

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.