

[PROVISIONAL TRANSLATION FROM PERSIAN]

[Translator's notes appear in square brackets]

[Personal information has been **redacted**.]

7/7/75 [28 September 1996]

In the Name of God

Esteemed Head of the Office of the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Shiraz,

Respectfully, I, Ali Habibi, son of Ahmad, birth certificate number [redacted], born in [redacted], passport number [redacted], and Melli Bank deposit receipt number 194784 for US\$1,000, and my wife, Sakineh Haghdoost, daughter of Hossein, birth certificate [redacted], born in [redacted], passport number [redacted], and Melli Bank deposit receipt number 194790 for US\$1,000, are war-affected residents from Khorramshahr who were dismissed from employment, and after 20 years of waiting and preparing all the required documents and flight tickets, were about to travel to Australia to visit our children when were stopped at Mehrabad Airport by Mr. Shabani, who confiscated our passports and stopped our departure. He gave us two numbers—5/55/1374 and 5/55/1377—and directed us to visit the Islamic Revolutionary Court of Justice in Shiraz in order to clarify our situation.

We followed the advice, and with full confidence about ourselves for being Baha'is and not having any criminal record, and given that personal belief does not constitute a crime according to the Islamic law, we attended the Islamic Revolutionary Court of Justice in Shiraz on 31/6/75 [21 September 1996] and submitted letter number [?]/kh/1197/75, dated 29/6/75 [19 September 1996], to the Iranian Islamic Human Rights Commission. In Tehran, we met with Mr. Dorji, vice-chair, judicial officer and person responsible for the execution of the court orders in Shiraz, and asked him to investigate the matter. We were directed to visit the Shiraz headquarters of the Intelligence Service, which we did at [11:30 a.m.] the same day, and submitted the letter dated 31/6/75 [21 September 1996] and the original letter signed by Mr. Dorji to the headquarters of the Intelligence Service of Shiraz. [In this office,] we were finally told that we did not have politically related records in that office, and in relation to the passports we were referred to the Office of the President of the Islamic Republic in Shiraz. We asked them to introduce us, but were told that they would introduce us by way of a telephone call. When we went to the Office of the President of the Islamic Republic, we introduced ourselves and were immediately given two forms to complete. [We were told] to leave the religion column blank and told that we should come back the next day for a response. The following day, on 1 Mehr 75 [22 September 1996], we attend the Office of the President of the Islamic Republic, and again they gave us a two-page form with the same instruction as before. [We were] asked to complete

it and leave the religion column blank. Given that this was a matter related to God, faith and conscience, we thought it was not right to leave them blank, so we drew two parallel lines in those columns and completed the forms. They told us that they could not remove the travel ban from our file.

Now our humble request is, considering the above explanations and our old age as an elderly retired couple who have not seen their children for 20 years, and having prepared all the required documentation, [that you] review our cases and allow us to continue with our trip before the expiry dates for our visas and flight tickets.

With much appreciation

Sakineh Haghdoost [Signature]

Ali Habibi [Signature]