

# Call to Action

*Write a letter to Iranian Authorities*

ASSYRIAN  
POLICY  
INSTITUTE

## BACKGROUND

Two ethnic Assyrians in Iran, Pastor Victor Bet-Tamraz and his wife Shamiran Issavi, have each been sentenced to ten years in prison for activities related to the practice of their Christian faith. Bet-Tamraz and Issavi, as well as two Christian converts named Amin Afshar-Naderi and Hadi Asgari, have been targeted for “illegal church activities” which “threaten national security” in order to justify their convictions. Authorities have cited private Christmas gatherings, organizing and conducting house churches, as well as traveling outside of the country to attend Christian seminars in their case. [Learn more here.](#)

### *How you can help*

Please write in English, Persian, or your own language calling on Iranian authorities to:

- Quash the convictions and sentences of Victor Bet-Tamraz, Shamiram Issavi, Amin Afshar-Naderi, and Hadi Asgari, as they have been targeted solely for the peaceful exercise of their rights to freedoms of religion and belief, expression, and association, through their Christian faith;
- Stop the harassment, arbitrary arrest and detention, and imprisonment of Christians, including converts, in Iran;
- Respect the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, including the freedom to have or to adopt or change a religion or belief of one’s choice, and freedom, either individually or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest one’s religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching, as guaranteed under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Iran is a state party.

*[Click here to view our letter to the Head of the Iranian Judiciary.](#)*

PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE OCTOBER 4, 2018 TO:

Head of the Judiciary  
Ayatollah Sadeghi Larijani  
c/o Public Relations Office  
Number 4, Dead end of 1 Azizi  
Above Pasteur Intersection  
Vali Asr Street, Tehran, Iran  
Salutation: Your Excellency

Prosecutor General of Tehran  
Abbas Ja’fari Dolat Abadi  
Office of the General and  
Revolutionary Prosecutor  
Corner (Nabsh-e) of 15 Khordad Square  
Tehran, Iran  
Salutation: Dear Sir

Deputy for Human Rights and  
International Affairs, Ministry of Justice  
Mahmoud Abbasi  
Number 1638, Below Vali Asr Square  
Vali Asr Avenue  
Tehran, Iran

*Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country.*