

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**This petition of the undersigned residents of Australia  
draws to the attention of the House:**

Prisoner of conscience MohamadAli Taheri, who has spent nearly four years in solitary confinement in Evin Prison in Iran, has been threatened with death by interrogators. M.A. Taheri is an Iranian theorist, researcher and scholar of complementary medicine. His teachings have been a source of inspiration and healing to countless people around the world. Arrested and imprisoned on irrational counts, he has never been given the opportunity for accessing a fair trial. His continued persecution is a gross violation of International Laws and Human Rights. His life is in danger due to extreme physical, mental and emotional torture while illegally imprisoned in Iran.

He wrote a letter from prison to the UN Special Rapporteur Dr Ahmed Shaheed in June 2014, and described injustice and violation of human rights against himself and other prisoners. The United Nations Secretary General recognizes him and mentions his name in Iranian yearly human rights report, and asks the Iranian authorities about his condition. An exclusive report by Amnesty International was released on Taheri in August 2014. He has been on hunger strike to protest against his illegal detainment, torture and severe inhumane conditions in prison.

**We therefore ask the House to:**

Calling on the Iranian authorities to release MohammadAli Taheri immediately and unconditionally, as he is a prisoner of conscience, held solely for the peaceful exercise of his rights to freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression.