

February 6, 2018

To my friends and UNICEF colleagues around the world,

You know not how heartwarming and encouraging your support has been for me and my agonized family, especially for my wife Effie and son Babak.

Despite the pain inflicted upon my family and myself, I have not lost hope and continue to pray for the great humanitarian causes for which we have all dedicated our lives. To overcome the formidable challenges, much sacrifice is needed and I am willing to be one of the victims with the hope that the pain will not be in vain.

The powers that be have directed me to return to prison today despite the strong recommendation of Iran's medical examiner and my physicians that my health cannot withstand further incarceration.

My son Siamak has suffered far more than myself and pays the price for standing up for the right of Iranian people to life saving medicine, previously denied by sanctions.

While the pain of those dearest to me continues to hurt deeply, I am also sorry that with the help of all of you and other great humanitarians that I could not continue to serve our common cause of peace for children, especially in the sorely troubled Middle East region, elimination of poverty through people empowerment, combating child trafficking and opening space to hear the voices of the poor.

Sustaining these great causes will be the best reward that can, God willing, be granted to this humble man.

I thank you all and I am greatly strengthened morally and otherwise by your efforts to promote justice and bring about freedom for my son and me.

God bless you all.

Baquer Namazi