



# INTERNATIONAL PEN

## LUCINA KATHMANN, INTERNATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT

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re: writer **Adnan Hassanpour**

Your Excellencies:

The writers of International PEN, the largest worldwide organization of writers with branches in 103 countries, are very concerned about the Iranian Kurdish writer **Adnan Hassanpour**, formerly in jail in Marivan, possibly now held in the detention by the Ministry of Intelligence in Sanandaj. Our colleague has had a death sentence handed down to him on July 16, though he is not charged with any sort of violence.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is a signatory to the United Nations International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, which in its Article 19 guarantees freedom of expression. Since our colleague has not committed any act of violence, not only should he not receive the death penalty, he should be freed immediately. In addition, we worry that **Adnan Hassanpour** is being ill-treated in detention and seek reassurance that his well-being is guaranteed.

We are concerned about an apparent pattern of problems for Iranian Kurdish journalists and writers. We call for increased protection and tolerance for all our writer and journalist colleagues everywhere in Iran.

My colleagues, fellow writers from the Centers in Mexico of International PEN join with me in pleading for Mr. **Adnan Hassanpour**. We are very worried about him and would appreciate any information you could give us about his situation.

Sincerely,

International Vice-President  
International PEN

cc. His Excellency Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, [dr-ahmadinejad@president.ir](mailto:dr-ahmadinejad@president.ir)  
Embassy of Iran in Mexico