



TAKE ACTION: FOR NAZANIN ZAGHARI-RATCLIFFE AND ANOOSHEH ASHOORI



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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

YOUTH GROUP ACTION

IN A NUTSHELL

Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe is a British/Iranian dual-national (*a person who is a national of two countries at the same time*) who was arrested over four and a half years ago and unjustly convicted in an unfair trial.

Anoosheh Ashoori is a 66-year-old retired engineer, also a British/Iranian dual-national who has been unjustly imprisoned in Iran for over three years.

Take Action:

We are asking youth groups to contact their MP urging the UK government to take urgent action for Nazanin and Anoosheh so that they can be reunited with their families by Christmas.

BACKGROUND

Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe

Nazanin is a British/Iranian dual-national who was arrested over four and a half years ago and unjustly convicted in an unfair trial on a trumped-up national security charge. She was held in the notorious Iranian Evin prison until March 2020. Due to the spread of Covid, in March she was released on temporary prison leave to her parents' home in Tehran, where she is restricted to within 300 metres of their house by an ankle tag.

A year ago, her six-year-old daughter Gabriella came back home to the UK from Iran to be with her dad, Richard. Both Nazanin and Richard believed the separation would be temporary and that Nazanin's release would happen soon. It has been a shock for them that it has lasted a year with no end in sight. In Iran, Gabriella was allowed to regularly visit her mum. Now they must rely on phone and video calls to stay in touch. Gabriella often asks when her mum will be coming home - she misses her so much.

Throughout this ordeal Richard has pleaded with the British government to take responsibility for securing Nazanin's release. Now she is facing a new charge, making it even less likely that she will be released any time soon by the Iranian authorities.

YOUTH GROUP ACTION

Anoosheh Ashoori

Nazanin is not the only British/Iranian dual-national held in Iran. 66-year-old retired engineer Anoosheh Ashoori, has been unjustly imprisoned in Iran for over three years. He was arrested by Ministry of Intelligence agents in August 2017 while visiting his mother in Tehran.

While there he has been subjected to torture and threats against his family. He was repeatedly interrogated without a lawyer present and forced to sign "confessions" while sleep deprived, the contents of which he had no knowledge of. After an unfair trial, Anoosheh was sentenced to 12 years in prison. Anoosheh is at heightened risk of severe illness or death if he contracts COVID-19 in prison.

Both Nazanin and Anoosheh are desperate to come home to be with their families where they belong. Getting Nazanin and Anoosheh home by Christmas should be of the highest priority for the UK government.

WHAT WE ARE CALLING FOR

The UK government must take urgent action for Nazanin and Anoosheh so that they can be reunited with their families by Christmas

TAKE ACTION - WRITE TO YOUR MP

Write a message to your school's MP:

You can use these prompts to help write your letter:

- Why should Nazanin and Anoosheh be with their families?
- What does your family/guardian mean to you?
- Ask them to tell the government to get them home. (We'd love for you ask that ask them to get them home for Christmas)

Who is your MP?

You can find your school's MP here. Just enter your school's postcode:

<https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP>

YOUTH GROUP ACTION

Younger members of your group (or younger siblings of youth group members) may like to also draw a picture instead: You with your family/guardians/friends - it could be at home or doing something fun outside.

When signing your letter: make sure to include your school's name and post code at the end so that your MP knows that you are a student in their constituency.

What next? Once you've written your message take a photo of it (if you have drawn/written on both sides take a photo of both sides too!), and then ...

1. Email the photo to both: lydia.parker@amnesty.org.uk and anne.montague@amnesty.org.uk

(please make sure you remember to email both of the above addresses!)

2. Put your card/letter in an envelope and post it to your MP.
3. It is also worth emailing the photo or a scan of the letter to the MP too. Due to Covid they may be checking mail less often but also, they are more likely to respond quicker to an email. Please share any responses you receive to the addresses above.

What will we do with the photo of your letter/card that you email us?

We will use these as part of the campaign for Nazanin and Anoosheh. We will share them on social media (so please make sure you are not in the photo – this is for data and consent purposes). We will also create a montage of them that we can print and give to Nazanin's daughter Gabriella, so that she has a reminder of all of the solidarity and support from you all.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/actions/help-get-nazanin-anoosheh-home-by-christmas>