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The Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva,

Please circulate this Communication to:

- Special Rapporteur for the Right to Health
- Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers
- The Working Group on Arbitrary Detention
- Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
- The Independent Expert on Minority Issues

CC Mr. Dyke and Mrs. Harrison, Amnesty International, London
UNESCO and various news media

Alirza Metinpur



A Southern Azerbaijani
prisoner of conscience

Dear sir/madam

UPDATE NO 1: MR. ELIRZA METINPUR NEED URGENT MEDICAL CARE

Further to our General Communication (Ref: 468/2007; Date: 11 November 2007) informing you of the violation of human rights of Mr. Elirza Metinpur, Update 1 presents you with the available information on him.

Owing to the disinformation created by Iranian authorities in Southern Azerbaijan, we are still unable to compile a person-specific Communication for Mr. Elirza Metinpur. Therefore, Table 1 compiles the available information, although not comprehensive. However, it has been reliably established that he has been tortured by the Iranian security officials and the Iranian authorities are seemingly detaining him indefinitely.

We would like to stress that the compilation and submission of these Communications are our initiative and we have not consulted with the victims' family members or anyone representing their interests. We have to state this to manage reprisal risks against the victims by the Iranian authorities.

Once again we appeal to your kind attention to this case as Mr. Metinpur needs urgent medical attention. We hope you will act swiftly in mobilising your campaign for the release of Mr. Metinpur. Thank you in advance for your care.

Yours faithfully,

Boyuk Resuloglu

For and on behalf of
The Committee for the Defence of the Rights of World Azerbaijanis



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Table 1 The Recent Information Emerged on Mr. Elirza Metinpur

Basic Information

Detained: 28 August 2007
Home city: Zengan (a city in Southern Azerbaijan ruled by the Islamic Republic of Iran)
Place kept: He is now kept in Wing 209 of Evin Prison

Elirza Metinpur was arrested, as a way of exerting pressure on his elder brother, Seid Metinpur, the distinguished human rights defender of Southern Azerbaijan. The Ministry of Information summoned Elirza Metinpur on 28 August 2007 to visit his brother but then arrested him.

Ever since his detention, he has been without indictment, has been consistently denied of access to a lawyer, let alone a lawyer of their choice; has not been tried; and is seemingly detained indefinitely.

This Southern Azerbaijani activist has been in detention for nearly 6 months. He was transferred to Zengan prison after one month of being kept in detention facilities in Zengan. In a wave of escalating pressures, he was transferred to Evin prison. Now he is kept in a cell there, sharing it with few others.

Metinpur's family managed to visit Mr. Elirza Metinpur in the prison on 17 December 2007. According to his family, Elirza is in a bad mental and physical state and that he has lost a lot of weight. The Metinpur's family has expressed their concern and demanded a lawful treatment for Elirza.