

[PROVISIONAL TRANSLATION FROM PERSIAN]

[Translator's notes appear in square brackets]

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

Date: 15 Ordibehesht 1360 [5 May 1981]

Deputy Head of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Respectfully, in reference to the dismissal order No. 11769 – 11 Mehr 1360 [3 October 1981] issued by you, I find it necessary to convey the following matters. Article 14 of the National Employment Act stipulates: “Article 14 – Applicants for official employment must satisfy the following conditions. A ----- B ----- and -----; paragraph Th states “No conviction for corruption of belief, not to be known for moral corruption and open debauchery, no addiction to opium and not to have been infected with infectious diseases.” Mr. Seyyed Mohammad Mir-Mohammadi, deputy minister of agriculture, which provision of paragraph Th was used as documentation for my dismissal?

A. - Conviction of corruption of belief[?] Mr. Mir-Mohammadi, which competent court has issued the ruling for conviction in this case? Fortunately, such a ruling has not been issued about me by any competent court.

B. - Being known for moral corruption and open debauchery? How was this accusation substantiated for you and your respective organization? What is the existing evidence?

C. - No addiction to opium and not to have been infected with infectious diseases? What doctor's certificate has been issued which says I have been infected with an infectious disease?

Please note that the provisions of paragraph Th, which was cited by you for my dismissal, are not in accordance with the law, as explained above. Obviously, if the individual who issued the ruling is referring to my religious beliefs, which is, of course, the case, I should convey some matters to you.

First, by conviction and corruption of belief the legislator does not mean religious beliefs, because in the existing criminal law there is no prohibition or punishment for religious beliefs. Second, it is natural that the mentioned crime can be invoked for dismissal when a definitive ruling has been issued by a competent court. Third, regardless of what was mentioned, according to my religious beliefs, I believe in the oneness of God and acknowledge the legitimacy of all the great Prophets, including the Holy Prophet [of Islam] and the pure Imams. I recognize that the Quran is from God and [contains] the words of God. I believe in the principles of the continuing life of the soul, the next world, reward and punishment, moral principles, observance of honesty, trustworthiness, justice, purity, chastity, infallibility, and service to the country and the nation. Accusing me of having corrupt beliefs is illegal and irrational.

Mr. Mir-Mohammadi, do you think that dismissing me from the office and cutting off my salary after 12 years of working honestly without any guilt or sin, and not considering the living conditions of an honest employee, has been God-pleasing?

In view of the above, I request that you take action to have the ruling revoked in accordance with elements of justice; as He has said, “Be just; that is nearer to righteousness.”<sup>1</sup>

There is no more to say. Respectfully, Zarghamoddin Movaffaghi

[Signature]

Copy:

A copy of the ruling is enclosed for your information. Also, for your information, a copy of this letter has been sent to the Ministry of Agriculture of Tehran and the Forest Organization of Chalus.

With respect and greetings, Zarghamoddin Movaffaghi

[Signature]

---

<sup>1</sup> Quran 5:8