

TAKE ACTION: Please cut and paste this letter onto your personal or Institutional letterhead demanding the release of scholar Ramin Jahanbegloo.

August 25, 2006

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei
Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran
The Office of the Supreme Leader
Shoahada Street, Qom
Fax: +011 98 21 774 2228
E-mail: info@leader.ir, istiftaa@wilayah.org
Web: www.wilayah.ir

Excellency,

I wish to add my name to this appeal from PEN Canada, the Canadian centre of the international writers' organization, International PEN. PEN Canada is writing to call for the release of academic and writer **Ramin Jahanbegloo**

Jahanbegloo was arrested at Tehran airport on 27 April 2006, as he was about to leave for an international conference in Brussels, and his house was then reportedly searched. His detention was not officially confirmed until 3 May, although the reason for his detention remains unclear and no charges have been made known. There are unconfirmed reports that he is accused of espionage and of having links to monarchist and other opposition groups.

Jahanbegloo is the Head of the Department of Contemporary Studies at the privately-run Cultural Research Bureau in Tehran. He holds Iranian and Canadian citizenship.

Jahanbegloo is held in Evin Prison. His wife has been able to visit him personally on a few occasions. However, authorities have refused to allow the lawyer that Jahanbegloo's family hired to have any communication with his client.

PEN Canada is concerned for the safety of Ramin Jahanbegloo. We seek immediate assurances of his health and safety, and ask you to disclose the reasons for his detention. PEN Canada also calls for his immediate and unconditional release if held in violation of Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Iran is a signatory.

Sincerely,

[Your name and address]

Copies to:

His Excellency Mahmoud Ahmadinejad
The Presidency
Palestine Avenue, Azerbaijan Intersection
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
Fax: +011 98 21 649 5880
E-mail: dr-ahmadinejad@president.ir
Web-based message to President Amhadinejad: <http://www.president.ir/email/>

Acting Head of the Judiciary
His Excellency Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi Shahroudi
Ministry of Justice
Park-e Shahr

Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
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Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations
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Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran
245 Metcalfe St.
Ottawa ON K2P 2K2
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E-mail: iranemb@salamiran.org

Please send copies of your appeal to the following Canadian authorities:

The Hon. Peter MacKay
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Lester B. Pearson Building, Room A-10
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa ON K1A 0G2
Fax: (613) 996 3443
E-mail: peter.mackay@international.gc.ca

Jason Kenney
Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister
433-C Centre Block
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