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Amnesty International

# YOUTH GROUP ACTION



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Campaign: Individuals at Risk

June 2017

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## Free Kamal



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**We hope you will feel inspired to take action on all of our campaigns but remind you that all actions are optional.**

This mailing is also available to download at

[www.amnesty.org.uk/youth](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/youth)

## Free Kamal



77-year-old British-Iranian grandfather Kamal Foroughi was arrested on 5 May 2011 by men in plain clothes who apparently did not show an arrest warrant or explain the reasons for his arrest. He was held in solitary confinement for 18 months and he was only allowed to meet his lawyer once before the start of his trial. In 2013, following an unfair trial, he was convicted of 'espionage' and given a 7-year sentence. Kamal has not seen his daughter, son and two granddaughters in six long years, and has not had any visitors in prison for over 2,000 days, apart from his lawyer.

Kamal has developed cataracts in both eyes and could go blind in prison if he's not given the specialised medical care he needs. He was told by a doctor that he needs surgery on his eyes in September last year. The Iranian authorities have still not granted him this surgery.

Article 58 of the Islamic Penal Code allows for the conditional release of prisoners after serving one third of their sentence – meaning Kamal could have been released every day since January 2014. And yet he remains in prison, separated from his family and in need of medical attention, with no one understanding what is going on.

## Take Action: Make an origami 'memory' tulip

While Kamal remains in prison, he continues to miss out on the moments with his family that many of us may take for granted. The moments we share with our families are precious and beyond value and the injustice of Kamal's ongoing imprisonment robs him and his family of those memories. We need your help to show how important these simple memories shared with family truly are and to demand the release of Kamal so he can be reunited with his loved ones.

# YOUTH GROUP ACTION

## Step 1: Make your tulips

This is a simple but creative action that you can do at home, in your group or at any of the events you are arranging over the summer term.

- 1) Write a fond or cherished memory of a time spent with family or loved ones on a square piece of coloured paper
- 2) Fold your memory into an origami tulip
- 3) Send it to us (we will share these with Kamal's family and use them in public actions with politicians to call for Kamal's release).

What you need:

- 1) A memory!
- 2) Some coloured paper, scissors, ruler and a pen/pencil
- 3) Our 'How to make a tulip' guide [here](#)

## Step 2: Get your MP involved

We would like you to involve your new/re-elected local MP in the action to get them engaged on the case. You could:

- set up a meeting with your MP where you make the tulips
- invite your MP to an event where you make the tulips
- send them a letter with an example of an origami tulip and ask him/her to support the case by also making one and sending it back to you

You will find draft letters to send to your MP on our resources page:

[www.amnesty.org.uk/parliament2017](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/parliament2017) from Friday 9th June.

Remember, Kamal is a British citizen and we hope this action will result in more MPs raising the cases in Parliament, thus continuing to pressure the UK government to do everything it can to secure his release.

## Step 3: Collect the origami tulips and send them to us

We want to use them as a powerful way to demonstrate to the UK Government all the memories that Kamal is missing out on and to push them to call on the Iranian authorities for his immediate release. We will also share the tulips with Kamal's family in the UK, to show them how much support he has during his ongoing separation. Please send them to us at:

Amnesty International

## **YOUTH GROUP ACTION**

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### **Step 4: Local press**

If you have time, please write to your local newspapers to highlight the cases and the action you have taken. If your MP is involved and you have pictures, be sure to share that!

You will find a draft press release here <http://www.amnesty.org.uk/parliament2017> from Friday 9th June.

Additionally, more information about Kamal's case can be found on this page.

Deadline: End of term

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