

## **A Birthday Video for Majid Tavakkoli!**

May, 22, 2011 marks Majid Tavakkoli's 25<sup>th</sup> birthday – one which he will likely spend behind bars. He is one of the hundreds of people who have been jailed in Iran for simply exercising their right to freedom of expression. Majid Tavakkoli was arrested in December 2009 after speaking at a university rally, which took place on National Student Day. The university rally was one of many anti-government protests that followed the disputed presidential election of June 2009. Majid Tavakkoli, a prisoner of conscience, is now serving a term of more than eight years in prison for simply criticizing the government.

### **TAKE ACTION: SEND VIDEO MESSAGES OF SOLIDARITY FOR MAJID ON HIS BIRTHDAY!**

While Majid may spend his birthday in prison, we must ensure that he is not forgotten and his 25<sup>th</sup> birthday does not go unnoticed. Amnesty International and United 4 Iran are collecting video messages of solidarity for Majid. Some of these videos will be used in a brief birthday video compilation for Majid. All of your videos will help raise awareness about his case, letting his family and friends know that Majid is far from forgotten. Rather, he has allies all over the world who are thinking about him on his birthday, and who continue to fight for his release.

It's easy to participate. Simply record yourself sharing a solidarity message to Majid on his birthday. It can be brief, using any of the prepared talking points below. Or, feel free to record a longer message.

Please upload your messages **before May 21, 2011**, to [www.youtube.com/amnestywest](http://www.youtube.com/amnestywest), [www.facebook.com/amnestywest](http://www.facebook.com/amnestywest), or email Sara Schmidt at [sschmidt@aiusa.org](mailto:sschmidt@aiusa.org)

### **SOLIDARITY VIDEO FOR MAJID – TALKING POINTS**

- On your birthday, please know that your many friends and admirers are thinking of you.
- Please take strength knowing you have the support of thousands of people like me.
- We are wishing you well on your birthday and hope you know how much we admire you.
- On your birthday, please know that there are people all over the world who are standing in solidarity with you, and continue to fight for your release.
- Majid, you inspire us today, and every day.