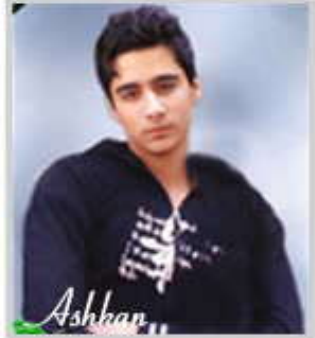
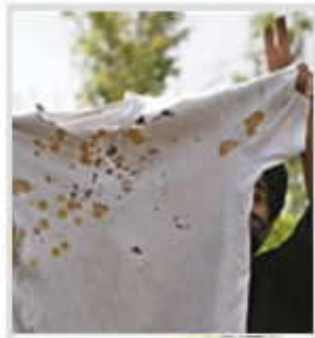


# Human Rights

Abuse in

# IRAN

2010



National Council of Resistance of Iran Human Rights Center

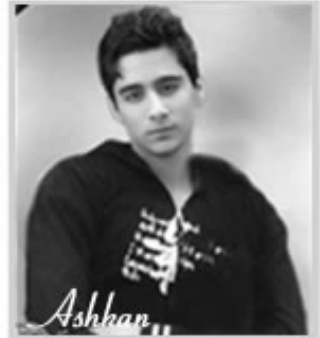
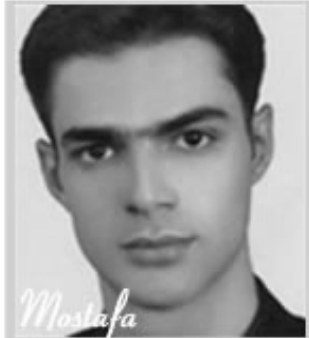


# Human Rights

## *Abuse in*

# IRAQ

**2010**







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**A publication of the Human Rights Center of the National Council of Resistance of Iran**

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## Introduction

This year's events brought about unprecedented instability for the mullahs' regime in Iran.

The Iranian people's rejection of the regime in its entirety while demanding a democratic government, the clerical regime's total isolation while losing its friends in the West in its duel with the international community to acquire the nuclear bomb as well as the major blows it received strategically in export of terrorism to neighboring countries and the region as a whole, joined hands to create a deep division within the Iranian regime.

To survive, the mullahs stepped up suppression and committed systematic violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, further deteriorating the already appalling situation in Iran. These attempts went even beyond Iran's boundaries, moving into the neighboring Iraq to crack down on opponents protected by the Fourth Geneva Convention.

The sham presidential elections in Iran on the one hand revealed the weakness of the religious-military regime and on the other, the Iranian people's peaceful demand for change. The bloody suppression of the peaceful protest of millions shocked the world. To deal with the "threat" of being overthrown, the illegitimate regime – strongly rebuked even by credible Islamic authorities in Iran and abroad – resorted to brutal beatings and widespread arrests, torture and rape to break its opponents and stage show trials even for officials of the rival faction that lost in the elections. All this was attempted to terrorize the society.

Khamenei personally intervened and threatened those who dare to stage further protests. Ahmadinejad also described the disenchanted populace as dirt and dust that must be annihilated.

Last year, with 402 publicly-announced executions and the execution of nine minors, the Tehran regime set the world record in executions (relative to the country's population). This year, only in January, 19 people were executed, including four political prisoners. In an inhumane act and a clear breach of human rights, the Iranian regime executed two political prisoners, arrested *before* the elections for 'crimes' they supposedly committed *after* the elections. These prisoners were 20-year-old Arash Rahmanipour, and Mohammad-Reza Ali Zamani. This is while dozens of post election prisoners have also been charged with 'moharebeh' (enmity with God) punishable by death in the Islamic Republic. Several family members of Ashraf residents and PMOI supporters are amongst these death row political prisoners.

Tehran mullahs resorted to bloody crackdown on those participating in the post-elections protests killing hundreds who were mostly buried without acquiring their identities or informing their families.

Families of those missing have been inquiring for months about the fate of their loved ones from the judicial authorities and prisons without receiving any answer. Some have received the lifeless bodies of their children only after pledging to hold only small, private funeral ceremonies. They also pledged not to speak out against the murderers of their children (i.e. Ahmadinejad's illegitimate dictatorship) or write the reason of death on the tombstone. They were even forced to pay the price of the bullets used to kill their own children.

This was the case for the families of Farzad Jashni, Saeid Abbasi, Ashkan Sohrabi, Bahman Jenabi, Iman Hashemi, Parisa Kolli, Mostafa Kia-Rostami, Fahimeh Salahshoor, Arman Estakhripour, Meisam Ebadi (17), Massoud Hashemzadeh, Hossein Tufan-pour, Abbas Disnad, Ramin Ramezani, Yaqoub Bervai, Shelir Khezari ... and Neda Aqa Soltan, the young woman shot to death by a Bassij agent in a peaceful protest in Tehran on June 20, 2009. Neda became the symbol of Iranian people's demand for democracy as the world witnessed in her death, the innocence of the people of Iran. Such arbitrary killings also included children as young as 10 and 12.

Torture was widely used to pressure prisoners and even officials of the rival faction to take part in television show trials. Many young Iranians lost their lives under torture. They included Kianush Assa, Sohrab Erabi, Mohssen Rouholamini, Ramin Qahremani, Amir Javadifar and Taraneh Moussavi, the young girl whose charred body was found in the outskirts of Tehran after numerous counts of dastardly rape.

Although rape of young women has been used in Iranian prisons as a routine method of torture sanctioned three decades ago in a fatwa by Khomeini, the founder of this medieval regime, this time, young boys were also exposed to this type of torture to terrorize the general public.

The measure backfired, however, since Khamenei, the mullahs' supreme leader, no longer enjoys his previous influence and is recognized as the first person responsible for all these crimes. This is why he ordered closure of Kahrizak Detention Center – publicly referred to as the “Death Camp” – in an obvious retreat.

The regime has so far refrained from persecution and introduction of the perpetrators of these atrocious crimes, including Brig. Gen. Ahmad Reza Radan, the head of Tehran's Police, who openly ordered torture of detainees. He said, “We enjoy absolute freedom in dealing with you, so much that we can cut you into pieces and bury you in the desert. Your cries will reach nowhere and if you don't die here, you should shrink to the size of a mouse to be able to pass through these bars and go to Evin (Prison)...”

Torture and rape are routinely practiced in all official and secret prisons and detention centers. Living eyewitnesses and their families have been threatened to death if they dare to reveal these crimes.

Women are systematically terrorized, repressed, and deprived of humane activities. The mullahs' brutality however has failed to rein in the Iranian women's demand for a democratic and equal life and they are present at the forefront of all democratic protests.

In addition to university students who are systematically summoned, deprived from education and imprisoned, monitored by hidden cameras, and their freedom of speech violated in the student press, this year, the university faculty and professors have also been badly suppressed and targeted. Dr. Mohammad Maleki, 76, the first post-revolution President of Tehran University, who suffers from a severe case of prostate cancer, was arrested while resting at home and subsequently taken to Evin Prison in solitary confinement deprived from any medication attention since August 22.

Plain clothes agents of the Ministry of Intelligence, Revolutionary Guards and Bassij, in coordination with the State Security Force, attacked student dormitories in the post-election crackdowns, killing several students. At least eight students were murdered in Tehran University, alone. Hundreds of students have been summoned and detained, tortured and deprived from education. Those professors, who dared to defend the rights of students and demand freedom, were deprived from employment (i.e. fired) and subsequently imprisoned.

Today, in an open contravention of international laws, suppressive agents have been organized inside universities under the banner of security, disciplinary and Bassij forces. Intelligence agents with plain clothes also enjoy freedom of action on campus and are deployed outside by the State Security Force.

Discrimination against religious and national minorities has also aggravated. Azeri, Kurd, Arab, Baluch and other activists have been repressed and executed en mass. Ordinary citizens have neither been spared. More than 20 teachers in Baluchistan have been arrested and jailed. Kurdish citizens, including a 16-year-old boy by the name of Arman Resalat as well as dozens of inhabitants of border villages, have been arbitrarily killed.

Christians and Bahais have been detained and persecuted. They have been threatened with death and execution on the charge of being renegades. This type of persecution is no longer limited to religious minorities, Sunni and Sufi Shiites, but it also includes religious Shiite authorities who oppose Khamenei's medieval regime.

Journalists and the press are censored and repressed. Reporters without borders describe Iran as the largest prison for reporters and one of the major enemies of the Internet. This round, however, the practice expanded to foreign journalists who were brutalized, jailed, and expelled from Iran.

The internet services are in the control of the Revolutionary Guards Corps and “internet criminals” are charged with “waging war on God” and sentenced to death. Reporters have also been forced to confess in show trials that they spied for foreign countries.

Today, a large number of persons have been imprisoned, harassed, and sentenced to long prison terms only for being related to members of political groups, specially the People's Mojahedin of Iran (PMOI), on fabricated charges. They are deprived of their most basic rights including the right to have family and lawyer's visits and receive medical treatment.

They include the Yazerlou, Banazadeh, Hajilouii, Tarlani, Nabavi, Dokmehtchi, Ziaii, Mo'ezzi and Naderi families among others.

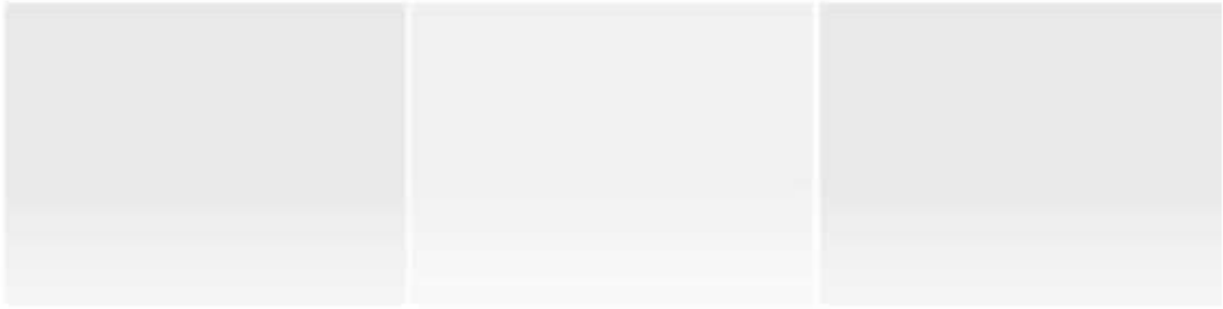
The present collection aims to show a picture - although inadequate - of the pervasive crimes committed against the oppressed people of Iran and seek help to restitute their trampled rights. These crimes against humanity need to be addressed by the UN Security Council and its perpetrators - the Tehran leaders - appropriately brought to justice in international tribunals.



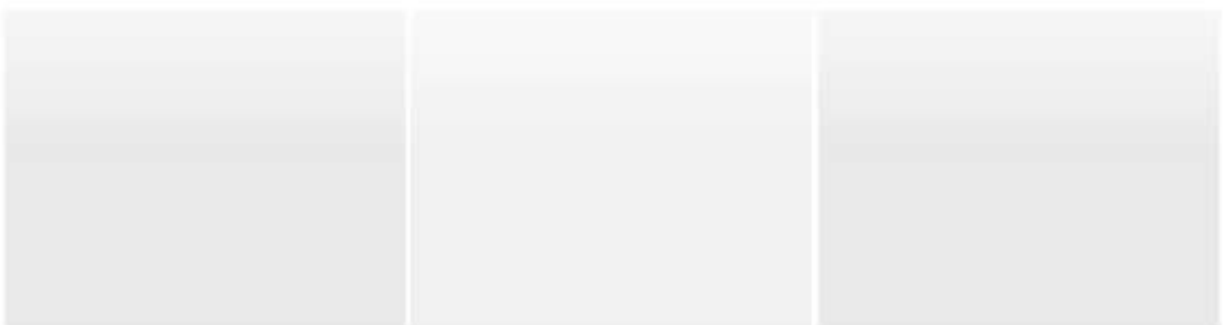
## Contents

Introduction	7
Contents	11
Charts	13
Facts	
Systematic violation of the right to life	17
Execution	19
Arbitrary killing	21
Deaths in custody	23
Death sentence	24
Stoning and stoning sentences	19
Inhumane treatment and cruel punishments	24
Arbitrary arrests	41
Political arrests	43
Social arrests	46
Prison	47
Prison condition	49
Prison sentence	51
Basic freedom and right abused	55
Right to education	61
Right to employment	62
Suppression of religious and ethnic minorities	56
Suppressive maneuvers	69
Violence against women	73
Appendices	77
List of executions – January 2010	
List of arbitrary killings June 2009 – January 2010 (related to post election events)	
List of martyrs of uprising (June 2009 – January 2010)	
List of political prisoners – January 2010	
List of post election arrestees (June 2009 – January 2010)	





# Charts

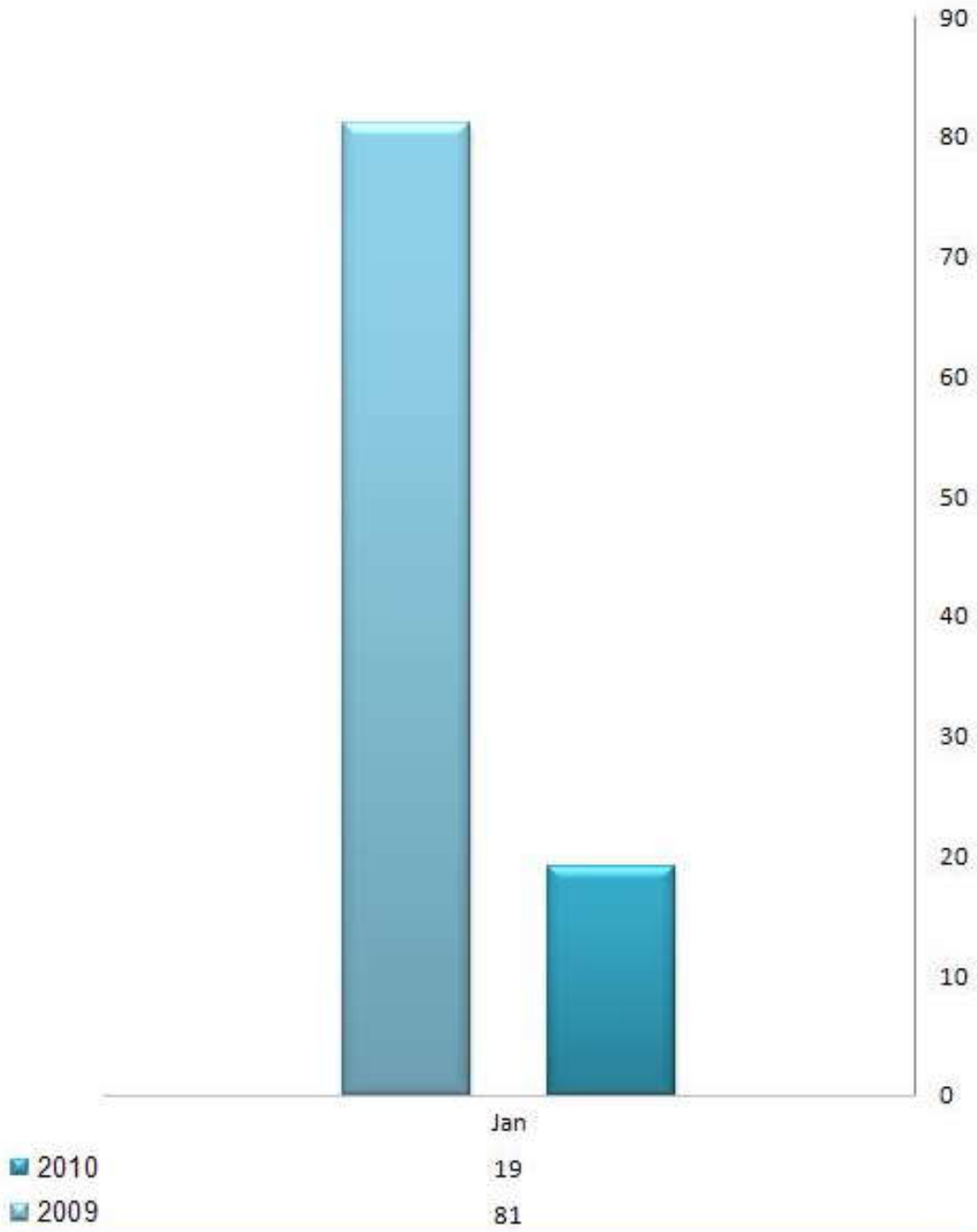


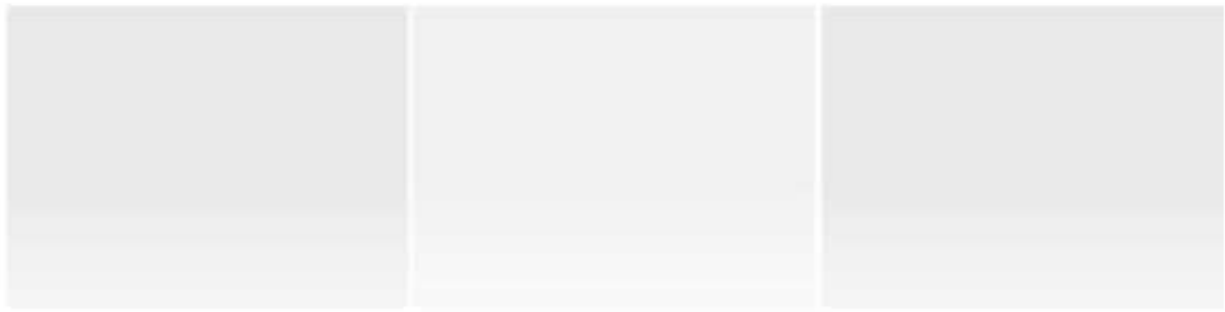


Comparative Charts of Right to Life  
2008 vs 2009

Table of Rights Abuses in Iran - 2010				
Death Decrees	Subject	Jan	TOTAL	
	Total Executions	19	19	
	Arbitrary Killings	18	18	
	Total Death Sentences	39	39	
Special Decrees	Executions	Stoning	0	0
		Political Executions	4	4
		Women Executed	0	0
		Executions in Public	1	1
		Minors Executed	0	0
	Death sentences	Women	4	4
		Political	17	17
		Minors	3	3
		Stoning	2	2

### Comparative Chart of Execution 2009 vs 2010





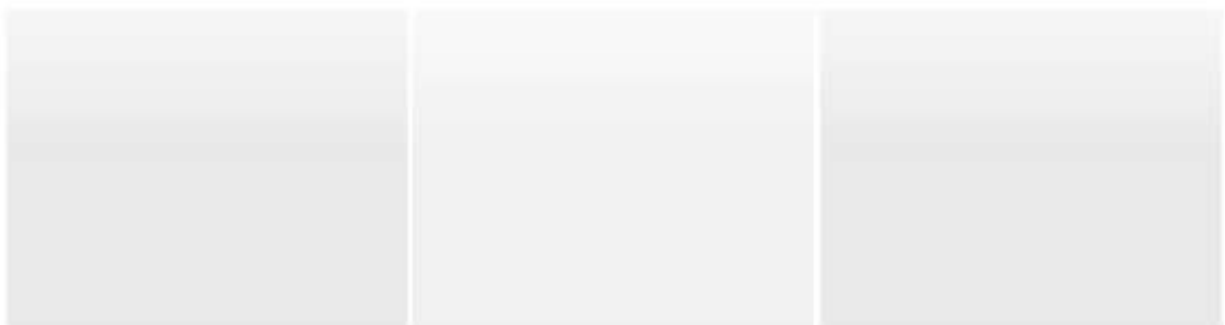
# Systematic violations of the right to life

Execution

Arbitrary killing

Deaths in custody

Death sentence



**Human Rights**



*Abuse in*

**IRAN** 2010

2  
0  
1  
0



## Systematic violations of the right to life

Execution, arbitrary killing, deaths in custody, and death sentence

### Execution

#### January

##### **Iran hangs men: state agency**

Iran hanged on Monday three men convicted of raping 12 women and murdering seven of them in a town south of Tehran, the official IRNA news agency reported.

The men, identified by their first names as brothers Alireza and Amir and Afghan citizen Dolat-Khan, were hanged in a prison in Varamin, a small town 30 kilometres south of Tehran, IRNA and other media said. (AFP - Jan 4, 2010)

##### **Last words of executed prisoners in Varamin**

Yesterday morning, three people were hanged with the presence of judicial officials in the Khorin Prison in Varamin. There were charged with rape.

Alireza (who was hanged along with his brother and an Afghan national) told our reporter in his last moments that his crime is robbery and kidnapping and that he has not killed anybody.

The two brothers were pleading that they should be given another chance to try to get amnesty from the families of their victims even while the noose was around their necks. (Jaam-e-Jam Online state-run website - Jan. 5, 2010)

##### **36 MP's call for execution of dissidents within five days**

Thirty-six members of Majlis (Iranian parliament) drafted an urgent plan to reduce the time for the execution of enemies of God from 20 days to five days.

These MP's submitted a plan to Majlis which calls for those charged with 'enmity with God' by court to be executed within five days. (Radio BBC - Jan. 5, 2010)

##### **Iran hangs Kurd political prisoner in Khoy**

On Wednesday January 6, political prisoner Fasih Yasamani was hanged in Khoy Prison at exactly 4 am.

This Kurd man who was from a village in Khoy and had been jailed since 2007 was executed unexpectedly without the usual legal procedures. Despite this issue, officials refrain from handing over his body to his family.

He was charged with membership in a Kurd opposition group but there were no documents proving his membership in his dossier expect confessions that Mr. Yasamani said were taken from him under torture.

This Kurd man was 28 years old when he was executed and after Ehsan Fatahian is the second political prisoner who was executed in Iran's Kurdish regions in the past months. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 6, 2010)

##### **Iran hangs six men: state television**

Six men convicted of drug trafficking were hanged on Saturday in a prison in the central city of Isfahan, Iranian state-run television reported.

The unidentified men were part of a drug trafficking gang who used Revolutionary Guards uniforms and forged orders for their drug smuggling operations, said the report on the television's website. (AFP - Jan 9, 2010)

##### **Man executed in secret, wife to be stoned to death**

Mohammad Mostafayi, a lawyer, said that his client Rahim Mohammadeif was executed without his knowledge or the knowledge of his family and Kobra Babayi (his wife) will also be stoned to death in the near future.

'This young man and his wife were sentenced to execution and stoning last year in a court in Tabriz with the verdict of the five judges of the second branch of the Court of Review. Their sentences were ready to be carried out after it was confirmed by two judges in the 27<sup>th</sup> branch of the Supreme Court. This sentence was carried out yesterday in the prison for Rahim, the male offender in the case, and Kobra Babayi is to be stoned to death in the near future in accordance to her sentence', Mostafayi said. (ILNA state-run news agency - Jan. 20, 2010)

##### **Iran hangs young man in Baluchistan**

A 26-year-old man named Allah Nazar Shahli Bar was hanged in Khash Prison in the morning. According to reports, there are rumors that he was executed on charges of murder. But it not clear if the person who was murdered

was an ordinary person or a person affiliated with the government. (Association of Baluchistan Human Rights Activists - Jan. 20, 2010)

#### **Iran hangs prisoner in Ardabil**

According to reports from Iran, a person was hanged in Ardabil Prison.

According to the Public Affairs and Communications Department of Ardabil's Judiciary, a person who clashed with the husband of his sister's wife in a disagreement over irrigation in a village in this province and killed him was hanged in this prison after his retribution sentence was passed. The name of the hanged man was not specified in this report. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 22, 2010)

#### **Sunni Baluch activist hanged in Zahedan**

Officials of the Islamic Republic in Sistan and Baluchistan hanged a Sunni Baluch man yesterday in Zahedan.

This 35 year old man was arrested four years ago on charges of setting a bomb and was hanged yesterday after being sentenced to moharebeh (enmity with God).

Rahmat Zehi Shahnavazi was a cultural and religious activist in this city and was arrested outside his home after an explosion in Zahedan. He was sentenced to death two years ago without ever confessing to setting the bomb. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 24, 2010)

#### **Iran hangs man in public: report**

Iran publicly hanged on Wednesday a man convicted of murdering a top judiciary official in the central city of Isfahan, Fars news agency reported.

The man identified as Jamshid Hadian, 59, was executed in front of Isfahan court house for shooting to death last year the deputy prosecutor of the city, the report said. (AFP - Jan 27, 2010)

#### **Iran hangs first two post-election 'rioters'**

Iran on Thursday hanged two men convicted of being Mohareb (enemies of God), in the first executions of dissidents since protests over the disputed presidential poll in June, news reports said.

'Mohammad Reza Ali Zamani and Arash Rahmani Pour, whose cases were confirmed by a Tehran appeals court, were hanged on Thursday morning,' ISNA news agency said, quoting a statement from the Tehran prosecutor's office.

The pair were also charged with plotting to topple the Islamic regime, the agency added.

Tehran prosecutor Abbas Jafari Dolatabadi confirmed the hanging to state-run television.

The two men hanged 'belonged to the monarchist group Tondar (the Kingdom Assembly of Iran). During their trials they confessed to obtaining explosives and planning to assassinate officials,' he said.

'They objected to the preliminary sentencing, but the appeals court upheld the verdict and they were hanged today,' Dolatabadi added.

They were the first reported hangings of people tried after the wave of protest that broke out following the re-election last June 12 of hardline President Mahmoud Ahamdinejad to a second four-year term.

Amnesty International condemned what it termed the 'shocking' executions.

'These shocking executions show that the Iranian authorities will stop at nothing to stamp out the peaceful protests that persist since the election,' it said in a statement.

'These men were first unfairly convicted and now they have been unjustly killed. It is not even clear they had links to this group as their 'confessions' appear to have been made under duress'.

It feared that 'these executions are just the beginning of a wave of executions of those tried on similar vaguely worded charges'.

Zamani was among scores of people arrested in the mass demonstrations after the election, but Rahmani Pour's lawyer, Nasrin Sotoudeh, denied her client had anything to do with the post-poll riots.



**Arash Rahmanipour**



**Mohammad-Reza Ali Zamani**

'He was arrested in Farvardin (the Iranian month covering March-April) before the election and charged with cooperation with the Kingdom Assembly,' Sotoudeh told AFP.

Sotoudeh said she had been prevented from representing Rahmani Pour at what she called his 'show trial' in July, and added that many of the charges related to when he was a minor.

'He confessed because of threats against his family,' she said, adding that she was shocked at the news of the executions because both she and her client's family had been waiting for word from the appeals court.

The prosecutor's office said nine other detained protesters have been condemned to death after facing charges of being Mohareb, trying to topple the regime and belonging to the outlawed main opposition group, the People's Mujahedeen, and the Kingdom Assembly. (AFP - Jan 28, 2010)

#### **Rahmanipour confessed under duress – lawyer**

Nasrin Sotoudeh, Arash Rahmanipour's lawyer: I was not allowed to attend the trials for Arash Rahmanipour in the 15<sup>th</sup> branch of the Revolutionary Court and even in one session which was a show trial and my client was shown on television they banned me from coming and I was threatened with arrest when I objected...

In that same court session in which I was banned from, they asked Arash's father to persuade him to do what the agents wanted him to and when his father resisted, they threatened him on the spot that they would arrest him and take him to prison. You have to consider that before this when Arash was arrested, his pregnant sister was also arrested with him and two months after his sister was released, she lost her baby because of the pressure she was subjected to... (BBC TV (Farsi service) – Jan. 18, 2010)

#### **Orumieh official: bodies of executed protester should be publicly paraded on the streets**

The representative of the leader (Khamenei) in Western Azarbaijan province, Gholamreza Hassani, referred to the execution of two seditionists and monarchists and the (death sentence) for 11 others and said in his Friday Prayer sermon in Orumieh, "The bodies of those who were executed should be brought out on the streets in public view in Tehran".

"The tongue that says 'Iranian republic' instead of Islamic republic should be cut out..." (IRNA state-run news agency – Jan. 29, 2010)

#### **Iran hangs two other prisoners**

The head of the criminal court announced that those (2 men) convicted in the Lavasan case were hanged at noon in Evin Prison.

"These people who had committed adultery were sentenced to death in Azar (the Iranian month equal to November/December) by the 72<sup>nd</sup> branch of the criminal court and this sentence was upheld by the 31<sup>st</sup> branch of the Supreme Court this month and was carried out", Jafarzadeh said.

"This sentence was carried out in the prison yard today", he added. (Fars state-run News Agency – Jan. 30, 2010)

## Arbitrary killing

### January

#### **Eyewitness: security force pickup truck ran over protester and changed gears to run over him again**

Daryoush (who witnessed a security force car run over a person): This incident took place around the Ministry of Commerce which is about 100 meters away from Valiasr Square and we were there...

When the pickup truck came close, it made a sudden stop and went in the sidewalk. It was going in reverse when I saw another car coming... The second pickup truck came with high speed and the people who had no idea that the car would want to do this were running away while holding out their hands from the back towards the car. These trucks which had metal nets tied to the front of them were coming at the people and the only thing I could do was shout, 'watch out people', but I saw with my own eyes that one person was ran over and was under the wheels of the car. I saw with my own eyes that a person was under the wheels of the car and when the truck went into reverse, it passed over the person's chest and I saw the hands and feet of the person shaking under the wheels of the car.

These trucks had come exactly with the intention of running over people because when the pickup truck went into reverse, it changed gears and ran over the person again. (Radio Farda – Jan. 3, 2010)

#### **Regime forces kill Kurd man in Turkey-Iran border**

Another Kurd man was killed in the Turkey-Iran border after security forces opened fire on him.

On January 1, security forces opened fire on a Kurd man identified as Khaled Ahmadi in the Albak region and killed him. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 5, 2010)

**Six people dead, two severely injured after security forces open fire on travelling family**

At least eight people were killed or injured after security forces opened fire on ordinary citizens in Iranshahr.

On January 7, security forces stationed on the Darzadeh Shahr Street in the town of Iranshahr in Sistan and Baluchistan opened fire on a passing car for unknown reasons. This action led to the death of the driver identified as Moradbakhsh Kadkhodayi. Four other people were killed after Moradbakhsh's car crashed into another car which caught fire. The security forces that had opened fire left the scene without helping the fire victims.

The wife and two children of Mr. Kadkhodayi who were travelling with him were severely injured in this incident. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 8, 2010)

**Security forces open fire on two men in Sardasht; one man dies from injuries**

Two tradesmen in the Nalas region in Sardasht were shot at by security forces. On Saturday January 15, security forces opened fire on a number of passing cars under the pretext that they were carrying smuggled goods. Two brothers identified as Mostafa and Qader Alizadeh were severely injured as a result. Mostafa Alizadeh died on the way to the hospital due to his injuries. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 9, 2010)

**Security forces kill and injure several Kurd men**

At least four Kurd men in West Iran were either killed or injured by security forces.

According to this report, on January 4, in the Baleh Soor region in Aland, a Kurd man identified as Mohsen (last name not known) died instantly after security forces opened fire on him. On the same day in the Haj Omran border region, another Kurd man identified as Samku (last name unknown) was shot by security forces. He was severely injured as a result.

On January 5 in the Mir Omar border region in Khoy, security forces opened fire on a number of Kurd residents of this area killing Jafar Babazadeh and Ibrahim (last name not known). (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 10, 2010)

**Security forces shoot and kill 18-year-old in border region**

A young man was killed by security forces in the border area while eight other border residents were shot and wounded by security forces and then arrested.

Khaled Ahmadi, an 18-year-old man from the Marikhani Village in Suma who intended to cross the border was shot by security forces and died instantly. At the same time in this region, 8 other men were shot at by security forces. Most of them wounded when they were violently arrested. Despite their families' pursuit of their cases, they are still detained. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 12, 2010)

**Regime forces murder brother of Kurd political prisoner in Tehran**

According to reports from the Campaign in Defense of Political and Civil Rights Prisoners, Kamal Oliayi, the brother of Kurd political prisoner Arsalan Oliayi, was suspiciously killed in Tehran.

Kamal Oliayi, 32, was working in Tehran. He was killed about 15 days ago and his body was buried by security forces in the Behesht Zahra Cemetery in Tehran. His family was informed yesterday that their son was killed.

Kamal was the brother of Arsalan Oliayi who was sentenced to death last year. His death sentence was lowered to 16 years of prison a while back. (Campaign in Defense of Political and Civil Rights Prisoners - Jan. 11, 2010)

**Iran hands over body of slain protester to family after two weeks**

Mostafa Karim Beigi, 27, was shot in the forehead on Ashura (December 27) near Nufel Lushato Street in Tehran.

After two weeks of having absolutely no information about their son and thinking that he was arrested in Ashura, they identified his body and picture on January 11 in the Kahrizak coroner's office. In the time before his body was identified, his family received threatening phone calls from his cell phone which added to their concerns.

After his family identified his body, security agents refrained from handing over his body and said only if his funeral is held outside of Tehran will they hand over the body. His family was forced to accept this condition despite the fact that they lived in the Amirieh neighborhood in Tehran.



On the January 12, Mostafa's family were suddenly informed that only his father, mother and sister can attend his funeral and Mostafa Karmi Beigi was buried in the afternoon. (Committee of Human Rights Reporters - Jan. 17, 2010)

## Deaths in custody

### January

#### **Female political prison suspiciously dies in Orumieh Prison**

Zahra Jafari, a female political prisoner died suspiciously after five months in Orumieh Prison.

According to eyewitnesses, the body of this political prisoner who was charged with having contacts with an opposition group was initially taken to the prison medical clinic and then was transferred to outside prison. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 7, 2010)

#### **Female prisoner killed in Eshrat Abad Detention Center in Tehran**

According to reports from informed and credible sources in Eshrat Abad Detention Center in Tehran, a girl by the first name of Elahe, 24 (medium height, had on a black coat and jeans when arrested) was hit on the head in the interrogations with a chair and had a brain haemorrhage which led to her instant death. According to this report, this girl was an orphan who grew up in an orphanage in Kurdistan and had come to Tehran for work. She apparently worked in a clothing factory near Enqelab Square as a laborer in the past few months. Since this girl did not have a guardian, her interrogator constantly asked for her name, address and about her relatives and the address of those she was working, with he threw a chair at her in anger (because she could not answer her questions) which led to her death in the evening of January 8. Her body was immediately taken to an unknown location.

According to this report, injured detainees in this detention center are denied treatment and warm cloths and women are treated very inhumanely. (Iran Press News - Jan. 10, 2010)

#### **Prisoner commits suicide because of prison official's inhumane pressures**

According to reports, Azim Askari committed suicide because of the pressures and the violent treatment by the head of ward 1 in Gohardasht Prison in Karaj and died a few hours later.

This 44 year old prisoner had been jailed for close to 8 years in the Qasr and Gohardasht Prisons. He was detained in ward 1, known as the 'Akhare Khatiha' ward (known for its violent treatment of prisoners and gross violations of prisoners' rights). He had tried for a long time to be transferred to Hamedan Prison to be able to visit with his child. On the morning of January 12, he went to see the head of this ward, Akharian, about his transfer, but Akharian treated him inhumanely and made insulting remarks about his family.

After he came back, he committed suicide in his cell at about 9 am but (prison guards) refrained from doing anything to help or treat this prisoner. He was transferred to the medical clinic at about 12:30 where he died a few hours later.

There have also been reports that the beatings and torture of prisoners have increased in this ward. Defenseless prisoners are beaten with electric clubs and are electrocuted and tortured and this has turned into a routine procedure in ward 1. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 12, 2010)

#### **Political prisoner with cancer dies in Evin Prison because of lack of medical attention**

A political prisoner sentenced to life in prison died in Evin Prison after being denied medical attention.

His death was confirmed in the morning by the medical clinic in this prison.

Alborz Qasemi, a political prisoner sentenced to moharebeh (enmity with God) for being a member of a political organization, who also suffered from cancer in the stomach was transferred to the medical clinic because of his critical condition. He had been banned for a long time from medical attention and medical leave from prison.

According to reports, this prisoner who was detained in ward 350 with his brother Hamid Qasemi, was not even able to walk in the past few days and suffered from aconuresis. Despite the efforts of his family and cellmates, prison officials refrained from giving him medical attention until yesterday and he was only taken to the medical clinic after constant appeals from his family. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 20, 2010)

## Death sentence

### January

#### 62 year old political prisoner sentenced to death



Ali Saremi is a political prisoner in Evin who has been sentenced to death. He has been charged with participating in a commemoration ceremony to mark the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the massacre of political prisoners in 1988.

Akbar Saremi (his son in Camp Ashraf): 'My father is 62 years old and has a degree in English literature. He has been in and out of prison in the past 20 years and has been violently tortured. He had a heart attack as a result of these tortures. Also due to the pressures on him in prison he has problems with his eyesight. He needs surgery but they have denied him any kind of medical treatment...

My father has no judicial history and the death sentence was suddenly announced to him'. (Radio Farda - Jan. 5, 2010)

#### **Ashoura protesters at risk of execution in Iran**

Amnesty International has urged the Iranian authorities not to sentence to death protesters arrested during religious commemorations last month.

Media reports say at least five demonstrators arrested during protests on Ashoura, 27 December, have been charged with moharebeh (enmity against God), which carries the death penalty. Amnesty International fears they could be tried imminently. The authorities have said that "rioting and arson" amounts to moharebeh, a criminal offence usually used against those who take up arms against the state. 'The offences the protesters are accused of do not amount to the 'most serious crimes' for which the death penalty may be applied under international law.

Even if they have committed such offences, they should not face the death penalty if convicted,' said Amnesty International's Middle East and North Africa Deputy Director Hassiba Hadj Sahraoui.

'The authorities should ensure that anyone suspected of criminal offences related to the demonstrations, including stone throwing or acts of arson, is tried promptly and fairly, in proceedings which meet international fair trial standards, and that no one is sentenced to death'.

The news comes amid signs that the Iranian authorities may be planning to increase the use of the death penalty as a means to deter demonstrations.

On 4 January, a group of 36 MPs proposed a motion to amend the Code of Criminal Procedures so that those convicted of moharebeh would be executed within five days of their conviction. Such a move would compromise the effective exercise of a defendant's right to appeal.

The authorities have accused various OPPOSITION groups of orchestrating the unrest on Ashoura, notably the Baha'is, an unrecognized religious minority. At least 13 Baha'is have been arrested from their homes since the demonstrations. The Baha'i community denies any such involvement.

In December, the lawyers for seven Baha'i leaders detained without trial for more than a year were informed their clients will be tried on Tuesday. They face charges of espionage and could be sentenced to death. Amnesty International believes that all 20 are prisoners of conscience who should be released immediately and unconditionally. 'Iranians should be free to assemble in peaceful protests to express their opinions, including about the government and human rights violations, and not face excessive use of force, arbitrary arrest and unfair trial, or risk execution,' said Hassiba Hadj Sahraoui. "Instead of allowing demonstrations to take place, the Iranian authorities are locking up anyone of a different viewpoint from theirs and are looking for scapegoats to blame for the unrest." (Amnesty International - Jan. 8, 2010)

#### **Two Kurd political prisoners in danger of execution**

International Committee against Execution: according to reports sent to the Committee, the danger of the imminent execution of Farzad Kamangar and Habib Latifi is very high. Farzad Kamangar is a popular teacher who has been detained for several years by the Islamic rule and



Latifi

Kamangar

his death sentence was announced to him some time ago. Habib Latifi, is a student activist who was arrested for his political activities and sentenced to death. According to this report acquired by the Committee, the head of the Sanandaj Department for Executing Sentences told Habib Latifi that 'no guarantees can stop the execution of his death sentence' and in this way announced to him that his death sentence will soon be carried out. According to this report, Kamangar is also in danger of being hanged. (Roshangari Website - Jan. 12, 2010)

**Iran: Halt executions of Kurdish and other political prisoners**

Amnesty International is calling on the Iranian authorities not to execute at least 17 members of Iran's Kurdish minority, including one woman - Zeynab Jalalian - who are on death row after their conviction of political offences. The organization fears that they could be executed at any time, particularly in light of the execution of two other Kurds in Iran in recent months, most recently Fasih Yasmini in Khoy on 6 January 2010.

All were convicted after unfair trials for moharebeh (enmity against God) for membership of banned Kurdish opposition groups, mainly the Party for a Free Life in Kurdistan (known by its Kurdish acronym PJAK), an armed group, and Komala, a Marxist organization. Some are reported to have been tortured in detention and to have been denied access to a lawyer.

The executed man, Fasih (Fateh) Yasmini was arrested during clashes between PJAK and Iranian security forces in the village of Hendavan, near Khoy, in or around February 2008. It is not clear whether Fasih Yasmini was involved in these clashes or not. He was reportedly among a number of villagers arrested, including five girls, his father Hossein Yasmini, and another man Fahim Reza-Zadeh, who are said to have been taken to a Ministry of Intelligence detention facility in Khoy, where Fasih Yasmini was reportedly tortured. His family had no news of him for about two months. Hossein Yasmini is currently serving a two-year prison sentence, while Fahim Reza-Zadeh was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment to be served in exile. Fasih Yasmini's death sentence by the Khoy Revolutionary court is believed to have been upheld on appeal by Branch 10 of the Appeal Court of West Azerbaijan Province and by the Supreme Court and he was executed without his lawyer being informed - a requirement under Iranian law - on 6 January. Fasih Yasmini's family have not been given his body, possibly to prevent them holding a funeral or memorial service for him. Amnesty International condemns this execution.

Ali Saremi (or Sarami), aged 62, was sentenced to death for moharebeh on 29 December 2009 after being convicted of membership of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI), an opposition group based in Iraq. He was arrested in September 2007 after speaking at a commemoration at the Khavaran cemetery in Tehran for the victims of the 1988 "prison massacre" and has been held since. Amnesty International issued an urgent action on his and six other's behalf in November 2007. Held without trial for many months, mostly in Evin Prison, his final court session took place on 16 November in Branch 15 of the Revolutionary Court. Two days after demonstrations against the government on Ashoura on 27 December 2009 were violently repressed by security forces, he was told that he had been sentenced to death. The Iranian authorities have blamed various groups for organizing the demonstrations, including the PMOI and a "Marxist grouplet". Ali Saremi has a son in the PMOI who lives in Camp Ashraf, Iraq, whom he has visited. Ali Saremi has spent 23 years in prison for his political activities both before and after the Islamic Revolution in Iran.

Background Since the unrest which followed the disputed presidential election in June 2009, Amnesty International has documented an increase in the number of executions in Iran, and the Iranian authorities have threatened to try demonstrators for moharebeh, moves which appear designed to dissuade people from participating in demonstrations against the government. The 17 Kurds on death row for political offences are reported to be: 1. Zeynab Jalalian [f] 2. Habibollah Latifi 3. Sherko Moarefi 4. Farhad Vakili 5. Farzad Kamangar 6. Ali Haydarian 7. Hossein Khezri 8. Rashid Akhkandi 9. Mohammad Amin Agoushi 10. Ahmad Pouladkhani 11. Sayed Sami Hosseini 12. Sayed Jamal Mohammadi 13. Rostam Arkiya 14. Mostafa Salimi 15. Anwar Rostami 16. Hassan Talai 17. Iraj Mohammadi (Amnesty International - Jan. 13, 2010)

**Iran sentences female political prisoner to death**

Shirin Alam Hovi, a Kurd political prisoner in Evin Prison was sentenced to death.

This sentence which was issued for the charge of mohareb (enmity with God) for her cooperation with a Kurd opposition party was passed by the Tehran Revolutionary Court and was announced to her lawyer last week.

Shirin Alam Hovi, 28, is from Maku in West Azerbaijan. She was arrested last summer and is currently in Evin Prison.



It was previously announced that she was sentenced to life in prison but her lawyer has confirmed her death sentence. This sentence is subject to appeal. (Kurdistan Human Rights Watch News Agency - Jan. 16, 2010)

#### **Iran prosecutor calls for death penalty against protesters**

An Iranian prosecutor called Monday for the death penalty against five protesters arrested during demonstrations staged as Shiites participated in solemn Ashura rituals last month, state media reported.

The five were accused of having ties with Iran's exiled and armed opposition, the People's Mujahideen, and charged with 'Moharebeh' or being enemies of God, which is punishable by death under Iran's Sharia-based law.

'I ask the court for maximum punishment against these people based on the investigations, the defendants' confessions and (their) criminal acts on Ashura,' the prosecution said in the indictment carried by the media.

It said the unidentified group had been trained in Mujahideen's 'camp in Iraq and European countries to carry out terror and rioting'.

Two women, draped in print chadors worn by prisoners, were shown by state television among the group of defendants sitting in the front row of the court room during Monday's proceedings. (AFP - Jan 18, 2010)

#### **Iran sentences two other Kurd political prisoners to death**

Two Kurd political prisoners identified as Mohammad Amin Abdollahi and Qader Mohamamd-Zadeh from Mirabad in Bukan were sentenced to death by the Orumieh Court of Review.

These two prisoners were arrested on charges of cooperation with Kurd opposition parties and were detained to the Bukan Intelligence Agency. They were subsequently transferred to the Orumieh Central Prison.

Mohammad Amin Abdollahi, 25, was sentenced to 20 years of prison in his first trial and after a court of review in January 16, was sentenced to death on charges of acting against national security and Moharebeh (enmity with God). On the other hand, Qader Mohammad Zadeh, 32, was initially sentenced to 32 years of prison and was later sentenced to death on the same charges in the court of review. (Kurd Human Rights Organization - Jan. 20, 2010)

#### **Another Kurd political prisoner sentenced to death**

The Campaign in Defense of Political Prisoners announced that Aziz Mohammad-Zadeh, a Kurd political activist was sentenced to death. According to the Campaign, Mohammad-Zadeh was sentenced to death by a court in Saqez on the charges of acting against national security and moharebeh (enmity with God).

This 26 year old political activist was arrested on October 13, 2009 by security forces in Baneh and taken to a detention center in this city. He was transferred to a prison in Saqez after three months of abuse and torture. He is currently in solitary confinement and in poor physical health. (Committee of Human Rights Reporters - Jan. 23, 2010)

#### **Iran revokes birth certificates of two death row prisoners in unprecedented inhumane measure**

According to reports, after the confirmation of the death sentence of two prisoners, they were taken to the Registry Office and their birth certificates were revoked.

On January 18, two prisoner from ward 4 in Gohardasht Prison were taken to court and their death sentences were announced to them. In a strange and inhumane measure, they were then taken to the Registration Office and their birth certifications were revoked. They were subsequently told that they would be hanged in the next 10 days.

According to reports, one of the prisoners identified as Miri who is from juvenile hall number 11 in ward 4 and is a minor offender became sick when his sentence was being announced and when he was taken to the Registry Office and was in a very poor mental state.

The other prisoner, Aydin Shariatmaday, 28, has been in prison for close to a year.

This is a new measure that judges use in which they revoke the birth certificate death row prisoners. This is a form of torture which puts severe pressure on the prisoner and on the other hand denies all rights to him as a human being who is still alive and causes various legal problems for the prisoner and his family. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 23, 2010)

#### **Regime forces confiscate death row prisoner's belongings**

Yesterday, a few days after Kurd activist Aziz Mohammadzadeh was sentenced to death in a court in Saqez on charges of acting against national security and moharebeh (enmity with God), his home and car were seized by the intelligence agency in the city of Baneh.

His car has been impounded and is in a parking lot in the Intelligence Agency in this city while his home has been sealed shut. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 23, 2010)

#### **Iran sentences two human rights activists to moharebeh**



Shiva Nazar Ahari and Kohyar Gudarzi

Two members of the Committee of Human Rights Reporters have been accused of moharebeh (enmity with God). Mehrdad Rahimi announced in a visit with his family that 'judicial officials intend to charge him with moharebeh'.

Kohyar Gudarzi, the secretary of this committee was also charged with moharebeh, spreading propaganda against the government and attending illegal gatherings.

Before this, in a meeting with the family of Shiva Nazar Ahari, another member of this committee, Tehran's prosecutor said that the committee is affiliated with the PMOI. (Committee of Human Rights Reporters - Jan. 25, 2010)

### 9 protesters on death row

The execution sentences of Mohammad-Reza Ali Zamani and Arash Rahmanipour which was confirmed by the Tehran court of review was carried out in the morning.

The sentence for nine others on charges of (participating) in the gatherings in the past few months is being reviewed and will be carried out when the (death) sentences are finalized.

These offenders were charged with moharebeh (enmity with God), trying to overthrow the Islamic Republic, membership in anti-revolutionary and armed grouplets including the Monarchist Association of Iran and the terrorist Monafeqin (PMOI) organization among other things. (ISNA news agency - Jan. 28, 2010)

### Another protester sentenced to moharebeh punishable by death in Islamic Republic

According to reports, Mostafa Yar Mohammadi, 27, from Tehran who is in Evin Prison and was arrested in the College Intersection on Ashura was charged with Moharebeh (enmity with God) acting against national security and destroying public property by Judge Salavati in the Revolutionary Court. (Peik-e-Iran website - Jan. 28, 2010)

### Two bloggers face possible death penalty

Two netizens and human rights activists, Mehrdad Rahimi and Kouhyar Goudarzi, have been accused of wanting to wage "a war against God," in a similar manner to the two men who were executed this morning in Tehran on charges of "Mohareb" (being enemies of God). Both contributors to an OPPOSITION website, Rahimi and Goudarzi are also facing a possible death penalty.

"The authorities have shown they will no longer content themselves with just arresting and convicting in order to put pressure on human rights activists and those who contest President Mahmoud Ahamdinejad's reelection," Reporters Without Borders said. "Today they have demonstrated that they intend to actually execute Mohareb. There is great danger that there will be more executions. How many deaths will be needed for the international community to intervene?"

Rahimi, who edits the Shahidayeshahr blog, and Goudarzi, who keeps his own blog (<http://kouhyar.wordpress.com/>), are both members of the "Committee of Human Rights Reporters," which was created by students and bloggers to relay information about the crackdown that followed the disputed 12 June presidential election.

Tehran state prosecutor Abass Jafari Dolatabadi declared on 22 January that this committee was an offshoot of the outlawed People's Mujahedeen Organisation and that any collaboration with its website was therefore banned.

Other bloggers who are members of the committee have also been arrested in recent weeks: Parisa Kakei was arrested on 2 January; Shiva Nazar Ahari was arrested on 24 December; and Said Kanaki and Said Jalali were arrested on 1 December. They are all still being held in Section 209 of Tehran's Evin prison and are being subjected to considerable pressure to name other members of the committee and to call for it to be disbanded.

Reporters Without Borders also warns Iranians about the "mirror-sites" being used by the authorities to trap Internet users. Imitating the websites of foreign political organisation and news media, they invite visitors to send emails and videos about demonstrations or to post comments, and are used by the authorities to gather evidence to support charges of spying for foreign organizations.

Reporters Without Borders has meanwhile learned that Mansoureh Shojaii, a contributor to women's rights websites, and Mohammed Reza Zohdi, the former editor of the now-closed newspaper Arya, a member of the Committee for the Defence of Press Freedom and a contributor to several reformist newspapers, were both released from Section 209 of

Evin prison on 23 December. Shojaii had been held for 22 days while Zohdi had been held for 19 days. (Reporters without Borders - Jan.28 2010)

**Death row Kurd activist taken to intelligence agency and tortured**

According the latest reports, Aziz Mohammadzadeh, Kurd activist who has been sentenced to death, and has gone on a hunger strike in protest to this sentence was taken to solitary confinement in the Saqez Intelligence Agency from the Saqez Prison solitary cell by security forces.

This is while this political prisoner is in poor physical health and is denied the right to a lawyer. On the other hand the intelligence agency in Baneh has confiscated his personal property (his car and home).

According to a person close to Mohammadzadeh, he was under very severe torture in the Baneh intelligence agency and is now in an unknown state. He is in danger of imminent death. (Human Rights Act ivists in Iran - Jan. 29, 2010)

**Iran puts 16 anti-government protesters on trial**

Iran put on trial on Saturday 16 anti-government protesters, two of them women, who were arrested on the Shiite mourning day of Ashura, the official IRNA news agency reported.

Five of the defendants are accused of being mohareb (enemies of God) and corrupt on earth, both crimes punishable by death under the Iranian legal system, which is based on Islamic sharia law, IRNA said.

The rest are accused of 'gathering and conspiring against security, propaganda against the system and seeking to harm security by inciting unrest and riot,' it said.

IRNA said the those accused of being mohareb include two who have ties with and were supporting 'the hypocrites', the term the regime uses to describe the outlawed rebel People's Mujahedeen.

It said the other 11 accused include one Bahai, a student activist and one having 'communist leanings who also gave interviews to foreign radios'. (AFP - Jan 30, 2010)

# Stoning and stoning sentences



## Stoning to death

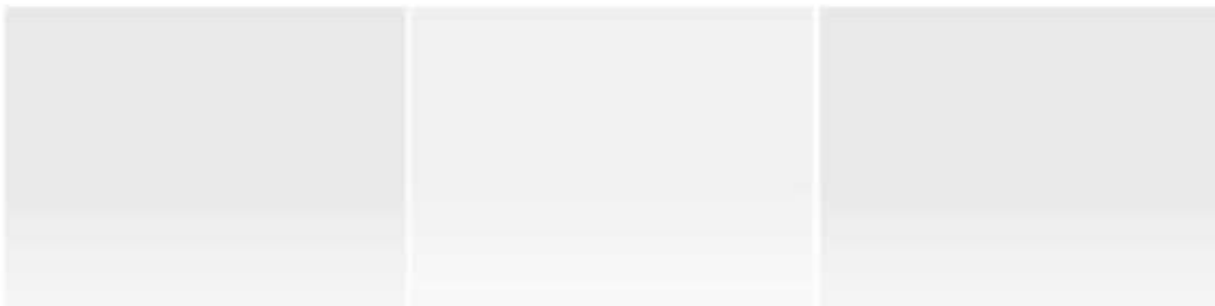
### January

#### **Man and woman sentenced to death by stoning in Orumieh**

The death by stoning sentence of two people convicted of adultery was confirmed in a court of review in West Azerbaijan Province. According to reports, Sarimeh Ebadi, 30, mother of two and Bu-Ali Janfeshani, 32, father of one child, are the announced identities of these two people.

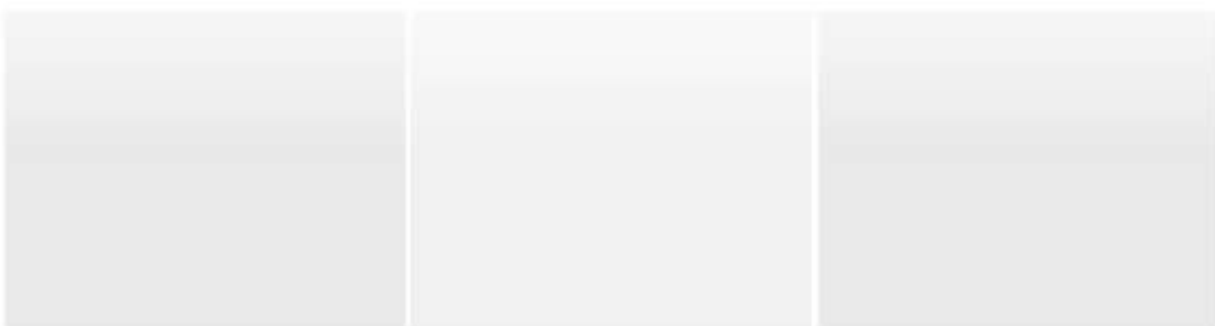
These two people were sentenced to stoning on charges of adultery before this by the Public Court in Orumieh. They are both detained in the Central Orumieh Prison. In addition to the unclear judicial procedure of this sentence, this verdict was passed while the accused were not allowed to have the lawyers of their choice and the right to defend themselves. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 13, 2010)





# Inhumane treatment and cruel punishments

Amputation, flogging, torture, and humiliation



**Human Rights**



*Abuse in*

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## Amputation, flogging, torture, and humiliation

### January

#### **Iran sentences journalist to 7 years of prison and 34 lashes**

Bahman Ahmadi Amuyi, a journalist and economical analyst was sentenced to seven years and four months of prison and 34 lashes. This sentence was announced to this jailed journalist in the 26<sup>th</sup> branch of the Tehran Revolutionary Court. He is still in ward 350 in Tehran's Evin Prison. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 4, 2010)

#### **No news on two students who were severely wounded by government supporters in Mashhad Univ.**

After a bloody attack on December 30 and 31 by plain clothes agents and government supporters known as the 'Ansar', against the Azad University in Mashhad which led to dozens of injuries and the arrest of 210 student dissidents, 30 students who are mostly members of the Islamic Association are still jailed after six days...

According to reports, there is no news on the faith of 10 students of Mashhad's Sajad University, who staged a gathering in protest to this bloody raid and were arrested by security forces. There is also no news on four Firdosi University students who have been arrested two weeks ago.

There is no information on the faith of eight students who were injured as a result of the attack on the Free Mashhad University on Wednesday. They were abducted by security forces from inside the university and taken to unknown hospitals.

The fact that there is absolutely no information on a student who was stabbed in the neck and another student who was clubbed on the head, has led to serious concerns amongst Mashhad University students. These two students were dragged out of the university while unconscious and severely bleeding. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 4, 2010)

#### **300 tortured Ashura detainees transferred to Sepah ward in Gohardasht Prison**

According to reports, on Thursday December 31, about 300 Ashura detainees were transferred to the solitary cells in ward 8, aka the Sepah ward, in Gohardasht Prison in Karaj.

These detainees were brought to this ward with their hands tied behind their backs and black plastic bags over their heads. They were tortured in detention and could barely walk and moaned from pain.

Ward 8 is controlled by interrogators from the Ministry of Intelligence and prisoners kept in solitary face worse conditions than ward 209 in Evin Prison. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 5, 2010)

#### **Mashhad police beat detained students**

After the bloody attack on December 30 and 31 against the Mashhad Free University and widespread protests in all of Mashhad's universities, 210 Free University, 7 Firdosi University, 35 Khayam University and 10 Sajad University students were taken to the Police Area in Mashhad.

Six Firdosi university students named Tohid Tamadoni, Mohsen Bayat, Ali Mamuri, Reza Khojasteh and Ali Latifi were jailed there since Wednesday, while Hossein Qabel has been detained there since December 27.

According to a Free University student, these jailed students are treated unsuitably and interrogators beat them to put pressure on them. They are also kept dozens in a cell in very unsuitable conditions. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 6, 2010)

#### **Student activist sentenced to three years of prison and 74 lashes**



After Naser Faridi and his lawyer Mohammad Oliayi Fard went to the 26<sup>th</sup> branch of the Revolutionary Court in Tehran yesterday morning, it was announced to them that Faridi was sentenced to 6 years of prison and 74 lashes.

Naser Faridi, the former secretary of the Islamic Association in the Teacher Training University in Tehran and member of the Policy Setting Council of the Free Citizen Staff was arrested on June 14 in the staff office and after three months of temporary detention was released on a 50,000 dollar bail. This human rights activist has been charged with acting against national security and disrupting public order. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 7, 2010)

#### **Two Shiraz University students receive hard punishments**

The four year prison sentence of Mohammad Tabe Mohammadi, a detained Shiraz University student was confirmed by the 16<sup>th</sup> branch of the Fars Court of Review by Judge

Afzal and Zaker.

The dossier of Seyed Hamed Kavusi, another Shiraz University student arrested on December 4, who had been sentenced to 3 years of prison, was sent to the 16<sup>th</sup> branch of the Court of Review. In light of the confirmation of Mohammadi's sentence, there are concerns that the prison sentence of this 19 year old student will also be upheld.

Another case has been made against this student on charges of disrupting public order, insulting government officials and drinking alcohol in branch 115 of the Shiraz Court. In a verdict which was passed in his absence, he was sentenced to five months of prison for insulting government officials, and four months of prison in addition to 25 lashes on the charge of disrupting public order. (Committee of Human Rights Reporters - Jan. 7, 2010)

#### **Intelligence agency tries to force 54-year-old political prisoner to make false confessions on TV**

According to reports from Iran, interrogators of the Ministry of Intelligence have physically and mentally tortured 54-year-old Javad Lari to force him to make a televised confession. They are laying the groundwork to sentence him to death with these interviews.

In this 'television show' Mr. Lari has been dictated to say that he was arrested in the protests on Ashura. This is while Javad Lari was arrested in his home on September 16 after an attack by agents of the ministry of intelligence and was taken to ward 209 in Evin Prison. He is to be trialed on the unsubstantial charge of mohareb or enmity with God.

On the other hand, his lawyer Mrs. Mirzayi, was arrested recently by the intelligence agency and he is currently without a lawyer. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 8, 2010)

#### **Three Kurd men sentenced to heavy punishments**

Fasih Yasamani (Kurd political prisoner who was executed last week), his 65 year old father, five women and five men who lived in his village were two years ago. They were tortured in solitary cells in the Khoy Intelligence Department. These people eventually received their sentences.

Fasih's father, Hossein Yasamani was sentenced to two years of prison.

Fahim Reza-zadeh was sentenced to death after being violently tortured but his death sentence was eventually lowered to 16 years of prison.

At the same time, the three Zamani brothers received these sentences:

Yaqub Zamani was sentenced to three years of prison and is currently in Salmas Prison.

Qasem Zamani was sentenced to one years of prison and is in Khoy Prison while Sadeq Zamani was sentenced to have one hand and one foot cut off and he is also in Khoy Prison. These three brothers were arrested for cooperating with Kurd dissident parties and being involved in political activities against the regime. (Kurdistan Net Website - Jan. 8, 2010)

#### **Prison official resigns from post in protest to systematic torture in Gohardasht Prison**

A Gohardasht Prison official in Karaj resigned from his post in protest to the constant violent treatment and beatings of prisoners in this prison.

Saftar Moradi, a deputy officer, who is considered one of the top officials in this prison resigned from all his positions in the Organization of Prisons which includes his position in Gohardasht Prison in protest to the beatings and systematic torture of prisoners.

Gohardasht Prison in Karaj is one of the most notorious prisons in the country in the management and legal fields. Dozens of prisoners die yearly in this prison as a result of the standard use of violence against prisoners and a large number of prisoners are injured and maimed every year. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 11, 2010)

#### **Student activist sentenced to 2 years of prison and 147 lashes**

The sentence of Yashar Qajar, the former secretary of Amir Kabir (Polytechnic) University, was announced to him after three and a half years. According to reports, he has been sentenced to 147 lashes, a fine of 1,000 dollars and 2 years of prison which has been suspended for five years.

Qajar has been charged with managing the Amir Kabir Newsletter website, acting against national security, instigating public opinion and insulting officials. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 11, 2101)

#### **Iran sentences student activist to 15 years of prison and 74 lashes**

Zia Nabavi was sentenced to 15 years of prison and 74 lashes by the 26<sup>th</sup> branch of the Revolutionary Court presided over by Pir Abassi. Nabavi who had been banned from education before this is the spokesman for the Council in Defense of the Right to Education.



He was sentenced to 3 years of prison for gathering and conspiring to disrupt national security, one year for spreading propaganda against the government, one year for disrupting public order, 74 lashes for creating anxiety for the public and 10 years of prison to be served in exile in the town of Izeh in Kerman on charges of cooperating with the PMOI.

This is while Zia Nabavi denies that he had links with the PMOI and has said that the only reason that the court gave him such a sentence was because a number of his family members are in Ashraf (home to thousands of PMOI members in Iraq).

Nabavi has been violently beaten by his interrogators on several occasions while detained in ward 209. (Committee of Human Rights Reporters - Jan. 12, 2010)

#### **Human rights activist sentenced to six months of prison and 50 lashes**

Yashar Hakakpour, an Azeri human rights activist, was sentenced to six months of prison and 50 lashes by branch of 106 of the Penal Court in Zanjan.

He was charged with publishing and spreading lies and insulting official government institutions by sending news to outside of the country and organizing a poem reading ceremony in Zanjan University on December 12. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 15, 2010)

#### **Tortured political prisoner in appalling state**

According to reports, Mohammad Hossein Sohrabi- Rad has attempted to commit suicide on several occasions due to the intolerable and inhumane pressures on him in prison.

This political prisoner who was close to Karoubi's election staff was arrested last September by the Intelligence Agency. He was arrested on charges of aiding the editor in chief of Saham News Website in providing a film regarding the crimes committed (by prison officials) in the Kahrizak Detention Center for the Judiciary and Khamenei's office. He was taken to the security ward number 350 in Evin Prison after being interrogated.

About two months ago, due to the mental torture inflicted on him in ward 209 and 350 and to end the intolerable situation, he cut the vein of his left hand in front of the head of Evin Prison, Sedaqat and Bozorgnia, a torturer of political prisoners and the head of ward 350 intending to commit suicide. He was taken to the prison medical clinic and his life was saved. Intelligence interrogators subsequently threw him in the solitary cells in the fourth story of ward 240 and continued the medieval pressure against him.

According to a political prisoner who was able to see and talk to him in the Revolutionary Court, the mental pressures and abuse against this prisoner have increased and has led him to attempt suicide two more times.

Sohrabi-Rad had recently married before his arrest and has a young wife. (Human Rights and Democracy in Iran- Jan. 17, 2010)

#### **Gohardasht Prison guards torture and beat prisoners**

According to reports, last night prisoners kept in solitary cells known as the 'doghouse' in Gohardasht Prison in Karaj clashed with the officer in charge and prison guards and took over the control of this section.

On Sunday January 17, prisoner Hossein Karimi known as Hossein Qazvini and Mehrdad Sarayi who were jailed in solitary cells in hall 2 known the doghouse of ward 1 were tortured and beaten with clubs by two guards named Marjani and Mohsen Khalesi. These two prisoners unarmed the guards in self defense.

The officer in charge, Mirza Aqayi, along with a number of guards attacked the prisoners in this hall, beating them with electric clubs. These prisoners unarmed the officer to keep him from beating them and took him to one of the solitary cells. They subsequently took over the hall of ward 2.

(After the clashes) the two above mentioned prisoners were brutally beaten and transferred once again to solitary cells. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 18, 2010)

#### **Regime arrests and abandons tortured unconscious student on street**

The son of a member of the Kashan City Council and an assistant of Mir Hossein Moussavi's Election Staff in this city was abandoned unconscious in one of the streets in the outskirts of this city with a broken hand and leg and with cigarette burns on his body. He was left in this way after being arrested by a security institution three days ago. After being abandoned on the street, he was taken to the intelligence agency for 36 hours without being allowed to see his parents. He was interrogated regarding his father's activities (his father is a professor at Kashan University) and his political activities and the activities of the Islamic Association of Kashan University. This student was forced to sign a number of documents while blindfolded. (Roshangari Website - Jan. 18, 2010)

**Prison guards attack political prisoners in Orumieh Prison**

The Special Guards forces in Orumieh Prison stormed the political prisoner's ward and beat them.

The Special Guards forces and Protection Forces stormed ward 12 where political prisoners are kept with the presence of Fathi, the head of prison and Bahreini, the head of the Protection Department, and beat political prisoner with clubs, electric clubs and electric shockers. They also destroyed and broke the prisoner's personal belongings and took Ali Ahmad Soleiman, a citizen of Turkey to an unknown location.

It is not clear why these political prisoners were beaten and there is also no information on where Ali Ahmad Soleiman was taken. Mr. Soleiman who is in poor health because of his first degree burns, has been sentenced to 5 years of prison for being a member of an opposition Turkish party. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 20, 2010)

**Traffic police abuse people on streets, beat taxi driver**

According to reports, the abusive treatment of police with the people in Tehran has increased.

On Wednesday evening in Haft Tir Square, a number of traffic police attacked the people standing in taxi and bus lines and clashed with taxi drivers. The people on the scene protested their abusive behavior but these traffic police forced a taxi driver out of his car and beat him, threatening that they would impound his car and told him to leave the area. (Iran News Agency - Jan. 21, 2010)

**Kurd political activist savagely tortured by regime forces**

The Kurdistan Organization against Execution disclosed medieval tortures by regime forces in the intelligence agency detention centers.

This report says in the violent torture of Kurd political activist Ahmad Bob, they pulled out five of his teeth with pliers and drilled a hole in the bottom of his foot.

They also burned his back with an iron and then flogged the burned area.

According to this report, Ahmad Bob was denied ointments or bandaging in this time to treat his torture wounds even while the infection in his wounds added to his pain.

This report also said that Bob has lost 31 kilograms (68 pounds) in his five months of incarceration as a result of the brutal torture.

He was carried to Marivan Prison by armed plainclothes agents because he was unable to walk on his own.

Ahmad Bob is a political activist from Marivan who was arrested in late August 2009 in this city by agents of the intelligence agency and was taken to the Sanandaj Intelligence Agency. He was subjected to brutal torture from the moment he was arrested for five months. He was banned from having any visits in these five months.

Bob was transferred to Marivan 20 days ago and no news has been published on his condition since that time. (Kurdistan and Kurd News Website - Jan. 25, 2010)

**Iran lashes three men in public**

The deputy prosecutor of Andimeshk announced that the sentences for two harassers in this city were carried out in public.

"The court sentenced the first suspect to two years of prison, 10 years of exile and lashes. The second and third suspects were each sentenced to two years of prison and 74 lashes", he said.

"These sentences were upheld by the provincial court of review and carried out on Saturday morning in public". (Mehr state-run news agency - Jan. 26, 2010)

**Prisoners in Gohardasht juvenile hall go on hunger strike in protest to systematic attacks by prison guards**

On Tuesday January 26, from about 5pm prison guards stormed the cells in juvenile hall number 12. These forces made a human tunnel and forced prisoners to pass through while beating them in the face and head with batons from both sides. Sixteen prisoners who sustained injuries in their faces and heads were taken to the prison medical clinic. Some of the young men who were injured were Mojtaba Asadi, Reza Mehraban, Behzad Cheraghi, Manouchehr Baba Khani, Mohammad-Reza Garshasi and Mehdi Mohammad Javanmardi. The beatings lasted for 2 hours.

The young men in hall 12 in ward 4 of Gohardasht Prison went on a hunger strike from last night in protest to the attacks and beatings and refuse to take the prison food. They have announced that they will continue their hunger strike until the attacks are stopped.

In the past two weeks, prison guards have attacked juvenile cells 9 times. These attacks are usually between 12 to 1 am. Prison guards take the prisoners in the severe cold and sometime under the rain to the prison yard and order them to take their clothes off. They then violently beat them for prolonged periods.

These guards have also confiscated the television set that these young men bought with their own money from the prison store and also some of their other personal belongings.

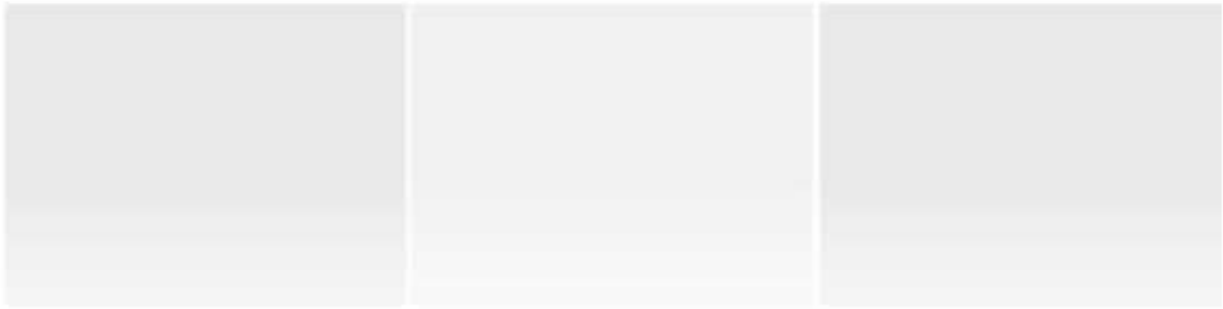
These attacks are carried out under the supervision of Kermani and Faraji the deputy heads of intelligence under the orders of intelligence agency interrogators and Ali Haj Kazem, the head of Gohardasht Prison. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 27, 2010)

**Ashura protesters under torture and abuse in Gohardasht Prison**

According to reports, Ashura (December 27) detainees who are kept in solitary confinement in Gohardasht Prison in Karaj are under torture and inhumane pressure.

About 300 of these detainees in solitary cells in ward 5 are under physical and mental torture by intelligence agency interrogators. They are pressured to give false confessions which will lead to heavy sentences for them in the future. Intelligence agency interrogators have placed a curtain in the middle of the hallway in which their solitary cells are located to keep these prisoners from communicating with each other and to isolate them. Ordinary prisoners who are in these cells can hear the shouts and screams of these young people while they were being interrogated and tortured day and night. Their screams and moans are so painful that other prisoners are not able to rest and suffer from severe mental pressure. In some cases, these prisoners have even tried to protest the torture from inside their cells. Prisoners are mostly kept with handcuffs and blindfolds, a usual procedure in Gohardasht Prison. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 29, 2010)

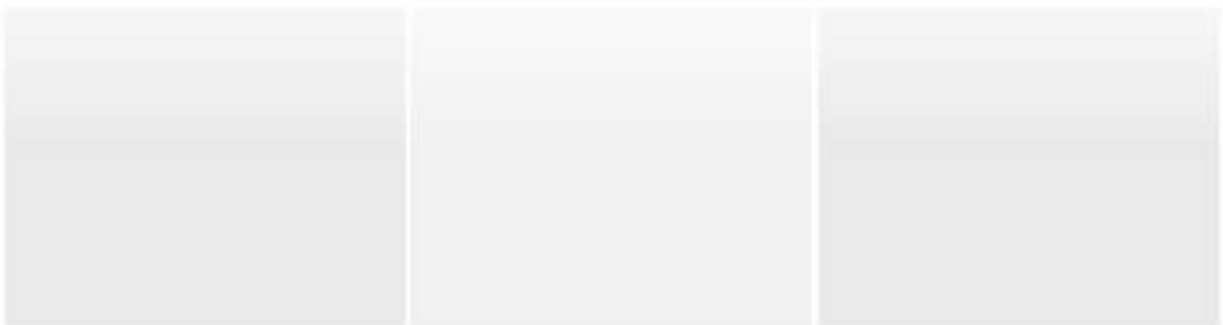




# Arbitrary arrests

[Political arrests](#)

[Social arrests](#)



**Human Rights**



*Abuse in*

**IRAN** 2010



## Arbitrary arrests

### Political arrests

#### January

##### **Security forces close down student association office in Sajad University, arrest 10 students**

The office of the Islamic Association of a university in Mashhad was shut down and 10 other students were arrested.

After students of the Sajad University in Mashhad gathered on Thursday in protest to a bloody raid by supporters of the government against students of the Free Mashhad University which led to dozens of injuries, the arrest of 210 students and the probability of two deaths, security forces came to the campus of Sajad University and shut down the office of the Islamic Association after which they arrested 10 students.

Currently 30 students of the Free University, 10 Sajad University students and 4 Firdosi University students are detained in Intelligence Detention Centers in this city. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 3, 2010)

##### **Security forces arrest 14 Kermanshah students**

In the past week, 14 Razi University students in Kermanshah were arrested by security forces and imprisoned. Three of these students are Sa'ad Hayati, Ehsan Hayati and Arash Mohammad Hosseini who were arrested on Thursday, December 31. (Kurdistan Media - Jan. 4, 2010)

##### **Regime arrests scores of political activists in Iran**

Seyed Amir Khoram, and Mohsen Mohaqeqi who are members of the Iran Freedom Movement and Sara Tavalosi (Mohammad Tavasoli's daughter) were arrested yesterday after answering a summons to the Intelligence Agency in Tehran.

A member of the Freedom Movement has said that these arrests are to put pressure on jailed members of this movement to announce this movement's disbandment and the end of its activities.

Reza Najafi, a writer and translator of German literature was also arrested. In the town of Zarand three political activists were arrested. According to reports, Abdolreza Rahmani, Mohsen Pour-Rashidi and Hossein Shahr Ashub were arrested by security forces on Saturday.

Mohammad Rofati, a member of the Youth Branch of the Participation Front and Mohammad Kiqbadi, member of the Revolutionary Mojahedin Organization were also arrested in Gorgan.

In Mashhad Mehdi Gilani and Farshad Azizi members of Staff 88 were also arrested. (Roouz Website - Jan. 4, 2010)

##### **Security forces arrest more people in Iran**

In the past few days, Alireza Nabavi, the husband of political prisoner Atefeh Nabavi was arrested after security forces attacked him in Semnan. He was taken to an unknown location. There are currently two members of this family in prison including Seyed Zia Nabavi, the head of the Council in Defense of Education and Atefeh Nabavi.

On Thursday December 31, Parviz Varmazian, 54, who is a former political prisoner was attacked and taken to an unknown location by agents of the Ministry of Intelligence. Varmazian was a political prisoner in the 80's and was under violent torture for seven years in prison. His three children are currently in Camp Ashraf in Iraq .

Majid Rezayi was also arrested by intelligence agents and taken to an unknown location. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 5, 2010)

##### **Iran Says Several Foreigners Arrested In Protests**

Iran said on Monday that several foreigners conducting 'psychological warfare' against the clerical system were arrested in last month's bloody clashes between opposition supporters and security forces.

'Several foreigners are among those who were arrested on the day of Ashura ... they were leading a psychological war against the system ... They entered Iran two days before Ashura,' Intelligence Minister Heidar Moslehi told state television, without giving the foreigners' nationality.

Iranian authorities have repeatedly accused opposition leaders of links to 'foreign enemies,' warning that they will not tolerate any more anti-government protests after the turmoil that broke out during the Shi'ite ritual of Ashura.

The intelligence minister also said the case of the arrested foreigners would be handed over to the judiciary by Wednesday...

A representative of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said opposition leaders were 'mohareb' (enemies of God), which makes them fit for execution under Islamic law.

Hardline officials have accused the opposition leaders of causing tension in the country, urging Mousavi and another moderate defeated candidate, Mehdi Karoubi, to repent or 'face charges of supporting apostates in defiance of God'...

The government has stepped up a crackdown on the reform movement since Ashura. opposition websites said that dozens of pro-reform students, activists and journalists have been arrested in the past few days in different cities.

Iran's General-Prosecutor Qolamhossein Mohseni-Ejei repeated the government's warnings on Monday.

'Those who have been arrested during Ashura clashes face various charges, including acting against national security and will be severely confronted,' the official IRNA news agency quoted Mohseni-Ejei as saying. (Reuters - Jan. 4, 2010)

#### **Iran arrests lawyer of political prisoners in Kermanshah**

Farzad Soltani, a lawyer, was arrested on the night of January 5 in Kermanshah.

Security forces searched his home after his arrest. Soltani aided the families of detainees by giving them legal advice after post election events. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 7, 2010)

#### **Iran arrests 30 'mournful mothers' protesters: website**

Iranian security forces have arrested 30 so-called 'mournful mothers' who were protesting in a Tehran park the death or disappearance of their children in post-election unrest, an opposition website reported Sunday.

Kaleme.org, quoting witnesses, said the women were rounded up on Saturday in Laleh park.

'Around 4:00 pm (1230 GMT) we were in Laleh park and there were more than 100 police... who were not allowing the mothers to sit on the benches or gather in groups,' the unidentified witness told Kaleme.org. 'There were around 70 mothers in the park and the security chased them out. A number of them escaped but around 30 were arrested and were forcefully taken into police vans,' the witness said.

They women were driven to a police station, the website said without giving more information.

'Mournful mothers' are a group of mothers whose children have gone either missing or killed in the aftermath of protests unleashed following the contested re-election in June of President Mahmoud Ahamdinejad.

The women, who dress in black group in sign of mourning, usually gather in Laleh park on Saturday afternoons to protest against the death or disappearance of their children, according to their website.

The website - <http://mournfulmothers.blogfa.com/> - says that security forces always intervene when the mothers meet in the park and that some of the women have been arrested in the past.

The group was set up after Neda Agha-Soltan was shot and killed in one of the protests, according to the website.

The mothers demand the prosecution of those who were behind the alleged killing and torture of their loved ones, and also call for the release of all prisoners of conscience. (AFP - Jan 10, 2010)

#### **10 mourning mothers taken to hospital after arrest**

According to the latest reports, about 30 mourning mothers who were arrested yesterday in Laleh Park were taken to court today. Ten of these mothers were taken to the hospital because they were beaten and there is no information on their physical health. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 10, 2010)

#### **Iran arrest 3 female photographers at funeral of slain nuclear physics professor**

Three photographers were arrested at the funeral of Massoud Ali Mohammadi, an assassinated professor, today in Tehran.

In this ceremony which was held with a heavy presence of plainclothes agents and Bassij forces, 3 photographers who reportedly worked for foreign news services were arrested. They were all women and were arrested by female police officers.

It is still not known why they were arrested and why only female photographers were arrested. (Kalameh Website - Jan. 14, 2010)

#### **Iran arrests cleric close to Montazeri: website**

Iran has arrested a cleric close to late dissident Grand Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri amid a fresh crackdown on opposition supporters, a reformist website reported on Friday.

Mid-ranking cleric 'Hojjatoleslam Mohammad Taghi Khalaji was arrested at his home in the city of Qom on Tuesday,' Norooznews said.

'The cause of his arrest is not known yet but he had on several occasions backed protests against election results' which saw President Mahmoud Ahamdinejad returned for a second term amid allegations of massive fraud.

The website described Khalaji as being close to Montazeri and Grand Ayatollah Yusuf Sanei, both strong supporters of the opposition.

The detained cleric's son, Mehdi Khalaji, is a senior research fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy and two members of the US House of Representatives condemned the arrest.

'The regime's intimidation and imprisonment of clerics critical of the current government must cease at once,' Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and Howard Berman said in a statement.

'We are deeply concerned by reports that the Iranian regime has arrested Ayatollah... Khalaji and confiscated both his and his family's personal possessions and passports, thereby preventing them from leaving Iran,' they added. (AFP - Jan 15, 2010)

#### **Iran arrests Sunni sheikh**

Sheikh Qoreishi, the principal of a religious school and preacher in the Mohammadeih Sunni Mosque was arrested on January 10 in Talesh by security forces and taken to the Intelligence Agency in Rasht.

After storming his home, security forces gathered and confiscated his books and computer and even his cell phone SIM cards. He is still in the Intelligence Agency six days after his arrest. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 16, 2010)

#### **Iran arrests 10 students in Sanandaj**

Ten students who had attended the second anniversary of the death of Ibrahim Lotfollahi (who was killed by security forces) were arrested. This is while several arrestees from the first anniversary of the death of this Kurd student have still not been released and the case of Lotfollahi's mysterious death has been closed. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 16, 2010)

#### **Iran arrests 40 Ashura protesters**

More than 40 of those who had gathered on Ashura were arrested after being identified with the help of the people. The offenders have been handed over the State Security Forces for further investigation and interrogations. (Tabnak state-run website - Jan. 19, 2010)

#### **Iran arrests couple and detains their baby in intelligence agency for several hours**

On the evening of January 17, Peiman Chalaki, a political and labor activist and the former secretary of the Free Saveh University's Islamic Association and his wife Somayeh Alami Pasand a former member of the Participation Front and the former secretary of the Free Tehran University's Islamic Association and their little daughter were arrested by intelligence agents and transferred to Tehran from Saveh.

According to reports, security forces called one of the friends of this couple and summoned him/her to the Saveh Intelligence Agency. They then separated Mana Chalaki, the couple's small child, from her parents and handed her over to the couple's friend.

Chalaki and Alami Pasand were then transferred to Tehran by the intelligence agency. There is no information on their exact location in Tehran. (Committee of Human Rights Reporters - Jan. 19, 2010)

#### **53 year old female political prisoner detained in solitary in ward 209**

Parvaneh Rad, 53, is a mother of two and a supporter of the Mourning Mothers who attended the weekly protests of these mothers in Laleh Park. She was arrested on December 26 after her car broke down. She was waiting near the Choobi Bridge for her husband to come fix the car when she suddenly saw plainclothes agents violently beating women and girls on the street. She protested this brutal act and was attacked and violently arrested by the plainclothes agents. She is currently detained in the solitary cells in ward 209 in Evin Prison and her family has still not been allowed to visit her. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 19, 2010)

#### **Iran arrested 8 lawyers after December 27 protests**

The Center of Lawyers is looking into the arrest of 8 members of this center during the arrests after Ashura (December 27).

This issue was brought up in a session of this center on Tuesday. The Center of Lawyer has still not announced the names of these eight lawyers but according to reports, a number of them were arrested in Tehran while some others were arrested by security forces in their homes and offices in other cities. (Advar News - Jan. 20, 2010)

#### **Iran arrests man in Semnan because of family ties with Ashraf residents**

According to reports, agents of the intelligence agency attacked the office of Hanif Hossein Doust in Semnan and took him to an unknown location.

Hossein Doust, 28, who is married and is the father of a two-year-old child, was arrested on January 17 at about 8:30 pm after intelligence agents attacked his office. These forces then violently searched his office and then his home breaking his personal belongings. They then confiscated some of his family's personal belongings from his home including his satellite receiver, phone books, family picture albums, books and other things.

His family went to the Revolutionary Court and Intelligence Agency Detention Center in Semnan to pursue his condition and the reason behind his arrest. But they were threatened by an intelligence agent interrogator named Erfani. Interrogators also threatened his wife and told her that, 'we will get to you as well and you have no right to follow your husband's situation'. She was also told that she has no right to leave the city.

Erfani who is an interrogator and torturer in the Intelligence Agency in Semnan is active in attacking and arresting (ordinary) citizens. He is also interrogates and tortures political activists, students, Baha'is and other activists in this city.

Another member of this family, Monireh Rabiyyi, who is Hossein Doust's cousin was arrested a few months ago and is currently in the women's ward in Evin Prison.

Hossein Doust's mother and uncles are in Camp Ashraf in Iraq. In the past few months families of those who are in Camp Ashraf have been attacked by the intelligence agents, arrested and given heavy sentences only because their relatives are in Ashraf. These arrests have been made in various cities and after Ashura protests (on December 27), have become more widespread. Currently a large number of these families have been sentenced to heavy prison terms because their relatives are in Ashraf. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 21, 2010)

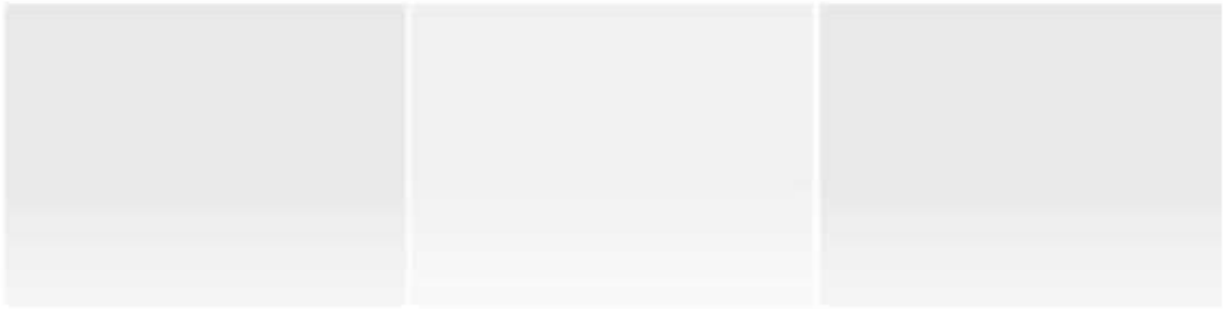
#### **Iran arrests VOA reporter along with family**

One of the elements linked to anti-revolutionary (forces) who was active in the Voice of America network and also cooperated with the anti-revolutionary opposition, escaped some time ago with his family after his associates were arrested.

According to reports, investigation to find this person was ongoing until one week ago when his hiding place was discovered. He was arrested along with his wife and daughter in a garden in the Luin Plain near Tehran. (Jahan state-run website - Jan. 26, 2010)

## Social arrests

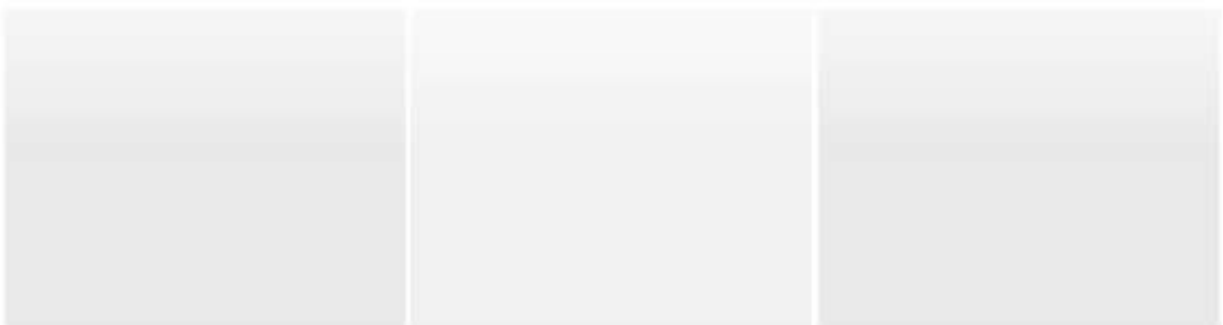
### January



# Prison

[Prison Condition](#)

[Prison sentence](#)





## Prison

### Prison Condition

#### January

##### **Iran ex-prison head found responsible for deaths**



A conservative Iranian Web site says a parliamentary probe has found a former prosecutor responsible for the death by torture of at least three anti-government protesters following the disputed June elections.

Saeed Mortazavi was the Tehran city prosecutor who was responsible for monitoring Kahrizak prison, where at least three people were tortured to death.

The Alef Web site, which reported the probe results, is close to conservative lawmaker Ahmad Tavakoli.

After months of denials, Iran's judiciary acknowledged last month that the three detainees were beaten to death by their jailers. (The Associated Press -Jan. 6, 2010)

##### **Evin Prison packed with political prisoners**

The sports club of Evin Prison has been turned into a detention and interrogation center for Iranian citizens arrested in the recent protests. A large number of these prisoners are interrogated in groups in the club.

According to this report, the Intelligence Protection Department of Evin Prison has subjected prisoners of the Quarantine Section 7 to increasing pressure by ordering the prison not to accept anything from the families of political prisoners including money. These prisoners are not allowed to buy anything and are denied minimum things like blankets.

Currently wards 24, 241, 209, 2A, Hall 8 of Section 8, Quarantine Section 1 of Section 7, and the sports club of Section 7 have been allocated to detainees arrested in the post election protests. Considering the above named sections, it is safe to say that most of Evin Prison has been allocated to political prisoners and dissident Iranian citizens. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 5, 2010)

##### **Jailed brother of slain protester detained with criminals in Qezel Hesar Prison despite heart condition**

Kamran Asa was transferred to Qezel Hesar Prison in Karaj from Evin Prison one month after his arrest.

During the transfer of a group of prisoners from Evin Prison to other prisoners in Tehran in the past few days, Kamran Asa, the brother of slain student Kianosh Asa, was transferred to Qezel Hesar Prison in Karaj. He is currently in a ward for criminals with heavy offenses.

He intended to attend a December 7 commemoration ceremony for his brother in the Science and Industrial University in Tehran when he was arrested by security forces on his arrival in the university.

Despite the fact that his family has provided documents to the 28<sup>th</sup> branch of the Revolutionary Court in Tehran, proving his heart condition, Judge Moqiseh refrains from releasing him and has confirmed his detention.

The grief stricken mother and sister of Kamran Asa are very worried for his well being especially after the death of Kianosh Asa. (Kurdistan Human Rights Watch - Jan. 11, 2010)

##### **100 Ashura detainees taken to solitary cells in Gohardasht Prison**

On Wednesday, January 13 at 9 pm, about 100 Ashura detainees were taken to solitary cells in Gohardasht Prison's ward 5. They have placed 4 prisoners in every cell. This is while these cells were built for one person. The condition in these solitary cells is inhumane and prisoners are treated violently. These detainees were transferred to these cells from an unknown location.



**Kamran Asa holding picture of slain brother in rally**

Gohardasht Prison has been packed with an increasing number of prisoners and the halls which only have room for 90 prisoners are packed with 400 to 500 prisoners. Prisoners are forced to sleep on the hallway ground near the restrooms without any covers (blankets etc). Cells meant for two prisoners are now holding 8 prisoners. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 14, 2010)

**Student political prisoner transferred to Kerman prisoners with dangerous criminals**

Student prisoner Hassan Tarlani was suddenly transferred from Evin Prison's ward 350 to the Central Kerman Prison on the night of January 17.

Tarlani, 23, was summoned at night and transferred on the same night to Kerman. He is currently detained with ordinary and dangerous prisoners in the Central Kerman Prison. The condition in this prison is more medieval than other prisoners. Addiction is rampant and drugs are bought and sold on a wide scale. This is while the main elements behind the drug dealers are prison officials and prison guards. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 19, 2010)



**Regime puts increasing pressure on jailed peaceful protesters in Evin Prison**

On Thursday January 21, a large number of families went to Evin Prison to visit their jailed loved ones in ward 209.

Interrogators of the Intelligence Agency have shortened visiting hours to put pressure on these prisoners and their families. Visiting hours are from 9 am to 2 pm and despite the fact that visits have been shortened from 20 minutes to 10 minutes, some families were not able to visit their loved ones in this timeframe.

The detainees have said in phone calls to their families that their names were read out for visits and that they were taken to the prison exits but prison guards mocked them to put mental pressure on them and told them (at the last minute) that they were banned from visits.

Intelligence agents interrogate Ashura prisoners day and night while mentally and physically torturing them. The interrogations sometimes go on for 9 consecutive hours. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 21, 2010)



**Female political prisoner only allowed 5 min. visit with husband**

Bahareh Hedayat, member of the Office for Consolidating Unity had a visit from behind a glass partition with her husband.

This visit lasted for five minutes. Amin Ahmadian, her husband said after this visit that she is being kept in ward 209 of Evin Prison.

Hedayat told her husband that she was charged with participating in gatherings after the elections, being active in the OCU and writing their statements. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 25, 2010)

**76-year-old political prisoner with cancer in dangerous condition**

Lack of attention for Mohammad Maleki's condition in prison despite constant warnings regarding his state and also the unsuitable state and crowdedness of prison has deteriorated his condition and he has repeatedly contracted the flu in the past few months.

This issue along with his prostate cancer which prison officials deny treatment for, has caused him constant pain and a burning sensation in his bladder which is a sign of the deterioration of his cancer.

In light of the fact that he has been jailed for more than 150 days, and despite the fact that it has been months since the end of his interrogations, it is not clear why he is being kept in prison and is not even allowed to be hospitalized to receive medication.

Lack of attention for this 76 year old political prisoner who was the first head of Tehran University after the revolution and who is suffering from multiple ailments has led to concerns in his family and that of several human rights activists. (Committee of Human Rights Reporters - Jan. 26, 2010)



**Iran detains journalist in one cell with 5 professional killers**

Massoud Bastani, a journalist who was transferred to the Rajayi Shahr (Gohardasht) Prison is kept with five professional killers in one cell. This is while one his cellmates has committed three murders.

According to reports which have been confirmed by his wife Mahsa Amrabadi, he announced his transfer in a telephone call from prison.

"They showed Massoud a verdict which was an order from Mr. Salavati for his transfer to Rajayi Shahr because he was teaching prisoners of ward 350 in Evin Prison journalism. This is while Massoud did not teach anyone journalism and we vehemently deny this", his wife said.

Massoud Bastani, journalist and political activist was sentenced to six years of prison without the presence of his lawyer in a court of first instance. (Nedaye Sabze Azadi Website - Jan. 27, 2010)

**Prison sentence**

**January**

**Man sentenced to four years of prison for intending to make documentary about Baha'ism**

Kianush Ehsani, a movie maker and actor who intended to make a documentary on the 'Baha'i faith' was sentenced to four years of prison and a fine of 5,000 dollars after being arrested and tried by the 3<sup>rd</sup> branch of the Revolutionary Court in Orumieh. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 1, 2009)

**Iran sentences labor activist to five years of prison**

Pejman Rahimi, a labor activist in Khuzestan and the head of the Cultural Arts Shadow Association who is also a member of the Committee for the Coordination and Aid to Create Labor Associations was sentenced to five years of prison in a court of first instance on charges of conspiring against the Islamic Republic of Iran. Three years of his sentence has been suspended for five years. Mohammad Ismail Vandani another member of the Shadow Association was also arrested on these charges and sentenced to five years of prison. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 2, 2010)

**Iran sentenced Sunni cleric to 10 years of prison**

The 10 year prison sentence of Mamusta Ayub Ganji, a religious personality in Kurdistan, was confirmed by the 4<sup>th</sup> branch of the Court of Review in Tehran. This court confirmed the Hamedan Special Court for Clergy decree sentencing Mamusta Ganji to 10 years of prison to be served in exile after about four months.

Ayub Ganji is a writer and the former head of prayer in the Qoba Mosque in Sanandaj. He is currently detained in the Central Prison in Hamedan. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 2, 2010)

**Iran sentences student activist to 6 years of prison**

Salman Sima, a member of the Policy Setting Council of the Office for Consolidating Unity was sentenced to six years of prison by the 15 branch of the Revolutionary Court presided over by Judge Salavati.

His family visited him in prison today. According to them, Salman Sima was charged with acting against national security by encouraging participation in gatherings and participating in gatherings. He is currently detained in a solitary cell in ward 209 in Evin Prison with three other prisoners.

In their last visit with him on December 2, his family said that he was severely beaten in his interrogations to the extent that one his fingers broke and he now suffers from problems in his ribs. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 7, 2010)

**Three people in Sardasht sentenced to prison**

Three Sardasht residents named Arsalan Shadbakht, Hezhar Hassan Zadeh and Saman Atashak were sentenced to prison by a public court in this city.

These three men were each sentenced to one year of prison by branch 102 of this court. They were charged with disrupting public order by creating 'noise'. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 7, 2010)

**Iran sentenced journalist to 10 years of prison**



Nader Karimi Juni, a jailed journalist, was sentenced to 10 years of prison by the 28<sup>th</sup> branch of the Tehran Revolutionary Court.

This court presided over by Judge Moqiseh, sentenced Karimi Juni on charges of acting against national security, conspiring and espionage. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 12, 2010)



**Former employee of presidential office sentenced to 10 years of prison**

Arash Torabi, a former employee in the presidential office was sentenced to 10 years of prison by the Revolutionary Court.

He was arrested about 16 months ago on charges of espionage and has been in prison since.

He was charged with espionage for foreigners. He has appealed this sentence. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 12, 2010)

**Political prisoner sentenced to 10 years of prison**

One of those convicted in the bombing incident in the Rahpuyan Vesal Praying Center in Shiraz was sentenced to 10 years of prison.

The other man convicted in this case who is an American citizen is still in an undetermined state in prison.

Heidar Ali Heidari, a retired teacher in Shiraz who has been in detention for about one and half years was sentenced to 10 years of prison by the 15<sup>th</sup> branch of the Revolutionary Court in Tehran on charges of acting against national security. He has protested and appealed this sentence. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 12, 2010)

**Iran jails five for up to six years over post-vote unrest**

Iran has handed five people jail sentences of between one and six years after convicting them of involvement in June protests against the re-election of President Mahmoud Ahamdinejad, the Fars news agency reported on Tuesday.

The five were found guilty of 'public order offences, propaganda against the Islamic republic, plotting to damage power generators and spreading false information,' the report cited a statement from the Tehran public and revolutionary court as saying. (AFP - Jan. 12, 2010)

**Iran sentences 5 post election protesters to prison**

The Public and Revolutionary Court in Tehran has announced that the case of 5 other seditionists has been sent to the Department for Carrying out Sentences. These convicts are:

- 1- Amir Aslani, 5 years of prison
- 2- Ali Behzadian, 6 years of prison
- 3- Hesam Tamesi, 1 year of prison
- 4- Mohammad-Reza Norbakhsh, 3 years of prison
- 5- Omid Lavasani, 6 years of prison (Channel 1 state-run TV - Jan. 12, 2010)

**Student activist sentenced to 2 years of prison**

The two year prison sentence of Surosh Sabet, a computer science graduate from the Industrial Sharif University who has been banned from continuing his education, was confirmed by the 36<sup>th</sup> branch of the court of review presided over by Judge Zargar.

He was arrested in 2007 along with other students for 45 days. In November a court headed by Judge Moqiseh sentenced him to two years of prison on charges of gathering and conspiring to act against national security. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 13, 2010)

**Iran sentences protester to 28 months of prison**

The prison term of Akbar Ajdadi who was recently arrested in Tehran was issued by the 54<sup>th</sup> branch of a court of Review in Tehran.

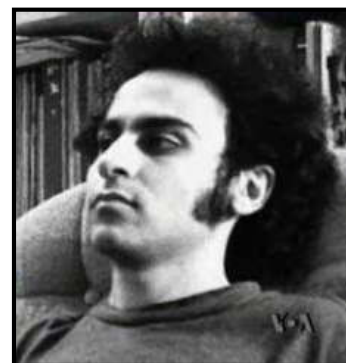
He was sentenced to 28 months of prison.

Ajdadi was arrested along with 25 other protesters by the Revolutionary Guards Corps and was transferred to ward 2A. He was banned from having a lawyer and was forced in the Revolutionary Court to sign an agreement for an appointed unidentified lawyer. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 14, 2010)

**Student activist in Hormozgan sentenced to 4 years of prison**

Ali Shojayi, the former head of the Hormozgan University's Islamic Association and the head of the Student Election Staff for Karoubi in this province was sentenced to 4 years of prison. 42 months of this sentence has been suspended while six months of his prison term will be carried out immediately.

He was charged with being a threat against national security by the Revolutionary Court. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 14, 2010)



**Two political prisoners sentenced to heavy prison terms in Orumieh**

Two Bukani prisoners identified as Mohammad Amin Abdollahi and Qader Mohammad-Zadeh were tried on January 16 in the second branch of the West Azerbaijan Court of Review.

These men who have been jailed for more than 3 years have been charged with clashing with security forces.

Mohammad-zadeh and Abdollahi were sentenced to 23 years and 18 years of prison by the Mahabad Revolutionary Court before this. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 16, 2010)

**Political prisoner sentenced to six years of prison**

Mohsen Safayi Farahani was sentenced to six years of prison. The court seeing his case announced his final sentence last night 37 days after his last trial and 200 days after his arrest. (Parleman News Website - Jan. 17, 2010)

**Former head of Iran's Football Federation sentenced to 3 years of prison; student sentenced to 11 years of prison**

The lawyer of a prominent reformist who is the former head of Iran's Football Federation said that his client has been sentenced to six years of prison...

Jaras Website also said that Majed Dori, a student activist was sentenced to 11 years of prison on Sunday on charges of having links to the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran, an opposition group outside of the county, and disrupting national security by participating in illegal gatherings. (Reuters Arabic Wire - Jan. 17, 2010)

**Khajeh Nasir student sentenced to 3 years of prison**

Ali Parviz, a computer engineering student at Khajeh Nasir University in Tehran was sentenced to three years of prison.

The last court session of this student ended last week and his sentence was announced to him two days ago. He was charged with providing and distributing images of student protests especially Khajeh Nasir University gatherings in protest to the presence of Safar Harandi (regime official) on November 1. His other charges are acting against national security and conspiring to gather on November 4.

Currently 12 other Khajeh Nasir University students are jailed. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 19, 2010)

**Student activist sentenced to 8 years of prison**



Majid Tavakoli was sentenced to 8 years and 6 months of prison.

This member of Amir Kabir University's Islamic Association was sentenced to eight years and six month of prison, and was banned from political activities and leaving the country for five years by the 15<sup>th</sup> branch of the Revolutionary Court.

He was sentenced to five years of prison on charges of gathering and conspiring against the government, one year for spreading propaganda against the government, two years for insulting the leader, and six month of prison for insulting the president. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 20, 2010)



**Female political prisoner sentenced to 5 years of prisoner for answering phone call from uncle in Camp Ashraf**

According to reports, political prisoner Monireh Rabiyyi was sentenced to five years of prison by a Judge Pir Abassi, the head of the 26<sup>th</sup> branch of the Tehran Revolutionary Court. This heavy sentence was given to her because she contacted her uncle in Camp Ashraf in Iraq.

This political prisoner suffers from severe lung problems and allergies and has been denied medication since her arrest.

She only has the clothes she was arrested in and despite the cold, has been denied warm clothes. Prison guards refrain from taking the clothes that her family brings to put pressure on her.

Monireh Rabiyyi, 32, is a chemical engineer who was summoned on October 7 to the Revolutionary Court to answer questions but was arrested by Beigi, the head of the 3<sup>rd</sup> security branch. She was arrested for answering a telephone call made by her uncle. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 22, 2010)

**Iran sentences Quran singer to 7 years of prison**

The 15<sup>th</sup> branch of the Revolutionary Court presided over by Judge Salavati, sentenced Mehdi Eqbal the Quran singer at the prayer center in Darolzahra who is also a member of the Participation Front to seven years of prison.

Mehdi Eqbal who has been in ward 209 in Evin Prison since late October was sentenced to seven years of prison even while he did not have a lawyer and refused to defend himself in court.

He was charged with spreading propaganda against the government, conspiring to cause seditions and acting against national security. (Jaras - Jan. 22, 2010)

**Student activist sentenced to one year of prison**

Abed Tavaneh, a student activist was sentenced to one year of prison by the 1<sup>st</sup> branch of the Revolutionary Court in Tehran presided over by Omran Azizi.

He was charged with insulting the leader, insulting the president, insulting officials of the Guardian Council, spreading propaganda against the government, acting against the country's security and organizing illegal gatherings. (Committee of Human Rights Reporters - Jan. 23, 2010)

**Man sentenced to 3 years of prison for participating in Friday Prayers**

Ali Parviz, a student at Khajeh Nasir University was sentenced to three years of prison for attending a Friday Prayer sermon by Hashemi Rafsanjani after the elections.

His lawyer, Nasrin Sutodeh said, "My client was arrested on November 3. His arrest warrant was issued without his name and it was stated on (the warrant) that this arrest was made 'to prevent incidents'".

"This is a ridiculous reason which has no legal basis and on the other hand is like retribution before a crime", she added. (Jaras - Jan. 25, 2010)

**Kurd sentenced to two years of prison for links to Kurd parties**

A man from a village in Baneh was sentenced to one year of prison on charges of cooperating with a dissident party.

Naser Saiedi who was arrested some time ago has been sentenced to two years of prison in another case in the Saqez Revolutionary Court and Baneh Public Court.

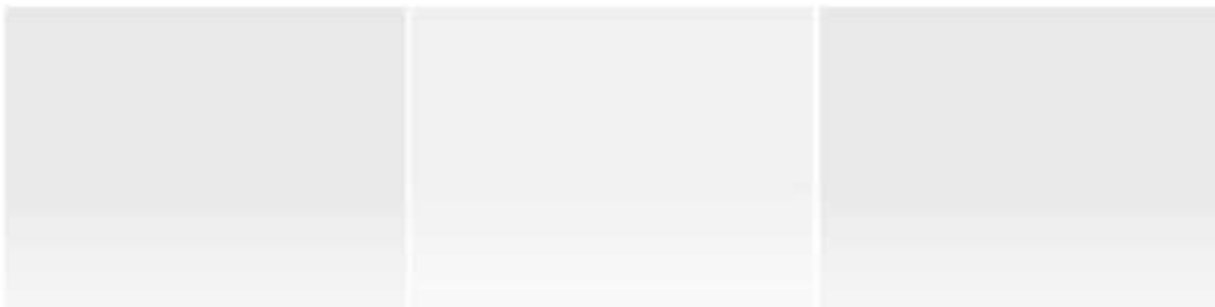
He was charged with cooperating with dissident parties and illegally crossing the border. He is currently in Saqez Central Prison serving his time. (Mukarian News Agency - Jan. 26, 2010)

**Iran sentences man to six years of prison for peaceful political activities**

The lawyer of Jahanbakhsh Khanjani said that his client was sentenced to six years of prison by the 15<sup>th</sup> branch of the Revolutionary Court in Tehran.

"According to the sentence issued by the 15<sup>th</sup> branch of the Revolutionary Court, Jahanbakhsh Khanjani was sentenced to one year of prison for spreading propaganda against the government and five years of prison for gathering and conspiring to act against national security", Seyed Mahmoud Alizadeh Tabatabayi said. (ISNA state-run news agency - Jan. 27, 2010)

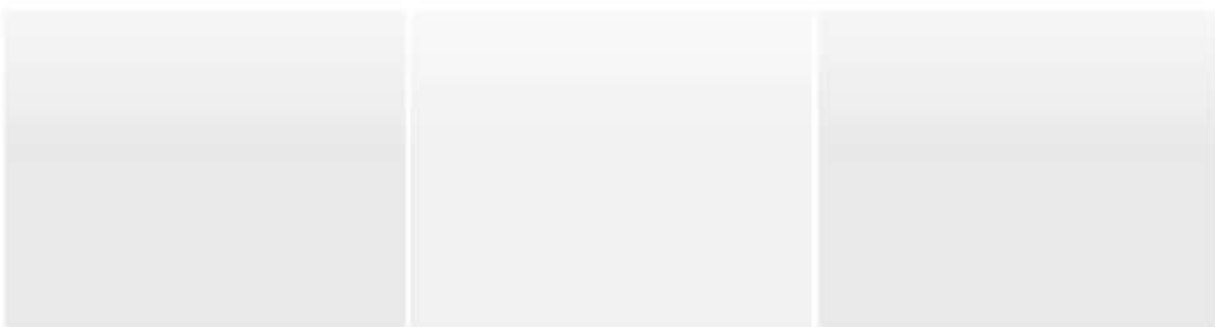




# Basic freedom and rights abused

[Right to education](#)

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**Human Rights**



*Abuse in*

**IRAN**

**2010**



## Basic freedom and rights abused

### January

#### **Prisoner whose kidney was taken out and sold without his consent speaks out**

'My name is Afshin Karimi and I have been serving time in Gohardasht Prison in Karaj on charges of carrying illegal arms and participating in a clash since 2004. In 2004, I realized that my left kidney had problems and after going to the prison clinic, Doctor Changiz Zabin Daftar tested me and said that I have stones in my kidney and requested that I have surgery.

After the surgery when I regained consciousness I realized that they had removed my left kidney and when I asked the reason, they told me that my kidney had become infectious and that they were forced to remove it, or else it would have damaged my other kidney.

After research that was done by my family and a legal doctor, I realized that this was a sheer lie. Doctor Changiz Zabin Daftar and the head of the prison clinic, Doctor Asgari who work together on these issues and a number of other people that I do not know, have removed and sold the kidneys of a number of other people in the same way...

From that time on, I have developed problems in my other kidney. It has been six months that I have requested a surgery but my request has not been accepted, and I suffer from daily kidney pain. I do not what to do and who to talk to'. Afshin Karimi, ward 1 of Gohardasht Prison in Karaj (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 3, 2010)

#### **Five Iranians facing trial belong to exile group: report**

Five detainees that Iran plans to put on trial in connection with anti-government protests last month are members of the armed People's Mujahideen Organization of Iran (PMOI), a state news agency said on Friday.

The PMOI is an exile group opposed to Iran's Islamic system of government.

It is the main faction of the Paris-based National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI), which has thousands of followers in Europe and the United States and was the first group to expose Iran's covert nuclear program in 2002.

'The five accused whose files have been sent to revolutionary court under the charge of 'moharebeh' are members of the counterrevolutionary terrorist group,' Tehran general prosecutor Abbas Jafari Dolatabadi was cited on IRNA as saying, in referring to the People's Mujahideen group.

Dolatabadi said some members of the outlawed Baha'i faith who were under arrest in connection with the December 27 riots had played a role in organizing the protests.

'These individuals were arrested both for organizing Ashura riots as well as playing an effective role in the dispatch of pictures of Ashura riots abroad,' he said.

The opposition website Rahesabz said on Wednesday that more than 180 people, including 17 journalists, 10 Mousavi aides and some members of the outlawed Baha'i faith, had been arrested in the aftermath of the protests. (Reuters - Jan. 8, 2010)

#### **Neda Soltan's grave defaced as Iran issues new internet restrictions**

Neda Soltan has become an icon of the opposition since she was shot dead in protests in June

Supporters of the Iranian Government have for a second time desecrated the grave of Neda Soltan, the student whose shooting during a street demonstration last June made her a worldwide symbol of the opposition.

Photographs obtained by The Times show that the black marble slab on which her face is engraved has been pockmarked by bullets even though security agents guard the grave around the clock to prevent it from becoming a martyr's shrine.

Ms Soltan's family put the new tombstone in place on December 14 after the previous one was smashed in mid-November. Her parents discovered the fresh damage on December 31 - five days after The Times named their daughter its Person of the Year.

"They didn't just shoot her once. They continue to shoot at Neda to this day by desecrating her grave," Ms Soltan's fiancé, Caspian Makan, said. Mr Makan was imprisoned and beaten after her death caused the regime embarrassment and fled the country.

The regime has stepped up efforts to suggest that Ms Soltan, 26, was shot not by one of its Basij militiamen but by agents of Iran's Western enemies.

A new documentary produced by Iranian state television claims that Ms Soltan was an agent of the US and Britain and that her death was a hoax. It suggests that she squeezed fake blood over herself as she lay on the pavement but was then shot dead by her fellow conspirators in the car that took her away - presumably to silence her.

"Neda for a moment realizes their wicked plan and struggles to escape but they quickly shoot her from behind," the narrator claims, and goes on to name Arash Hejazi, the doctor who tried to save her and has since fled to Britain, as one of her killers.

Excerpts from the programme were screened by Press TV, the English language television station that is controlled by the Iranian regime. Dr Hejazi called the documentary outrageous and said that he was considering a formal complaint against Press TV...

Mr Makan told The Times that during his 65 days in prison "the intelligence ministry people told me several times that Neda's death has damaged the regime greatly."...

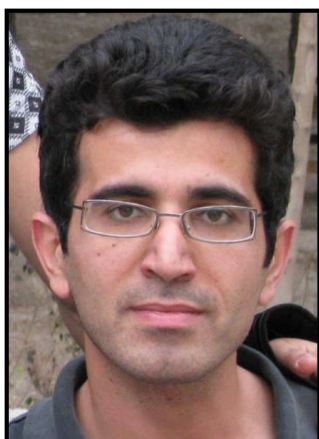
The regime, which on Monday prohibited any contact with 60 Western organisations, continued its crackdown on dissent by publishing a list of websites banned for being hostile to the Government, the Supreme Leader or Islamic values.

The prosecutor general announced that it was illegal to use filter-breaking software to access blocked websites, to show others how to open blocked sites, or to create internet groups designed to undermine national security. (The Times- Jan. 8, 2010)

#### **2009 saw Iran's 'most widespread crackdown' in decade: HRW**

Iran launched 'the most widespread crackdown' in a decade after its disputed presidential election in June, Human Rights Watch said on Wednesday. 'Following the disputed June 12 presidential election and the massive protests it provoked, the government unleashed the most widespread crackdown in a decade,' HRW said in its 2009 report. President Mahmoud Ahamdinejad's June re-election has triggered a string of protests over the past seven months, with OPPOSITION demonstrators defying official warnings to stay off the streets. 'Security forces were responsible for at least 30 deaths, according to official sources,' said the New York-based HRW, adding that more than 4,000 people had been detained, mostly in largely peaceful street demonstrations. Dozens of leading government critics, including human rights lawyers, had also been rounded up, with many held without charge in solitary confinement. The organisation documented 'at least 26 cases in which detainees were subjected to torture and/or coerced to make false confessions,' with the use of beatings, sleep deprivation and fake executions. They were forced 'to confess that they instigated post-election riots and were plotting a 'velvet coup,' it said. HRW also said the Islamic republic's government had staged a series of 'show trials,' and jailed journalists and editors for publishing critical views, while imposing strict curbs on the domestic and foreign media. At least two journalists working with foreign outlets were detained. In a protest on July 9, Iranian police fired tear gas as thousands of demonstrators defied government warnings and staged a march to commemorate the anniversary of bloody student unrest in 1999. The march was to mark the 10th anniversary of violence in which at least one student was killed when hardline vigilantes stormed student dormitories, according to an official toll. HRW said Iran carries out more executions on an annual basis than any other country except China, and also leads the world in the execution of juvenile offenders. 'As of October, Iran had executed three juvenile offenders in 2009,' it said, noting the country's law allows death sentences for persons who have reached puberty, defined as age nine for girls and 15 for boys. At least 130 other juvenile offenders are currently on death row, it said. On the minorities front, HRW said Tehran continued to deny freedom of religion to members of the Bahai faith. In May 2008, authorities arrested seven Bahai leaders 'based on fabricated security-related accusations.' (AFP - Jan 20, 2010)

#### **Jailed student activist goes on another hunger strike in protest to undetermined state**



Mohammad Yusef Rashidi, a Polytechnic University student activist once again went on a hunger strike from one week ago.

This student activist went on a hunger strike in protest to the renewal of his temporary detention order and his undetermined state in prison. He announced this to his family in his last visit saying that he will continue his hunger strike until his state is determined in prison.

This student activist has been jailed for more than 50 days and his last interrogation session ended about 20 days ago but he is still in an undetermined state in a 4 person cell in ward 209 in Evin Prison. His critical physical condition and weakness due to his first hunger

strike has also added to concerns regarding his health. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 18, 2010)

**Using anti-filters is crime and punishable by jail**

The Police Department to Combat Internet Crimes announced that using software known as anti-filters is considered an internet crime and can be punishable by jail. (Asre Iran state-run website - Jan. 19, 2010)

**No news on condition of 10 arrested university students**

Three weeks after the arrest of at least 10 students of the Science and Industry University, none of them have still been released.

According to reports, six students were arrested on Ashura (December 27) while the rest were arrested on Tuesday December 29 after an organized attack by plainclothes agents and Bassij forces against the students in this university. On December 29 and 30, plainclothes agents with the cooperation of the Protection Department of the Science and Industry University beat and arrested a number of students after identifying them. These forces also arrested a large number of students outside the university. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 21, 2010)

**Heavy sentence of student activist pre-specified by MOIS**

Seyed Ziaddin Nabavi, a student who has been banned from education in the Industrial Noonshirvani University in Babol and the spokesperson for the Council in Defense of the Right to Education announced in a phone call to one of his friends from prison on January 21 that he denies the charges made against him.

In this phone call with a Babol student, he said that Judge Pir Abassi told him that 'despite the fact that you are young and that you did not confess to any links with the monafeqin (used by the regime to refer to the PMOI) I am forced to charge you with having links to the monafeqin because of a written request from the Ministry of Intelligence'.

'There is apparently a letter from the Ministry of Intelligence sent to the Judges of the Revolutionary Court in which the Ministry has asked that all arrested members of the Council in Defense of the Right to Education should be charged with having links to the PMOI', Nabavi said.

Nabavi said the reason behind the 11 year prison sentence for Majid Dori (another member of this group) was this letter and added that a number of other students will also receive heavy sentences in the future. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 22, 2010)

**Report: Iran unrest 'full-blown rights crisis'**

Iran's postelection unrest is a 'full-blown human rights crisis,' a watchdog group said Sunday, calling on Tehran to free government critics detained during the crackdown.

Thousands of peaceful protesters, including students, lawyers and prominent human rights activists have been detained following the June presidential election. That has made Iran's reaction to political dissent 'a human rights disaster,' New York-based Human Rights Watch said in its annual report on violations and abuses worldwide.

Human Rights deputy Middle East director Joe Stork described the 'systematic and brutal targeting' of protesters and government critics by security forces. He said it marked 'the worst crackdown' in the Islamic Republic in decades, and called on Tehran to release those who were captured in peaceful protests or otherwise demonstrating their right to free expression.

'Iran's postelection unrest is now a full-blown human rights crisis,' Stork said.

He called it 'nothing but an attempt to silence voices of dissent'. (AP - Jan. 24, 2010)

**Press freedom violations recounted in real time (from 1st January 2010)**

Lilli Farhadpour, an Iranian journalist and writer, was arrested at his home on 21 January 2010. His son, Behrangh Tonkaboni, editor of the cultural monthly Farhang é ahangh (Culture and Harmony), was arrested on 5 January.

**Government warns 15 newspapers**

In a continuing crackdown on the media in Iran, 15 newspapers received warnings this week for publishing comments by former reformist President Mohammad Khatami or former chief nuclear negotiator Hassan Rohani on the way the authorities have been handling the country's crisis.

Mohammed Ali Ramin, a loyal adviser to President Mahmoud Ahamdinejad, has repeatedly warned and threatened media, especially print media, since taking over as deputy minister of culture and Islamic guidance in October .

A warning is often the first step towards a newspaper's definitive closure. A charge of "insulting the president" is the legal method most often used by Ramin to stop newspapers publishing criticism of Ahamdinejad.

The 15 newspapers targeted by the latest warnings were Tehran Emrouz, Arman Ravabet Omoumi, Farhikhtegan, Jomhourī Eslami, Asrar, Etemad, Jahan-e San'at, Poul, Afarinesh, Rouzan Etemad, Etelaat, Tose'e, Rouzan, Mardom Salari and Bahar.

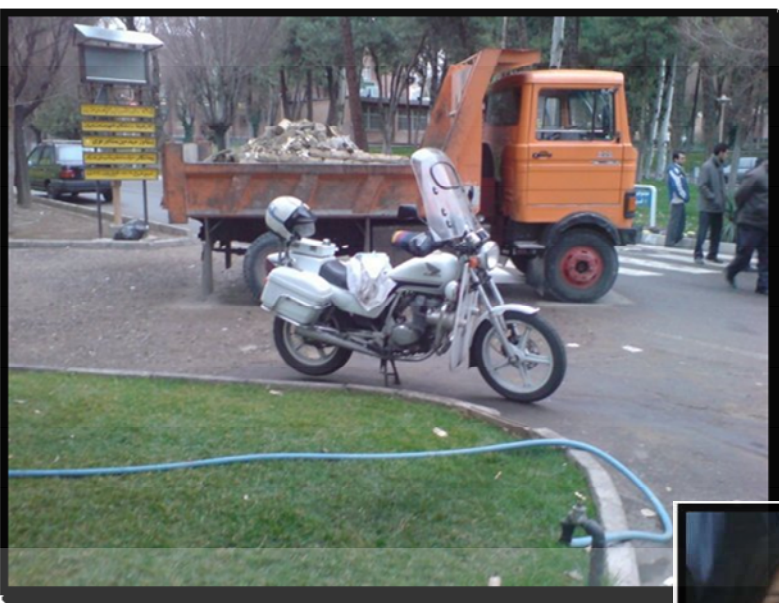
Meanwhile, journalist Nassrin Vaziri of the ILNA news agency was released on 20 January subject to a guarantee that she would be present for her trial. She had been held in the capital's Evin prison since her arrest on 28 December. Without saying why she was arrested, Tehran prosecutor Abass Jafari Dolatabadi said: "The investigation of her case is complete so she has been freed". (Reporters Sans Frontières – Jan. 22, 2010)

**Security forces open fire on civilians, severely injure Kurd man**

A Kurd man named Seyed Vahed Hosseini was shot and severely injured.

On Wednesday January 19, security forces in Piranshahr opened fire on a number of civilians and severely injured this man. (Human Rights Activists in Iran – Jan. 23, 2010)

**Officials refuse to take responsibility for death of female student due to lack of safety precautions in university**



University officials refuse to take direct responsibility for an incident that happened at 2pm in the Science and Industry University in Tehran in which a female student was ran over by a dump truck carrying construction refuse.

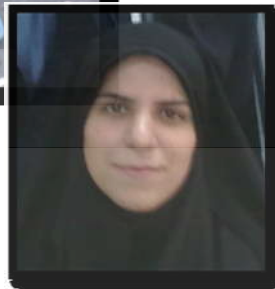
Mitra Rezayi was a senior computer software student who was from the city of Khoy and lived in the university dormitory.

The official website of the Office for Consolidating Unity stated these details in its website:

- This accident took place in the middle of the main university street in a curve that goes directly to the computer school. This is the most crowded area in the university and this could have happened to any of the students.

- Trucks are banned from travelling in Tehran at day. This is university for days. Before this, Department and university the university in at day is the the university.

while this dump truck has been moving about in this students had protested this issue to the Protection officials several times. The fact that the truck was in direct responsibility of the university and the head of



- On Saturday evening, this same truck with the same and came close to hitting a student. This student protested this issue and even went to the Protection Department. Despite this, the driver, who did not even have a drive's license was not prevented from continuing his work.

- University officials have placed the driver in the center of attention to hide their own incompetence.

- In every construction project, there is a monitoring system. The monitor and head of this project was the head of the university. This means that the person responsible was the head of the university. (Human Rights Activists in Iran – Jan. 26, 2010)

**Wife of paralyzed political prisoner hospitalized as result of regime threats and abuse**

According to reports, on Sunday January 24 at about 2 pm, agents of the Ministry of Intelligence in Rasht stormed political prisoner Hadi Abed Bakhoda's house and searched his home. They subsequently interrogated his wife for several hours which led to her hospitalization.

In this attack, three agents of the Ministry of Intelligence participated. They violently searched their home and broke some of their personal items, while confiscating their satellite receiver, and educational CDs that belonged to their children. These agents then verbally summoned Mehri Javan Mahjoub Doust, Abed Bakhoda's wife to the intelligence agency in Rasht.

On Monday January 25, Mrs. Mahjoub Doust went to the Intelligence Agency and was interrogated for close to 5 hours. The interrogation was about her interviews with international foreign media, the dangerous physical state of her husband in prison and other issues. Two interrogators were present in her interrogation. One of the interrogators threatened Mrs. Mahjoub Doust saying 'Aren't you worried about your children and yourself?'

They threatened her children to death in these interrogations. Mrs. Mahjoub Doust had a heart attack as a result of the agents' threats and violent behavior and the interrogators were forced to take her to the hospital. She was hospitalized for a few hours.

The Rasht prosecutor and Ministry of Intelligence have blocked the financial means of this family and they are in a very bad financial state. This is while this family has to pay for the medical treatment for Abed Bakhoda in prison. Whoever intends to give financial support to them is threatened by intelligence agents and they have even told Mrs. Mahjoub that financial help she receives has to be transferred to the bank account of the Revolutionary Court.

On the other hand, the physical condition of political prisoner Hadi Abed Bakhoda who has spinal cord damage is deteriorating and he cannot move on his own or attend to his personal work. Several of his organs have lost their natural function and he has to be hospitalized in hospital. Despite this, he is still imprisoned and (officials) refuse to release him. The head of the prison, the prison doctor and the judge seeing to his case have accepted that he go on a medical leave but intelligence interrogators in Rasht refuse to let him go.

Bakhoda was sentenced to two years of prison by the 2<sup>nd</sup> branch of the Revolutionary Court and was arrested on November 8 and taken to Rasht Prison. He was imprisoned and tortured in the 80's for supporting the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran. Regime forces shot him upon his arrest (in the 80's) which resulted in his spinal cord damage. He cannot walk and his bladder, kidneys and digestive system have been severely damaged. His brother Hormoz Abed Bakhoda was executed in the 80's for supporting the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 27, 2010)

## Right to education

### January

#### **Dezful Free University punishes student protesters**

Eighteen Dezful Free University students were sentenced to suspension from education or expulsion from university and exile to another university by the Disciplinary Committee in this university. Students in this university had in the past staged gatherings on various occasions against the government. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 2, 2010)

#### **50 Kerman students suspended from education**

After large gatherings held by Bahonar University students in Kerman on November 4, 2009 and December 7, 2009 in protest to post-election issues and the denial of freedoms in the country, more than 150 students of this university were summoned to the Disciplinary Committee and received their punishments.

According to this report, about 50 students have received initial punishments sentencing them to 'suspension for one semester and a ban on using university facilities'.

According to this report, these summonses and suspensions are still going on with full force in this university. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 6, 2010)

#### **More than 15 Karaj Free University students suspended from education**

Fifty students of the Karaj Free University have been summoned to the Protection Department and then to the Disciplinary Committee after student gatherings in this university on October 20 and December 7 and more than 15 students were suspended for one semester. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 7, 2010)

#### **Tehran University student activist commits suicide because of university officials' pressures**

Reza Negahdari, a student activist in Tehran University who was suspended from education for three semesters in the past two years cut his left wrist on January 6 in the dormitory. He became unconscious after cutting his vein but dormitory officials called the police instead of calling for an ambulance and this led to the deterioration of his condition. He was taken to the Khomeini Hospital after a long delay and his bleeding was stopped so that after the surgery expenses were paid, his vein could be operated on. Two day after his transfer to the hospital he is still in an unsuitable condition. Security forces and agents of the Tehran



University Protection Department have banned his friends and fellow students from visiting him in the hospital to keep this issue from finding its way to the media.

Reza had been threatened with expulsion from the Quds Dormitory after he protested the problems in this dorm. A few days before this, he had been threatened to be expelled from university by Farhad Rahbar, the head of Tehran University. Before he committed suicide, Reza said that Farhad Rahbar has caused him to reach a dead end. (Iran News Agency – Jan. 10, 2010)

#### **Qazvin University students expelled and suspended from education**

Five students of the International Qazvin University were expelled for 'participating in the seditions' and have been banned from participating in all university exams for the next five years. Twenty five other students of this university have also been sentenced to between 3 to 4 semesters of suspension from university. (Human Rights Activists in Iran – Jan. 9, 2010)

#### **Tehran Science and Industry Univ. students banned from education**

After students of the Science and Industry University in Tehran protested the events on Ashura and the organized attack of plainclothes agents and the beating of university students, a number of these students were summoned to the Disciplinary Committee. After the summoning of dozens of students, at least 13 of them have been suspended for two semesters. (Human Rights Activists in Iran – Jan. 14, 2010)

#### **18 Dezful students banned from education**

Eighteen students of the Free Dezful University were sentenced to half a year of suspension, two half years of suspension, exile to a university in the region and exile to a university outside the region by the Disciplinary Committee for participating in the November 4, December 7 and December 16 student protests in this university. (Human Rights Activists in Iran – Jan. 14, 2010)

#### **Mashhad University expels student activist**

Farshad Azizi, a member of the Free Mashhad University Islamic Association was expelled from this university.

Farshad Azizi was arrested for nine days after Bassij and military forces attacked this university and was expelled from university after being released from prison. (Amir Kabir Newsletter – Jan. 18, 2010)

#### **Qazvin University students banned from education for peaceful political activities**

The International Khomeini University in Qazvin which was the center of student protests in the past year has been in turmoil for some time because of heavy disciplinary sentences (handed down to students).

Amongst the students who were summoned (to the Disciplinary Committee) 10 have received their sentences which are as follows:

- 1- Farzam Moini- expelled from university and banned from taking part in university entrance exams for next five years
- 2- Hamed Honar Khah- expelled from university
- 3- Seyed Rohollah Torabi- expelled from university
- 4- Farshid Azarniosh- expelled from university
- 5- Saied Sakakian- suspended for 4 semesters
- 6- Farhad Kiashmeshki- suspended for 4 semesters
- 7- Seyed Danial Keranian- suspended for 3 semesters
- 8- Mohammad Reza Aqayari- suspended for 3 semesters
- 9- Kazemi- suspended for 2 semesters
- 10- Payam Heidar Qazvini- suspended for 2 semesters (Amir Kabir Newsletter – Jan. 19, 2010)

## Right to employment

### January

#### **Kian Tire Factory fires 9 labor activists**

The Management Board of the Kian Tire Factory fired nine labor representatives in this factory and prevented them from entering this factory.

These nine laborers who have been fired were elected in a large Public Council by the workers last year after labor protests in this factory. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 13, 2010)

**Iran fires man because of his religion**

Ali Hashemi Tangestani, a Neimatollahi Dervish was fired from the Education Department in Bushehr. He had been employed (as a teacher) in this department in 2006 and was fired because of reports from security institutions for being a Dervish. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 14, 2010)

**Iran bans women's activist from teaching at university**

Saba Vasefi, researcher, human rights activist and women's right activist who had been teaching at the Beheshti University in Tehran since 2006 was banned from teaching and expelled from this university on January 20.

Vasefi is the third women's right activist who has been fired from her job in the past few months. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 21, 2010)



**Iran fires philosophy professor from Alameh University in Tehran**

Seyed Morteza Mardiha, a philosophy professor at Alameh Tabatabayi University in Tehran was banned from continuing his work at this university.

He was transferred from the school of law and political science to the literature department after pressure by the head of the university Sadroddin Shariat in 2007 and has now been banned from teaching after tolerating severe pressure. (Amir Kabir Newsletter - Jan. 21, 2010)

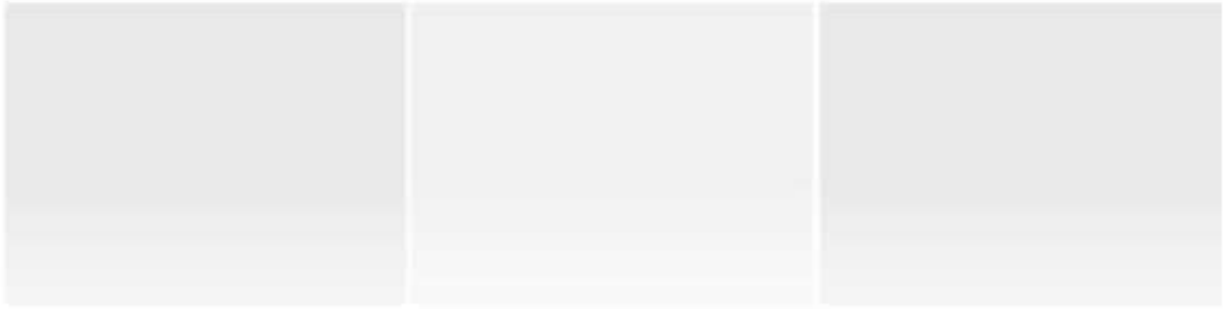
**Iran fires university professor for participating in Montazeri funeral**

Dr. Abbas Kazemi, a professor in the Social Sciences Department was fired from this university for participating in Ayatollah Montazeri's funeral.

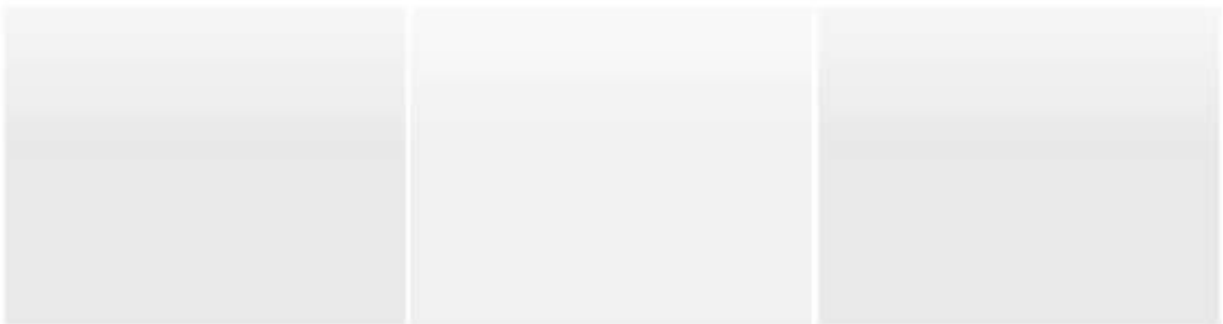
His contract with Tehran University was until September 23, 2010 but the university wrote in a letter that his contract is void as of January 21, 2010.

In this letter, it has been stated that the reason for his expulsion is that Dr. Abbas Kazemi attended Montazeri's funeral and it has been claimed that he was chanting slogans in the funeral procession. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 25, 2010)





# Suppression of religious and ethnic minorities



**Human Rights**



*Abuse in*

**IRAN** 2010

2010



## Suppression of religious and ethnic minorities

### January

#### **Security forces crack down on Tehran Baha'is**

From the early hours in the morning on January 3, security forces arrested a number of Baha'is in Tehran in their homes.

Until this moment the arrestees who were identified are Lava Khanjani, Babak Mobsher, Payam Fanayian and his wife, Jinus Sobhani, Artin Ghazanfari, Farid Rohani, Mehran Rohani, Nasim Bigleri and Negar Sabet.

According to reports, security forces announced that the reason for their arrest was attending Ashura protests in Tehran. (Committee of Human Rights Reporters - Jan. 3, 2010)

#### **Iran court sentences Christian woman to 3 months of prison, takes away custody of her child**

According to reports, the trial for Hamideh Najafi, a Christian who was arrested in her home by security forces on December 16 was held on December 30 in the Mashhad Revolutionary Court.

Hamideh Najafi, who is a Christian convert was arrested because of her faith and beliefs. She was kept under the control of intelligence agents for 14 days because of what was called 'extracting confession and carrying out investigative procedures' in the Mashhad Detention Center. She was finally sentenced to three months of prison and the transfer of her child's custody to the Welfare Organization in a court without a lawyer.

Security forces arrested and beat her husband in front of her, because she persisted on keeping her faith. After this issue, Mrs. Najafi signed a paper saying she lacked mental stability.

According to this confession and because of the fact that (she) is not mentally stable and is not a fit guardian, the right to the custody of her 10 year old child was taken away from her and transferred to the country's Welfare Organization. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 4, 2010)

#### **Eleven Baha'is receive heavy prison terms**

The prison terms of 9 Baha'is in Mashhad who were tried in November were announced.

According to these sentences, these Baha'is have been sentenced to five years of prison and have been banned from leaving the country for 10 years on charges of 'spreading propaganda against the government, acting against national security, being a member of and being active in the Baha'i cult and having contacts with foreigners'. In the past few days, the sentence of two other Baha'is in Mashhad identified as Babak Rohi and Ezatollah Ahmadian who were tried in September was also announced to them. They were sentenced to 3 years of prison which has been suspended for five years. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 10, 2010)

#### **Iran puts seven Bahais on trial for spying**

Iran on Tuesday put on trial seven members of the banned Bahai religion on charges of 'spying for foreigners' and cooperating with Israel, the ISNA news agency reported.

'The first hearing for seven leaders of the illegal group of Bahais who were arrested in May 2008 was held today in the presence of their lawyers in Tehran revolutionary court,' ISNA said.

The charges include 'spying for foreigners, cooperation with the occupier regime of Qods (Israel), holding meetings with the aim of action against domestic security and corruption on earth'.

Under Iran's Islamic law, 'corruption on earth' is punishable by death.

'All the activities of the outlawed Bahai's sect in Iran is being led by its global centre based in Israel,' ISNA cited the revolutionary court as saying in a statement. (AFP - Jan 12, 2010)

#### **Iran arrested 80 Baha'is in Ashura protests**

On Thursday January 9, security forces stopped 34 motorists in Tehran because of their unconventional Hijab (covering) in addition to arresting 8 people who had completely taken off their Hijab (scarves and...). These people were taken to prison.

Despite the fact that it was announced that 16 Baha'is were arrested during the seditions on Ashura, initial investigations regarding detainees has shown that there are at least 80 Baha'is amongst the detainees. (Ayandeh state-run website - Jan. 12, 2010)

#### **Iran arrests several Christians in Shiraz**

At least six Farsi speaking Christians were arrested in Shiraz.

On Friday January 8, intelligence agents in Fars Province attacked a home in Shiraz and arrested a number of people who were reportedly Christians.

They were apparently taken to detention centers in the Fars Intelligence Agency.

According to informed sources, in interrogations, these people said that a Tehran resident identified as Behrouz Khanjani, and five others taught and directed them. In a phone call to these people, intelligence agents in Shiraz asked these men to come to the Shiraz Agency to answer a few questions.

According to reports, on January 11, Behrouz Khanjani, Metias Haq Nejad, Parviz Khalaj, Iman Farzad, Petrus Forutan and Mahyar went to the Shiraz Intelligence Agency thinking this would lead to the quick release of those arrested on Friday.

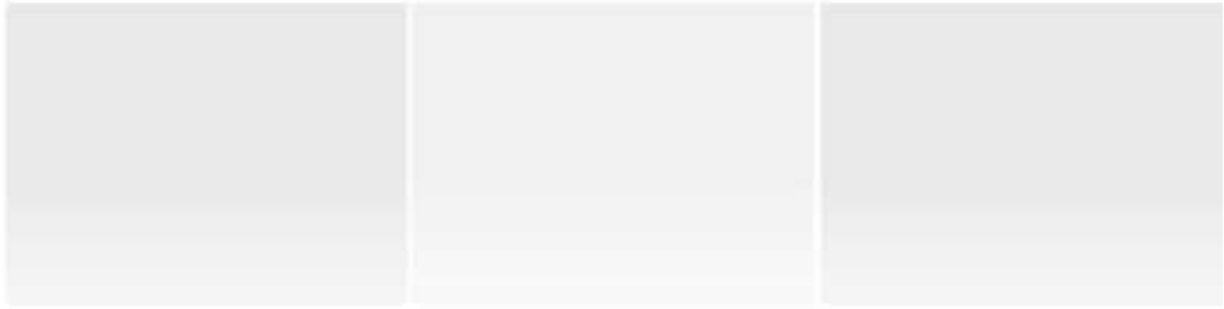
But there has been no information on the fate of these men since, and it seems that all of them are kept in an unknown location. Those who were arrested on Friday were also not released as yet.

According to other sources, two other people linked to the above mentioned people were previously arrested in Rasht and another person was arrested in Shiraz, therefore there are currently nine (Christians) detained in Shiraz and Rasht. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 15, 2010)

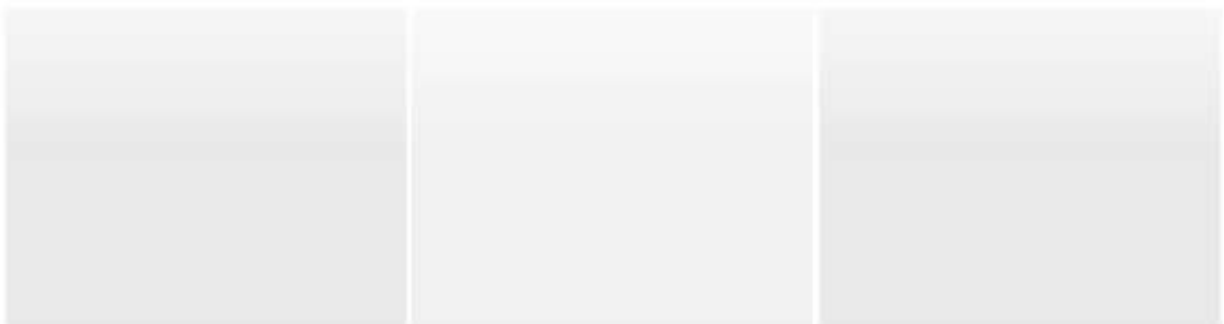
**Iran sentences Baha'i man to three years of prison**

A Baha'i man was sentenced to three years of prison on charges of spreading propaganda against the government and promoting and advertizing the Baha'i faith.

The sentence for Siamak Iqani was issued by the Semnan Revolutionary Court. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Jan. 16, 2010)



# Suppressive maneuvers



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## Suppressive maneuvers

### January

#### **IRAN: Chinese-made armored anti-riot trucks, equipped with plows, may arrive in Tehran**

An opposition news website is reporting that Iran has imported high-tech armored anti-riot vehicles equipped with water cannons that can douse people with boiling water or teargas.

The U.S.-based Persian-language news website Rahesabz, or Green Path, posted a photograph of what it described as a photograph of two of the trucks arriving at the Iranian port city of Bandar Abbas in the south.

The website said the vehicles were a rush order from their manufacturers in China, Dalian Eagle-Sky, according to the blogger Sohrebestan.

With an alleged price of \$650,000 a unit, the 25-ton trucks each hold 2,640 gallons of water, which can shoot hot or cold water at a distance of up to 220 feet.

They can also shoot tear gas, burning chemicals or paint stored in three 26-gallon containers.

It includes a plow, which can presumably demolish makeshift barriers placed on streets by protesters, or even the demonstrators themselves. (LA Times - Jan. 1, 2010)

#### **Interior Minister threatens peaceful demonstrators with 'immediate arrest'**

The Minister of Interior said that the enemy has targeted the main pillars of the system including Islam, the leader and the people, stressing that 'we have ordered police forces not to show any leniency towards the seditionists and if a person attends a gathering to cooperate with the seditionists, he will be immediately arrested'. (IRNA state-run news agency - Jan. 3, 2010)

#### **Khamenei backs crackdown on opposition protest**

Iranian supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei urged the authorities on Saturday to carry out their 'duties against the corrupt ones and the rioters,' after a December 27 anti-government protest in which eight people were killed.

The ensuing pro-government rally 'was a last warning for everyone,' he told a number of Iranians from the Islamic republic's clerical nerve centre of Qom.

He was referring to a December 30 rally in which hundreds of thousands of hardliners took to the streets calling for the punishment of the protestors and opposition leaders.

'The authorities of the three powers of the system (executive, legislative and judiciary) saw what people want. They should fully carry out their duties against the corrupt ones and the rioters,' he said.

On Friday, opposition leader Mehdi Karubi's armoured car was hit by gunfire in the northern town of Qazvin, his party's website reported, but only the windows of the car were damaged. (AFP - Jan 9, 2010)

#### **Iran's top prosecutor wants action against opposition**

Iran's top prosecutor called on Monday for firm action against those behind street unrest after the Islamic Republic's disputed election in June, in a clear warning that senior opposition figures may face trial.

General-prosecutor Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei made the call for measures against 'elements behind the recent sedition' in a statement to Tehran chief prosecutor Abbas Jafari Dolatabadi, the ISNA news agency reported.

Referring to a petition signed by clerics in Tehran, he said, without giving any names: 'It is expected that the demands ... that those who were leading the post-election sedition are put on trial, are met'.

Hardline clerics and authorities have urged the judiciary to punish opposition leaders for igniting tension in Iran, saying they were 'mohareb', an Islamic term meaning warring against God which carries the death penalty. (Reuters - Jan. 11, 2010)

#### **Regime official: presence of women in stadium is unfortunate**

The assistance head of the Isfahan Seminary School said, 'the presence of a woman in the Foad Shahr Sports Center is unfortunate and the heads of the Zob Ahan Club have to answer for this measure they have taken'.

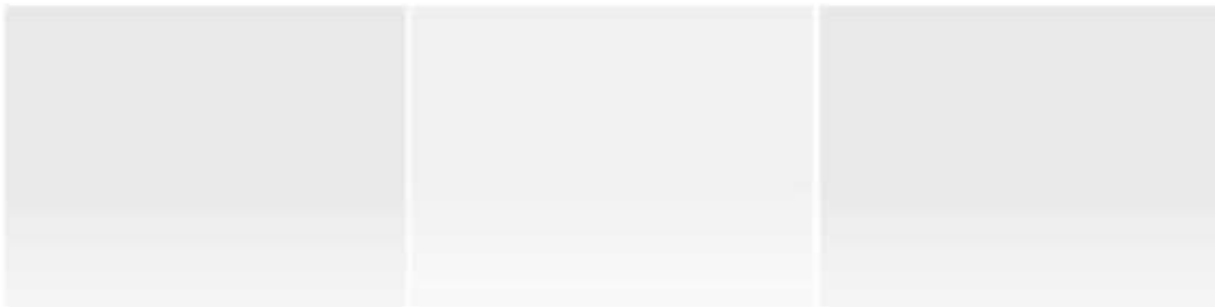
On January 16, in a football (soccer) game between the Zob Ahan club and the Kerman Mes Club, Fereshteh Samoui, the head of the Zob Ahan Club and the head of Women's Affairs at this club attended the game which surprised a group of people in the stadium. (Fars state-run news agency - Jan. 18, 2010)

#### **Hundreds threatened and summoned to MOIS before anniversary of revolution**

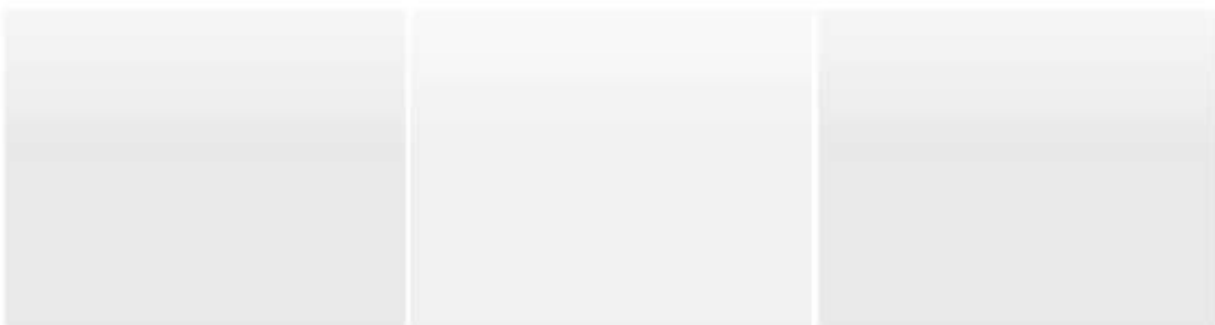
On the eve of the 40<sup>th</sup> day after the passing of Ayatollah Montazeri and February 11 (anniversary of Iranian Revolution which overthrew the Shah), there have been waves of summonses to the intelligence agency in Najaf Abad and about 200 to 300 people in this town have been summoned to the intelligence agency in a week.

Those who have been summoned include religious personalities and young people who were active in Ayatollah Montazeri's ceremony. After being summoned, interrogated and subjected to pressure, they are forced to promise not to participate or do anything suspicious in the February 11 ceremony and are told to 'be cautious of what they do'.

These interrogations have taken anywhere between 2 hours to one full day and have included prominent clerics and high school students as well. (Nurooz Website - Jan. 29, 2010)



# Violence against women



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## Violence against women

### January



#### **Regime agents set condition for release of political prisoner's husband**

Mahdiah Golro, a student who had been banned from education in the past and is currently jailed, told her family in a visit that her interrogators have said that the condition for releasing her jailed husband, Vahid Lalipour, is that she cooperate with them.

Her family was able to visit her in prison from behind a glass partition today after 40 days. Her interrogators have told Golro that they will only free her husband if she cooperates with them.

Vahid Lalipour, her husband has not had any political or civil activities and has been jailed to put pressure on Golro. (Jaras Website - Jan. 14, 2010)

#### **Regime official: presence of women in stadium is unfortunate**

The assistance head of the Isfahan Seminary School said, "the presence of a woman in the Foad Shahr Sports Center is unfortunate and the heads of the Zob Ahan Club have to answer for this measure they have taken'.

On January 16, in a football (soccer) game between the Zob Ahan club and the Kerman Mes Club, Fereshteh Samoui, the head of the Zob Ahan Club and the head of Women's Affairs at this club attended the game which surprised a group of people in the stadium. (Fars state-run news agency - Jan. 18, 2010)

#### **Detained girls and women on Dec. 27, under pressure and torture in Evin Prison**

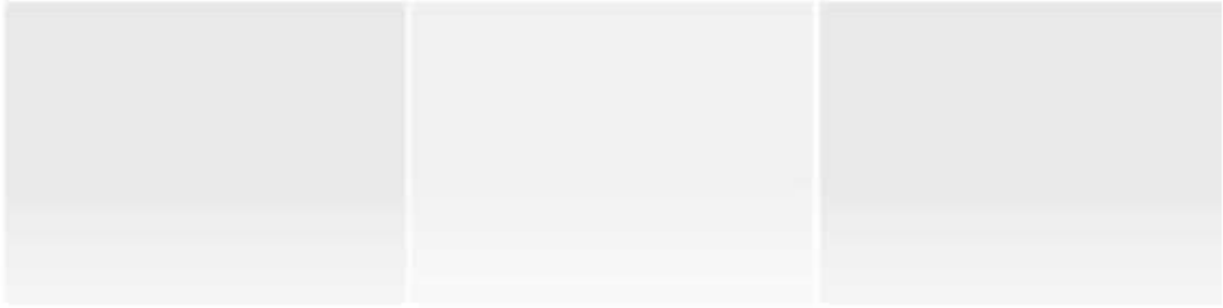
According to reports, a number of girls and women arrested on Ashura (December 27) are subjected to inhumane pressure in the quarantine and methadone wards of Evin Prison in Tehran.

In the first floor of the quarantine section known as the methadone ward about 50 women and girls detained in the Ashura protests are kept in very bad conditions. They are handcuffed and blindfolded while being taken for interrogations at night to other locations. They are abused, harassed and insulted while being taken to interrogation rooms by their interrogators. These women are interrogated for 8 continuous hours. They are intentionally interrogated at nights. The girls are threatened in addition to being beaten. Interrogators have told some of the girls that if they do not confess to what they say, they will be executed and that 'no one will know that you've been detained and hanged'.

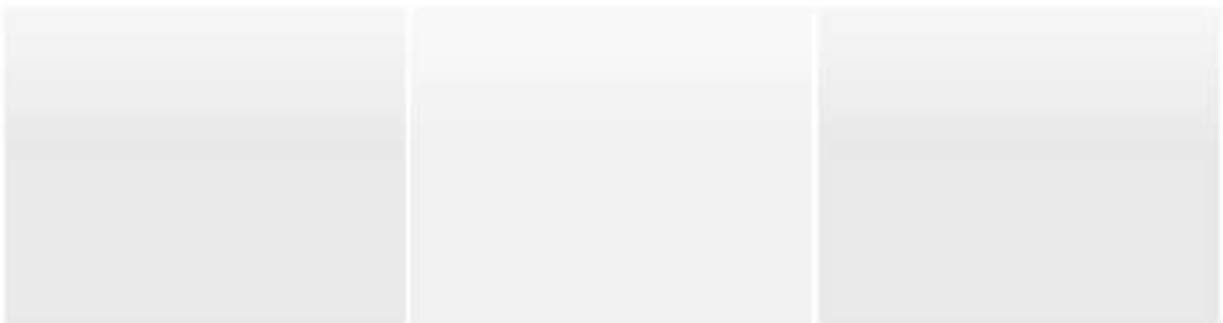
On the other hand, intelligence agency interrogators put pressure on their families and threaten them that if they tell anyone that their children have been jailed, their daughters will put in danger in prison.

After making sure that their families will stay silent, the intelligence agents continue the torture and pressure against the detainees and call their families asking them to tell their children to cooperate with interrogators to secure their freedom. They use this method to deceive the detainees to get false confessions from them in order to make criminal records and issue heavy sentences for them. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 26, 2010)





# Appendices



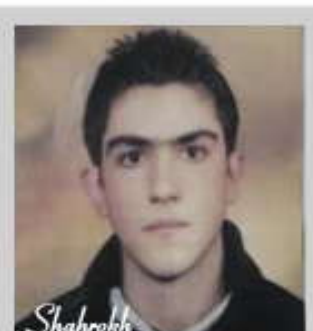


## Appendices

1. [List of executions in January 2010](#)
2. [List of arbitrary killings June 2009 – January 2010  
\(related to post election events\)](#)
3. [List of martyrs of uprising \(June 2009 – January 2010\)](#)
4. [List of political prisoners January 2010](#)
5. [List of political arrests of uprising \(June 2009 - January 2010\)](#)

*'We write human rights with our blood...'*

*Dr. Kazem Rajavi*



'In the name of God the most merciful and compassionate  
I wish the wind could carry my voice  
I wish the sparrows that fly over the high walls of this prison would hear my words and bring them to you as they sit on your house porch  
Immediately after I opened my eyes as a child, my mother and guardian angel left me all alone.  
I never thought life without a mother could be so hard  
It has been more than three years that I am languishing in the corner of this jail and all my memories have been summarized into one day.  
It has been three years that I'm living in one day  
I go into myself and I yell in my mind, that I swear I did not want things to go this way  
Oh God, why, why did it turn out like this?  
Through these years, I have lived time and again in one day and that is the worst day of my life  
I have died time, and time again, but I took breath, waiting to die again  
I swear to God no one knows how heavy this burden is on my heart  
They took me to solitary twice for retribution, those bitter, cold, and heavy nights  
I don't know what to say, I died a thousand times  
They took me to solitary twice for retribution, those bitter, cold, and heavy nights  
I don't know what to say, I died a thousand times  
In my solitude, I wanted to hug my mom and let my tears fall, but there was nothing except a white wall and cold iron  
The warden turned the key and said, "Get up, it is time to go"  
They took me to the prison yard and my whole life passed in my mind in these few minutes  
I burst into tears in my cell. Oh God, oh God, how could I make them understand that I'm sorry, I'm ashamed  
I wish the wind could carry my voice  
Immediately after I opened my eyes as a child, my mother and guardian angel left me all alone...'

Behnoud Shojayi, was one of 160 minor offenders who are perishing in Iran's dungeons. He wrote his life story in prison so that the world would learn of his fate. He feared that the oppressive regime in Iran would one day soon tighten the noose around his neck and end his short but tormented life, as they did.

The UN Security Council and other human rights bodies must bring to justice the murderers of the Iranian people and those violating basic human rights of young men and women like Behnoud, Delara, Sohrab and Neda.

**Human Rights***Abuse in***IRAN** 2010

