

PUBLIC

AI Index: MDE 13/017/2007

16 February 2007

UA 39/07 Fear of torture or ill treatment/ arbitrary arrest

IRAN Adnan Hassanpour (m), journalist

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Adnan Hassanpour, journalist and advocate of cultural rights for Iranian Kurds, was reportedly detained on 25 January in Marivan, a small city in the northwestern province of Kurdistan. He is believed to be held incommunicado in the provincial capital Sanandaj, where he is at risk of torture or ill-treatment.

Up to six people, reportedly from the Ministry of Intelligence, are said to have telephoned Adnan Hassanpour's mobile telephone on 25 January and told him to go to a certain place. When he followed their instructions, he was arrested. Security forces personnel reportedly took him back to his home where they removed his computer, notebooks and other personal effects prior to detaining him. It is believed that he was transferred the same day to a detention centre in the provincial capital, Sanandaj, around two hours away, where he is believed to be held incommunicado.

Adnan Hassanpour has reportedly been denied access to his family and his lawyer. His mother is said to have made several requests to Ministry of Intelligence officials to visit him, after travelling for more than two hours in cold winter weather to reach Sanandaj, which have all been denied. The officials have reportedly indicated that he will be detained for several more weeks, although he is not known to have been charged with any offence.

Adnan Hassanpour is a former member of the editorial board of the Kurdish-Persian weekly journal, *Aso* (Horizon), which was closed by the Iranian authorities in August 2005. Adnan Hassanpour had previously reportedly been tried in connection with articles published in the journal.

On 13 February 2007, over 20 Kurdish writers, journalists and artists issued a petition against the manner of his arrest.

Kurdish human rights defender and journalist Sherko Jihani, who was arrested on 27 November 2006, is believed to have been tortured, including by being beaten severely, while held incommunicado at an unknown location, believed to be a detention facility belonging to the Ministry of Intelligence in Iranian Kurdistan. (See further information on UA 331/06, MDE 13/009/2007, 26 January 2007: <http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGMDE130092007?open&of=ENG-IRN>).

**RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send appeals to arrive as quickly as possible, in English, French, Persian and Kurdish (for authorities in Kurdistan) or your own language:**

- asking to be informed in detail about the reasons for Adnan Hassanpour's arrest, including any charges and evidence brought against him and of any trial which may be held;
- calling on the authorities to ensure that he is not tortured or ill-treated;
- calling for him to be allowed immediate and regular access to his family, a lawyer of his own choosing, and to any medical treatment he may require;
- stating that if Adnan Hassanpour has been detained in connection with his peaceful activities on behalf of Iran's Kurdish community, or with his peaceful exercise of his right to freedom of expression or association, Amnesty International would consider him to be a prisoner of conscience, who should be released immediately and unconditionally; otherwise he should be released unless he is to be charged with a recognizably criminal offence and brought to trial promptly and fairly.

**APPEALS TO:**

Leader of the Islamic Republic

His Excellency Ayatollah Sayed 'Ali Khamenei, The Office of the Supreme Leader  
Shoahada Street, Qom, Islamic Republic of Iran

**Email:** [info@leader.ir](mailto:info@leader.ir)  
[istiftaa@wilayah.org](mailto:istiftaa@wilayah.org)

**Fax:** +98 251 774 2228 (mark "FAO the Office of His Excellency, Ayatollah al Udhma Khamenei")

**Salutation:** Your Excellency

Minister of Intelligence

Gholam Hossein Mohseni Ejeie

Ministry of Intelligence, Second Negarestan Street, Pasdaran Avenue, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

**Email:** [iranprobe@iranprobe.com](mailto:iranprobe@iranprobe.com)

**Salutation:** Your Excellency

Head of the Judiciary

His Excellency Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi Shahroudi

Ministry of Justice, Park-e Shahr, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

**Salutation:** Your Excellency

**COPIES TO:**

President

His Excellency Mahmoud Ahmadinejad

The Presidency, Palestine Avenue, Azerbaijan Intersection, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran

**Fax:** + 981 6 674 790 (Via Foreign Ministry. Mark "Please forward to H.E. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad")

**Email:** [dr-ahmadinejad@president.ir](mailto:dr-ahmadinejad@president.ir), via website: [www.president.ir/email](http://www.president.ir/email)

**Salutation:** Your Excellency

Governor of Kurdistan

Esmail Najjar

**Email:** If sending emails in English, French or your own language, please use the feedback form on the English part of the website: <http://en.ostan-kd.ir/Default.aspx?TabID=59>  
If sending emails in Persian and Kurdish, please send emails via the feedback form on the Persian part of the website: [http://www.ostan-kd.ir/Default.aspx?tabId=150&cv=4@0\\_1](http://www.ostan-kd.ir/Default.aspx?tabId=150&cv=4@0_1)

**Salutation:** Dear Governor

Head of the Parliamentary Article 90 Commission

Mohammad Reza Faker

Majles-e Shoura-ye Eslami

Baharestan Square, Tehran, Iran

**Fax:** + 98 21 3355 6408

and to diplomatic representatives of Iran accredited to your country.

**PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY.** Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 30 March 2007.