

NCRI Human Rights Center Weekly Bulletin

June 04, 2018

Systematic violations of the right to life

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

Execution

Execution in Tehran

<http://fararu.com/fa/news/361626>

<https://www.khabaronline.ir/detail/779972>

A man, identified as Shahab was hanged in Tehran on charges of murder. According to a report and completing the investigation, Shahab was sentenced to retaliation as the first defendant and was hanged in prison after the verdict was verified in the Supreme Court. (Khabar Online state-run Website, Fararu state-run Website May 28, 2018)

Arbitrary killing

Two kolbars (border porters) were shot by officers



On Tuesday morning, May 29, 2018, the Iranian armed forces shot and fired to a group of kolbars (border porters) along the Sheno and Sidakan boundaries. The shooting resulted to the death of one kolbar and a severe injury to another. The deceased kolbar was identified as Ribar Moradi, a 28 years old who was married and had a child. (Hengaw- May 29, 2018)

Eleven kolbars (border porters) were killed in the past 10 days

On Thursday morning, May 31, 2018, a kolbar from Baneh, identified as Kamal Mohammadi lost his life by direct shooting of the armed forces at the Baneh border. Kamal passed away before being transferred to health centers in Sulaimaniyah province. (Hengaw- May 31, 2018)

Another kolbar (border porter) injured by gun shot

<http://www.kurdpa.net/farsi/idame/73268>

On Thursday evening, June 1, a kolbar named Abdullah was severely wounded at the border of Piranshahr as a result of the firing of government officials.

According to an informed source, the kolbar was severely injured on the foot and leg area due to the gun shot and was transferred to medical centers. (Kurdpa- June 1, 2018)

Death sentence

Chief Justice of Tehran: Execution in Ramadan is not forbidden

<https://www.mehrnews.com/news/4311333>

The Chief Justice of Tehran, Gholam Hossein Ismaili, said: "There is no legal prohibition to impose any sentences in Ramadan, but sometimes some matters will be considered as of concerns". He also assumed on how to investigate the cases of 20 new arrests related to the environmental situation by saying that the documents related to the defendants in provision of legal regulations are dealt at one place. (Mehr state-run News- June 1, 2018)

Political prisoners' letter in protest to death sentences

<https://www.hra-news.org/letters/a-547/>

A group of political prisoners in Rajai Shahr prison, Saeed Masoori, Zaniyar Moradi, Saeed Shirzad, Arash Sadeghi, Payam Shakiba, Loghman Moradi, and Majid Asadi, in protest to the increase of executions in Iran, called for human rights in a letter to all international societies to try to abolish this inhumane punishment.

The prisoners wrote in their letter that unfortunately, we only have not seen this punishment diminished in Iran over the past 100 years, but it is increasing day by day and is also considered a punishment for political prisoners. As an example, we see that the execution of Ramin Hossein Panahi, a political prisoner has been confirmed by the judicial authorities and can be implemented at any moment. As a few political prisoners in Gohardasht Prison (Karaj), we say that execution is a state murder under any circumstances, and while condemning all death sentences for any reason and in any way, we are calling for the abolition of this inhumane punishment. We also call on all international societies, human rights, and all wakeful consciences not to avoid any efforts to abolish this anti-human sentence. (Herana- June 1, 2018)

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

Gonabadi Dervish Sentenced to Jail & Cable Strokes

<https://www.radiozamaneh.com/397108>



Majid Moradi, a Gonabadi Dervish from Abdanan in Ilam province, 37, father of a four years old, and arrested during clashes in Golestan 7th St. in Tehran was sentenced to seven years imprisonment and receiving 75 cable strokes. The decree was issued by branch 26 of Tehran Revolution Court on charges of “acting against the national security through membership in anti-security sect of Dervishes”, “Gathering and Collusion against national security”, “defying the orders of (security) agents” and “disrupting the public peace and order”. (Zamaneh Radio- May 27, 2018)

State-run Media Deny a Prisoner Killed with Electric Shocker in City of Birjand



On Dec. 30, 2017 prisoner, Abd AL-Rahman Narooee, clashed with several other prisoners and then was taken to the guards' office. There, he was hit by electric shocker and lost his life. A family member said on condition of anonymity: “Three agents hit Abd AL-Rahman on head and chest by electric shocker which led to his death.” The family filed a complaint and his body was handed over to coroner office for autopsy. (Human Rights Activists in Iran- Jan. 3, 2018)

<https://www.hra-news.org/2018/hranews/a-13685/>



Now after five months, the state-run media wrote on May 26, 2018 that the death of a prisoner in Birjand Prison with electric shockers was fake news.

Donyaye Eghtesad state-run daily wrote: “In a letter issued by coroner office in South Khorasan Province, addressing Birjand Central Prison’s management regarding the death of Abd AL-Rahman Narooee it is said: “by examining the body and reviewing the result of Toxicology, pathology and his hospital file, the reason of death is severe heart attack”.

<https://www.donya-e-eqtesad.com/fa/tiny/news-3393049>

Political Prisoners, the Purpose of Violence of the prison’s officers



Amjad Hossein Panahi, a human rights activist, spoke of violent clashes done on his brother, Afshin Hossein Panahi, at the Sanandaj Central Prison. He stated that a few days ago, Afshin was beaten by a person called Abbasi, the Sanandaj Prison's defense officer. Signs of beatings and poundings were seen on the prisoner's body as he had a family

visit in prison.

Amjad also stated that his other brother, Ramin is suffering from kidney pain and infection, and that the prison security authorities are deterring the treatment of the prisoner saying that he will be executed soon and there is no need for him to receive treatment.

Ramin Hossein Panahi was arrested on June 23, 2017 and transferred to Sanandaj Central Prison after 200 days being tortured and kept in solitary confinement. The political prisoner was sentenced to death on January 15, 2018 and the verdict was reaffirmed on April 11, 2018 at Branch 39 of the country's Supreme Court in the city of Qom. (Hangav- May 27, 2018)

The Deputy of the Chief Judicial Officer: Physical punishments are far more effective than imprisonment

<https://www.isna.ir/news/97030904650>

Hadi Sadeghi, Deputy Chancellor of the Judiciary, said: "There is no principle of imprisonment in Islam, so we need to seek for alternative punishments. Physical punishment is much more effective than imprisonment, and the punishment for flogging is much more effective in Islam. But, the human rights agencies do not have a good idea on this matter". He added: "The law allows our judges to issue a prison sentence, but our instructors must think and find alternative sentences. Of course, in the new Islamic Penal Code, judges are allowed to use alternative sentences of imprisonment, but the punishments do not include dangerous prisoners". (ISNA's News Agency- May 30, 2018)

A defendant sentenced to 100 lashes

<http://www.javanonline.ir/fa/news/910225>

The Fourth Branch of the Criminal Court of Tehran sentenced a 37 year old man to 100 lashes and one year of exile for allegedly illegitimate relationship. (Javan Online state-run Website- June 1, 2018)

Prison

Prison conditions

Detained teacher is denied from medical treatment

<http://www.shahrdaronline.com/view-52598.html>

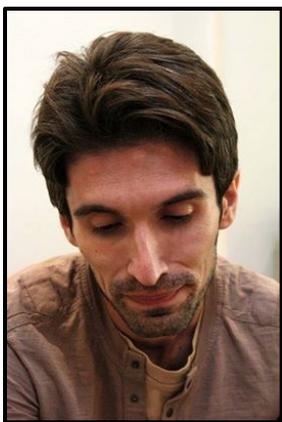


Khadijeh Pak Zamir, wife of Mohammad Habibi, a detainee teacher, assumed about the latest condition of her husband's imprisonment. She said that while visiting her husband in prison on May 27, he was suffering from abnormal pain and the medicines he is using doesn't have any benefits on his condition. She added that the prison authorities have taken no steps to treat the prisoner outside the prison's clinic.

Khadijeh also mentioned that the bail of her husband's freedom was not accepted by the judicial authorities, and she has been protesting this and is still waiting for the answer to be given to her. (Shahrdar Online state-run Website- May 28, 2018)

Arash Sadeghi deprived from essential medical needs

<https://sahba.news/2018/05/30/12496/>



The condition of the political prisoner, Arash Sadeghi, who is infected with ulcerous colitis or ulcerative colitis, is in a horrible situation and the prison officials have not taken any measures to give him treatments. Although the doctors have warned that the prisoner is in the risk of cancer, the prison guards do not allow him to be transferred to health centers. His digestive problems arose after a long-term hunger strike in 2016, and has become more serious due to the authorities' disagreements for receiving treatment. It has been said that Arash Sadeghi is in need of a healthy diet, but the quality of Rajai's Prison's food is horrible, and this has increased his digestive problems. He has been deprived from treatment for more than a year, and the security officials refuse to admit him in a hospital. (Sahba News- May 30, 2018)

The interview of Sohail Arabi's mother of her son's hard imprisonment condition

<https://persian.iranhumanrights.org/1397/03/harassing-the-family-of-sohail-arabi/>



Farangis Mazlum, mother of Sohail Arabi, said in an interview that since her son is on a hunger strike to protest the prison's condition, he has been banded from any visitation. She added that the authorities of the Great Tehran Prison tried to force the prisoner to write a handwritten note in which it indicates he is responsible for any consequences willing to happen to him during the hunger strike. Farangis also stated that this week, as usual, she along Sohail's sister left a full day going from Tehran to Varamin to visit Sohail in prison. The prison officer told them he has been deployed to the hospital, and after asking for the hospital's number to go there, the officers they were told after 2-3 hours that they are not allowed to visit or see Sohail due to a fight that he was involved in. So they returned home with concerns. Sohail Arabi has been arrested since November 2013 and detained in Evin Prison in Tehran, Rajai Shahr Prison in Karaj, and in the Central Prison of Tehran for publishing his own beliefs on his Facebook. (Iran Human Rights Campaign - May 29, 2018)

Lack of treatment resulted in the death of a prisoner

A 40 years old prisoner, named Gholam Nabi Rigi, who was sentenced to death, died in Zahedan Central Prison due to lack of timely medical treatment. An informed source said that Gholam Nabi Rigi was kept in Zahedan Central Prison for about 8 months. Yesterday at one o'clock in the afternoon, he suffered a seizure and was transferred to the prison's clinic.

The clinic doctor after examining the prisoner, prescribes that he is in serious condition and should be transferred to the medical centers outside the prison.

But before his transfer and arrival to the hospital, Khosravi, the Prison Director and Sadegh Movadi, the Secretary of the Judge, in charge of the prison, prevented his referral and mentioned that the prisoner is falsifying his illness and the reason of his serious condition is due to the use of narcotics. (Baloch Activists Campaign- May 30, 2018)

An internet activist sentenced in the Culture and Media Court

<https://www.hra-news.org/2018/hranews/a-15548/>



Hamid Reza Amini, director of a telegram channel, who has been detained in prison since December 02, 2017 was sentenced by the Branch 57 of the Culture and Media Court to pay 95 dollars in cash for charges of publishing lies to disturb public opinion.

Mohammad Hossein Aghasi, the lawyer of Hamid Reza Amini, while confirming the report, said that the investigations of other charges against Amini will continue in two other courts, the Islamic Revolutionary Court and the General Court.

The prisoner was also on hunger strike for five days since February 17 last year, following his illegal transfer from Evin Prison to Fashafiyeh Prison.

Hamid Reza Amini was arrested by the security forces on December 02, 2017, and transferred to Evin Prison, Section 2, associated to the IRGC (Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps). The forces also detained his personal belongings at his home, such as his cell phone and computer. (Herna- May 30, 2018)

Prison sentences

Eighteen year old sentenced to 10 years in prison

<http://www.kurdpa.net/farsi/idame/73227>

Milad Kaji, a young 18 year old Kurd citizen, was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment. The Revolutionary Court of Sardasht has sentenced the youngster due to cooperation with the Kurdish opposition parties. He is currently serving his sentence in Sardasht Prison. (Kurdpa-May 26, 2018)



Every hour, four people are added to the number of prisoners in the province

<https://www.isna.ir/news/97031105428>

The Deputy Director of the prisons in Isfahan province said: "In the current condition, every hour, four people are added to the number of prisoners in the province". Siroos Amini claimed that this year, we can see that 40 percent was increased to the number of unpardonable crimes and 8 percent to other crimes.

He also explained that the reason of the current condition which leads to many problems is due in taking away the economic life of an industrialist, which that person gets fired from work and is jobless. This ultimately leads to family problems, conflicts

and diversions between the husband and wife, so at the end illegal actions are done to save life. (Isna state-run Website- June 1, 2018)

Arbitrary arrests

Social arrests

Intelligence forces arrest a citizen in Marivan, Kurdistan

<http://www.kurdpa.net/farsi/idame/73245>

On Monday, May 27, a Kurdish citizen, known as Amjad Ghaderi, was arrested by the intelligence forces. According to an informed source, the intelligence forces raided and arrested the Kurdish citizen into his house without any legal warrant. He was charged for political activities and till now there is no specific information available on his fate and location. (Kurdpa- May 29, 2018)

A number were arrested in the truck drivers' strike

<http://aftabnews.ir/fa/news/526273>

During the recent truck drivers' strike, a number of people have been arrested. Aftab State-Run Website wrote a quote from the representative of the parliament, Hashemi Takhti Nejad, that during the truck drivers' strike, people were arrested that didn't have any relations with trucks and were not drivers. He added that our truck drivers must know they will calmly meet their demands and there are always some people out there against the regime and ready to take political action from the demands of the people. So, they should not interfere in these matters. (Aftab state-run Website May 30, 2018)

The truck and truck drivers' strike has started since May 22, 2018 and they have pointed out the reasons of the strike is due to the low fares despite the rising cost of lorries, the high commission load, and the suspension of premium subsidies.

Student arrested for supporting the truck driver's strike

<https://www.radiozamaneh.com/397821>

Mohammad Jawad Motamedinejad, a student who made a speech on Monday, May 28, 2018 in the presence of Khamenei was arrested. He was arrested along with another student, Maysam Safaeian at the Tehran Terminal in which they had gone to support the truck drivers who were on strike. Both are waiting to go on trial. (Zamaneh Radio- May 31, 2018)

Basic freedom and rights abused

Chief Editor of ILNA State-Run News Agency & Matn Monthly Were Held Guilty

<https://www.isna.ir/news/97030602781>

ILNA state-run news agency and Matn monthly were put on trial today (Sunday) May 27, 2018 in branch 6 of Tehran Province's penal court, presiding Judge Shaghaghi.

ILNA was charged with "spreading Lies and acting illegally to disrupt public opinion". The chief editor and another person affiliated with the news agency were counted as guilty by the media jury with no commuting.

At the same session the chief editor of Matn monthly and its writer also charged with "spreading lies to harm" were tried and counted as guilty with no commuting. (ISNA state-run News Agency- May 27, 2018)

A journalist in Tehran was arrested

<https://www.hra-news.org/2018/hranews/a-15537/>



Hassan Fathi, a journalist, was arrested on Saturday, May 26, 2018, at his home by Tehran's security guards.

The judicial officials have told the family that the journalist has been arrested due to his interview with the BBC's Persian network. Hassan Fathi was the secretary of the International News Service and was

previously detained on November 13, 2010 by the security forces for interviewing with the BBC's Persian network. (Herana- May 29, 2018)

Twenty four thousand widows under 18 exist in the country

<http://azarbaijan-sharghi.farsnews.com/news/13970306000263>

Masoumeh Aghapour-Alishahi, a member of the Parliament's Women's Fraction, reported that 24,000 orphan children under the age of 18 exist in the country.

She also said that East Azerbaijan has ranked second in the marriage of children between the ages of 10 to 15 years old.

Masoumeh Aghapour Alishahi also mentioned that unfortunately, rural girls are forced to leave education due to the lack of middle and high schools. So their parents force them to marry after they have completed elementary school. (Fars News Agency- May 27, 2018)

Seventy five percent in Sistan and Baluchistan are in food poverty



Alim Yarmohammadi, representative of Zahedan in the parliament, concluding with an implied statement given by the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) journalist about the severe poverty and eating of cat's meat in the villages of Zabul that 75 percent of the people in Sistan and Baluchestan province are in food poverty.



According to the representative of the parliament, the people do not have bread to eat, healthy water to drink, and live in an unfavorable situation that you may think of from any points of view.

The debate over the livelihoods of the people in this province was followed after a few days ago in which, Hassan

Shamshadi, a journalist of IRIB with a post on his Instagram page, published a photo mentioning: "What you see here is the food of a family. What do you think the food they are eating, contents? This family and many other families are eating cat's meat". Based on the official statistics of state institutions, Sistan and Baluchestan province is considered to be the most undeveloped region of Iran in terms of economic and social indicators. More than 60% of the urban population of Sistan and Baluchestan is facing water stress, and close to 1,400 villages in this province are requesting to be supplied with water tankers. (Baloch Activists Campaign- May 28, 2018)

Sixty wetlands dried in Iran

<https://www.khabaronline.ir/detail/780913>

Masoud Bagherzadeh Karimi, Deputy Director of Wetlands Affairs, announced the drying of 60 wetlands in the country. He also said that about three million hectares of wetlands have been identified in the country and about one million and three hundred thousand hectares of these wetlands, namely 30% which equals to 60 wetlands are dried. The thirty percent dryness of the wetlands is different. For example, in Gavkhoni, about 90 percent, Urmia wetland about 70 percent, and

Gandoman wetland about 20 percent have been dried. (Khabar on line state-run Website- June 1, 2018)



Religious and ethnic minorities

Sixty seven sentencing convictions for the Gonabadi dervishes

<http://www.mizanonline.com/fa/news/422749>

<https://www.radiozamaneh.com/397269>



Abbas Jafari Dowlatabadi, Tehran's Prosecutor, has issued a conviction for the Gonabadi dervishes. He mentioned that since last week till now, 67 verdicts were issued in which most of them are being sentenced and imprisoned.

Jafari Dowlatabadi also indicated that a total of 126 summonses had been given to the defendants in the January's nationwide protests in which 50% was resulted in the issuance of sentences.

In a coordinated raid on February 19 and 20 2017, police and plain clothes attacked dervish protesters whom were gathered in a protest of the arrestment of a dervish. Many dervish men and at least 60 dervish women were arrested after being beaten up by firearms, spraying machines, and tear gases. More than 400 men are still in Tehran's Greater Prison in Fashafuyeh and 11 women in Qarchak Prison in Ray City. (Mizan Online state-run Website - Radio Zamaneh- May 27, 2018)

A Baha'i student expelled from Gorgan University

<https://www.hra-news.org/2018/hranews/a-15527/>

On Sunday morning, May 27, 2018, Shakib Taimuri, a graduate student in mechanical engineering at Gorgan University, was expelled from the university. The university officials closed the Baha'i student's access to the university's site and prevented him from registration so that he be deprived from education. (Herana- May 28, 2018)



Four Christians in Iran have been sentenced to 10 years imprisonment

<https://ir.voanews.com/a/iran-sentence-christians/4418140.html>

The Court of Appeals confirmed the verdict of four Iranian Christians, each sentenced to 10 years in prison. One of the convicts is known as Yusef Naderkhani. The other three in which their ten years imprisonment was confirmed are, Mohammad Reza Omidi, Yaser Mosibzadeh, and Saheb Fadai.

Pastor Naderkhani became a Christian at the age of 19, and was convicted of apostasy in 2009. He refused to apologize for changing his religion. Mohammad Reza Omidi, Yaser Mosibzadeh, and Saheb Fadai were arrested two years ago on charges of following what is called Zionist Christianity and action against national security. All four are now on bail and may be called up for the implementation of their sentences soon. (Voice of America- May 31, 2018)

Suppressive maneuvers

Books Collected by Police

<https://www.farsnews.com/news/13970306000143>

In cooperation with Publishers' Union and Tehran's Bookstores, illegal books in volume of 10 pick-up trucks were collected from the bookstores of the capital, imparted Alireza Lotfi, the head chief of Intelligence and Security Police of the Great Tehran. In the inspection run, about 20,000 illegal volumes, some anti-government political books were discovered and confiscated. He mentioned: "Three culprits were arrested too". (Fars state-run News Agency- May 27, 2018)

Strikers threatened by the Head of the Judiciary

<https://www.radiozamaneh.com/397281>

<http://www.entekhab.ir/fa/news/410950>

On Monday, the seventh day of a truck strike in Iran, the Head of the Judiciary, Sadeqh Larijani threatened and said that those who intend to exploit certain spaces and thereby endanger the security of the country and the people, should know that the system will not just be watching and will deal with them very hard. These remarks were stated at the same time when a group of truck drivers in various cities were summoned and threatened by security agencies and the Ministry of Intelligence a day earlier. Truck drivers in Iran started to strike in protest of fares and other issues on Monday, May 22, 2018. (Entekhab state-run Website - Radio Zamaneh- May, 28, 2018)

Violence against women

Leila Mirghafari summoned to the court

<https://humanrightsiniran.com/1397/53675/>



Leila Mirghafari, a civil activist who was sentenced to 91 days of detention and 74 lashes for participating in gatherings and supporting political prisoners in 2015, must appear in Branch 36 of the Appeals Court on June 14, 2018 to re-examine her case. Her case follows a rally that was held in front of Evin Prison to support political prisoners. (Human

Rights Iran- May 26, 2018)

Seventy percent of women prisoners are households

According to Diyat's headquarters, there are currently around 500 women across the country out of 6,500 female prisoners kept in prison for exposing unintentional crimes. More than 70 percent of them are households and have children.

Diyat's staff statistics also shows that the number of female prisoners who have committed unintentional crimes has increased in the country over the past year.

The number of these prisoners in 2016 has risen from 100 to 500 in the year 2017.

Most of these women do not have a criminal record and they have just been sentenced to prison due to financial problems, economic pressures, and because of their spouses' and relatives' welfares. (Ilina News Agency state-run May 28, 2018)

A 20-year-old woman committed suicide due to fear of arrestment by officers

On Monday, May 28, 2018, a 20-year-old woman identified as Shayma Farzi ended her life by committing suicide in eating poison once the government's forces seized her father's house to arrest him. A family relative said that Shayma committed suicide by eating a Cyanide tablet and passed away before reaching to the medical centers. (Hengaw- May 30, 2018)

Appendix

Tear Gas at Iranian Artist's Funeral

Hundreds of Tehran residents as well as the residents of other cities participated in the funeral of Naser Malek Motiee (famous Iranian movie actor) who died on May 27, 2018 due to kidney mal-functioning and shortness in his breath on May 28, at age 88. As the participants chanted criticizing slogans, SSF used tear gas and arrested some.



The participants panned Seda & Sima, state-run broadcasting organ for banning him from acting and broadcasting his image during the last few decades. (AL Arabieh- May 27, 2018)

A few months ago a live interview of him was suddenly stopped being broadcasted without any explanation. Also a TV show taped of him never received the permission to be broadcasted.



Before 1979 revolution he was a famous movie actor in Iran but after the revolution he was only allowed to act in two films "Purgatorians" in 1982 and "Naghsh-e-Negar" in 2015. (Farda Radio- May 27, 2018)

<https://www.radiofarda.com/a/Veteran-Iranian-Actor-Nasser-Malek-Motiei/29253161.html>

Reflecting the news, ISNA state-run news agency wrote: “Malek Motiee’s body was conveyed while Seda & Sima was panned”. This news agency reported: “In this ceremony most speakers, both from common men and artists, criticized Seda & Sima as why they have come back to him after his death”.

(ISNA state-run News Agency- May 27, 2018)

<https://www.isna.ir/news/97030602609>

