



SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN  
**THE RESOLUTION IN REAL TERMS**  
FOR THE 72ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OCTOBER 2017

---

The annual United Nations General Assembly resolution on the *Situation of the Human Rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran* has been one of the most effective means by which the international community has expressed concern for the rights of people in Iran. The resolution bolsters the work of Iranian human rights defenders. It also outlines for Iranian officials the exact set of human rights issues they should prioritize, encouraging them to take substantive steps to reform laws and practices in line with the country's obligations.

This guide provides factual support to the operative paragraphs of the General Assembly Draft Resolution. Events highlighted in this guide took place from January 2017 through the end of September 2017.

**IMPACT IRAN**

**PARAGRAPH 8bis:** Takes note of the outcome of the Presidential and local council elections of May 2017 and of the peaceful electoral process, which saw high voter turnout and which resulted in an increase in the number of women representatives in local councils, **while expressing concern about the high number of candidates, including all women presidential candidates, who were disqualified through processes that lacked transparency;**

The fairness and openness of the Iranian electoral process is seriously diminished by the extreme vetting process of candidates who are allowed to compete in elections, and by increased restriction on freedom of expression during electoral periods. The Guardian Council, a body appointed directly and indirectly by Iran’s Supreme Leader, is charged with vetting candidates. The Guardian Council has disqualified thousands of presidential, parliamentary, and local election candidates on purely religious and political grounds. Of the 1,666 individuals who put forth their name for the presidential election, only 6 individuals were accepted by Guardian Council as qualified candidates. Religious minorities are not permitted to run under the constitution and no woman has been permitted to run to date. Former president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, was also disqualified despite holding the position only four years earlier. <sup>1</sup> During the election periods, authorities heightened internet and media censorship, which included the shutting down of 12 reformist telegram channels before the presidential election. Additionally, influential journalists, political figures, and activists were arrested.



**14 APRIL 2017:** Azam Taleghani, the Secretary-General of the Islamic Revolution Women’s Society, registered as presidential candidate for 2017. Her candidacy was rejected by the Guardian Council.<sup>2</sup>

**18 MAY 2017:** Government officials have allegedly refused to allow candidates from the Yarsani religious minority to run for local councils in the May 2017 election.<sup>3</sup>

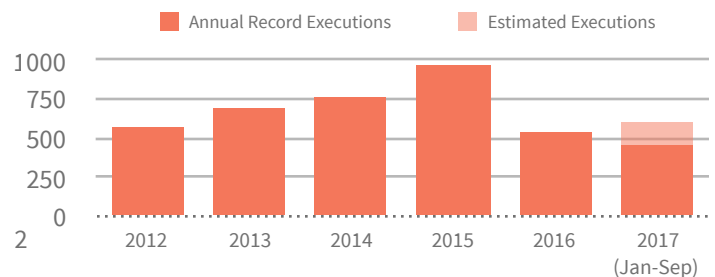
**30 MAY 2017:** Authorities arrested Reza Golestani, a senior staffer of the Reformists’ campaign headquarters in the city of Mashad without a warrant.<sup>4</sup>



**14 AUGUST 2017:** Iranian authorities upheld the six-year house arrest for three opposition leaders, including Mir-Hossein Mousavi, Mehdi Karroubi, and Zahra Rahnavard, without formal charges or trial. On August 29, 2012, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention determined that their house arrest was arbitrary and resulted from the exercise of rights guaranteed by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.<sup>5</sup>

**PARAGRAPH 9:** Expresses serious concern at the alarmingly **high frequency of the imposition and carrying-out of the death penalty** by the Islamic Republic of Iran, in violation of its international obligations, including the imposition of the death penalty against minors and persons who at the time of the offense were under the age of 18 and executions undertaken for crimes that do not qualify as the most serious crimes, on the basis of forced confessions, or against persons who at the time of their offense were under the age of 18, in violation of both the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; expresses further concern at the continuing disregard of internationally recognized safeguards, including executions undertaken without notification to the prisoner’s family members or legal council; and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to abolish, in law and in practice, public executions, which are contrary to the 2008 directive seeking to end this practice issued by the former head of the judiciary;

Iran has had the highest per capita execution rate in the world for several years, putting to death over 530 people in 2016 and over 450 in 2017 as of September. Most of these executions are for offenses which do not constitute “most serious crimes” under international law, like non-



violent drug-related crimes or blasphemy charges and include the execution of minors who were under the age of 18 at the time of the offense, public executions, and religiously motivated executions. A majority of death sentences are handed by Revolutionary Courts, which seriously fail to apply standards of fair trial, including by frequently denying access to legal representation during the investigation phase, preventing lawyers from accessing client files, and routinely using confession extracted under torture" There has been at least 5 juvenile execution as of September 2017.



**JANUARY 2017:** Iran's Supreme Court sentenced Sina Dehghan to death on the charge of "insulting the Prophet". Sina was also accused of "insulting the Supreme Leader" on social media, resulting in an additional 16 month prison term.<sup>6</sup>

**4 JANUARY 2017:** Ghezhalesar Prison officials in Karaj reportedly executed prisoners identified as Khashiar Behrouzi, Mehdi Kavousi, and Anoush Baluch, on alleged narcotics charges.<sup>7</sup>

**14 JANUARY 2017:** Authorities hanged 14 prisoners at Karaj Central Prison on drug-related charges.<sup>8</sup>

**15 JANUARY 2017:** According to reports, Kerman's Shabab Prison officials executed Arman Bahr Asemani. He was 16 years old when he was convicted of homicide.<sup>9</sup>

**22 APRIL 2017:** Parsilon Prison officials in Lorestan Province reportedly hanged a prisoner identified as Mehdi Mirzaei, on charges related to narcotic trafficking.<sup>10</sup>

**23 MAY 2017:** Authorities reportedly executed a prisoner identified only as "Asqar" in the Central Prison of Karaj. Asqar was 16 years old when he was charged with murder in 1988.<sup>11</sup>

**5 JULY 2017:** Zahedan Central Prison officials are reported to have hanged three prisoners on drug-related charges. One of the prisoners, Kabir Denghazehi, was only 13 at the time of the arrest.<sup>12</sup>

**24 JULY 2017:** Isfahan Central Prison reportedly hanged Javad Mir, who was under age 18 at the time of his alleged offense, and an Afghan national identified only as Habib.<sup>13</sup>



**10 AUGUST 2017:** Adel Abad Prison officials reportedly executed Alireza Tajiki, who was only 15 years old when he was arrested on murder charges.<sup>14</sup>

**13 AUGUST 2017:** Iran's parliament passed an amendment to the drug law which, if implemented, would eliminate the death penalty for a large number of drug-related offenses. The adopted amendment must now be validated by Iran's Guardian Council, which has the power to approve the law or nullify it.<sup>15</sup>



**27 AUGUST 2017:** A Revolutionary Court re-sentenced spiritual healer and leader Mohammad Ali Taheri to death for allegedly teaching his students "anti-Islamic ideas". Taheri was previously sentenced to death for the same charge in 2015 but was acquitted on appeal.<sup>16</sup>

**14 SEPTEMBER 2017** According to reports, an unidentified prisoner was publicly executed in Salmas city, West Azerbaijan Province.<sup>17</sup>

**25 SEPTEMBER 2017** Authorities reportedly executed a prisoner, Tofigh Yousefi, in the Central Prison of Ardebil on drug related charges.<sup>18</sup>

**PARAGRAPH 10:** *Calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure, in law and in practice, that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, which may include sexual violence, and punishments that are grossly disproportionate to the nature of the offense, in conformity with amendments to the Penal Code, the constitutional guarantees of the Islamic Republic of Iran and international obligations;*

Torture and other ill-treatment is still prevalent in Iranian detention facilities and detainees report being subjected to prolonged solitary confinement, beatings, burning, stress positions, mock executions, threats to harm family and more. While Iran's Constitution and the Law on Respecting Legitimate Freedoms and Protecting Citizens' Rights together officially ban torture, there is no clear legal definition of torture. Interrogators regularly use torture and other forms of ill-

treatment to coerce confessions from suspects in detention. These confessions are often the sole evidence used in prosecutions of capital crimes and prisoners of conscience. Moreover, allegations of torture are rarely investigated and perpetrators are rarely held accountable. The Penal Code also mandates certain forms of torture as punishments: flogging, stoning, and amputation. Hundreds of people are sentenced to floggings annually.



**4 JANUARY 2017:** Benham Mosivand, a political prisoner at Rajai Shahr Prison in Karaj, was reportedly beaten for not wearing his prison uniform and then prevented from being transferred to the hospital.<sup>19</sup>



**14 JANUARY 2017:** The Human Rights Activists News Agency issued a report stating that, authorities in Rajaei Shahr Prison in Karaj are forcing prisoners to endure poor living conditions. This includes limited visits and phone calls; lack of heat (including heated water) and deprivation from furlough.<sup>20</sup>

**8 FEBRUARY 2017:** Ardebil prison officials allegedly chained Abbas Alipur to a flagpole for two days in cold weather, after claiming the prisoner had smuggled drugs.<sup>21</sup>

**22 FEBRUARY 2017:** Evin Prison officials allegedly beat and psychologically tortured Hamza Darwish, a 23 year old Sunni prisoner who suffers from mental illness. He was chained and handcuffed to his bed, while being denied access to the bathroom.<sup>22</sup>

**15 MARCH 2017:** The Criminal Court of Gilan Province sentenced Mostafa Barari and Arah Shoa Shargh, editors of the Gilan NO and Gilan Novin, to 114 and 40 lashes respectively. They were charged with “ spreading lies and publishing without having permission”, after a member of parliament made a complaint about content posted on their website.<sup>23</sup>

**12 JUNE 2017:** Authorities reportedly sentenced and flogged 20 individuals who were caught eating or drinking in month of Ramadan during fasting hours.<sup>24</sup>

**PARAGRAPH 11:** Urges the Islamic Republic of Iran cease enforced disappearances and the **widespread and systematic use of arbitrary detention**, including the use of such practices to target dual and foreign nationals, and to uphold, in law and in practice, **procedural guarantees to ensure fair trial standards**, including timely access to legal representation of one’s choice from the time of arrest through all stages of trial and all appeals, the right to not be subjected to torture, cruel and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and consideration of bail and other reasonable terms for release from custody pending trial;

Iran continues to hold at least 700 prisoners of conscience. Most have been detained for exercising their rights to freedom of expression, association, assembly, and religion. These prisoners include journalists, lawyers, human rights defenders, artists, bloggers, aid workers, members of the political opposition, student activists, and ethnic and religious minority activists. Some political prisoners were unlawfully prosecuted. Trials, often conducted in closed revolutionary courts, regularly fail to meet international fair trial standards. Such failures often include, lack of access to lawyers or case files, being denied the right to make a defense, and trials lasting only minutes. Many detainees have reported being prosecuted solely on a confession they were forced to make under torture and ill-treatment.



**27 JANUARY 2017:** Authorities arrested Shahnaz Akmali without any given charge. Shahnaz is the mother of Mostafa Karimbeigi, who was shot and killed by security forces during Green Movement protests in 2009.<sup>25</sup>

**12 FEBRUARY 2017:** Saber Naderi, the CEO of Shahir Pouya Software, was transferred to the Central Prison of Sanandaj after 70 days in solitary confinement. He was detained by intelligence officials without any given charge.<sup>26</sup>



**19 FEBRUARY 2017:** Authorities reportedly arrested Leila Haghghatjou, without charges or access to a lawyer. Leila is the sister of former Reformist MP Fatemeh Haghghatjou. She was released on bail of 220 million tomans (\$68,000 USD).<sup>27</sup>

**21 FEBRUARY 2017:** Authorities reportedly detained political activist, Majid Asadi, without charges, holding him in solitary confinement for months and subjecting him to repeated interrogations.<sup>28</sup>

**22 FEBRUARY 2017:** Authorities arrested Payam Shakiba, a political science graduate student, placing him in solitary confinement at Evin Prison Ward 209. Shakiba has not had access to a lawyer and has not been charged.<sup>29</sup>



**22 FEBRUARY 2017:** Authorities blocked parole for imprisoned lawyer Abdolfattah Soltani who has been in prison over seven years for his human rights efforts.<sup>30</sup>

**9 MARCH 2017:** Authorities reportedly arrested Hengameh Shahidi, a reformist journalist and former aide to Mehdi Karroubi, on unknown charges. After serving more than 100 days in solitary confinement, she was released.<sup>31</sup>

**11 MARCH 2017:** The former editor-in-chief of a reformist newspaper, Eshan Mazandarani, was arbitrarily arrested violently and returned to Evin Prison less than one month after he was released. Police claim that he was freed by mistake while serving a two year term from July 2016.<sup>32</sup>



**19 JUNE 2017:** Authorities arrested a formerly imprisoned photojournalist, Asal Esmalizadeh, without charge. Esmalizadeh was once part of President Hassan Rouhani's media team.<sup>33</sup>

**17 JULY 2017:** Authorities sentenced Xiyue Wang, a Chinese-American student, to 10 years in prison on unspecified espionage charges. On 18 August 2017 a appeals court upheld his 10-year prison sentence.<sup>34</sup>

**24 JULY 2017:** Authorities arbitrarily sentence Kianoosh Sanjari, a blogger and human rights activist who was living in the United States, to 11 years in prison (only five of which shall be served) on the charge of "propaganda against the state" and "being a member of illegal groups". He was arrested in October of 2016 shortly after returning to Iran.<sup>35</sup>

**12 AUGUST 2017:** Authorities allegedly raided the reformist newspaper *Etemad*, arresting journalist, Sasan Aghaei, without a warrant. Previously Sasan spent 128 days in prison in 2009.<sup>36</sup>



**29 AUGUST 2017:** An appeals court upheld the 10 year prison sentence of Iranian- American citizens, Bagher and Babak Namazi. They were arrested on espionage charges in 2016.<sup>37</sup>

**17 SEPTEMBER 2017:** Authorities arrested Siyavash Hatam, a member of Etehad Melat political Party, taking him to Evin Prison under no formal charges.<sup>38</sup>

**PARAGRAPH 12:** *Calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the poor conditions of prisons, to **eliminate the denial of access to adequate medical treatment** and the consequent risk of death faced by prisoners and to put an end to the continued and sustained house arrest of leading opposition figures from the 2009 presidential elections despite serious concerns about their health, as well as the pressure exerted upon their relatives and dependents, including through arrest, and calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to establish credible and independent prison oversight authorities to investigate complaints of abuse,;*

Iranian authorities routinely deny prisoners access to medical care in detention, putting many prisoners at risk of serious permanent health problems and even death. Indeed, in some cases lack of medical treatment has led to or contributed to the death of detainees. Rights groups have documented a pattern in which authorities use denial of adequate medical care as a form of torture, coercion, or punishment against prisoners of conscience.



**4 DECEMBER 2016:** Authorities reportedly transferred imprisoned dissident cleric, Mohammad Reza Nekounam, from a hospital back to Salehi Prison, despite the insistence of doctors that he should remain under their care.<sup>39</sup>

**26 DECEMBER 2016:** Foad Yousefi, a Sunni prisoner who suffers from severe mental illness, began a hunger strike to protest authorities denying his medical furlough.<sup>40</sup>

**4 JANUARY 2017:** Authorities at Evin Prison allegedly blocked the transfer of political prisoner, Arash Sadeghi, to a hospital despite his need for urgent medical treatment. Sadeghi reportedly went on a 71-day hunger strike from October 2016 and until 3 January 2017 to protest the incarceration of his wife, activist Golrokh Irai.<sup>41</sup>

**12 JANUARY 2017:** Rajae Shahr Prison officials allegedly denied the urgent medical furlough request for political prisoner Mohammad Nazari, claiming the prison has “lost” pertinent files.<sup>42</sup>

**14 JANUARY 2017** Authorities allegedly deprived Navid Kamran, an imprisoned activist, of proper medical treatment despite recommendations from doctors. Kamran is in need of two surgery operations for injuries on his right leg and ankle.<sup>43</sup>



**18 JANUARY 2017:** According to reports, authorities have refused to transfer Kurdish filmmaker and political prisoner Kevyan Karimi from Evin Prison to a hospital for urgent medical care. <sup>44</sup>

**21 JANUARY 2017:** Authorities allegedly refused to provide medical care for Muhammad Esalari, who was imprisoned at Ward 12 of Tabriz Central Prison, resulting in his death. Esalari suffered from severe heart pain and was refused a transfer to the infirmary of the prison. <sup>45</sup>

**1 FEBRUARY 2017:** Authorities at Evin Prison have allegedly denied open heart surgery and urgent medical care to Sabri Hassanpour, an Iranian-Dutch dual national. <sup>46</sup>

**8 APRIL 2017:** Prison officials reportedly denied medical furlough to political prisoner Afshin Baymani after administrative procedures, including the deposit of bail, were already taken. <sup>47</sup>



**25 JULY 2017:** Bandar Abbas Prison officials reportedly denied hospitalization to Mohammad Ali Shamishirzan, a member of Iran's Gonabadi Sufi Order. He urgently needed treatment for heart disease that prison could not provide. <sup>48</sup>

**27 AUGUST 2017:** Journalist, Alireza Rajaei, undergoes operation to remove his right eye and part of his Jaw as a result of cancer that went untreated during his sentence at Evin Prison. Rajaei was arrested in April of 2011 under charges of “propaganda against the state” and was released in October of 2015. <sup>49</sup>

**9 SEPTEMBER 2017:** Authorities at Evin prison denied medical care to imprisoned American citizen, Nizar Zakka, who was arrested in September 2015 on unspecified espionage charges and sentenced to ten years in prison. <sup>50</sup>

**27 SEPTEMBER 2017:** Authorities reportedly denied a major operation for an imprisoned children’s rights activist, Atena Daemi, after demanding that the authorities fulfill their promise to allow her to receive the surgery without handcuffs. <sup>51</sup>

**PARAGRAPH 13:** Also calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the judicial and security branches, to create and maintain, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment in which an **independent, diverse and pluralistic civil society** can operate free from hindrance and insecurity; urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to end widespread and serious restrictions, in law and in practice, on the right to **freedom of expression, opinion, association and peaceful assembly**, both online and offline, including by ending harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents, human rights defenders, women’s and minority rights activists, labour leaders, students’ rights activists, academics, film-makers, journalists, bloggers, social media users and social media page administrators, media workers, religious leaders, artists, lawyers, and persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities and their families, and further calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to release persons arbitrarily detained for the legitimate exercise of these rights, to consider rescinding unduly harsh sentences, including the death penalty and long-term internal exile, for exercising such fundamental freedoms and to end reprisals against individuals, including for cooperating with the United Nations human rights mechanisms;

Iran places extensive restrictions and criminal sanctions on expression, association, labor union, and assembly. Censorship of speech, art, the internet, and media are common. Civil society groups, including human rights organizations and labour unions, are routinely shut down. Peaceful gatherings and protests are typically disrupted and met with force. Authorities make widespread use of arrests and detention to deter disfavored expression, association, and assembly.



**11 DECEMBER 2016:** Authorities reportedly arrested Omid Alishenas, a children’s rights activist, and transferred him to Evin Prison to begin a 7-year imprisonment sentence. He was released on bail 26 July 2017.<sup>52</sup>

**7 JANUARY 2017:** Officials at Evin Prison are allegedly holding Abdulaziz Azimi Ghadim and Ali Bagheri, two Turkish activists, who were arrested on 7 January 2017. Azimi is the administrator of a Telegram channel called "Rationality, Analysis, and Action" which provides a social commentary on issues of Azerbaijan.<sup>53</sup>

**14 JANUARY 2017:** Authorities reportedly began the trial of Homayoon Panahi, a Hamedani poet and philosophy researcher. Homayoon was sentenced to 6 years in prison after he had been detained since 28 October 2016 due to a gathering in Pasargad on Cyrus Day.<sup>54</sup>

**25 JANUARY 2017:** Rajai Shahr Prison officials in Karaj reportedly transferred Soheli Babadi, a prisoner of conscience, to Bandar Abbas to serve his sentence of two years of exile, after completing a five years prison sentence. Soheli was imprisoned under Blasphemy related charges for writing religious-themed, satirical posts on Facebook.<sup>55</sup>



**4 FEBRUARY 2017** Judge Moghise of a Revolutionary Court sentenced human rights defender Seyed Mohammad Ebrahimi to one year in prison for having contact with the UN Special Rapporteur, Ahmed Shaheed and families of other political prisoners, during his time in prison.<sup>56</sup>

**8 FEBRUARY 2017:** Security forces in Shiraz reportedly arrested three labor activists, Shabab Karim Aghaei, Jafar Pazhoheshpour, and Hossein Esmaili. Their whereabouts and current judicial status remains unknown.<sup>57</sup>

**22 MAY 2017:** Authorities reportedly arrested Javad Gashenas, a newly-elected reformist member of the Hamadan City Council, for allegedly insulting the prophet. He awaits trial and sentencing.<sup>58</sup>

**26 JULY 2017:** Authorities in Khuzestan Province reportedly detained at least 13 workers who had been protesting not being paid their salaries and insurance allowances by their employer. Eight workers were detained for four days without charge before they were released.<sup>59</sup>



**1 AUGUST 2017:** Prison officials allegedly moved Soheil Arabi, a political prisoner who is serving a seven-year sentence for his social media activism, to solitary confinement. No updates have been given on the duration or his condition.<sup>60</sup>

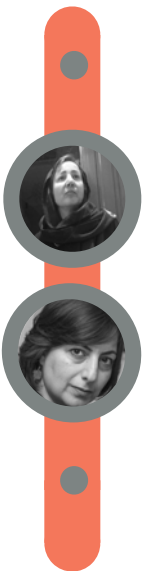
**8 AUGUST 2017:** Authorities reportedly arrested Reza Shahabi, a labor activist and board member of the Tehran Bus Workers Union for his workers rights efforts. Shahabi returned to prison after being released for two years.<sup>61</sup>



**21 AUGUST 2017:** Authorities arrested the reformist journalist Yaghma Fashkhami on charges of “acting against national security” for cooperating with overseas media. Officials also suspended his newspaper “Roozan”.<sup>62</sup>

**PARAGRAPH 14:** *Strongly urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against women and girls, including with respect to the right to freedom of movement, the right to enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and the right to work, to take measures to ensure protection for women and girls against violence, and their equal protection and access to justice, to address the concerning incidence of child, early and forced marriage, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to promote, support and enable women’s participation in leadership and decision-making processes and, while recognizing the high enrollment of women in all levels of education in the Islamic Republic of Iran, to lift restrictions on women’s equal access to all aspects of education and women’s equal participation in the labour market and in all aspects of economic, cultural, social and political life;*

Despite minor improvements under President Rouhani’s administration, such as the lifting of some gender-based quotas in universities, women in Iran remain subject to widespread and systematic discrimination in law and practice. Women, for instance, cannot work, attend university, or obtain a passport without the permission of a male guardian or husband. While women occupy about half of all university student slots, their economic participation in Iran is only 15.8%, four times lower than men, according to government figures. Personal status laws that accord women subordinate status to men in matters such as marriage, divorce, and inheritance remain in force. Iranian authorities have imposed a ban on female sports fans from attending public athletic events.

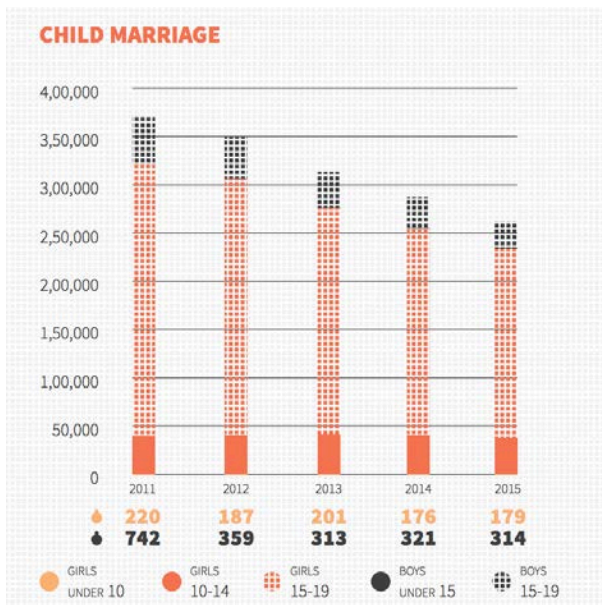


**30 MARCH 2017:** Iranian sports authorities reportedly banned Iranian female billiard players from participating in a competition in China for allegedly “violating the Islamic code of conduct”. Specific religious violations were not stated by officials.<sup>63</sup>

**11 JULY 2017:** President Hassan Rouhani has faced criticism and pressure from prominent Women's rights defender, Asieh Amini, for failing to appoint a single woman to his cabinet despite his presidential campaign promises.<sup>64</sup>

**14 August 2017:** According to reports, Aliye Motalebzadeh was sentenced to three years in prison for attending a seminar in Tbilisi, Georgia. Aliyeh was arrested on November 26, 2016 along with 20 other Iranian women activists.<sup>65</sup>

**5 September 2017:** Two hundred Iranian women with tickets to attend a World Cup Qualifier match between Iran and Syria are denied entry into Azadi Stadium. The Iranian Football Federation later announced that women were able to purchase tickets on their website due to a “technical mistake”.<sup>66</sup>



### Women’s Employment

	WOMEN	MEN	
	<b>15.9%</b>	<b>64.9%</b>	<b>Economic Participation</b>
	<b>21.9%</b>	<b>10.4%</b>	<b>Unemployment Rate</b>
	<b>33%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>Unemployment Rate / Bachelor’s Degree</b>
	<b>25%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>Unemployment Rate / Master’s Degree</b>
	<b>20%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>	<b>Unemployment Rate / PhD Degree</b>



**PARAGRAPH 15:** *Calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of **discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to ethnic, linguistic or other minorities**, including but not limited to Arabs, Azeris, Balochis, Kurds and Turkmen, and their defenders;*

Despite constitutional guarantees of equality, members of ethnic minorities—including Arabs, Baloch, Kurds, Azeri Turks, and Turkmen—continue to face a range of discriminatory laws and practices, affecting their access to basic services such as housing, clean water and sanitation, employment, and education. Authorities routinely detain activist promoting linguistic rights or environmental rights, human rights defenders, and journalists from ethnic minority communities that challenge discriminatory practices.

**16 JANUARY 2017:** Security forces reportedly arrested Iranian Arabs activists, Eisa Domnaey, Mojahed Zargani, and Naji Heydari, without any formal charges.<sup>67</sup>

**6 FEBRUARY 2017:** The Intelligence Office in Ahvaz reportedly arrested Amir Zargani, an Iranian Arab and active cultural/environmental activist, at his workplace and took him to an unknown location without any given charges.<sup>68</sup>

**8 FEBRUARY 2017:** Intelligence Ministry agents in the city of Ahwaz arrested Ali Kab-Aomair, a seventeen-year old ethnic Arab activist, without any formal charge and breaking his arm in the process. Kab-Aomair had recently protested air pollution as well as Iran's involvement in Syria. He has been held for months without access to a lawyer.<sup>69</sup>

**19 FEBRUARY 2017:** Authorities reportedly sentenced Azeri-Turkish Iranian human rights defenders, Akbar Azad, Alireza Farshi, Benham Sheikhi, and Hamid Manafi to prison terms between 10 and 15 years for organizing peaceful events around International Mother Language Day.<sup>70</sup>

**23 FEBRUARY 2017:** Intelligence Ministry agents reportedly arrested Farzaneh Jalali, an Iranian-Kurdish civil rights and women's rights activist, detaining her for nearly a month without any charges.<sup>71</sup>

**8 MARCH 2017:** A Revolutionary Court in Tehran reportedly sentenced Siamak Mirzaee, an Azeri Turk human rights and linguistic rights activist, to ten years imprisonment on charges of allegedly "forming an illegal group with the aim of disrupting the national security." The charges came after his participation in a peaceful protest on International Mother Language Day.<sup>72</sup>


**14 APRIL 2017:** Authorities have arrested Abbas Lesani, an Azeri Turk rights activist, after he advocated for state recognition of linguistic rights during a speech at his friend's wedding.<sup>73</sup>

**30 JUNE 2017:** Police attacked peaceful protesters with batons at the historical landmark Ghale Babak in East Azerbaijan Province and arrested 12 people, including an 11-year old boy. People gathered there to protest discrimination against Azeri Turks.<sup>74</sup>

**7 September 2017:** Government forces killed 3 Kolbar (border couriers from provinces of Kermanshah, Kurdistan and West Azerbaijan), in violation of Iran's domestic laws and international obligations. These reportedly unarmed couriers appear to have engaged in smuggling items such as tea and tobacco. High incidences of police shootings against unarmed civilians in the border areas of Sistan-Baluchistan province have also been reported.<sup>75</sup>

**PARAGRAPH 16:** Expresses serious concern about ongoing severe limitations and **restrictions on the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief**, restrictions on the establishment of places of worship, attacks against places of worship and burial and other human rights violations, including but not limited to harassment, intimidation, persecution, arbitrary arrests and detention, denial of access to education and incitement to hatred that leads to violence against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, including Christians, Jews, Sufi Muslims, Sunni Muslims, Yarsanis, Zoroastrians and members of the Baha'i faith and their defenders in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to release all religious practitioners imprisoned for their membership in or activities on behalf of a recognized or unrecognized minority religious group, including the seven Baha'i leaders members of the Baha'i leadership who were declared by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention of the Human Rights Council to have been arbitrarily detained since 2008, and to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination, including economic restrictions, such as the closure or confiscation of businesses and properties, the cancellation of licences and denial of employment in certain public and private sectors, including government or military positions and elected office, and other human rights violations against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, and to end impunity for those who commit crimes against persons belonging to religious minorities;

Religious minorities continue to face violations of their rights, both in law and practice. In particular, followers of the Baha'i Faith, Muslim minorities groups, Christian converts and Yarsan Religion are systematically deprived of a range of rights including access to a university education, state employment, and business licenses. They are prevented from holding religious gatherings. Active members of these groups face imprisonment and other forms of harassment.



**15 JANUARY 2017:** An Appeals Court in Tehran upheld the five-year prison sentence of Christian convert Ebrahim Firoozi for his alleged proselytizing.<sup>76</sup>

**23 JANUARY 2017:** University of Mashhad officials reportedly expelled a Baha'i engineering student, Sogol Kazemi Bahnamiri, denying her the ability to take final exams and graduate.<sup>77</sup>

**26 JANUARY 2017:** Islamic Azad University of Roudehen reportedly expelled 15 Baha'i students in December 2016 and January 2017.<sup>78</sup>

**11 FEBRUARY 2017:** Authorities reportedly held Hadi Asgari, at Evin Prison for five months without proceedings or trial. The detention was due to her attending a Christian house church last August.<sup>79</sup>

**20 FEBRUARY 2017:** The Revolutionary Guards in Orumiyeh, West Azerbaijan Province reportedly arrested Anoohe Rezabakhsh and her son Sohail Zargarzadeh. Their arrest was linked to their conversion to Christianity.<sup>80</sup>

**13 June 2017:** A court releases the two murderers of Farhang Amiri, a Baha'i who was stabbed to death, on bail after having confessed to killing him because of his faith. Amiri was attacked outside of his home in September of 2016 in the city of Yazd.<sup>81</sup>

**6 JULY 2017:** A Revolutionary Court has sentenced three Azerbaijani nationals, Yusif Farhadov, Eldar Gurbanov and Bahram Nasibov, as well as Iranian Nasser Navard Goltapeh to ten years in prison. Their sentence was linked to a reception they attended, hosted by Christian friends. The Azeris have since been released on bail and returned to Azerbaijan.<sup>82</sup>

**22 JULY 2017:** Officials have reportedly blocked websites belonging to the Gonabadi Sufi Order. The sites contain speeches by the group's leader, Nour Ali Tabandeh, as well as articles on mysticism.<sup>83</sup>

**17 AUGUST 2017:** Officials have reportedly beaten and arrested thirteen Sunni Arabs for praying in public in Ahvaz, Khuzrstan provinc.<sup>84</sup>

**25 SEPTEMBER 2017:** At least 100 Baha'i students who satisfactorily completed their university entrance exam were reportedly excluded from admission.<sup>85</sup>

## Sources:

- <sup>1</sup> Isana news agency. (15 April 2017). <http://www.isna.ir/news/96012611072/>
- <sup>2</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Prominent Political Activist Continues Fight for Gender Equality in Iran's 2017 Presidential Election, (18 April 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/04/prominent-political-activist-continues-fight-for-gender-equality-in-irans-2017-presidential-election/>
- <sup>3</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Most Yarsani Religious Minority Candidates Disqualified From Iran's 2017 Councils Elections, (18 May 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/05/most-yarsani-religious-minority-candidates-disqualified-from-irans-2017-councils-elections/>
- <sup>4</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Top Reformist Campaign Staff Member Arrested in Front of Children Without Warrant, (1 June 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/06/top-reformist-campaign-staff-member-arrested-in-front-of-children-without-warrant/>
- <sup>5</sup> Special rapporteur report. (14 August 2017). p. 23.
- <sup>6</sup> Article 19, Death sentence imposed on Sina Dehghan is an affront to Iran's own criminal code (29 March 2017) <https://www.article19.org/resources.php/resource/38694/en/iran:-death-sentence-imposed-on-sina-dehghan-is-an-affront-to-iran%E2%80%99s-own-criminal-code>.
- <sup>7</sup> Iran Human Rights, Iran: Seven Prisoners Executed on Drug Charges, (4 January 2017)- <https://iranhr.net/en/articles/2749/>
- <sup>8</sup> Iran Human Rights, Iran: 26 Prisoners Including Two Women Hanged, (15 January 2017)- <https://iranhr.net/en/articles/2762/>
- <sup>9</sup> Report of the Special Rapporteur, (14 August 2017) . P.13.
- <sup>10</sup> Iran Human Rights, Iran: Prisoner Hanged on Drug Charges, (22 April 2017)- <https://iranhr.net/en/articles/2851/>
- <sup>11</sup> Amnesty International, Execution of man arrested at 16 exposes Iran's disregard for child rights, (25 May 2017)- <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2017/05/execution-of-man-arrested-at-16-exposes-irans-disregard-for-child-rights/>
- <sup>12</sup> The Baluch Campaign. (15 January 2017). <http://www.baluchcampaign.info/?p=11750>
- <sup>13</sup> Iran Human Rights, Iran: Three People Including Afghan Citizen Executed on Drug Charges, (25 July 2017)- <https://iranhr.net/en/articles/2983/>
- <sup>14</sup> Abdolrahman Boroumand Foundation, UN Special Rapporteur: Execution of Alleged Juvenile Offender Alireza Tajiki "Truly Shocking", (8 August 2017), <http://blog.iranrights.org/un-special-rapporteur-execution-of-alleged-juvenile-offender-alireza-tajiki-truly-shocking/>
- <sup>15</sup> Islamic consultive assembly news agency.( 14 August 2017). <http://www.icana.ir/Fa/News/344360/>
- <sup>16</sup> Abdolrahman Boroumand Foundation, Revolutionary Court Sentenced Spiritual Teacher Mohammad Ali Taheri to Death, (27 August 2017)- <https://www.iranrights.org/library/document/3226>
- <sup>17</sup> Iran Human rights. (14 September 2017). <https://iranhr.net/fa/articles/3057/>
- <sup>18</sup> Iran Human rights. (25 September 2017). <https://iranhr.net/fa/articles/3076/>
- <sup>19</sup> HRANA (Human Rights Activists News Agency), Behnam Mosivand Returned to Prison by the End of His Furlough, (4 February 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/behnam-mosivand-returned-prison-end-furlough>
- <sup>20</sup> HRANA, Concerns Rise about Putting New Pressure on Sunni Prisoners, (14 January 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/concerns-rise-putting-new-pressure-sunni-prisoners>
- <sup>21</sup> HRANA, A Prisoner Chained to the Flagpole in the Yard of Ardebil Prison, (11 May 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/prisoner-chained-flagpole-yard-ardebil-prison>
- <sup>22</sup> HRANA, A Sunni Prisoner Beaten Severely in the Hospital, (25 February 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/sunni-prisoner-beaten-severely-hospital>
- <sup>23</sup> HRANA, 2 Journalists Sentenced to Lashes in Gilan Province, (15 March 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/2-journalists-sentenced-lashes-gilan-province>
- <sup>24</sup> Iran Human Rights, Iran: 20 people lashed for eating or drinking during Ramadan fasting hours, (12 June 2017)- <https://iranhr.net/en/articles/2909/>
- <sup>25</sup> United for Iran, Iran Prison Atlas: Shahnaz Akmali - <https://ipa.united4iran.org/en/prisoner/3191/>
- <sup>26</sup> Kurdistan human rights network. ( 28 January 2017). <http://kurdistanhumanrights.net/fa/?p=2362>
- <sup>27</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Revolutionary Guards Try to Silence US-Based Iranian Dissident by Arresting Her Sister, (15 February 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/02/irgc-arrest-leila-haghighatjou/>
- <sup>28</sup> United For Iran, Iran Prison Atlas: Majid Asadi- <https://ipa.united4iran.org/en/prisoner/1037/>
- <sup>29</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Student Arrested by Intelligence Ministry Held in Solitary Confinement Without Charge, (24 April 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/04/student-arrested-by-intelligence-ministry-held-in-solitary-confinement-without-charge/>
- <sup>30</sup> United for Iran, Iran Prison Atlas: Abdolfattah Soltani - <https://ipa.united4iran.org/en/prisoner/775/>

- <sup>31</sup> Amnesty International, Iran: Fears grow for health of jailed journalist on hunger strike, (7 April 2017)- <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2017/04/iran-fears-grow-for-health-of-jailed-journalist-on-hunger-strike/>
- <sup>32</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, IRGC Violently Arrests Reformist Editor One Month After Release From Evin Prison, (14 March 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/03/irgc-violently-arrests-reformist-editor-one-month-after-release-from-evin-prison/>
- <sup>33</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Photojournalist Who Worked for Rouhani's Presidential Campaign Arrested Without Charge, (22 June 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/06/photojournalist-who-worked-for-rouhanis-presidential-campaign-arrested-without-charge/>
- <sup>34</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Details of US Student's 10-Year Sentence in Iran Reveal Yet Another Arbitrary Prosecution of a Western National, (17 July 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/07/us-student-10-year-sentence-in-iran/>
- <sup>35</sup> HRANA, (24 July 2017)- <https://www.hra-news.org/2017/hranews/a-11630/>.
- <sup>36</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Editor of Prominent Iranian Reformist Newspaper Etamad Arrested for Fourth Time, (16 August 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/08/editor-of-prominent-iranian-reformist-newspaper-etamad-arrested-for-fourth-time/>
- <sup>37</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Namazis Lose Appeal Against 10-Year Prison Sentence. (29 August 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/08/namazis-lose-appeal-against-10-year-prison-sentence/>
- <sup>38</sup> Saham News agency. (17 September 2017). <http://sahamnews.org/2017/09/307716/>
- <sup>39</sup> Amnesty International, Iran: Dissident Iranian Cleric in need of medical care, (20 January 2017)- <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde13/5530/2017/en/>
- <sup>40</sup> HRANA, Foad Yousefi in a Critical Health Condition in Rajaei Shahr Prison, (28 January 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/foad-yousefi-critical-health-condition-rajaei-shahr-prison>
- <sup>41</sup> Amnesty International, Iran's authorities endangering life of critically ill imprisoned activist by refusing hospital transfer, (4 January 2017)- <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2017/01/irans-authorities-endangering-life-of-critically-ill-imprisoned-activist-by-refusing-hospital-transfer/>
- <sup>42</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Judiciary Cites "Lost" Case Files in Denying Man Imprisoned for 23 Years Medical Care, (18 January 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/01/mohammad-nazari-271-month-imprisonment/>
- <sup>43</sup> HRANA, Navid Kamran Deprived of Proper Medical Treatment in Evin Prison, (14 January 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/navid-kamran-deprived-proper-medical-treatment-evin-prison>
- <sup>44</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Award-Winning Kurdish filmmaker denied urgent hospitalization by Evin prison authorities, (19 January 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/01/keyvan-karimi-filmmaker-hospitalization/>
- <sup>45</sup> HRANA, One prisoner died in Tabriz prison/ Habib Sasanian in critical health condition, (21 January 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/tag/muhammad-esalari>
- <sup>46</sup> Amnesty International, Iran: Dutch-Iranian prisoner denied heart surgery: Sabri Hassanpour, (28 April 2017)- <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde13/6153/2017/en/>
- <sup>47</sup> HRANA, Afshin Baymani Deprived of Medical Furlough Despite Critical Condition, (8 April 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/afshin-baymani-deprived-medical-furlough-despite-critical-condition>
- <sup>48</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Sufi Devotee With Heart Disease Denied "Urgent" Medical Care in Bandar Abbas Prison, (25 July 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/07/sufi-devotee-with-heart-disease-denied-urgent-medical-care-in-bandar-abbas-prison/>
- <sup>49</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran . Journalist Loses Eye and Part of His Face to Cancer Untreated While in Prison. (4 September 2017). <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/09/journalist-loses-eye-and-part-of-his-face-to-cancer-untreated-while-in-prison/>.
- <sup>50</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran. "Evin Prison Director Accused of Denying Outside Medical Care For Imprisoned US Resident Nizar Zakka" (9 September 2017). <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/09/evin-prison-director-accused-of-denying-outside-medical-care-for-imprisoned-us-resident-nizar-zakka/>
- <sup>51</sup> Hrana News agency (25 September 2017). <https://www.hra-news.org/2017/hranews/a-12552/>
- <sup>52</sup> Amnesty International, Iran: Further Information: Imprisoned Iranian must be released: Omid Alishenas, (23 June 2017)- <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde13/6560/2017/en/>
- <sup>53</sup> "Report on the situation of Iranian Azerbaijanis regarding human rights". AHRAZ. (10 October 2017). <http://www.ahraz.org/report-on-the-situation-of-iranian-azerbaijanis-regarding-human-rights-7> .
- <sup>54</sup> HRANA, Homayoon Panahi Still Under Detention in Shiraz, (14 January 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/homayoon-panahi-still-detention-shiraz>
- <sup>55</sup> HRANA, Soheil Babadi Released from Prison and Sent to Exile, (26 March 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/soheil-babadi-released-prison-sent-exile>
- <sup>56</sup> HRANA, Seyed Mohammad Ebrahimi Sentenced to 1 Year Imprisonment, (4 February 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/seyed-mohammad-ebrahimi-sentenced-1-year-imprisonment>
- <sup>57</sup> HRANA, 3 Workers Arrested in Shiraz, (17 April 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/3-workers-arrested-shiraz>

- <sup>58</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Newly Elected Reformist Council Member Arrested For Calling Prophet Mohammad “Secular”, (25 May 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/05/newly-elected-reformist-council-member-arrested-for-calling-prophet-mohammad-secular/>
- <sup>59</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Iranian Sugar Plant Workers Detained Without Bail After Protesting Unpaid Wages and Benefits, (31 July 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/07/iranian-sugar-plant-workers-detained-without-bail-after-protesting-unpaid-wages-and-benefits/>
- <sup>60</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Political Prisoner in Solitary Confinement for Hunger Striking Against Wife’s Detention, (4 August 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/08/political-prisoner-in-solitary-confinement-for-hunger-striking-against-wifes-detention/>
- <sup>61</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Prominent Labor Activist Returns to Prison After Medical Leave “Unapproved” by Prosecutor, (9 August 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/08/prominent-labor-activist-returns-to-prison-after-medical-leave-unapproved-by-prosecutor/>
- <sup>62</sup> Human Rights Watch, Iran: Free Unjustly Held Journalists, (12 September 2017)- <https://www.hrw.org/news/2017/09/12/iran-free-unjustly-held-journalists>
- <sup>63</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Iranian Female Billiard Players Banned From Competing for Alleged “Un-Islamic Conduct”, (4 April 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/04/iranian-female-billiard-players-banned-from-competing-for-alleged-un-islamic-conduct/>
- <sup>64</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Rights Activists Urge Rouhani to Nominate Women to His Cabinet, (11 July 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/07/rights-activists-urge-rouhani-to-nominate-women-to-his-cabinet/>
- <sup>65</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Iranian Women’s Rights Activist to Serve Three Years in Prison For Attending Seminar, (17 August 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/08/iranian-womens-rights-activist-to-serve-three-years-in-prison-for-attending-seminar/>
- <sup>66</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/09/iranian-women-banned-from-world-cup-stadium-game-while-female-syrian-fans-allowed-entry/>, (6 September 2017) - <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/09/iranian-women-banned-from-world-cup-stadium-game-while-female-syrian-fans-allowed-entry/> .
- <sup>67</sup> HRANA, 3 Arab Activists Arrested in Ahvaz, (6 March 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/3-arab-activists-arrested-ahvaz>
- <sup>68</sup> HRANA, An Arab Activist Arrested in Ahvaz, (5 April 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/arab-activist-arrested-ahvaz-2>
- <sup>69</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Intelligence Ministry Violently Arrests Teenage Ethnic Arab Activist in Khuzestan, (15 February 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/02/intelligence-ministry-violently-arrests-teenage-ethnic-arab-activist-in-khuzestan/>
- <sup>70</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>71</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Iranian-Kurdish Activist Lured to Government Office and Arrested by Intelligence Ministry, (1 March 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/03/farzaneh-jalali-womens-right-activist-arrested/>
- <sup>72</sup> Association for the human rights of the Azerbaijani people in Iran, Turk civil right activist on hunger strike in Iran, (24 June 2017)- <http://www.ahrz.org/693-2/>
- <sup>73</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>74</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>75</sup> Shargh news agency. (7 September 2017). <http://www.sharghdaily.ir/News/140639/>
- <sup>76</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Five-Year Prison Sentence Upheld Against Christian Convert for Missionary Activities, (29 March, 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/03/five-year-prison-sentence-upheld-against-christian-convert-for-missionary-activities/>
- <sup>77</sup> HRANA, A Baha’i Student Expelled from the University, (19 March 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/bahai-student-expelled-university>
- <sup>78</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Iranian University Conceals Evidence of Expelling Baha’i Students for Religious Beliefs, (26 January 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/01/bahai-deprived-of-education/>
- <sup>79</sup> HRANA, 3 Prisoners Ended Their Hunger Strikes in Evin Prison, (26 April 2017)- <https://www.en-hrana.org/3-prisoners-ended-hunger-strikes-evin-prison>
- <sup>80</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Iranian Catholic Converts Arrested in Northwestern Iran, (6 March 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/03/iranian-catholic-converts-arrested-in-northwestern-iran/>
- <sup>81</sup> Baha’i International Community, Murderers of a Baha’i Released on Bail, (13 June 2017)- <https://www.bic.org/news/murderers-bahai-released-bail>
- <sup>82</sup> Center for Human Rights in Iran, Four Christian Converts Sentenced to 10 Years Imprisonment in Trial Lacking Due Process, (6 July, 2017)- <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/07/four-christian-converts-sentenced-to-10-years-imprisonment-in-iran-in-trial-lacking-due-process/>
- <sup>83</sup> Majzooban Noor new Agency. (9 July 2017). <https://www.majzooban.org/fa/index.php/2016-01-06-22-22-54/15772-2017-07-10-12-13-00> .
- <sup>84</sup> Center for Human right in Iran, Sunni Arabs Beaten and Arrested in Iran For Praying in Public. ( 17 August 2017). <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/08/sunni-arabs-beaten-and-arrested-in-iran-for-praying-in-public/>
- <sup>85</sup> Center for Human right in Iran. Iranian Baha’i Students Offered University Enrollment in Exchange For Renouncing Their Faith. ( 25 September 2017). <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/09/iranian-bahai-students-offered-university-enrollment-in-exchange-for-renouncing-their-faith/>