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The Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva,  
Please circulate this letter to the Working Group on Arbitrary  
Detention (also for Fair Trials)

CC Mrs. Harrison, Amnesty International, London



Mr. Rza Abbasi

Dear sir/madam

**Re AN UPDATE ON THE CASE OF MR. RZA ABBASI**

Please find attached information on Mr. Rza Abbasi's trial (including further information on the outcome of few other trials). He is a journalist from Southern Azerbaijani city of Zenjan and now detained in the dungeons of the Iranian government. The trial was conducted in a closed-session after nearly three months of arbitrary detentions and torture in the dungeon and without bearing any guilt or without being acknowledged of any accusation. We mentioned his detention in our letters: Ref. 365/2006 on 19 August 2006 and Ref. 361/2006 on 12 August 2006 and provided you with further information in our letter Ref. 373/2006 on 31 August 2006.

We make no mistake by referring to you for our protection, as you are entrusted with the mandate by the world community to safeguard human rights. However, we are very concerned on your less verbal approach, as we keep presenting clear cases for your action in relation to the violation of human rights of Southern Azerbaijanis by the Islamic Republic of Iran in general and in relation to our prisoners of conscience in particular.

We are clear that the mandate entrusted on you is the key to constrain the excesses of rogue governments (such as Iran), and to maintain hope for the defenders of human rights (such as the Southern Azerbaijani prisoners of conscience). The world public opinion expects you not to be aligned with rogue governments (we believe this is not normally the case) but form a front against their violation of human rights (this is normally the case). In particular, the 50 million population of historic Azerbaijan is anxious to see that the High Commissioner on Human Rights is also safeguarding our human rights and we are eager to see this through evidence.

We kindly request you to apply your authority for the protection of Mr. Abbasi by dispatching your envoy to investigate Zenjan Prison, to monitor the court proceedings, to protest against the trials in closed-sessions and to take an uncompromising stance against trials without lawyers.

Yours Sincerely,



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Boyuk Resuloglu

Chairperson of the Committee for the Defence of the Rights of World Azerbaijanis

No	The Translations: The text is widely reported in Southern Azerbaijani websites
<b>T R A N S L A T I O N</b>	<p><b>The Trial for the Case of Rza Abbasi has been initiated in closed-sessions.</b></p> <p>The trial for the Case of Rza Abbasi was kicked off but in closed-sessions and without the presence of his lawyer and family members.</p> <p>The first session of the trial of Rza Abbasi , an activist of the national movement of (Southern) Azerbaijan, kicked off today in the Morning on Monday 4 September 2006, in Zenjan, Branch No. 1 of the Revolutionary Court. After the completion of the session, the Public Relation officer of the Court in Zenjan did not issue any news regarding this trial in closed-session to reporters of the Province of Zenjan, interested in the fate of their colleagues. The PR officer left all the questions unanswered including those from his family members. The PR even refused to name of the prosecutor of this case.</p> <p>Today, there were also a number of political and social activists and journalists of Zenjan gathered in front of the court to obtain first hand information on the case of Rza Abbasi. They were even hoping to meet him but these hopes were all dashed. They found out around the lunchtime that Mr. Abbasi was already transferred to the prison.</p> <p>Although it is more 70 days since the detention of Rza Abbasi, he was not yet been allowed to meet his lawyer. The office of Intelligence in Zenjan has even intimidated his family members not to appoint any lawyer. Also both Ministry of Justice and the office of Ministry of Intelligence in Zenjan dodge any question on the accusations against him.</p> <p>Also, according to the news received from Erdebil (Ardabil), three activists promoting the Azerbaijani identity were sentenced today. They participated in the May 2006 mass protests and were detained subsequently. Their names include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hesən BALAZADE: (a 16 year old teenager) sentenced to 3 month, 50 lashes for the accusation of attacking a security agent and breaking his camera</li><li>• Behmen AFGHAN, son of Bayrameli, 20 years old, university student, sentenced to 6 month of imprisonment, 3,000,000 Riyal fine and 40 lashes</li><li>• Qasim QERIBI, son of Abbas, 20 years old, 10,000,000 fine in cash and 40 lashes</li></ul>



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No	The Source Document see: <a href="http://haqqimiz.blogfa.com/">http://haqqimiz.blogfa.com/</a>
S O U R C E	<p>۱۳۸۵ م شهریور ۱۴ : سه شنبه رسیدگی به پرونده رضا عباسی به صورت غیر علنی آغاز شد.</p> <p><b>رسیدگی به پرونده رضا عباسی به صورت غیر علنی و بدون حضور وکیل و</b></p> <p>اولین جلسه محاکمه <b>رضا عباسی</b> فعال حرکت ملی آذربایجان در زنجان صبح امروز سیزدهم شهریور ماه در شعبه اول دادگاه</p> <p>امروز همزمان با جلسه دادگاه شماری از فعالان سیاسی ، اجتماعی و خبرنگاران استان زنجان در مقابل دادگستری منتظر</p> <p>روز از بازداشت رضا عباسی سپری شده است در تمام این او با هیچ وکیلی ملاقات نداشته است و اداره ۷۰ با وجود اینکه</p> <p>همچنین بنا به گزارش رسیده از اردبیل محاکم عمومی در این شهر، علیه سه تن از فعالین هویت طلب این شهر که همزمان</p> <p>- حسن بالا زاده (نوجوان ۱۶ ساله)..... ۳ ماه زندان تعزیری و ۵۰ ضربه شلاق به جرم تخریب اموال عمومی و حمله</p> <p>- بهمن افغان فرزند بایرام علی، ۲۰ ساله، دانشجو..... ۶ ماه زندان تعزیری و ۳ میلیون ریال جزای نقدی و ۴۰ ضربه</p> <p>- قاسم غریبی فرزند عباس، ۲۰ ساله..... ۱۰ میلیون ریال جزای نقدی و ۴۰ ضربه شلاق</p> <p>ساعت ۶:۳۸ بعد از ظهر توسط 85/06/13 نوشته شده در +</p>