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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 latter’s Communication No. UA IRN 7/2022 dated 5 May 2022 concerning Mr. Hamidreza Ajdari, has the honor to transmit, herewith, the comment of the High Council for Human Rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran in that regard.

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.

Office of the United Nations
High Commissioner for Human Rights
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
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In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

Comment

By

The High Council for Human Rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Concerning Mr. Hamidreza Ajdari

(Communication UA IRN 7/2022, dated 5 May 2022)

According to preliminary examinations, the date of birth of Mr. Hamidreza Ajdari is registered as 30 December 2000, while the crime took place on 24 February 2020. Therefore, Mr. Ajdari was older than 19 years old at the time of committing the crime, and the allegation that he was charged with as a juvenile offender is based on an unfounded claim. However, concerning other claims raised in the correspondence, the followings are presented for more clarification and due consideration:

1. According to the contents of the case, Mr. Ajdari was charged with A) premeditated murder of the late [redacted], B) malicious assault with a knife which was ineffective and did not cause to the death, and C) participation in an armed robbery. The defendant was sentenced to death by the judicial board of the court (with the presence of 3 judges) in the criminal court of Fars province. Following the appeal against the verdict, the case was sent to the Supreme Court, and after the hearing, this authority confirmed and reiterated the judgment.

2. During the investigation by the judges of the Province's criminal court, objections were raised regarding the preliminary investigation. Accordingly, the case was sent to the investigation branch for several times in order to eliminate the deficiencies, satisfy reasonable doubts and complete the investigation. Finally, the court convened an
official hearing with the presence of the parties and defense lawyers on 19 January 2021. Therefore, the claim that a verdict has been issued only during one hearing is false and entirely unsubstantiated.

3. Mr. Ajdari has confessed to the murder in detail before the investigator and proceeded to lay out the details. The report of the reconstruction of the murder scene had been prepared in the presence of Mr. Ajdari. Concordantly, evidence and testimonies were sufficient for the conviction in this case, and the subsequent denial before the court was deemed a tactic that Mr. Ajdari had devised following the advice of fellow prisoners or his lawyers. Therefore, claims regarding obtaining a confession under torture and issuing a sentence based on ill-gotten information are false and contrary to the truth.

4. Immediately after the arrest, Mr. Ajdari was registered in the Central Detention Center on 3 March 2020 per the issuance of a temporary order by the special prosecutor's office for criminal and security affairs in Shiraz. He has been incarcerated in Adel Abad prison in Shiraz since 12 May 2020. From the moment he entered the prison until now, he has been incarcerated according to the directive for segregation and classification of prisoners, which means he has been kept in the youth detention section (for the people aged 18 to 25 years old). Furthermore, he has never been in a solitary cell or confinement for an hour.

5. On 15 April 2020, per the order of the judicial authority, a personality file was created for him by the psychologist and the health department of the detention center. Mr. Ajdari's mental health during the interview has been assessed as stable. During his stay in the central detention center and Adel Abad prison, Mr. Azhdari had not requested treatment nor asked for diagnostics. There is also no past instance, documentation, or statement by him indicating that his stitches have been opened. Furthermore, there is no evidence of bleeding or infection of the wounds due to torture or lack of medical treatment, and no report has been sent to the prison by either him or his family, and like before, he is currently in good health. Therefore, the claims regarding the lack of access to medical care are unsubstantiated.

6. Like all convicted individuals who are incarcerated, Mr. Ajdari was treated according to the regulations set within the State's Prisons, Security, and Corrective Measures
Organization. Therefore on a daily basis, three meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner), including warm servings, are given to him. Based on principles of separation and classifications, he can freely use facilities such as a telephone, blanket, bed, mattress, sufficient drinking water, shower, bathroom, hairdressing salon, grocery store, air-conditioning, television, etc. Therefore, the claim of deprivation of sufficient water and food is unfounded.

7. Based on a review of the documents and statistics available in the electronic records, since entering the prison until now, despite the restrictions of the coronavirus and in compliance with the health protocols and relevant rules and regulations, Mr. Ajdari had a total of 43 visits with family and relatives of which, 36 were glass cabin, and 7 were face-to-face visit. Therefore, the claim of being deprived of meeting with the family is not valid.

8. Mr. Ajdari had access to a lawyer in all stages and during office time, per the order of the judicial authority. Furthermore, in all stages, there were no restrictions on granting visits to the lawyer and the family of the prisoner. In all cases, after lodging a request for a visit and obtaining the necessary permits, the applicant was able to visit the aforementioned. It should be mentioned that although Mr. Ajdari has already met with a lawyer, he has not made any further requests in this regard to this day.