



## COMMITTEE IN SUPPORT OF REFERENDUM IN IRAN

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# Human Rights in Iran – July 2004

## Death sentences

### Man in Tehran sentenced to death

*Javan daily, July 6* – A man in Tehran was sentenced to death. The 45-year-old man is from Gonbad. His name has not been disclosed. His sentence, two times executions and 20 years prison, was upheld by the chief justice.

### Two men hanged in public

*Peyk-e Iran website, July 10* – Two men by the names of Arshadollah and Mohammad Ali were hanged in public in the city of Fuman, in Gilan Province.

### Man to be executed in Karaj

*Sharq daily, July 12* – The death sentence of a man named Ali Deldari was issued in Karaj.

### Woman executed in Qazvin

*Kayhan daily, July 12* – A woman was executed in Qazvin.

### Two executions in Isfahan and Karaj

*ILNA, July 13* – On July 12<sup>th</sup>, a man whose death sentence had been upheld by the Supreme Court was hanged in Raja'i Shahr prison in Karaj. A 25-year-old man by the name of Ismail B. was also executed in Isfahan. His death sentence was carried out Monday in Isfahan prison after the Supreme Court upheld it.

### Young man sentenced to death in Tehran

*ILNA, July 13* - In Tehran, a 23-year-old named Erfan was sentenced to death by the 71<sup>st</sup> branch of the Court.

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### **Man in Tehran receives two death sentences**

*Kayhan daily, July 17* – A man was sentenced to death in Tehran. The unidentified soldier is condemned to two death sentences.

### **Three young men hanged in public**

*Iran National TV, July 19* – At 5:30 am Monday, July 19, two youth named Navab Davoodi, 19, and Mehdi Yazdani, 20, from Yazdanshahr were hanged in public at Vila Shahr intersection. They suffered much torture in prison. One of Navab Davoodi's inmates says Navab was hanged by his arms so long that they did not function anymore. In another development, Moussa Nouri was hanged in Khomeini Square in Dehloran, Ilam Province.

### **Young man sentenced to death in Karaj**

*E'temad daily, July 25* – The judicial system in Karaj issued the death sentence of a young man. In addition to being sentenced to execution, Mohammad is sentenced to one year in prison and 100 lashes.

### **Man sentenced to death in Karaj**

*Sharq daily, July 26* – A young boy named Kazem will be hanged today in the 110 district of Karaj. His sentence will be carried out in public after being upheld by the Supreme Court.

### **4 people executed in prison**

*Jomhuri Islami daily, July 28* – Four people were hanged Tuesday in the compound of Qazvin's Central Prison. These people were introduced as Mohammad Amin, Bahman, Saied and Ahmad. Two of them received 40 lashes before execution.

### **Young man sentenced to death**

*Etemad daily, July 28* – The death sentence of Mohammad Reza Heidari was issued by the 74<sup>th</sup> branch of the Tehran Penal Court. The Judge sentenced this young man to death, five years in prison and 74 lashes.

### **4 men sentenced to public hanging**

*Qods daily, July 31* – The Mashad judicial system sentenced four young men to be hanged in public. Judge Alireza said that the first and second row suspects, Arash and Davood were to be hanged in public for creating an atmosphere of terror, waging war on God and corruption of earth. In another development, two people named Ali and Javad were also incriminated for creating an atmosphere of terror, corruption on earth and waging war on God and are sentenced to public hanging.



## Arrests, Tortures and inhumane punishments

### 80 people arrested in ceremony

*Baztab website, July 3* – 80 people were arrested during the annual ceremony of Qal'eh Babak. In this year's ceremony, (State Security Forces) agents arrested about 50 people on Thursday and 30 on Friday.

### Five Years of injustice and ill treatment

*Amnesty International, Akbar Mohammadi, case sheet, 7 July* - Akbar Mohammadi is in Evin prison serving a fifteen year prison sentence. He is reported to be suffering from serious health problems without prompt and adequate access to medical treatment...

During his first year of imprisonment Akbar Mohammadi was reportedly subjected to 'mock executions'. He was repeatedly taken from his cell in solitary confinement to places where he was told he would be killed...

To Amnesty International's knowledge, no investigation has ever been conducted into the allegations of ill treatment and torture made by Akbar or Manuchehr Mohammadi or any of the students held for prolonged periods following their arrest in July 1999...

### Two prisoners died in hospital

*Shargh daily, July 8* – Two prisoners died Sunday afternoon in a west Tehran hospital. Vali Allah Hosseini, special interrogator for murders in Tehran's criminal court, announce this and added: "The accused who were named Ali and Mohammad Javan had been transferred from Evin prison to this hospital when they died on Sunday afternoon due to their critical condition."

### "Mock execution" of British servicemen

*The Sun, July 22* - Eight Royal Navy servicemen today break their silence — and reveal the true horror of their kidnap ordeal in Iran...

They endured a mock execution. They were violently abducted — even though they did NOT stray into Iranian waters. They were humiliated and paraded blindfolded like zoo animals. They were kept in horrific jail conditions and faced sickening mind games.

### 3 people flogged in public

*Iran daily, July 27* - A woman and two men were flogged in public in Shahin Dezh. The three persons were sentenced to public flogging by the city's public prosecutor. The order was carried out on July 26 at the city's central intersection.

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### **150 arrested in Mashad wedding party**

*Jomhuri Islami daily, July 28, Mashad* – One hundred and fifty men and women participating in a mixed wedding party were arrested in Mashad.

## **Freedom of expression**

### **Raid on a dissident's residence**

*Radio Farda, July 5* – Security Forces and plainclothes agents in Tehran attacked the residence of an Education Ministry employee. They beat up and arrested Mostafa Piran, threw out and took away his furniture...

The family's son, Payman, is a student and sentenced to 10 years imprisonment. He is on hunger strike on the anniversary of July 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Live music prohibited in reception halls**

*Jomhuri Islami daily, July 12* - The Department of Public Places of Isfahan's State Security Forces announced that live music is banned in reception halls and public gatherings. Music without lyrics is only allowed for broadcast by audio and with a permit from the Ministry of Guidance. In a directive issued yesterday, the SSF command's information center also banned the playing of illegal music in public transportation vehicles.

### **Iranian prosecutor shuts 2 newspapers**

*The Washington Post, July 27, Istanbul* - An Iranian prosecutor has ordered the closures of two newspapers that reported last week on a trial involving a case in which he is alleged to have been involved.

The prosecutor, Said Mortazavi, shut down Jomhouriat, which had published for only 12 days, and Vaghayeh Ettefaghieh over their coverage of the trial of an intelligence agent accused of beating and killing an Iranian Canadian photographer at a prison in the Iranian capital, Tehran, last year.

### **Arrest of members of music group**

*Khorassan daily, July 31* – The Public Relations of the Revolutionary Guards Forces announced: The members of a musical group who were performing in a wedding party were arrested for acting against Islamic sanctities. Anti-vice agents arrested two of the musicians and handed them over to judiciary officials.



## Women

### Girls flogged for showing their ankles

*Peik-e Iran website, July 2* – Reports from Mashad says the anti-vice patrols in this city have been harassing the youth for some time, especially girls, beating them up and punishing them by flogging. These repressive measures have take place in Azadshahr, Taghiabad and Sajjad neighborhoods in Mashad. The Women's police station in Taghiabad neighborhood which is run by female revolutionary Guards, have arrested young girls who were wearing pants showing their ankles. They were held for one whole day at the Department of Social Vice and handed over to their families after 20 whips and payment of cash fine.

### Iran cracks down on skimpy clothes

*Agence France-Presse, July 12, Tehran* - Iranian security forces have stepped up what appears to be a major crackdown on insufficiently veiled women by launching raids on shopping centres and shops selling skimpy clothing. According to one witness, scores of policemen - and policewomen in chadors - raided the Milad commercial centre in the west of Tehran on Sunday, and detained dozens of young women deemed not to be respecting the Islamic dress code.

## Other news

### Iranian refugee commits suicide upon rejection of his asylum request

*BBC Radio, July 5* – The body of an Iranian refugee, who committed suicide by shooting himself after rejection of his asylum request, was found by the Sussex Police in London. The 26-year-old refugee's name was Hossein Nasserri and his documents requesting asylum were found in his car.

### Iran stops trial of Kazemi's murderer

*The New York Times, July 19, Tehran* - Iran's judiciary on Sunday abruptly ended the trial of an intelligence agent charged with killing an Iranian-Canadian photojournalist and said a verdict would come later. Lawyers for the victim's family left the court in protest, saying the court had not heard their witnesses' testimony...

"It is clear that the person who inflicted the blow is free and the person who has not done so is standing trial and will later be



acquitted, and the whole crime will be covered up," one of the lawyers, Muhammad Seifzadeh, told journalists outside the court on Sunday... On Saturday, Ms. Kazemi's mother, Ezzat Kazemi, testified in court that she had been forced to consent to a quick burial of her daughter. She said it was clear that her daughter was tortured because her breasts had been burned and a hand and foot had been broken.

### **Iran delays visit by U.N. rights team**

*Reuters, July 22, Geneva* - Iran has postponed a visit by a United Nations human rights team that had been due in Tehran next week, the office of the world body's High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) said on Thursday...

The development comes in the wake of a major controversy between Canada and Iran over the trial of an Iranian intelligence official accused of killing an Iranian-born Canadian journalist...

