



Iran Human Rights Update: 2025 Year-in-Review

The human rights situation in Iran has reached a "point of no return" in 2025, characterized by an unprecedented surge in executions and a systematic crackdown on the legal profession. Authorities have utilized the death penalty at a scale not seen in decades to suppress domestic dissent amid regional tensions.

2025 Statistical Snapshot

The following figures represent documented cases; actual numbers are likely higher due to government opacity.

CATEGORY	STATISTICS IN 2025
TOTAL EXECUTIONS	Over 2,000 (Highest in over 15 years)
EXECUTIONS OF WOMEN	60+
JUVENILE OFFENDERS EXECUTED	At least 6
MONTHLY PEAK	336 executions in November alone

Human Rights Defenders & Lawyers

A defining feature of 2025 has been the direct targeting of the legal community. Lawyers who represent political prisoners or human rights activists are increasingly treated as "enemies of the state". Lawyers are frequently charged with "spreading propaganda" or "assembly and collusion" simply for performing their professional duties.

The Case of Khosro Alikordi: A prominent human rights lawyer who defended "Woman, Life, Freedom" protesters, Alikordi was found dead in his office on **December 5, 2025**. While authorities claimed a "heart attack," over 80 Iranian lawyers signed a statement demanding transparency, citing the suspicious removal of 16 CCTV cameras. On December 12, 2025, security forces raided a memorial for Alikordi in Mashhad. Over **50 people** were arrested, including **Javad Alikordi** (Human rights lawyer and brother of the deceased), **Narges Mohammadi** (2023 Nobel Peace Prize laureate), **Sepideh Gholian** (Iranian labor rights activist), **Pouran Nazemi** (civil and women’s rights activist).

Victories of Resilience: 2025 Human Rights Achievements

Although the rate of executions remains alarmingly high and people are arrested daily by the Islamic regime in Iran, these developments demonstrate the power of global solidarity and, above all, the resistance of political prisoners. We thank everyone who has helped make these achievements possible.

Honorary Citizenship for Political Prisoners

Several Italian cities took a stand this year, granting honorary citizenship to Iranian women facing the harshest sentences. This acts as a protective diplomatic shield and raises global awareness.

Date	City	Recipient(s)
April 2025	Florence	Pakhshan Azizi (Humanitarian worker)
August 2025	Fabriano	Pakhshan Azizi, Sharifeh Mohammadi, Vrishe Moradi
December 1, 2025	Poggibonsi	Vrishe Moradi (Ceremony led by Mayor Susanna Cenni)

Judicial Breakthroughs: Rescuing Lives from Death Row

Through sustained legal advocacy and the pressure generated by international campaigns, two high-profile death sentences were successfully challenged:

- Vrishe Moradi (December 11, 2025): The Supreme Court voided her death sentence; her legal team is now fighting for a permanent stay.
- Sharifeh Mohammadi (October 29, 2025): Her death sentence was commuted to 30 years, removing the immediate threat of execution.

The "No to Execution Tuesdays" Movement

Since February 2024, political prisoners across 55 prisons in Iran have continued weekly hunger strikes every Tuesday as part of the "No to Execution Tuesdays" movement. Despite severe repression, their collective resistance remains strong.

 We wish you all the best in the year 2026 and hope that you will continue your support for the release of political prisoners and the end of executions in Iran.  

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