



Australian Bahá'í Community

Closed Doors -- What Can I Do?

1. Write a **letter of concern** to the following **international organisations**, addressed to:

Ms Irina Bokova
Director-General of UNESCO
7, place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris 07 SP
France
bpi@unesco.org

Ms Navanethem Pillay
UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland
InfoDesk@ohchr.org

and calling on them to:

- 1.1. defend the right of Iranian Bahá'ís to education;
- 1.2. seek from Iran the freedom of those arrested following the raids on 21 May 2011 and all Baha'is currently detained on the basis of their religion; and
- 1.3. seek from Iran to comply with the international treaties to which Iran is a signatory, including:
 - 1.3.1. "the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion," as ratified by Iran in 1975 under the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*; and
 - 1.3.2. Article 13 of the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* which recognises "the right of everyone to education," and that, "higher education shall be made equally accessible to all, on the basis of capacity," as ratified by Iran in 1975.

2. Write to **Iran's representative** to the UN and the **Iranian Ambassador** to Australia **to protest against the persecution of the Bahá'ís in Iran**, addressed to:

His Excellency Mr Mohammad Khazaei
Ambassador and Permanent
Representative
Permanent Mission of the Islamic
Republic of Iran to the United Nations
622 Third Ave, New York, NY 10017
iran@un.int

His Excellency Dr Mahmoud Babaei
Ambassador of Iran
Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran
25 Culgoa Circuit
O'Malley ACT 2606
ambassador@iranembassy.org.au

and calling upon the Iranian government:

- 2.1. to revoke the 1991 memorandum on the "Bahá'í question" issued by the Supreme Revolutionary Cultural Council; and
 - 2.2. to uphold the same freedoms as outlined in paragraphs in 1.2- 1.3.2 above.
3. Send a **copy** of your letters to the UN Secretary-General and the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs so that they are **aware of your concern for the rights of Iranian Bahá'ís**:

Mr Ban Ki-moon
UN Secretary-General
United Nations Secretariat
New York, NY 10017
USA
inquiries@un.org

The Hon Kevin Rudd MP
Minister for Foreign Affairs
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
kevin.rudd@dfat.gov.au