

Supreme Leader 'Ali Khamenei
c/o Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations
622 3rd Ave, 34th floor,
New York, NY 10017
Email: iranunny@mfa.gov.ir

Dear Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei,

Well-known Iranian rapper and hip-hop artist **Toomaj Salehi** has been targeted solely for exercising his right to freedom of expression by supporting the Woman Life Freedom protests in Iran and criticizing the Iranian government's human rights violations. After his arrest in October 2022, he was held in prolonged solitary confinement and reportedly subjected to severe torture, resulting in a number of serious injuries including broken bones.

After grossly unfair legal proceedings he was sentenced to more than six years in prison and a ban on his artistic activities. In April 2024 a Revolutionary Court in Esfahan sentenced him to death on the charge of "corruption on earth." This death sentence was overturned by Iran's Supreme Court in June 2024 but Toomaj Salehi remains in Esfahan Central Prison and is facing a suite of spurious new charges including "spreading propaganda against the system," "insulting religious sanctities," and "spreading lies with the intention of disturbing public opinion" which could result in the imposition of a long prison sentence.

I am writing to you urge that all charges against Toomaj Salehi be dropped and that he be immediately and unconditionally released. Pending his release, I urge that he be treated humanely, that he be provided with any necessary medical care, and that he be given regular access to a lawyer of his choosing and to his family.

Yours Sincerely,