



Date _____

Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei
c/o H.E. Saeed Iravani
Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran
622 Third Avenue, 34th Floor
New York, NY 10017

Dear Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and Mr. Iravani,

Well-known Iranian rapper and hip-hop artist Toomaj Salehi has been convicted of "corruption on earth" and sentenced to more than six years in prison and a ban on his artistic activities, solely because of his peaceful exercise of the internationally guaranteed right to freedom of artistic expression and for his advocacy for freedom and human rights and support of protests that took place in Iran following the death in custody of Mahsa Amini in September 2022.

Toomaj Salehi has been in detention since his arrest in October 2022. He was held in prolonged solitary confinement and reportedly subjected to beatings and other ill-treatment and torture. In addition to "corruption on earth" he was originally charged with nebulous offenses that could have resulted in the imposition of the death penalty.

Toomaj Salehi has used his music and videos to call for an end to human rights violations in Iran, to deplore poverty and corruption, and filmed himself taking part in the recent protests that have been taking place in Iran.

I urge that the prison sentence and artistic ban imposed on Toomaj Salehi be voided, and that he be immediately and unconditionally released, as he is detained solely for the peaceful exercise of his human rights including his right to freedom of expression. Pending his release, I urge that he be treated humanely, that he be provided with any necessary medical care, and that he be given regular access to a lawyer of his choosing and to his family. I also urge that the allegations of torture and other ill-treatment are investigated and those responsible are held to account in fair trials.

Yours Sincerely,

Name _____

Address _____