

NCRI Human Rights Center Weekly Bulletin

January 08, 2018

Systematic violations of the right to life

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

Execution**Prisoner hanged in Mashhad**

<https://www.rokna.net/%D8%A8%D8%AE%D8%B4%D9%BE%D8%B1%D9%88%D9%86%D8%AF%D9%87-3/342647-%D8%B9%D9%84%DB%8C-%D8%A8%D8%A7-%D8%AF%D8%B1%D8%AE%D9%88%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%AA-%D9%85%D8%A7%D8%AF%D8%B1%D8%B4-%D8%AF%D8%B1-%D8%B2%D9%86%D8%AF%D8%A7%D9%86-%D9%85%D8%B4%D9%87%D8%AF-%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%AF%D8%A7%D9%85-%D8%B4%D8%AF>

A young man was hanged yesterday morning at Mashhad Central Prison for murder, with the presence of Revolutionary Court judges. He has been identified as 30 year old Ali H. (ROKNA state-run Website – Jan. 1, 2018)

Prisoner hanged in Kermanshah’s Dizel Abad Prison

<http://kurdistanhumanrights.net/fa/?p=4895>

On the dawn of January 2, a prisoner charged with murder was hanged in Kermanshah’s Dizel Abad Prison. He has been identified as Bakhtiar Mohammadi from Ravansar. (Kurdistan Human Rights – Jan. 3, 2018)

Minor offender hanged in Tehran

<http://www.entekhab.ir/fa/news/386581>

<http://www.khabaronline.ir/detail/743126/society/judiciary>



The head of the Tehran Judiciary, Gholam Hossein Ismaili, announced the execution of an offender charged with murder.

“After all the legal procedures, the verdict, which was approved by the Supreme Court, was finally executed”, he said.

According to Ismaili, investigations into the case showed that the offender was a 17-year-old boy who had committed murder. He was sentenced to retribution (death) for murder, execution for rape and 74 lashes for crimes against the dead (body) by the 7th Branch of the Tehran Penal Court. (Entekhab state-run Website, Khabar

Online state-run Website – Jan. 4, 2018)

Two prisoners hanged in Rajaie Shahr Prison

<https://iranhr.net/fa/articles/3174/>

This morning, two prisoners from Varamin were executed in Rajaie Shahr Prison in Karaj on murder charges. Earlier, news of the execution of a minor offender was published by state-run media. According to new reports, on Thursday morning, a prisoner identified as Abolfazl Ghorbani was executed in Rajaie Shahr Prison. He was sentenced to death on charges of murder. (Iran Human Rights Organization - Jan 4, 2018)

Arbitrary killing

Two protesters killed in Izeh

<http://www.jahannews.com/news/578026>

The representative of Izeh and Baghe Malek in the Majlis said that two people died in this town. "The people of Izeh city, like some other cities in Iran, gathered in protest over the economic problems, which unfortunately led to the deaths of two people and the wounding of others in the city", Hedayatullah Khademi said. (Jahan News state-run Website - Jan. 1, 2018)

State TV says 13 people killed in street protests

<http://esfahanemrouz.ir/29935-%DB%B1%DB%B3-%D9%86%D9%81%D8%B1-%D8%AF%D8%B1-%D8%A7%D8%B9%D8%AA%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%B6%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D8%AE%DB%8C%D8%A7%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%86%DB%8C-%DA%A9%D8%B4%D8%AA%D9%87-%D8%B4%D8%AF%D9%87-%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%AF.html>

State TV reported on recent street protests in some of Iran's cities.

In this report, the number of deaths in the town of Dorud was announced as two in Sunday's protests, with the explanation that two others were also shot dead in the protests on Saturday night in the same city... According to this report, six people were killed in the shootings of Tuyserkan while three people were killed in Isfahan's Shahin Shahr. Therefore, according to state TV, a total of thirteen people were killed in the unrest. (Isfahan Emrouz Website, Seda and Sima state-run Website - Jan. 1, 2018)

<http://www.iribnews.ir/fa/news/1973326>

One dead, 3 wounded in Najaf Abad protests

<http://setareh.com/fa/news/18157>

One person was killed while three others were wounded during the unrest in Najaf Abad. (Setareh state-run Website - Jan. 1, 2018)

Child among dead in Dorud

<https://www.isna.ir/news/96101105717>

Dorud Governor, Nemati, said that on the first day of the turmoil, two people were killed and six were wounded. "On the second day, a middle aged person and a boy who was between 12 to 15 years of age died when he was run over by a fire truck", he added. (ISNA state-run News Agency - Jan. 1, 2018)

6 protesters killed in Isfahan town

<http://www.farsnews.com/13961012001644>

The Governor Falavarjan, Asghar Hedayat, said that rioters attacked the Qahderijan police station. "According to the latest numbers reported to us by the hospital, six rioters were killed in the incident", he added. "The intelligence and security agencies are identifying them", Hedayat said. (Fars state-run News Agency - Jan. 2, 2018)

Death sentence

Minor waiting for death sentence to be commuted after 8 years of prison



<https://mafnews.de/?p=19911>

Barzan Nasrollah Zadeh, a prisoner in Sanandaj, is waiting for his death sentence to be commuted after eight years of prison in Rajaie Shahr Prison in Karaj. He has been charged with moharebeh (enmity with God). Nasrollah Zadeh was shot (by security forces) when he was 17 on his way back from school on May 29, 2010 and was arrested. He was forced under pressure and torture to make televised confessions that he had links to jihadist groups. The minor prisoner has also been deprived of the right to a lawyer. (Maf News - Jan. 1, 2018)

Prison

Prison conditions

Detainees transferred to Evin and Rajaie Shahr prisons

<https://persian.iranhumanrights.org/1396/10/at-least-15-people-were-killed-and-hundreds-of-arrested-until-the-fifth-day-of-street-protests-in-iran/>

Informed sources from Evin Prison in Tehran and Rajaie Shahr Prison in Karaj have reported that a large number of detained protesters were transferred to these two prisons in recent days. According to an informed source, the head of Evin prison has ordered that one of the sections of this prison be emptied for new detainees.

According to this source, the hall which was evacuated for new detainees held 200 prisoners who have now been transferred to other sections.

Sources have also said that a prison hall in Karaj's Rajaie Shahr Prison, located in Alborz Province, has also been allocated for Karaj protesters. The hall reportedly has the capacity to hold more than 150 prisoners. (Iran Human Rights Campaign - Jan. 2, 2018)

RGC threatens political prisoners to death

<https://humanrightsiniran.com/1396/52966/>

Severe security measures have been taken in Rajaie Shahr Prison in Karaj as of December 30. According to reports, Revolutionary Guards Corps forces have been stationed in the prison and have told political prisoners that they should not be optimistic about recent events.

Prisoners were told that "if anything happens, none of you will get out of prison alive". (Human Rights in Iran - Jan. 4, 2018)

Evin political prisoners told to publicly support Khamenei in exchange for freedom

<http://www.kurdpa.net/farsi/idame/72099>

On Thursday Evin Prison security officials asked political prisoners to participate in a televised interview in support of the leader and government officials in exchange for their freedom. An informed source said that political prisoners had refused the request. According to the source, all prison leaves for political and nonpolitical prisoners have been cancelled until further notice. (Kurdpa - Jan. 5, 2018)

Prison guards storm political prisoners' section in Orumieh Prison

<https://zandaniran.blogspot.co.uk/2018/01/12.html>

On Thursday, January 4, Orumieh Prison guard reacted to the protests in Section 12 of Orumieh Central Prison, where most political prisoners are detained, and raided the section destroying the prisoners' belongings. Prisoners were taken to the prison gym from Thursday morning where they were body searched. (Zandaniran - Jan. 5, 2018)

More than 20 protest leaders arrested in Karaj

<http://alborz.isna.ir/default.aspx?NSID=5&SSLID=46&NID=29329>

Karaj prosecutor Haji Reza Shakarami said that in a number of people were arrested in relation to the recent unrest in Karaj.

“We will not announce the numbers as yet”, he added.

“Among the detainees, there were 20 of them who were leaders and led the unrests in a way”, the Karaj Prosecutor added. (ISNA state-run News Agency – Jan. 2, 2018)

More than 150 arrested in Hamedan protests

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/fa/news/1396/10/12/1618170>

<http://www.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=13961012001401>

Hamedan Governor Ali Ta’ali said that more than 150 people were arrested in the course of the unrest in the past few days in Hamedan. “Most of the detainees are between the ages of 17 and 25, and some of them are not native to Hamedan”, he added. (Tasnim state-run News Agency, Fars state-run News Agency - Jan. 2, 2018)

More than 80 people arrested in Kerman

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/fa/news/1396/10/12/1617677>

Kerman Revolutionary Guards Corps Commander Gholamali Abuhamzeh said that during the recent turmoil, more than 80 unrest elements were arrested.

"Unfortunately, a number of conniving people chanted slogans that broke (government) structures and in the course of this, a number of innocent citizens were killed", he added. (Tasnim state-run News Agency – Jan. 2, 2018)

138 protesters arrested in Mashhad gatherings

<https://www.mehrnews.com/news/4189706>

Mashhad Assistant Prosecutor Hasan Heidari, said that 138 people were arrested in Mashhad's illegal gatherings."Overall, during the gatherings in Mashhad, 52 people were arrested on the first night, and in the next two nights, 74 and 12 people, who were planning to do damage, were arrested", he added. (Mehr state-run News Agency – Jan. 2, 2018)

9 people arrested in Mamessani, Fars Province

<http://www.tabnak.ir/fa/news/760948>

Mamessani Governor Rahmatullah Faramarzi, said that people were arrested in the gathering yesterday in this town in Fars Province. “Security identification and surveillance led to the arrest of nine people after the gathering and other protesters

are being identified by the security apparatus”, he added. (Tabnak state-run Website - Jan. 2, 2018)

63 people arrested in Kermanshah

<http://hengaw.net/fa/?p=4813>

In the past three days, 63 protesters were arrested in Kermanshah. According to an informed source, they are currently being detained by the police. (Hengaw - Jan. 1, 2018)

70% of protesters specifically targeted and detained by security forces

<http://www.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=13961013001752>

Chief of Police Hussein Ashtari said more than 70 percent of the arrests by police during gatherings were targeted. “Despite the (protests) not being a good incident, the State Security Forces gained experience and we saw that they did not give any excuses to foreigners so that they would be able to strike out against the system”, Ashtari added. (Fars state-run News Agency - Jan. 3, 2018)

Zanjan prosecutor says protest leaders arrested in three cities

<http://www.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=13961013001635>

Zanjan Public and Revolutionary Prosecutor, Hassan Mozafari, said a number of the heads of groups of the recent gatherings were arrested in Zanjan, Abhar and Khoramdareh. “Their cases are under preliminary investigation”, he added. (Fars state-run News Agency - Jan. 3, 2018)

Regime says 3 protest leaders arrested in Ardebil

<http://www.mizanonline.ir/fa/news/383296>

Ardebil Public and Revolutionary Prosecutor Nasser Atabati, said that three main elements (of the protests) in Ardebil were identified and arrested.

“During the interrogations, the defendants stated that they were completely influenced by cyberspace to take these measures”, he added...

Atabati said that several individuals who had been chanting slogans that broke the structures (of the regime) were identified and arrested... “During technical examination and close intelligence observations, a number of the main leaders who had called on and instigated people to create chaos and riot were identified and a number of them were arrested”, the prosecutor added. (Mizan state-run News Agency - Jan. 3, 2018)

Gorgan Prosecutor says 12 protest leaders arrested

<http://www.mizanonline.ir/fa/news/383325>

Gorgan Prosecutor Mostafa Haghi said that in the recent riots in the country, 12 leaders of the unrest were arrested and taken to prison in Gorgan. (Mizan state-run News Agency - Jan. 3, 2018)

Security forces arrest social media admin in Malard, Tehran

<http://www.fardanews.com/fa/news/767322>

The Malard Public and Revolutionary Prosecutor announced the arrest of a social media administrator in this town in Tehran Province. Javad Jebleh stressed that those who spread rumors in cyberspace would be seriously dealt with. (Farda News state-run Website - Jan. 3, 2018)

150 people arrested in Gorgan

<https://www.isna.ir/news/96101307056>

The Political and Security Assistant to the Golestan Governor, Ali Asghar Tahmasebi, said that with the arrest of about 150 of Gorgan's rioters, peace returned to the city. "In the last few days, enemies hired a number of people with their money using social networks and exploited a number of young people", he added. (ISNA state-run News Agency - Jan. 3, 2018)

28 people arrested in Birjand protests

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/fa/news/1396/10/13/1618857>

The Governor of Birjand, said that 28 people, who were influenced by social media, were arrested by the police and were handed over to judicial authorities. (Tasnim state-run News Agency - Jan. 3, 2018)

At least 26 students arrested during recent protests

<https://persian.iranhumanrights.org/1396/10/22-protesters-were-killed/>

Sources have reported that a number of student activists from Tehran University, Alameh Tabatabaie University and Sharif University of Technology were arrested.

The identities of some of these students are as follows:

Leila Hosseinzadeh, Sina Rabiei, Mohsen Haghshenas, Mikael Gholid Rad, Pedram Pazireh, Mohammad Mohammadian, Ali Mozafari, Mehdi Vahabi Sani, Soheil Movahedan, Arash Avari, Danial Iman, Amir Hossein Alam Talab, Majid Akbari, Mohsen Torabi, Kasra Nouri, Aref Fathi, Mohsen Mir-Mohseni and Mohammad Javaheri from Tehran University.

Sama Derakhshani, Faezeh Abdi Pour, Majid Mosafer, Mohammad Khani, Siavash Amjadi, Mohsen Shahsoon and Sina Ghaffari from Allameh Tabatabaie University
Mohammad Sharifi Moghadam Riabi from Sharif University of Technology
(Iran Human Rights Campaign - Jan. 3, 2018)

Families of detained protesters threatened

<https://persian.iranhumanrights.org/1396/10/iran-protests-arrests-family-follow-up-threats/>

The families of a number of detained protesters held a sit-in outside Evin Prison on Wednesday, January 3. "What we're saying is for you to release our children who are innocent. After four days we don't know which section they are being held in or how they are", Shokoufeh Yadollahi, Kasra Nouri's mother said.

"They have not contacted their families", she added. "From the very first night of their arrest, we came outside of Evin Prison, but they did not give us any answers. Tonight, they have brought lots of security forces and told us to either leave or be arrested", Yadollahi said. Kasra Nouri is a human rights major at Tehran University.
(Iran Human Rights Campaign - Jan. 4, 2018)

300 protesters in Central Tabriz Prison

<https://iranhr.net/fa/articles/3173/>

About 300 protesters in Tabriz and surrounding areas were taken to the Tabriz Central Prison yesterday. "Many of the detainees were wounded and beaten, and the condition of at least five of them was very bad," an informed source said.

The prison quarantine of Tabriz Prison consists of only three rooms and has a capacity of up to 50 people. (Iran Human Rights Organization - Jan. 4, 2018)

294 protesters arrested in four towns in Markazi Province

<https://www.isna.ir/news/96101407427>

Ghasem Abdullahi, the Chief Justice of Markazi Province, said that 294 rioters were transferred to prison. "On December 30, there were protests in Arak, Saveh and Delijan. Seventy one men, nine women and 14 youngsters under the age of 18 were arrested in Arak, 15 men and one woman were arrested in Saveh and four others were arrested in Delijan. In these arrests, four leaders of the protests who were non-native to the region were also arrested", he said. "(On December 31) seventy nine people and 17 youngsters under the age of 18 were arrested in Saveh city. 145 men, five women and 30 young people under the age of 18 years were arrested in Arak, while six people were arrested in Delijan". He announced the number of arrests on December 30 and 31 in Markazi Province as a total of 396 people and said that 294

people had been imprisoned, three of whom were under 18 years of age. The prisoners include 116 people from Saveh, 164 from Arak, nine from Delijan, two from Khomein and also three women. (ISNA state-run News Agency - Jan. 4, 2018)

Two students arrested in Tehran

<https://www.radiozamaneh.com/375151>



On the morning of Thursday January 4, Soheil Aghazadeh, a student of cinematography at Tehran University was arrested in his home.

According to other reports, Sina Omran, a translator and German studies major at the University of Tehran was arrested last night at his home. (Radio Zamaneh - Jan. 4,

2018)

More than 40 students detained in recent events

<https://persian.iranhumanrights.org/1396/10/more-that-40-students-were-arrested/>

From December 30 to January 4, Ministry of Intelligence agents arrested more than 40 students and student activists in Iran. A number of these students told their families via telephone that they are being kept in Section 209 in Tehran's Evin Prison. Intelligence agents have warned their families not to talk about the arrests with the media. Most of the detained students are members of student organizations. (Iran Human Rights Campaign - Jan. 4, 2018)

11 protesters arrested in Parand protests

<https://www.mehrnews.com/news/419131>

The Robate Karim Chief of Police announced the arrest of three heads of protests in Parand. "One of the men who was in charge of the riots was arrested in Parand. Three other women who played important roles in the riots in Parand were also arrested by security forces and were handed over to judicial officials", Abdullah Zadeh Pashaki said. A number of detainees were identified by their initials as Z.K, A.K, S.K, and F.Y. (Mehr state-run News Agency- Jan. 4, 2018)

Admin of Baneh Telegram channel arrested

<http://www.kurdpa.net/farsi/idame/72094>

On Wednesday, January 3, Shoja Hussainzadeh, the administrator of the Baneh News Telegram channel was arrested on charges of publishing lies. The Kurd citizen

is currently detained in the Baneh Intelligence Detention Center. (Kurdpa - Jan. 4, 2018)

Five people arrested in protests

<https://www.mehrnews.com/news/4191560>

Habibullah Khojastehpour, the Political Security Assistant to the Lorestan Governorate, said that five people were arrested when a hypocrite (referring to the PMOI) group was destroyed. He also added that one of the group members was wounded in the clashes. (Mehr state-run News Agency- Jan. 5, 2018)

More than 40 protesters kept in RGC Section in Rajaie Shahr Prison

<http://hrdai.blogspot.co.uk/2018/01/telegram-mehrdai-wwwhrdainet.html>

More than 40 demonstrators have been detained in the Revolutionary Guards Corps Section in Rajaie Shahr Prison in Karaj. The detainees are from various cities in the province of Alborz, including Karaj and Gohardasht. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Jan. 5, 2018)

170 people arrested in Gorgan protests

<http://aftabnews.ir/fa/news/500294>

Golestan Prosecutor Mustafa Haghi said that 170 people were arrested in recent riots in Gorgan. "There will be no conciliation with those who disrupt public order and act against national security", he added. "From those who were arrested, some of them were leaders, whose crimes and punishments will certainly be heavier. (Aftab News Website - Jan. 6, 2018)

More than 90 students arbitrarily arrested in Iran

<http://www.jameeno.com/13961015/1408>

The Tehran Representative in Majlis referred to a list that was given to her on the number of detained students and said that around 90 students had been arrested throughout Iran. "These numbers might be higher but currently we are certain about 90 arrests", Parvaneh Salahshouri said. (Jame'e No state-run Website - Jan. 5, 2018)

Basic freedom and rights abused

The Telegram and Instagram interrupted until the last notice on the Internet

<http://www.ilna.ir/%D8%A8%D8%AE%D8%B4-%D9%81%D8%B1%D9%87%D9%86%D8%B1-6/577125-%D8%AA%D9%84%D8%AF%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%85-%D8%A7%D8%8C%D9%86%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%A7%D8%AF%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%85-%D8%AA%D8%A7-%D8%B7%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%B9-%D8%AB%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%88%D8%8C-%D8%B1%D9%88%D8%8C-%D8%A7%D8%8C%D9%86%D8%AA%D8%B1%D9%86%D8%AA-%D8%AB%D8%A7%D8%A8%D8%AA-%D9%82%D8%B7%D8%B9-%D8%B4%D8%AF>

Telegram and Instagram services were interrupted on all platforms of internet like fixed mobile and Irancell lines. According to the ILNA reporter, after telegram and Instagram interruptions on mobile Internet and Irancell networks, fixed-line DSL internet was disconnected as well. An informed source announced a few days ago: According to the recent events in the past few days, it was ordered in the event of gatherings to disconnect the internet connection for mobile and landlines. Ismail Jabarzadeh, deputy political minister of the interior, said at the news conference that was held at the Interior Ministry today that the government does not have any plans to stop the social networks, but when there is a disruption in public order, it's natural that we restrict this access for a period of time. (the state-run ILNA website - Dec.31, 2017)

Ministry of Intelligence asks people to identify protesters

<http://www.farsnews.com/13961011001306>

The Ministry of Intelligence issued a statement on the recent gatherings in Tehran and other cities. The statement reads in part:

"Thanks to intelligence measures, a number of elements and dissident rioters and the instigators of the unrest were identified and a number were arrested... Other elements are wanted (under pursuit) and will soon be seriously dealt with. The Ministry of Intelligence asks the various strata of the community to introduce the dissidents, rioters and those who destroy public property by calling 113". (Fars state-run News Agency - Jan. 1, 2018)

State run cyber security website publishes close up images of protesters for retaliation

<https://www.mehrnews.com/news/4188839>

The Public Relations Department of Cyber Security Command Center announced in a statement:

"Gerdab (website) asks all the people to identify the elements of the sedition so that they are decisively dealt with... If you have any information or any news about the people in these pictures including images, video, news, emails, internet addresses or complaints about the rioting movements from any group who instigate and encourage destructive activities via the internet, you can send a report to Gerdab Website through the contact us link. In upcoming days, other images of



the elements of the unrest and riot will be published". (Mehr state-run News Agency - Jan. 1, 2018)

Intelligence services use drones to film protesters in Sanandaj

<http://www.kurdpa.net/farsi/idame/72064>

Intelligence agencies in Sanandaj have been filming popular protests using UAVs (drones), while intelligence agents use cameras to film protesters on the ground. The Sanandaj Intelligence Agency has also threatened Kurd journalists and activists via telephone not to publish any material in support of popular protests in the media. (Kurdpa - Jan. 1, 2018)

Iran Attorney General says internet has to be curbed

<http://www.mizanonline.ir/fa/news/383099>

Attorney General Montazeri said that prosecutors around the country are on the scene around the clock and were taking the necessary precautions...

"The arrestees are made up of two groups. There are those who were arrested on the scene, who are not major players and effective in the unrest... But those who are destructive, the intelligence and judicial apparatus will certainly deal with them", he added.

"(Having) a free cyberspace is harmful for all aspects of our lives ... The people should know that the freedom of this space is harmful to the country and families and should be organized", he said. (Mizan state-run News Agency - Jan. 2, 2018)

Telegram and Instagram blocked in Iran

<http://www.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=13961010001358>

While Telegraph and Instagram were accessible for some time via ADSL services, the two social media networks have become inaccessible once again. These two services are still blocked on mobile networks.

The blockage was confirmed by the Public Relations Department of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology. (Fars state-run News Agency - Jan. 2, 2018)

Religious authority says internet should be banned

<https://www.rokna.net/%D8%A8%D8%AE%D8%B4%D8%B3%D8%8C%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%74/343855-%D8%A2%D8%8C%D8%AA-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%84%D9%87-%D9%85%D8%A9%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%85%D8%B4%D8%8C%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%B2%D8%8C-%D8%AA%D9%84%D8%AF%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%85-%D8%A8%D8%B1%D9%86%D8%AF%D8%B1%D8%AF>

Citing recent unrest in the country, Ayatollah Makarem Shirazi, said that he had told authorities many times that cyberspace would cause problems for them.

“Mossad and CIA mercenaries are sitting abroad and easily send messages for ten million people that tomorrow they should go out on the streets at a certain time and riot”, he added. He referred to Telegram as a “putrid swamp” adding that officials should not say that they temporarily blocked it and will unblock it again. (ROKNA state-run Website - Jan. 3, 2018)

Manager of website threatened by intelligence agency in Mahabad not to cover protests

<http://www.kurdpa.net/farsi/idame/72082>



On Saturday, December 30, the Mahabad Intelligence Agency gave a notice to the manager of Agance Mukerian Website, Khosrow Kordpour, in a telephone call telling him that he should not cover news of the gatherings in various Iranian cities and that the gatherings were illegal and publishing protest news was banned.

According to other reports, intelligence agencies in the towns of Orumieh, Kermanshah and Ilam sent text messages to citizens threatening them not to participate in the protest gatherings. Furthermore, the Ministry of Intelligence, the Revolutionary Guards Corps and the State Security Forces Intelligence Department have posted messages on social media asking citizens to give them the names of and information on protesters. (Kurdpa – Jan. 3, 2018)

Judicial official says Telegram disruptive to national security

<http://www.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=13961014001130>

The head of the Center for Information and Technology at the Judiciary said that telegraph had turned into a place for turmoil and sedition in the country and that there was no other option but to temporarily filter Telegram. “I warned over the past year that Telegram had become a catastrophe for society and the Islamic government which must be properly regulated by the authorities”, Hamid Shahriari said. (Fars state-run News Agency – Jan. 4, 2018)

Friday Prayers Imam says government has to control cyberspace

<https://www.mehrnews.com/news/4191434>

Ahmad Khatami, the head of the Tehran Friday Prayers, said that cyberspace was a capacity and could either be an opportunity or a crisis. “You saw that in our country it became a crisis. We say that there should be cyberspace but that the server should

be inside Iran so that you can manage it”, he added. “As far as I know, all the capacities are available for this. Do not write and say that we disagree with cyberspace; no, we agree with the cyberspace when the key is in the hands of the government”. “The Iranian nation does not agree with cyberspace when the key is in the hands of the Americans”, he added. (Mehr state-run News Agency - Jan. 5, 2018)

Sewage canal dwellers in Tehran: Report



<http://shahrvand-newspaper.ir/News:NoMobile/Main/122082>

Shahrvand Daily that covered the news on grave dwellers last year in Iran’s capital has now provided a report on sewage canal dwellers in Tehran.

The narrow, dark, and cold sewage canals in Tehran highways have turned into a sanctuary for a group of homeless people and drug

addicts.

The canals are located on the highways in northern Tehran, which is an affluent region. They are described as being “putrid, filled with rats, roaches, lizards and ants”.

The sewage canals are filled with people who are reportedly in deteriorating health. Some of them have lung disease and some have internal infections like kidney infections. One of the canal inhabitants showed our reporter a deep gash from the lashes he had received in the plan to collect addicts from the streets.

According to Hamid, they were previously in a green area near the canals but took sanctuary here after they were attacked by agents. The same agents that attacked these homeless people in the canals once again.

"Some people come and say they want to help us. An hour later, a battalion suddenly comes here to collect us. I swear to you that just a few days ago, agents attacked us. Look at my leg", he says, showing the lash wound on his leg.

(Shahrvand state-run Daily - Jan. 6, 2018)

Suppressive maneuvers

Official: Police had no choice but to shoot protesters

<http://www.icana.ir/Fa/News/363462>

A member of the Assembly of Lorestan Representative said that there was no way except for the police to deal with and shoot those who broke the norms and came to the streets last night. "Two people were killed last night in Lorestan Province. There is a time when protests are in the framework of the law... But when they (protesters) break the norms and vandalize public property, it is natural that it has to be dealt with",

Hamidreza Kazemi, a member of the Lorestan delegation said.

In response to the question on whether it's natural in his opinion for (police) to open fire, he said, "yes, if someone comes to the streets now and breaks the norms, what would you do to him?" (Khaneye Melat state-run Website - Dec. 31, 2017)

Tehran official threatens protesters

<http://www.ilna.ir/%D8%A8%D8%AE%D8%B4%D8%B3%D8%8C%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%3/577173-%DA%A9%D8%B3%D8%A7%D9%86%DB%8C-%DA%A9%D9%87-%D8%B3%D8%A7%D8%AE%D8%AA%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%87%D8%A7%D8%A7%D8%B1%D8%B2%D8%B4%D9%87%D8%A7%DB%8C-%D8%AF%DB%8C%D9%86%DB%8C-%D9%85%D9%84%DB%8C%D8%B1%D8%A7-%D8%B1%D8%B9%D8%A7%DB%8C%D8%AA-%D9%86%DA%A9%D9%86%D9%86%D8%AE%D9%82%D8%A7%D8%A8%D9%84-%D9%85%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%B1%D8%A7-%D9%86%DB%8C%D8%B3%D8%AA%D9%86%D8%AF>

The Security Deputy of the Tehran Governorate said that the police did not show tolerance today and legally dealt with a number of people who intended to carry out illegal measures and hold gatherings that had not received permits.

Mohsen Nasaj Hamedani said that those who broke our norms and religious and national values were not tolerable, adding that he did not know the exact number of detainees. (ILNA state-run News Agency - Dec. 31, 2017)

Judiciary Chief calls on officials for decisive action against protesters

<https://www.isna.ir/news/96101105920>

The head of the Judiciary, Ardeshir Larijani, ordered prosecutors across the country to deal decisively and seriously with the destruction of public and private property, and the violation of the rights of individuals.

"Breaking bank windows, attacking mosques and prayer halls and attacking places like prosecutor's offices and governorates is not something that judicial officials tolerate", he said. "Accordingly, I strongly want prosecutors all over the country to deal decisively and seriously with those who destroy or burn public property or destroy people's property and violate the rights of individuals". (ISNA state-run News Agency - Jan. 1, 2018)

Head of Tehran Revolutionary Court said arrested protesters would be charged with "enmity with God"

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/fa/news/1396/10/12/1617470>

Hojatoleslam Musa Ghazanfarabadi, head of the Tehran Revolutionary Court, said that those who were arrested from the third day of the unrest would receive a heavy sentence.

“Given the Ministry of the Interior's announcement that the gatherings are illegal, they (protesters) have deliberately and knowingly gathered, rioted and broken the norms”, he said. “The charges of some of the arrested persons may be Moharebeh (enmity with God which could carry the death sentence), acting against national security, destroying public property, destroying people’s property, beatings and other charges... Many of these people were arrested in Tehran and other places and will soon be tried”, Ghazanfarabadi added. “The videos of the defendants will be broadcasted in court for them and there will be no way out; therefore, families should be watchful of their children and if they are given heavy sentences, expressing regret might not be effective”. (Tasnim state-run News Agency – Jan. 2, 2018)

RGC commander threatens against continuing protests

<https://www.isna.ir/news/96101106083>

The Deputy Commander of the Revolutionary Guards Sarallah Base stressed that they would not allow the Tehran unrest to continue. “If Tehran's unrest persists, authorities will definitely make decisions, and then everything will be over”, Ismail Kosri added. (ISNA state-run News Agency- Jan. 2, 2018)

IRGC Commander vows to severely deal with detained protesters

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/fa/news/1396/10/13/1618987>

The Commander of the Revolutionary Guards Corps said that many of the rioters who were arrested after Friday were at the center of the seditions. “They were all trained by anti-revolutionary forces and hypocrites (PMOI) and they will be severely dealt with”, Jafari added. “The enemies quickly used cyberspace and came to the scene to create sedition”, he said. “The lack of control on cyberspace, which is managed overseas, and the shortcomings of the authorities in controlling this space has aggravated the turmoil”. “Once cyberspace was controlled, we saw a decrease in the intensity of the seditions”, he added. (Tasnim News state-run News Agency - Jan. 3, 2018)

WORLD REACTIONS ON IRAN PROTEST

ABC – Jan. 1, 2018

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-01-01/twelve-killed-in-iran-protests/9297080>

Ten more people have been killed in Iran amid anti-government protests that broke out Thursday drawing in tens of thousands of demonstrators, according to Iranian State television. The latest fatalities bring the death toll to 12...

Two were killed in the southwestern town of Izeh and several others injured, ILNA news agency reported... Activists say riot police shot and killed two protesters in the town of Dorud on Saturday night and arrested hundreds more, but government authorities denied involvement in the deaths...

Social media restrictions

Police in the centre of Tehran fired water cannon on Sunday to try to disperse demonstrators, according to pictures on social media.

Demonstrations turned violent in Shahin Shahr in central Iran.

There were also reports of demonstrations in the western cities of Sanandaj and Kermanshah as well as Chabahar in the south-east and Ilam and Izeh in the south-west....

Daily Mail – Dec.31, 2017

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-5224483/Iran-warns-protestors-pose-major-challenge-countrys-leadership.html>

Tens of thousands of people have protested across the country since Thursday against the Islamic Republic's government and clerical elite.

Police in the centre of Tehran fired water cannon to try to disperse demonstrators, according to pictures on social media. There were also reports of demonstrations in the cities of Sanandaj and Kermanshah in western Iran as well as Chabahar in the southeast and Ilam and Izeh in the southwest...Iranian security forces appear to have shown restraint to avoid an escalation of the crisis. Two people have been killed and



hundreds arrested...The government said it would temporarily restrict access to the Telegram messaging app and Instagram, owned by Facebook Inc , state television quoted an informed source as saying. An Iranian reached by telephone, who asked not to be named, said there was a heavy presence of police and security forces in the heart of the capital. I saw a few young men being arrested and put into police van. They don't let anyone assemble," he said. In the western town of Takestan... police dispersed protesters, arresting some, ILNA news agency said...U.S. President Donald Trump and Republican lawmakers offered implicit support on Sunday to the protesters. "Big protests in Iran," Trump said in a tweet. "The people are finally getting wise as to how their money and wealth is being stolen and squandered on terrorism". Nikki Haley, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said: "The Iranian government is being tested by its own citizens. We pray that freedom and human rights will carry the day".

CNN - Dec.31, 2017

<http://edition.cnn.com/2017/12/31/middleeast/iran-protests-sunday/index.html>

Two people were killed Saturday during protests in Doroud city, in the Lorestan province of western Iran, according to semi-official news agency Mehr News... The videos purportedly showed injured people lying on the ground and being carried away from the protest, as well as being treated in a local hospital. In some of the video, gunshots can be heard...One local source told CNN on Saturday that during protests in the city, his family witnessed a mob storming the governor's office and setting it on fire. Protesters were fired upon and five people were shot, the source said... About 200 people were arrested between Revolution Square and Valiasr Square in Tehran on Saturday, ILNA reported, for "attempting to destroy public property and attack police," according to Ali Azghar Nasserbakt, the deputy commander of Tehran Security. Some have been released, he said, though he didn't provide a specific number. On Saturday, 80 people were detained in the nearby city of Arak, according to a government official, as reported by Mehr News Agency.



Fox News - Dec.28, 2017

<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2017/12/28/protesters-arrested-in-iran-after-rally-against-price-hikes.html>

Protesters arrested in Iran after rally against price hikes



TEHRAN, Iran – Iran's semi-official ISNA news agency says people have been detained following protests in a major city over price hikes. It was not immediately clear how many people took part in the protest, but accounts on Iranian social media suggested as many as several thousand people in at least three other cities held similar rallies.

The Sunday Morning Herald – Jan.01, 2018

<http://www.smh.com.au/world/protests-turn-deadly-in-iran-as-activists-messages-are-blocked-20171231-h0buxn>

Two demonstrators were shot dead in the western town of Dorud on Saturday night. The deputy governor of Lorestan province blamed foreign agents for the deaths...

Tens of thousands of people have protested across the country since Thursday against the Islamic Republic's unelected clerical elite and Iranian foreign policy in the region. They have also chanted slogans in support of political prisoners.

The government said it would temporarily restrict access to the Telegram and Instagram messaging apps, state television reported.



Reuters – Dec.31, 2017

https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-rallies/iran-protesters-rally-again-defying-warning-of-crackdown-idUSKBN1EP064?utm_source=34553&utm_medium=partner

Police in the center of Tehran fired water cannon to try to disperse demonstrators, according to pictures on social media. Demonstrations turned violent in Shahin Shahr in central Iran ...

There were also reports of demonstrations in the cities of Sanandaj and Kermanshah in western Iran as well as Chabahar in the southeast and Ilam and Izeh in the southwest. Demonstrators initially vented their anger over economic hardships and alleged corruption, but the protests took on a rare political dimension, with a growing number of people calling on Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei to step down. Two people have been killed and hundreds arrested...



The Wall Street Journal – Dec.30, 2017

<https://www.wsj.com/articles/iranians-protest-over-economic-malaise-1514579608>

The largest protests took place on Thursday in Mashhad, Iran's second-largest city, but there were also



demonstrations in several smaller cities. Videos of another protest on Friday in Kermanshah in western Iran were also circulating. They couldn't be independently verified.

Other unverified footage appeared to show protests in other cities. The National Council of Resistance of Iran, a dissident group based in Paris, said there were demonstrations in more than a dozen cities, including Qom, Isfahan and Ahvaz. Police arrested more than 50 people participating in unauthorized demonstrations in Mashhad, the city's deputy prosecutor said Friday, according to the semiofficial Tasnim news agency.

Taraneh Kamali, a 33-year-old physiotherapist in Tehran, said she supported the protests, and called Mr. Rouhani's performance "weak".

Al Arabiya – Dec.31, 2017

<http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2017/12/31/Iran-cuts-off-Internet-service-in-several-cities-as-mass-protests-erupt.html>

Iran cuts off internet access in several cities as mass protests continue. Several reports indicate that telecoms providers in Iran have begun blocking internet access across several cities in the country as mass protests erupted for the third day in a row. Among the telecoms company was Hamrahe Aval, the primary Mobile Telecommunication Company of Iran (MTCI or MCI) as social media continues to play a pivotal role in documenting mass protests and subsequent brutal crackdown on peaceful protesters in the country...



New York Times – Jan.1, 2018

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/01/world/middleeast/iran-protests.html>

In all, about 450 people have been arrested in Tehran alone since the protests began on Saturday, the semiofficial news agency ILNA reported...On Monday in Tehran, the atmosphere was tense and security forces were out in large numbers. "We need to improve our economy, and the people's voices must be heard," said a 28-year-old woman, a piano teacher in Tehran, who asked not to be named out of fear of repercussions.



The Guardian – Jan.2, 2018

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jan/01/more-protesters-die-in-iran-as-rouhanis-plea-fails-to-quell-public-anger>



At least two people were killed in the city of Izeh, in Khuzestan province... Two others were killed in Lorestan province. Officials said on Monday 10 people died during protests on Sunday night and at least 400 people had been arrested over the past five days. Videos posted on social networks appeared to show riot police becoming more confrontational.

Los Angeles Times - Dec.31, 2017

<http://www.latimes.com/world/middleeast/la-fg-iran-protest-deaths-20180101-story.html>

Accounts posted on Iranian social media channels said police clashed with demonstrators in the southern town of Izeh... A Tehran police official said 90% of the protesters were younger than 25, according to Jamaran, a news agency close to the government.

The logo for the Los Angeles Times, featuring the text "Los Angeles Times" in a stylized, black, serif font, enclosed in a white rectangular box with a black border.

Reuters - Dec.31, 2017

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-rallies/iranian-protesters-attack-police-stations-raise-stakes-in-unrest-idUSKBN1EP064>

Demonstrations continued for a fifth day. Some 13 people were reported killed on Sunday in the worst wave of unrest since crowds took to the streets in 2009...

Hundreds have been arrested, according to officials and social media. Online video showed police in the capital Tehran firing water cannon to disperse demonstrators... The government said it was temporarily restricting access to the Telegram messaging app and Instagram. There were reports that internet mobile access was blocked in some areas... Among reported fatalities, two people were shot dead in the southwestern town of Izeh on Sunday and several others were injured...

The Reuters logo, featuring a stylized orange sunburst icon to the left of the word "REUTERS" in a bold, black, sans-serif font, all enclosed in a white rectangular box with a black border.

Al Jazeera - Jan.2, 2018

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/01/deaths-reported-iran-anti-government-protests-180102072448238.html>

A number of Iranians have died amid ongoing nationwide anti-government protests that began last week in various cities across Iran. Nine Iranians were killed in Isfahan province alone during anti-government protests on Monday night.

The Al Jazeera logo, featuring a stylized golden Arabic calligraphic emblem above the word "ALJAZEERA" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, all enclosed in a white rectangular box with a black border.

State TV said on Tuesday that six people were killed in Isfahan's central town Qahderijan...An 11-year-old boy and a 20-year-old man were among those killed in Khomeinishahr.

NBC news - Jan.2, 2018

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/iran-protesters-stage-biggest-demonstrations-green-movement-n833816>

Hundreds of people have been arrested and activists are taking the rare step of publicly criticizing the country's religious leaders. State TV reported Tuesday that six people were killed in the town of Qahdarijan... State TV reported Monday that another 10 people had been killed during clashes. Clashes overnight between protesters and security forces killed nine others, state television reported early Tuesday... Since the Islamic Revolution in 1979, Iran has been a religious conservative society where many aspects of public life, such as freedom of expression, the press and public assembly, are restricted...



CNN - Jan.2, 2018

<http://edition.cnn.com/2018/01/01/world/iran-protests-deaths-rouhani-intl/index.html>

Iran's state broadcaster said six people were killed Sunday in the small western town of Tuyserkan, according to Agence France-Presse (AFP). Six others were killed over the weekend in separate incidents in the neighboring provinces of Lorestan and Khuzestan, according to Iranian news agencies. Reports Sunday said that as many as 200 people were arrested in the demonstrations...



Sky news - Jan.2, 2018

<https://news.sky.com/story/trump-praises-protest-against-brutal-and-corrupt-iranian-regime-11193047>

At least 21 people have died as demonstrators clashed with security forces in cities and towns across the country. Hundreds have been arrested over the last few days...

State TV said six rioters were killed in the town of Qahderijan, during an attack on a police station. Two people, a 20-year-old man and a boy aged 11; died in the town of Khomeinishahr ...The head of Tehran's Revolutionary Court reportedly warned protesters they could potentially face the death penalty.



Express.co.uk - Jan.3, 2018

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/899407/iran-protests-latest-killed-dead-arrested-tehran-demonstrations-donald-trump-middle-east>

THOUSAND arrested and 21 killed in Iran as violent regime protests enter their sixth day

Protests against the Government are entering their sixth day with citizens clashing with police as water cannons and tear gas being controversially used to suppress the crowds. Tehran's deputy governor Aliasghar Nasarbat has reportedly said that 450 people, almost half of all those arrested, were detained in Tehran where the protests first began last Thursday.



USA today - Jan.2, 2018

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/2018/01/02/iran-blocks-messaging-app-used-protesters-share-info-demonstrations/998445001/>

Iran blocks messaging app Telegram used by protesters

Iranian officials have blocked a messaging app that's being used to organize anti-government protests which have rocked the country, resulting in more than 20 deaths and hundreds of arrests. Telegram, a free smart phone app popular in the United States and globally, has been an organizing tool for the loosely-constructed Iranian protest movement that began last week. At first focusing on the need for jobs it has since widened to include concerns about government corruption and frustration with Iran's clerical rulers.



deutsche welle - Jan.2, 2018

<http://www.dw.com/en/iran-unrest-claims-more-lives-as-new-clashes-break-out/a-41993674>

State TV, as cited by the Associated Press, said that an

11-year-old boy and a 20-year-old man died in the town of

Khomeinishahr, in Iran's central Isfahan province. At least 12 people were reportedly killed before the latest clashes, putting the total death toll at 21. Some 450 people have been arrested in the last three days in the capital, Tehran, according to Iran's semi-official ILNA agency. The agency quoted Ali Asghar Nasserbakht, a security deputy governor of Tehran, as saying that 200 protesters had been taken into custody on Saturday, 150 on Sunday and 100 on Monday. Authorities have blocked Instagram and the popular Telegram, a popular messaging app, after it refused to shut down protesting channels.



ABC - Jan.3, 2018

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-01-03/who-the-iran-protesters-are-and-why-they-are-angry/9301316>

Unemployment has reached nearly 29 per cent this year. In some areas it is above 45 percent... At the same time the Iranian regime is boosting funding to Islamic clerics and pro-government religious institutions...

The protests began at Mashhad – Iran's second biggest city, in the country's northeast – but quickly spread across the country, including the capital Tehran where at least 450 people have been arrested. In central Iran, nine people were killed in Isfahan province ...Two protesters were shot dead at Izeh in Iran's southwest. In the country's west three people were killed in Hamadan province.

There were also protests in the cities of Sanandaj, Ilam and Ahvaz, where security forces used teargas to disperse large crowds. In the northwest protests have broken out in Rasht, and spread to the cities of Qazvin and Tabriz... Iranians rely heavily on Telegram and Instagram given that Facebook and Twitter were already banned. Telegram is used by an estimated 40 million people a day – half Iran's population... The United States has urged Iran to unblock the sites, and encouraged Iranians to use virtual private networks – or VPNs – to access the blocked websites.



France 24 - Jan. 2, 2018

<http://www.france24.com/en/20180102-us-ambassador-nikki-haley-urgent-emergency-un-meeting-iran-protests>

US envoy Nikki Haley calls for urgent UN meeting on Iran protests

Washington's UN Ambassador Nikki Haley called Tuesday for an urgent UN meeting on deadly demonstrations in Iran, praising the "great bravery" of the protesters as French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian delayed a visit to Tehran amid the unrest. Nikki Haley, the US Ambassador to the United Nations, called on the international community to speak out on the unfolding protests in Iran, saying the US would seek emergency UN talks on the situation. She said the United States would be seeking emergency sessions of the UN Security Council and the Geneva-based UN Human Rights Commission in the coming days...

"The freedoms that are enshrined in the United Nations charter are under attack in Iran. Dozens have already been killed. Hundreds have been arrested," she said...



The Jakarta Post – Jan.4, 2018

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2018/01/04/un-chief-says-further-violence-must-be-avoided-in-iran.html>

UN chief says further violence must be avoided in Iran



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Wednesday deplored the loss of life in anti-government protests in Iran that have so far left 21 people dead, and said further violence must be avoided.

The UN chief is "following with concern recent developments" in Iran and "urges respect for the rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of expression," Guterres said in a statement. "Further violence must be avoided," he added...

UN rights chief Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein separately urged Iranian authorities "to handle the wave of protests that have taken place around the country with great care so as not to further inflame violence and unrest." Hussein, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, called for independent and impartial investigations of the violence and said Iran's authorities must "ensure that all security forces respond in a manner that is proportionate and strictly necessary." After hundreds of protesters were reportedly arrested, the UN rights chief said "peaceful protests must not be criminalized. They are a legitimate part of the democratic process."

Reuters – Jan.1, 2018

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-rallies-germany/germany-calls-for-calm-in-iran-urges-respect-for-right-to-protest-idUSKBN1EQ13G>

BERLIN (Reuters) - German Foreign Minister Sigmar

Gabriel expressed concern on Monday about the death of protesters in Iran and appealed to the Iranian government to respect people's rights.

The protests by tens of thousands of people are the biggest in Iran since unrest in 2009... "We appeal to the Iranian government to respect the rights of the demonstrators to assemble and to peacefully raise their voices," Gabriel said.



Newsweek – Jan.4, 2018

<http://www.newsweek.com/iran-protests-state-department-accountable-771169>

The United States "condemned" the Iranian government and threatened to "hold accountable those who commit violence against protesters" in a statement issued by the State Department on



Wednesday as unrest gripped the nation."We condemn in the strongest possible terms the deaths to date and the arrests of at least one thousand Iranians," State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert said in the statement. "We have ample authorities to hold accountable those who commit violence against protestors, contribute to censorship, or steal from the people of Iran."

The statement also had a message for the people, killed wounded or oppressed by Iran's government."To the regime's victims, we say: You will not be forgotten."

Photos and videos of the chaos show police deploying water cannons and tear gas on demisters. The vast majority of protesters, 90 percent, were under 25 years old, Reuters reported. In its second statement on the protests, Nauert expressed the State Department's solidarity with the protesters. "The Iranian people have been expressing their desire for dignified treatment, an end to corruption, improved transparency, and increased economic opportunities," she said. Nauert continued: "Unfortunately, the government continues to imprison and kill those who are brave enough to venture into the street. It is limiting the flow of information into Iran, restricting free speech, and attempting to prevent the outside world from observing its own repression.

"We support these legitimate aspirations of the Iranian people, and call on the government to allow the free exchange of ideas and information."

Daily Beast - Jan.4, 2018

<https://www.thedailybeast.com/blindfolded-justice-1000-protesters-arrested-in-iran-as-unrest-continues-and-prisons-fill>

Infamous Evin Prison prepares to receive new inmates as statements by governors and security officials indicate more than 1,000 people have been arrested already throughout Iran. Statements issued by governors and security officials in several provinces, more than 1,000 people have been arrested since the protests began on Dec. 28. In the province of Tehran, more than 450 people had been arrested by Tuesday, said Ali Asghar Naserbakht, the province's deputy governor-general. In Karaj, a large suburb of Tehran, more than 20 people have been arrested. In the holy city of Mashhad, where the protests began, the deputy prosecutor said 138 people had been arrested. In the central province of Isfahan, which was the epicenter of the protests on Jan. 1, more than 100 people were arrested in different cities. Authorities had also arrested more than 100 in Markazi province, which

The logo for Daily Beast, featuring the words "DAILY BEAST" in a bold, red, sans-serif font with a white outline, set against a black rectangular background.

includes the major city of Arak. In Hamedan, the governor said 150 had been arrested, mostly people aged between 17 to 25...”

The northern province of Golestan, on the shore of the Caspian, has also seen many arrests. According to its governor-general, 150 people were arrested for chanting slogans against the regime and for “disrupting the public order and security.”

On Jan. 3, Iranian state TV broadcast the confessions of some of those arrested. Iran is notorious for broadcasting torture-induced confessions on its official outlets.

Reuters – Jan.2, 2018

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-rallies/irans-leader-blames-enemies-for-deadly-unrest-us-calls-that-nonsense-idUSKBN1ER1NA>

LONDON (Reuters) - Riot police were out in force in several cities on the sixth day of protests, which spread to the northwestern city of Tabriz...

More than 450 protesters have been arrested in the capital in the last three days, Tehran’s deputy provincial governor said, and hundreds of others were detained around the country. A judicial official said some could face the death penalty.

In the southwestern city of Ahvaz, police fired tear gas to disperse hundreds of demonstrators. “Police shot tear gas and later went around asking shops on two main streets to close, to completely clear the area,” a resident told Reuters by telephone.



Amnesty International – Jan.4, 2018

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2018/01/iran-stop-increasingly-ruthless-crackdown-and-investigate-deaths-of-protesters/>

Iran: Stop increasingly ruthless crackdown and investigate deaths of protesters

Iranian authorities must ensure the right to peaceful protest, investigate reports that security forces have unlawfully used firearms against unarmed protesters and protect hundreds of detainees from torture and other ill-treatment, Amnesty International said today amid concerns that the crackdown against demonstrations that have spread across Iran in the past week is intensifying...

“Reports of the use of firearms against unarmed protesters by security forces are deeply troubling and would contravene Iran’s human rights obligations under international law,” said Philip Luther, Amnesty International’s Research and Advocacy Director for the Middle East and North Africa... More than a thousand people have been arrested and detained in jails notorious for torture and other ill-treatment over the past seven days, with many being denied access to their families



and lawyers. The Human Rights Activist News Agency has reported that in Tehran's Evin prison alone, the authorities registered at least 423 detainees between 31 December 2017 and 1 January 2018. Many of the hundreds of detainees are believed to be held in overcrowded conditions in the "quarantine section" of Evin prison, which only has capacity for around 180 people. The "quarantine section" is where detainees are often held shortly after arrest and subjected to checks to see if they are carrying drugs or infections before transfer to a general ward.

Some have been transferred to sections of the prison that are run by the Revolutionary Guards or Ministry of Intelligence. "The Iranian authorities have an appalling track record of carrying out mass arbitrary arrests of peaceful demonstrators. Given the alarming scale of the current wave of arrests, it is highly likely that many of those held are peaceful protesters who have been detained arbitrarily and now find themselves in prisons where conditions are dire and torture is a common tool to extract confessions and punish dissidents," said Philip Luther.