In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Ref. 2050/1478951

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 26/2022 dated 30 November 2022 concerning Mr. Toomaj Salehi, 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.

Geneva, 27 January 2023

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Email: registry@ohchr.org
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

Regarding Mr. Toomaj Salehi

Communication UA IRN 30.11.22 (26.2022)

According to the investigations, the accusations suggesting the infliction of torture upon the foregoing person to extract a forced confession are untrue. The abovenamed has also not filed a complaint whatsoever in this regard.

Secondly, together with three other inmates, the aforementioned is kept in Isfahan Central Detention Center\(^1\) under the supervision of the judicial authority; and, allegations of solitary confinement are categorically unsubstantiated. The foregoing person has enjoyed the possibility of making phone calls with his family members and had several face-to-face meetings with his father. The defendant also has access to fruits and vegetables and the prison store. During the visit made by the supervising judge of the penitentiary, the foregoing person’s mental and physical conditions have

\(^1\) Similar to other penitentiaries, the said detention center is that of the State Prisons Organization.
been assessed and declared reasonable. The defendant has also expressed satisfaction with the prison condition.

Furthermore, the judicial case has been sent to the Court; however, no exact date for the hearing session has hitherto been set. Therefore, the allegations regarding punishment or possible punishments meted out thereto are merely speculations raised by certain media outlets.

Last but not least, the defendant has a lawyer who has studied the judicial case opened thereagainst; therefore, the allegations suggesting a lack of access to counsel are also unfounded and devoid of any truth.

In conclusion, the abovenamed has played a key and influential role in the recent riots in Isfahan Province and the city of Shahin Shahr by spreading falsehoods via social media and telecommunication platforms with the purpose of disturbing public order, inciting people to commit acts of violence and inviting them to spark riots therein. Therefore, linking the foregoing person’s arrest to the freedom of expression or artistic activities thereof is utterly pointless.