azerbaijani minority, is serving an eight-year prison sentence for peacefully campaigning for greater cultural and language rights for his community. He is a prisoner of conscience and should be released immediately and unconditionally.

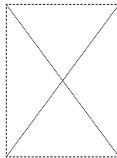
Sa'id Metinpour was arrested on 25 May 2007 in Zanjan, around the anniversary of mass demonstrations by Iranian Azerbaijanis against a cartoon in a state-run newspaper, which they considered offensive. Hundreds were arrested and almost 20 killed during the 2006 demonstration. Sa'id Metinpour was reportedly tortured during interrogation. He was also detained for 10 days in February 2007 for peacefully demonstrating on International Mother Tongue Day.

I also urge you to ensure that the Iranian public education system makes adequate provision for children of minority communities to learn their own language in school, and that minority communities are permitted to establish private schools to educate their children in their own language.

Yours sincerely,

Name: _____

Address: _____



**Leader of the Islamic Republic
Ayatollah Sayed 'Ali Khamenei
The Office of the Supreme Leader
Islamic Republic Street – end of Shahid Keshvar
Doust Street
Tehran
Islamic Republic of Iran**