

NCRI Human Rights Center Weekly Bulletin
November 07, 2015

Systematic violations of the right to life

Executions, arbitrary killings, deaths in custody, and death sentences

Execution

Two men publicly executed in northern Iran



<http://www.bultanneews.com/fa/news/304347>

<http://www.yjc.ir/fa/news/5376682>

Two men were hanged in public in northern Iran in the early morning hours of Sunday, November 1.

These executions were carried out in the town of Ali Abad Katul in Golestan Province. The two men, 27 and 29 years of age, were executed on rape charges.

(State-run bultanneews.com, Youth Journalists Club -

November 2, 2015)

Arbitrary killing

Iran: IRGC arbitrarily murders young man



A college student by the name of Iman Amiri was shot in the abdomen and killed by a Revolutionary Guards member. Amiri was an accounting major in Iranshahr Free University and had married just two months ago. (NCRI - November 3, 2015)

Inhumane treatment and cruel punishments
Amputation, flogging, torture and humiliation

Iran: state agents torture Afghan national

An Afghan national has been tortured by state agents in Iran.

“They beat my brother so much to force him to confess that his legs are broken. They burned his phallus with a picnic burner and pierced his ear. He is currently being held in improper conditions in Zahedan prison and the agents’ sole goal is to

force him to confess,” said Jom’e Noruzi about the tortures his brother, Ajab Gol Noruzi, has endured. (NCRI – November 2, 2015)

Iran: detained student writes of his tortures to UN rapporteur

Sirvan Hossein Panahi, a Kurdish student and former political prisoner, wrote a letter to Ahmed Shaheed, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Iran, revealing just the tip of the iceberg of his torture and detention ordeal.

“In 2004 I was arrested along with five of my friends by the Revolutionary Guards intelligence agents for singing Kurdish anthems in school. At that time all five of us were 16-years-old.

They took me to a torture chamber and lashed me 50 times. Then I was returned to solitary confinement with no blanket or anything to keep myself warm.

I was held in the Gharwa intelligence department for 16 days. Afterwards I was released under a 100 million rial bail (now worth around \$2,850). A few years passed. One day at sunset four police and IRGC vehicles raided our dormitory. They detained me. They covered my head with a black cloth and began punching and kicking my head. They took me to the detention center basement. They would ask me with which Kurdish group have I cooperated with. I answered I am just a student activist and I am not in contact with Kurdish groups. Afterwards I was placed under the harshest tortures. I had a few tattoos on my body. They erased them all with hot needles. They used steam irons on my body. I went unconscious a few times. Each time they would splash water on my head and begin the torture and beating all over again. This trend continued for a few days. This was only a portion of what I went through. I hope you will hear my voice and that of others like mine.” (NCRI – November 3, 2015)

Prison

Prison conditions

Iran: political prisoner transferred to hospital



Political prisoner Mithagh Yazdan-nezhad has been transferred to a hospital to receive treatment.

Yazdan-nezhad was studying interpretation in the Payam’e Noor University. He was arrested on September 10, 2007 by intelligence agents and then sentenced to 13 years in prison for participating in

the 19th anniversary ceremony for the massacre political prisoners, and for having relations and cooperating with the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran. (NCRI - October 27, 2015)

Iran: prisoner suffering from kidney pains, deprived of medical care

<https://hra-news.org/fa/prisoners/a-2714>



Soheil Babadi, a prisoner detained in Gohardasht Prison of Karaj, west of Tehran, is suffering from kidney illnesses and prison officials are refusing to allow him be transferred to a hospital for medical care.

Babadi has recently been sentenced to 7 years behind bars – in addition to his previous sentence – on charges of assembly and collusion against national security, and insulting the leader.

Babadi wrote a letter from inside prison back in September 2013 describing how he was attacked and beaten, and the fact that interrogators had raised sexual and family allegations against him to obtain coerced confessions. Under such pressures his wife suffered an abortion after being pregnant for 4 months. (Hrana - October 27, 2015)

Iran: political prisoner in dire physical conditions



Afshin Sohrabzadeh, suffering from intestinal cancer, is currently in dire conditions in Minab Prison. He may lose his life due to his internal bleeding.

Sohrabzadeh was arrested by security agents on June 8, 2010 on charges of measures against national security. (NCRI - November 3, 2015)

Iran: Narges Mohammadi returned to prison



Narges Mohammadi, hospitalized after going into shock and seeing her illness intensify, was returned to Evin Prison on Wednesday, October 28. Mohammadi is suffering from two illnesses of lung complications and muscular paralysis.

Her transfer back to prison takes place at a time when physicians had emphasized her two illnesses will intensify in a prison environment, and may actually end up taking her life. (NCRI - November 3, 2015)

Iran: political prisoner transferred to quarantine ward

http://hrdai.blogspot.nl/2015/11/blog-post_3.html



Political prisoner Ali Moezi was transferred from Karaj Central Prison to Evin Prison on Tuesday, November 3 without any prior notice. He is currently being held temporarily in Evin Prison’s quarantine section. There is still no information about the reason behind the transfer of this political prisoner.

Moezi is suffering from cancer, kidney disorders and other illnesses. (Human Rights & Democracy Advocates in Iran – November 4, 2015)

Arbitrary arrests

Social arrests

Young man arrested in western Iran city

<http://www.kurdpa.net/farsi/idame/66477>

Sanandaj intelligence agents have inspected the homes of three individuals. In this raid the homes of Misters Mirzaie, Derakhshan and Nasrian were targeted. The security agents then arrested Mohammad Derakhani’s son, Ebad, who is 20-years-old and currently behind bars. (Kurdpa – October 27, 2015)

Iran confirms apprehension of WITSA deputy

<http://farsi.alarabiya.net/fa/iran/2015/11/03>



The Islamic republic has confirmed reports on the arrest of WITSA vice president Nazzar Zeka. Previous reports indicateD the disappearance of this individual in Tehran. The Islamic republic Seda & Sima news agency cited “informed sources” claiming Zeka has “deep relations with the US intelligence and military community.”

This report describes HIM as a “lost treasure”.

Zeka had received an invitation on September 11 from Shahindokht Molavardi, Presidential deputy on Women and Family Affairs, to take part in the “2nd International Congress & Exhibition on Women Assuming Roles in Permanent Development” under the subject of “Creating Employment”.

Zeka had travelled to Iran on September 15 and left his hotel on September 18 after the congress. He went to the airport with a taxi. However, existing evidence shows

he never reached the airport and there is no report of his whereabouts ever since. (Al Arabiya – November 4, 2015)

Basic freedom and rights abused

Iran: civil activist prevented from visiting mother’s grave

<http://www.kampaign.info/archive/8121.htm>



Arash Sadeghi, a former political prisoner, was arrested by security agents along with his wife Golrokh Iraie, on Friday, October 30 in order to prevent them from taking part in a ceremony being held for the Arash’s mother marking the fifth year of her passing.

Farahnaz Dargahi, the mother of Arash Sadeghi, suffered a heart attack when security agents raided her home to arrest her son. (Campaign in Defense of Political and Civil Prisoners – November 2, 2015)

Lawyer: In a society where agents have such authority, what security is left for the people?



Nasrin Sotudeh, lawyer and human rights advocate, wrote in her Facebook account: “During the past few months I have heard the following reports of actions taken by the Ministry of Intelligence (MOIS) and other security organs:

1. Calling various people and warning them to refrain from conducting interviews with foreign news services.
2. Arresting individuals taking part in legal protests, including sit-ins outside the parliament.
3. Arresting individuals who took part in ceremonies held for those killed in the events following the 2009 uprising.
4. Holding suspects in homes belonging to the MOIS.
5. Creating an atmosphere of fear by arresting a number of people in Andimeshk and agents raided their homes in the middle of the night. A family member suffered a heart attack and caused an abortion for another.

Question: In a society where its intelligence agents have so much authority, what security is left for the people?” (NCRI– November 3, 2015)

Iran: Internet police recognizes no privacy for people

<http://www.khabaronline.ir/detail/472233/root/ict>

Iran's police has severely limited people's social freedoms in the Internet under the pretext of cyberspace security.

"FATA police deputy of international and legal affairs warned of incomprehensible damages caused in cyberspace and social media, saying people should never consider their mobile phones, tablets or any other such devices as their private sanctum," the Seda & Sima news agency reported.

"People should not save their personal information in their mobile phones or tablets because if this information is lost the social and personal damages are irreparable," Hossein Ramezani added.

"FATA police patrols cyberspace and will report any crime-like measures to the judiciary system and actions will be taken based on judiciary orders," the colonel continued.

"FATA police implemented these measures from August 10 to September 22. More than 15,000 websites were patrolled and in 104 cases in which crimes were inalienable, necessary measures were then placed in police agenda," he stipulated. (State-run Khabaronline.ir website - October 28, 2015)

Religious and ethnic minorities

Iran: Christian convert remains in limbo status

<http://mafnews.net/?p=6502>



Mahtab Mohammadi, a Christian convert living in Tehran arrested a few days ago by the Ministry of Intelligence and transferred to an unknown location, remains in a limbo and unknown status.

Prior to this Mohammadi's mother and sister, both Christian converts, were also targeted by MOIS security agents. To this day there is no official statement about this individual being arrested or her current whereabouts.

During the past few days her family members have asked numerous judiciary and security centers in Tehran about her whereabouts, yet all their efforts have been futile.

Christianity is a religion similar to Bahatism whose followers in Iran face the threat of being thrown behind bars. (mafnews.net website - November 5, 2015)

Violence against women

Iran: average age of prostitution is 38!

Minu Mohrez, President of the Aids Research Center in Iran says the average age of prostitutes is 38 in this country.



Mohrez has said currently there are 500 women drug addicts roaming the streets of Tehran as most of them are in the streets in order to obtain the narcotics they are looking for, and “we consider such individuals as prostitutes,” Ghanoon daily reported.

Mohrez added 55% of such women are working in the streets. (Iran Mehr News – October 20, 2015)

<http://iranmehrnews.com/2015/10/20/%D9%85%DB%8C%D8%A7%D9%86%DA%AF%DB%8C%D9%86-%D8%B3%D9%86-%D8%B2%D9%86%D8%A7%D9%86-%DA%A9%D8%A7%D8%B1%DA%AF%D8%B1-%D8%AC%D9%86%D8%B3%DB%8C-%D8%AF%D8%B1-%D8%A7%DB%8C%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%A8%D9%87-%DB%B3/>

The state-run ISNA news agency reported an expert meeting being held with the Presidential deputy on Women and Family Affairs taking part. In this meeting a sociologist by the name of Shad Talab made startling remarks about women prostitutes in Iran.

“Only 22% of them were previously employed. In fact, 80% of the have said they never actually had a job, yet they were in charge of making ends meet for a number of people,” she said.

“In 2007 the average family consisted of 3.5 individuals, most [prostitutes] grew up in families with a higher number of average families,” Talab continues.

“Most of these individuals are in their twenties when they begin prostituting, and most entered their first marriages between the ages of 15 and 18; of course, a number of them were even below the age of 15,” she added.

“The most shocking issue is the level of these women’s education. 14% of such women had associate and bachelor’s degrees,” she continued. (State-run ISNA news agency – October 19, 2015)

<http://www.isna.ir/fa/news/94072717493>

Woman obligated to wear uniform-like clothing

<http://www.asriran.com/fa/news/428576>

The crackdown of women and imposing laws such as mandatory clothing has taken a step further in Iran. In the latest of such developments, the joint committee

reviewing the virtue & hijab plan has adopted a new bill. Under this new bill various entities must prepare and present women's clothing based on designs approved by this commission.

“An amendment has also been approved by the representatives in order to obligate entities to using uniform-like clothing,” said commission spokesman Nassrollah Pejman-far.

Based on this article these entities are not obligated to use similar clothing to prevent any grounds for the use of improper clothing.

The use of a variety of clothing, in addition to non-coordination amongst various individuals, has caused repulsive behavior in women's clothing. (State-run asriran.com - November 2, 2015)