



The joint statement of Iranian Writers Association (IWA) "in exile" and Iranian Pen Centre" in Exile"

Free the imprisoned Iranian writers unconditionally now!

Dear compatriots, freedom -loving people of the world

The Islamic Republic of Iran, in its continuous and relentless campaign of repression, censorship, arrests, terror, assassinations and mass executions, has yet again arrested and imprisoned another group of Iranian writers, poets and journalists in Iran. On Saturday 05 Mehr 1399-Sep.26.2020, two of the current board members of the IWA, namely Mr. Reza Khandanhe (Mahabadi) and Mr. Bektash Abtin and a former board member of IWA, Mr. Kayvan Bazhen were arrested and imprisoned by the Islamic Republic. These writers were apprehended due to their beliefs and relentless efforts in defence of unreserved freedom of speech, expression and thought (freedom without any restrictions, barriers and exceptions). All three were falsely charged with "anti- government propaganda" and "conspiracy and association to plot against the national security of the country"; the charges also included "publication of internal bulletin of IWA, cooperation in writing the history and statements of IWA and participation in gatherings for anniversaries of Mohamad Jafar Pouyandeh, Mohamad Mokhtari and Ahmed Shamloo". More writers, poets and journalists have been arrested or imprisoned or summoned to Islamic courts in the past few weeks; these include Mr. Aresh Ganji, Ms Geeti Pour Fazel, Mr Reza Esmaeili, Ms Shabnam Aashouri, Mr Anlovaar Gholi Vand, Ms. Neda Pir Khezrian, Mr. Aresh Johari, Mr. Andisheh Sadri, Ms. Mina Rad, Mr. Khosro Sadeghi Broojeni etc etc.

Freedom-loving people of the World

The Islamic Republic regime soon revealed its censoring and repressive nature in early stage of its formation when its founder, Ayatollah Khomeini, ordered "break these pens" and issued an edict for assassination of Salmaan Roshdi few years later. This regime has brutally and barbarically violated the human rights of Iranian people for more than four decades. This regime has ruled in violation of all international norms and accords on human rights charter and murdered many writers, poets and journalists; and has tortured, insulted, humiliated, socially deprived, imprisoned and sent into exile many more.

We the under-signed of this statement condemn the anti- human rights activities of this regime and hold responsible the leader of the Islamic Republic, Judiciary and the Ministry of Intelligence and other officials in charge, for the safety and well-being of the detained writers.

We the under-signed of this statement call upon the freedom-loving people of the world, writers and free press associations (Pen) and all human rights institutions throughout the world to raise their objections against the repressive policies of the Islamic Republic and condemn oppressive and unjust prison sentences in Iran.

Let's get together and stand up against continuous repression imposed by the Islamic Republic regime. Let's stop the endless and insatiable appetite of this regime for blood, execution, torture and imprisoning.

Let us enhance our beliefs on freedom of thought, speech, expression and on the integrity and dignity of human beings, by supporting the imprisoned writers in Iran and demanding their immediate and unconditional release.

We the under-signed of this statement demand the immediate waiver of the prison sentences of the detained writers and unconditional release of all prisoners of conscience, civil and trade union movement activists in Iran.

Board of the IWA in exile

Hossein Afsahi (writer and stage director), Ehsan Haghghi Nezhad (poet and writer), Manoocher Doosti (poet), Ali Asghar Fardad (poet and translator), Massoud Noghrehkar (writer and researcher),

Board of Iranian Pen Centre in Exile

Ziba Karbassi (poet), Ali Kamrani (stage actor and poet) Siavash Mirzadeh (poet and writer)

Dr Jennifer Langer, writer, director of Exiled Writer's ink

Jennifer Clement, poet, writer president of Pen International

Sharon Dunn, Writer, Editor Emerita AGNI.

Margaret Morganroth Gullette, author of *Ending Ageism, or How Not to Shoot Old People*, Resident Scholar, Women's Studies Research Center, Brandeis.

Jane Hirshfield, poet; chancellor emerita Academy of American Poets; elected member American Academy of Arts & Sciences

Nii Ayikwei parkes, poet, writer, publisher and sociocultural.

Michael Ansara, Board Member, Mass Poetry

Lloyd Schwartz, Frederick S. Troy Professor of English Emeritus, University of Massachusetts Boston.

Suzanne Mercury, Poet and Artistic Director of The Boston Poetry Marathon

Tara Skurtu, Poet and Writing Coach

Gerald Bergstein; Faculty Emeritus, School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Martha Collins, Professor Emerita, Oberlin College

George Kalogeris, Associate Professor of English, Suffolk University

Marita Coombs, Library Branch Manager

Alice Mattison, Core Faculty, Bennington Writing Seminars.

Robert Pinsky, Former poet laureate

James Carroll, writer, Boston, MA USA

Dr. Marvin Miller, Research Affiliate Science, Technology, and Society Program

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Gish Jen, novelist

Michael Ansara, Board Member, Mass Poetry

Stephen Tapscott, Professor, Literature, MIT

Marie Howe, professor Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY

Askold Melnyczuk, Professor, University of Massachusetts, Editor, Arrowsmith Press

Jill Mccorkle, author, writer

Linda.Bamber, fiction writer, poet , Tufts University

Steven Cramer, Poet, Professor of Creative Writing, Lesley University

Siri Hustvedt, Writer

Paul Auster, Writer

Alexandra Marshall, Writer

Kai Maristed, writer

Cintra Wilson, writer, editor cultural critic

Radu Vancu, poet

Romainian, Pen International

Kei Miller, poet, writer

David Garland, Graphic designer Musician

Alex Kovacs, writer, Political activist

Matthew Caley, poet, writer

Lois P. Jones, poet, radio host editor

Wlodeck Fenrych, writer, translator

Handsen chikowore, poet

Choman Hardi, poet

George Szirtes, Poet

David Caddy, poet

Gareeb Iskander, poet

Amanda Joy, poet, and writer

Kathryn Levy, poet

Diana robin, singer

Lello voce, critic writer

Katherine Rosen, ballet dancer in opera

Amanda holiday, poet

Simona Cesana, writer, director

Dome Bulfaro, poet

Amy Small-McKinney, poet

Jack Hirschman, Poet, Laureate

Mark Lamoureux, poet

San Miguel, Pen

Lucina Kathmann, poet

Ian moore, stand-up comedian

Liam Mullone, writer, comedian

Barbara Mary Prescott, poet, editor

Ami Sands Brodoff, writer

Kitty Knight, artist

Michael Taeckens, Publicity Director

Simone Menezes, artist

Judyth Hill, poet

Klaus J. Gerken, poet Scholar

Stephen Watts, poet, translator

Beth Copeland, Poet

Catherine Davidson, poet, writer

Katrina Naomi, poet

Beruriah Wiegand, poet, writer

Marco Cinque, Performer musician

James Haywood, Creativity Educator

Gianluigi Amorese, journalist critic

Oceana Rain Stuart, sculpture artist

Barbara Schacker, artist, and librarian

Cristina Newton, poet writer

scott pfaffman, artist musician

Elizabeth Baines, writer

Robyn Michele Field, social activist

Tawk love group Mewe, singer art performer

Béatrice van den Bossche, artist

Ross Bradshaw (Five Leaves Publications)

manolo L b mantero, poetic photographer

Trevor Joyce, poet, writer

Eric Scott artist, writer, composer, musician

Jeffery Beam, poet, writer

Toby Litt, writer

Jenny Lindsay, writer & events promoter

Bill Herbert. Poet, Professor of Poetry & Creative Writing

John Burroughs Ohio Beat Poet Laureate (2019-2021)

Adi Newton, artist

Lucille Lang Day, Poet, Writer

Linda Hogan Author, Speaker Environmental Writer

Amy King, Poet, Editor

Richard Krawiec, Poet, writer

Annemarie Huber, Federal Chancellor President Of the Swiss Red Cross

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Bahaddin Robar, Members of Peace committee of Kurdish Pen

Feratê Dengiz, Writer, Members of Peace committee of Kurdish Pen

Eyyup Güven, writer

Maziçinê, Writer

Ahmet Çelik, Writer

Ramazan Kaya, writer

Seyithan Kayaalp, Writer

Cemal Babaoğlu, Writer

Mesut üçkaç, Writer

Ahmet Gegez, Writer

M.Veli Karadeniz, Writer

Nurcan Delil, Writer

Mehmet Yardimci, Writer

Selda Kaya, Writer

Adil Başaran, Writer

Sinan Yılmaz, Writer

Med Reşyan, Writer

Zozan Gülan, Writer

Halil Doğan, Writer

M Hurşid Mendes, Writer

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PETITION STARTENANMELDEN

An: World PEN Association (PEN International) und World Human Rights Organization

Wir fordern die sofortige Freilassung der Schriftsteller aus dem Gefängnis

<https://weact.campact.de/petitions/wir-fordern-die-sofortige-freilassung-der-schriftsteller-aus-dem-gefängnis>

