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IRAN MISSION GENEVA

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*Mission Permanente
de la République Islamique d'Iran
auprès des Nations Unies
et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève*

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

N° 2050/8320

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and with reference to the communications number AL IRN 4/2015 dated 12 May 2015 and UA IRN 20/2015 dated 29 October 2015, has the honor to submit herewith the replies of the I.R. Iran with regard to Mr. [REDACTED], Mr. Mehdi Moosavi and Ms. Fatemeh Ekhtesari cases.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 4 March 2016



Office of the United Nations
High Commissioner for Human Rights
(OHCHR)
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
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[REDACTED] (66461)

Mr. **[REDACTED]** was an Arab-speaking citizen from Khoramshahr (not from Ahvaz). He owned a stall which blocked pedestrian pathway and does not have a permit from municipality and. Personnel of the municipality tried to remove the stall from pedestrian walkway. He set himself on fire to protest against the

actions of the municipality and died as a result of his burns after 10 days of hospitalization. Pursuant to a complaint by his family, a lawsuit was filed in the court. Necessary investigations were conducted and because the commission of a punishable offence was not proven, the case was closed. The claim concerning the arrest of one thousand persons that tried to defend him is totally untrue, and no independent source has reported such arrests. Hence, information in this paragraph is totally unreliable and need to be taken out.

According to existing evidence and even by looking at, he did receive proper medical treatment and cause of his death was the result of severity of injuries. Pursuant to his death, local officials and charitable persons have begun to help the family of the deceased and provided the facilities and housing for them.

In addition, considering that many local officials, including the mayor are Arab-speaking (Mr. Mohammad Havizavi from Arab-speaking tribe), enforcing the law by one Arab-speaking official against another Arab-speaking citizen is a good indication that law applies to every person regardless of ethnic background.

In addition, as reminded in the past, use of the term "Ahvazi Arabs" for people of Khuzestan is not compatible with reality and administrative divisions of the country and is in keeping with separatist objectives. According to the Code of Conduct of Mandate Holders, official titles and correct names for administrative divisions of the country should be used in communications