



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

H.E. Majid Takht Ravanchi  
Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran  
622 Third Avenue, 34th Floor  
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr Ravanchi,

I am an Amnesty International activist writing to express my concern with the well-being of Zeynab Jalalian, a member of Iran's Kurdish minority currently serving a life sentence in Qarchak prison in Varameen. On June 2, 2020 Zeynab Jalalian tested positive for COVID-19 at the prison's medical clinic where she was taken to after feeling unwell and suffering from severe shortness of breath. She had been on hunger strike for six days over the authorities' refusal to transfer her to a medical centre for COVID-19 related treatment. After her hospitalization, she has been forcibly disappeared since June 25, 2020.

Ms Jalalian is a Kurdish woman who is serving a life sentence given to her after a trial that lasted a few minutes, clearly failing to meet international standards. No evidence was presented linking her to armed separatists or terror activity. Before the trial she was held for eight months with no access to a lawyer, and she claims that she was physically tortured and threatened with rape.

I am extremely concerned to hear that Zaynab Jalalian tested positive for COVID-19. For people with underlying health conditions contracting this disease can be lethal, and Zeynab Jalalian has been suffering from heart, intestinal, and kidney problems as well as an oral thrush condition. She is also at risk of losing her eyesight for which she had been denied surgery. Ms Jalalian is in need of immediate specialized medical care outside prison.

I urge you to ensure that Zeynab Jalalian is immediately provided with specialized medical care for COVID-19 and other health conditions that she has in an appropriate medical facility outside prison. I also call on you to release the information about her well-being and whereabouts to her family. It is essential to protect her from torture and other ill-treatment, and implement the recommendation of the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention from April 2016, which calls for Zeynab Jalalian to be released immediately and accords an enforceable right to compensation.

Yours sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_