To all National Spiritual Assemblies

FOLLOWING OUTRAGEOUS EXECUTION SIX BAHÁ’ÍS IN SHIRAZ ON 16 JUNE, FURTHER HIDEOUS CRIME HAS BEEN PERPETRATED BY AUTHORITIES THAT CITY BY HANGING TEN INNOCENT WOMEN NIGHT OF 18 JUNE. THEY ARE:

MRS. NUSRAT YALDAI, 54 YEARS OLD, MOTHER OF BAHRAM, HANGED 16 JUNE

MRS. 'IZZAT JANAMI SHIRAQI, 50 YEARS OLD, WIFE OF 'INAYATULLAH, HANGED 16 JUNE

MISS RUYYA SHIRAQI, IN EARLY 20'S, DAUGHTER OF ABOVE MRS. TAHIRIH SYAVUSHI, 32 YEARS OLD, WIFE OF JAMSHID, HANGED 16 JUNE

MISS MUNA MAHMUDIZHAD, 18 YEARS OLD, DAUGHTER OF YADULLAH, EXECUTED 12 MARCH

MISS ZARRIN MUQIMI-ABYANIH, UNDER 25 YEARS OLD

MISS SHAHIN (SHIRIN) DALVAND, EARLY 20'S

MISS AKHTAR THABIT, 19 YEARS OLD

MISS SIMIN SABIRI, IN EARLY 20'S

MISS MAHSHEID NIRUMAND, 18 YEARS OLD

THE EXECUTION OF THESE GUILTLESS WOMEN IN THE NAME OF RELIGION MUST SHOCK CONSCIENCE HUMANITY. THEY WERE ARRESTED FOR ACTIVITIES IN BAHÁ’I COMMUNITY INCLUDING EDUCATION OF YOUTH.

FOLLOWING LONG INTERROGATION IN PRISON THEY WERE WARNED THEY WOULD BE SUBJECTED TO FOUR SESSIONS PRESSURING THEM REJECT THEIR FAITH ACCEPT ISLAM AND IF BY FOURTH TIME THEY HAD NOT SIGNED PREPARED STATEMENT REJECTING FAITH THEY WOULD BE KILLED. ALL PREFERRED DIE RATHER THAN DENY THEIR FAITH.

FEW HOURS PRIOR EXECUTION WOMEN MET WITH FAMILIES, NONE OF WHOM KNEW IMPENDING EXECUTION. NEWS THIS DASTARDLY CRIME NOT PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED OR FORMALY GIVEN TO FAMILIES. AUTHORITIES REFUSED ALLOW FAMILIES RECEIVE BODIES FOR BURIAL OR EVEN TO SEE THEM.

IT SHOULD BE RECALLED THAT BETWEEN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 1982 OVER 80 BAHÁ’IS WERE ARRESTED IN SHIRAZ. AUTHORITIES LATER REVEALED THAT 22 PERSONS AMONG THE 80 WERE CONDEMNED TO DEATH IF WOULD NOT REJECT. NAMES OF THESE 22 HOWEVER WERE NEVER REVEALED, INTENSIFYING PSYCHOLOGICAL STRESS AMONG BAHÁ’I PRISONERS.

IN DEFIANCE APPEALS WORLD LEADERS AND WORLD PUBLIC OPINION, 21 OF THESE BAHÁ’IS HAVE THUS FAR BEEN EXECUTED, CASTING SHADOW ON FATE REMAINING BELIEVERS LANGUISHING IN PRISON....

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE