



OPEN LETTER

H.E. Dr. Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, President of Iran
Ayatollah Sayed 'Ali Khamenei, Supreme Leader
H.E. Gholam-Hossein Mohseni-Eje'i, Head of judiciary
Dr Hossein Amir Abdollahian, Minister of Foreign Affairs
H.E. Mr. Amir Saeid Irvani, Permanent representative to the UN

2 January 2024

URGENT – Support to Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali

Your Excellency,

We are writing to you on behalf of the World Medical Association (WMA), the global federation of National Medical Associations representing millions of physicians worldwide, acting for the advancement of good practice, medical ethics and medical accountability internationally.

We are informed that Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali is at grave risk of imminent execution. Various news sources indicate that the Iranian authorities' threat to execute him comes in retaliation for their unfulfilled demands to overturn a recent decision by the Swedish Court of Appeal which upheld Hamid Nouri's conviction and life sentence for his role in the 1988 prison massacres in Iran. Such an attitude from the Iranian authorities is nothing more than despicable blackmail, using Dr Djalali's life as a bargaining chip. We condemn in the strongest terms this shameful haggle.

Dr. Djalali was sentenced to death on charges of espionage in October 2017 after a grossly unfair trial before the Revolutionary Court in Tehran. Since his arrest, he has been denied his fundamental human rights, undergoing solitary confinement and torture. Dr Djalali is unanimously recognized as a specialist in emergency medicine peacefully pursuing his profession. We believe that he is a prisoner of conscience and call on the Iranian authorities to release him immediately and unconditionally.

We urge as well the Iranian Government, parliament and judiciary to impose a moratorium on the death penalty as a first step towards its abolition.

We appeal to your humanity and sense of justice and trust that you will take promptly all the necessary steps related to our demands.

Your sincerely,

Dr Lujain Al-Qodmani,
President of the World Medical Association

Cc: Dr. Mohammad Raeiszadeh, President of the Iranian Medical Council