



Date: _____

Head of Judiciary, Ebrahim Raisi
c/o H.E. Majid Takht Ravanchi
Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran
622 Third Avenue, 34th Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr Raisi,

I am taken aback by the news of three prisoners from Iran's Ahwazi Arab minority, **Ali Khasraji**, **Hossein Silawi**, and **Jasem Heidary** who have sewn their lips together and been on hunger strike since 23 January in Sheiban prison in Ahvaz, Khuzestan province, in protest against their prison conditions, denial of family visits, and the ongoing threat of execution. The fourth Ahwazi Arab prisoner on death row, **Naser Khafajian**, has been forcibly disappeared since April 2020 and his whereabouts are unknown.

Jasem Heidary is on death row following an unfair trial that convicted him of collaboration with armed opposition groups. His verdict was upheld in November 2020. Other men had been sentenced to death on 14 January 2020 in relation to an armed attack on a police station in Ahvaz on 14 May 2017 that led to the death of two officials. They have never been given copies of their verdicts.

In Sheiban prison Khasraji, Silawi, and Heidary are crammed into a cell intended for solitary confinement, which is outrageous and inhumane. In March 2020, along with other prisoners, they participated in protests over COVID-19 spreading in prison. Many were injured during the protest and the following violent transfer to and back from an unknown location and did not receive medical treatment for their injuries.

I urge you to quash the death sentences of these prisoners and immediately reveal the fate and whereabouts of Naser Khafajian. They all must be granted fair retrials, without recourse to the death penalty and excluding torture-tainted "confessions." Also please ensure that all prisoners in Sheiban prison are held in sanitary conditions and receive adequate medical care and regular access to their families and lawyers.

Yours sincerely,

Address: _____