

Die in Prison or Die by Execution During War

The Islamic Regime in Iran Left Political Prisoners With No Escape During War



Campaign to Free Political Prisoners in Iran
July 2026



- Title:** **Die in Prison or Die by Execution During War**
The Islamic Regime in Iran Left Political Prisoners With No Escape During War
- Produced by:** **Campaign to Free Political Prisoners in Iran (CFPPI)**
- Document Editor:** **Vöglein Hellaly**
Independent
- Cover Art:** **Ali Garousi**
Independent
- For more information, please contact:** **Shiva Mahbobi**
Spokeswoman
Campaign to Free Political Prisoners in Iran (CFPPI)
Tel: +447572356661
shiva.mahbobi@gmail.com
www.cfppi.org
- Report No.** CFPPI/DieInPrisonOrDieByExecution/072026
- How to cite this report:** Campaign to Free Political Prisoners in Iran. (2026). *Die in Prison or Die by Execution During War: The Islamic Regime in Iran Left Political Prisoners with No Escape During War*. Report No. CFPPI/DieInPrisonOrDieByExecution/072026). <https://cfppi.org>

Table of Contents

	I
INTRODUCTION	1
REPORTED CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS AT DETENTION FACILITIES	3
ADELABAD PRISON, SHIRAZ, FARS PROVINCE	3
1 March 2026	3
AHAR PRISON, CITY OF AHAR SARAB PRISON, CITY OF SARAB EAST AZERBAIJAN	3
11 March 2026	3
CHABAHAR PRISON, BALOCHESTAN, SISTAN AND BALOCHESTAN	4
17 March 2026	4
<i>The prisoners reportedly demanded</i>	4
DASTGERD PRISON, ISFAHAN, ISFAHAN PROVINCE	4
<i>Date Unknown</i>	4
<i>Key concerns reported</i>	4
EVIN PRISON, TEHRAN, TEHRAN PROVINCE	5
2 March 2026 — Ward 209	5
2 March 2026 — Broader prison conditions	5
5 March 2026 — Women’s Ward and Ward 7	5
12 April 2026 — Ward 7 conditions	5
<i>Conditions reported specifically in Ward 7 included</i>	6
<i>First Week of March 2026 — Wartime Ward Lockdown and NOPO presence</i>	6
GREATER TEHRAN CENTRAL PENITENTIARY (FASHAFOUYEH), TEHRAN, TEHRAN PROVINCE	7
2 March 2026	7
14 March 2026	7
20 March 2026	7
KACHUI PRISON (FARDIS), KARAJ, NEAR AN OIL DEPOT, ALBORZ PROVINCE	8
<i>First Week of March 2026</i>	8
MAHABAD PRISON AND MIANDOAB PRISON, MAHABAD AND MIANDOAB, WEST AZERBAIJAN	9
2 March 2026 — Mahabad Prison	9
4 March 2026 — transfer from Mahabad Prison to Miandoab Prison	9
SHAHRAMFAR DETENTION FACILITY, SANANDAJ, KURDISTAN	10
9 March 2026	10
SHEIBAN PRISON, AHVAZ, KHUZESTAN	10
8 April 2026	10
<i>Key concerns reported</i>	10
OTHER REPORTS ABOUT CURRENT PRISON CONDITIONS	11
2 April 2026	11
REPEATED PATTERNS OF ABUSE, TORTURE AND NEGLECT ACROSS PRISON FACILITIES	12
PRISONERS TRAPPED DURING BOMBINGS, EXPLOSIONS, FIRES, AND THE ESCALATION OF INTERNATIONAL MILITARY CONFLICT	12
RISK OF PRISONERS BEING USED AS HUMAN SHIELDS	12
STARVATION, FOOD DEPRIVATION, AND SHORTAGES OF BASIC NECESSITIES	12
DENIAL OF MEDICAL CARE AND MEDICATION	13
FORCED TRANSFERS AND DISAPPEARANCES	13
EXECUTIONS, DEATH SENTENCES, AND THREATS OF EXECUTION	13

STATEMENTS AND THREATS BY REGIME REPRESENTATIVES AND INSTITUTIONS	14
<i>4 March 2026 — Judiciary Chief Gholam-Hossein Mohseni-Eje'i</i>	14
<i>8 March 2026 — Prosecutor General's Office</i>	14
<i>10 March 2026 — Police Chief Ahmadreza Radan</i>	14
CONTINUED DETERIORATION OF CONDITIONS AFTER THE CEASEFIRE	15
URGENT APPEAL FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO ACT	16
APPENDIX A: MAY 2026 REPORT ON SCABIES OUTBREAK IN GREATER TEHRAN CENTRAL PENITENTIARY	17

Introduction

This report presents information compiled by the Campaign to Free Political Prisoners in Iran (CFPPI) on the deterioration of conditions for political prisoners and other detainees across Iran during the wartime crisis from February to April 2026. The conflict unfolded amid an already severe detention crisis following the January 2026 massacre. At the time, prisons were overcrowded, detainees were held in undisclosed locations, injured protesters were denied adequate medical treatment, and countless families were searching for missing loved ones. Against this backdrop of dire prison conditions, detainees faced heightened risks during the wartime emergency. During this period, CFPPI also documented an increase in the execution of political prisoners, including cases in which prisoners were executed on the fabricated charge of “spying for Israel.”

The report is organized by detention facility or affected locality, with incidents arranged chronologically within each section to document both the conditions reported at specific sites and the broader pattern of risk facing prisoners nationwide. Since the January 2026 massacre, the regime has cut or severely limited prisoners’ telephone access, restricting communication between detainees, their families, and the outside world. As a result, the information presented in this report likely represents only a fraction of abuses and dangers currently facing prisoners across Iran.

The information presented raises grave concerns about the treatment and suffering of detainees in the context of armed conflict and intensified state repression. Reports describe prison lockdowns, forced transfers, denial of family contact, severe shortages of food and medicine, overcrowding, threats of execution, ongoing executions, and the possible use of prisoners as human shields. According to reports verified by CFPPI, in several facilities, prisoners have been locked inside wards, confined behind welded doors or heavy locks, exposed to nearby explosions, fires, toxic smoke, or military activity, and left without effective means of evacuation, shelter, medical care, or protection.

As documented here, these are not isolated incidents. Similar patterns have been reported across multiple prisons and cities throughout Iran, including:

- Adelabad Prison, Shiraz, Fars province
- Ahar Prison, city of Ahar; Sarab Prison, Sarab, East Azerbaijan
- Chabahar Prison, Balochestan, Sistan and Balochestan province
- Dastgerd Prison, Isfahan, Isfahan province
- Evin Prison, Tehran, Tehran province
- Greater Tehran Central Penitentiary (Fashafouyeh), Tehran, Tehran province
- Kachui Prison (also referred to as Fadis), Karaj, Alborz province
- Mahabad Prison, Mahabad, West Azerbaijan
- Miandoab, Miandoab, Miandoab, West Azerbaijan,
- Shahramfar Detention Centre, Sanandaj, Kurdistan province
- Sheiban Prison, Ahvaz, Khuzestan province

Taken together, these incidents indicate a serious and escalating threat to the lives, health, and fundamental rights of prisoners and detainees.

The report also documents statements by officials, judicial authorities, police commanders, and state media representatives of the Islamic Republic. These statements include explicit threats against protesters, dissidents, political prisoners, family members, and Iranians abroad, and are relevant to assessing the broader climate of intimidation, coercion, and repression in which the reported prison conditions have occurred.

Die in Prison or Die by Execution During War

CFPPI submits that all prisoners and detainees must be protected under international human rights law and, where applicable, international humanitarian law. Under the Fourth Geneva Convention, protected persons, including civilians and detainees who fall within its scope, are entitled to protection during armed conflict, including protection from torture, inhuman treatment, collective punishment, measures of intimidation, unlawful transfer or confinement, and use as human shields. The convention also prohibits detaining protected persons in areas particularly exposed to dangers of war, except where narrowly justified by the security of the population or imperative military reasons. (See Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, arts. 27, 28, 32, 33, 49, 147, Aug. 12, 1949, 75 U.N.T.S. 287).

Accordingly, armed conflict cannot be invoked to justify enforced disappearance, starvation, denial of medical care, torture, execution, or the deliberate exposure of detainees to military danger. The information compiled in this report warrants urgent international scrutiny, independent investigation, and immediate action to prevent further harm; establish the whereabouts, status, and safety of transferred prisoners; and ensure the immediate release and protection of all political prisoners in Iran.

Reported Conditions and Incidents at Detention Facilities

Adelabad Prison, Shiraz, Fars province

1 March 2026

Prisoners at Adelabad Prison in Shiraz reportedly staged a protest on the evening of 1 March 2026, expressing fear for their lives and demanding transfer to a safe shelter. Following the protest, anti-riot forces allegedly stormed the prison, violently beat inmates, and confined many to solitary cells in basement sections described as inhumane and unsanitary. These basement sections are reportedly also used to hold prisoners prior to execution.

Key concerns reported

- Violent suppression of prisoners who demanded safety during wartime conditions.
- Transfer of prisoners to solitary confinement cells in the basement.
- Use of areas reportedly associated with pre-execution detention as holding areas.
- Heightened risk of torture, ill-treatment, and executions under conditions of war and communication blackout.

Ahar Prison, city of Ahar Sarab Prison, city of Sarab East Azerbaijan

11 March 2026

Amid the ongoing war and its consequences in various regions of Iran, conditions in Ahar Prison had worsened.

Local sources reported that, following the bombing of Sarab Prison in the early days of the war, all prisoners and staff from Sarab Prison were transferred to Ahar Prison.

Key concerns reported

- Severe overcrowding caused by emergency transfer.
- Inadequate resources for the enlarged prison population.
- Increased risk of illness, violence, lack of sanitation, and denial of basic needs.

Chabahar Prison, Balochestan, Sistan and Balochestan

17 March 2026

In the early hours of 17 March 2026, following a protest by prisoners in Chabahar Prison over several days of food ration cuts, security forces and special units reportedly entered the prison and opened fire on protesters.

According to the report, dozens of Baloch prisoners were injured, and some were killed. The protests had begun on Tuesday night in response to the complete cessation of food and poor detention conditions.

The prisoners reportedly demanded

- Provision of food.
- Transfer to safer prisons.
- Clarification of their legal status.

The injured were reportedly transferred to Imam Ali Hospital in Chabahar, and the bodies of some of the deceased were reportedly moved to the morgue. The exact number of victims and their identities remained unknown, and official authorities had not responded at the time of the report.

Source noted in the supplied material: Haalvash.

Key concerns reported

- Live fire was used against protesting prisoners.
- Dozens reportedly killed or injured.
- Protest triggered by food deprivation and poor detention conditions.
- Lack of official transparency regarding casualties and identities.
- Acute danger to Baloch prisoners.



Dastgerd Prison, Isfahan, Isfahan province

Date Unknown

Political prisoners and newly detained individuals from Dastgerd Prison in Isfahan had reportedly been transported by bus to unknown destinations. No exact transfer date was provided in the supplied material. (Report received by CFPPI on 1 March 2026).

Key concerns reported

- Transfer of political prisoners and newly detained individuals to unknown sites.
- Lack of family or lawyer notification.
- Risk of enforced disappearance.
- Possible transfer to IRGC-controlled or military-linked locations.



Evin Prison, Tehran, Tehran province

2 March 2026 — Ward 209

Political prisoners held in Ward 209 of Evin Prison were transferred on March 2, 2026, to undisclosed locations. Families and lawyers were reportedly not informed of their whereabouts, raising urgent concerns of enforced disappearance.

Additional information from a sister of a political prisoner and other informed sources indicated increased pressure and restrictions on prisoners in Ward 209.

Key concerns reported regarding Ward 209

- Possible enforced disappearance.
- Lack of transparency regarding prisoner location and legal status.
- Heightened risk of torture, coercive interrogation, and other mistreatment.
- Increased interrogation pressure.
- Lack of transparency regarding detainees' health and safety.
- Growing concerns regarding access to lawyers, family contact, and medical care.
- Need for immediate confirmation of detainees' status and access to basic rights.

2 March 2026 — Broader prison conditions

Reports from Evin Prison indicated that the situation had reached a critical stage. Prison management was reportedly severely disrupted. Staff reportedly locked doors and evacuated some wards, disrupting prisoners' access to the prison store and essential supplies.

5 March 2026 — Women's Ward and Ward 7

In the women's ward and Ward 7 of Evin Prison, food distribution was reportedly stopped, with only limited amounts of bread provided to prisoners.

Other reports described the following conditions. Doors to prison wards were locked. Prisoners are effectively trapped inside without any means to defend themselves. In Ward 7, a notoriously overcrowded area of Evin prison, all doors were closed while prisoners remained in highly anxious conditions. And serious concerns have been raised about sudden transfers of inmates.

12 April 2026 — Ward 7 conditions

Reports received from Evin Prison, particularly Ward 7, indicated intensified security pressure and significant deterioration in prisoners' living conditions. At the same time as rising regional tensions and a wartime atmosphere, control and surveillance over inmates reportedly increased, and the prison environment took on a fully securitized character.

Conditions reported specifically in Ward 7 included

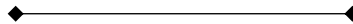
- Strict limitations on prisoner movement.
- Ward halls locked for most hours of the day and night.
- Conditions resembling enforced quarantine inside the ward.
- Reduced physical activity and increased psychological pressure.
- Disrupted internal communication and access to basic facilities.
- Very low quality and quantity of food.
- Some nights, when only a very limited portion of lentil soup was available.
- Lack of dairy products, protein sources, and fruit in the ward store over the previous two months.
- Spread of bedbugs in the halls.
- Unpleasant sewage odours.
- Restricted access to hygiene facilities.

First Week of March 2026 — Wartime Ward Lockdown and NOPO presence

According to reports provided to CFPPI, families of prisoners at Evin Prison said that detainees were denied food as attacks began and cell doors were sealed. After regular prison officials reportedly withdrew, NOPO security forces (Niroo-Ye Vizhe Pasdar-e Velayat), an elite counter-terrorism unit affiliated with the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), reportedly took control of the Evin prison facility.

Key concerns reported

- Prisoners were trapped in locked wards during the escalation of military actions.
- Disruption or stoppage of food distribution.
- Denial of essential supplies.
- Bedbug infestation, sewage odours, and general poor sanitation.
- Severe psychological distress caused by explosions, confinement, uncertainty, and lack of protection.
- No effective or clear response from the authorities to prisoners and their families.



Greater Tehran Central Penitentiary (Fashafouyeh), Tehran, Tehran province

2 March 2026

According to CFPPI-verified reports, on 2 March 2026, the administrative section and food supply facilities of Greater Tehran Penitentiary were heavily damaged in airstrikes. As a result, prisoners were reportedly deprived of food, and those needing medication were unable to access life-saving treatment. While prisoners faced severe shortages of food, medicine, and basic necessities, many prison officials and staff had reportedly left their posts, leaving prisoners in a state of uncertainty and insecurity.

14 March 2026

According to the report, an inmate at Greater Tehran Central Penitentiary told his family by phone that since the morning of 14 March 2026 (23 Esfand 1404), prison officers had been welding iron bars and installing additional lock rings on the doors of prison wards. The prisoner reported that these actions effectively left inmates completely sealed inside iron cages. The report stated that, if any incident or conflict occurred, prisoners would have no possibility of exiting or being rescued, placing their lives at serious risk. Some prisoners described the action as an attempt to completely confine them and effectively turn them into human shields.

20 March 2026

Information provided to CFPPI by a family member of political prisoners in Greater Tehran Central Penitentiary on 20 March 2026 raised concerns about the reported deployment of security officials inside the prison complex and the potential use of prisoners as human shields.

According to another report received by CFPPI, a reliable prison staff source stated that unusual and suspicious activity had been observed in at least three areas of the facility: the security forces' area, the administrative headquarters, and a building near the main gate. The prison reportedly holds more than 30,000 prisoners, including political prisoners and recently detained individuals.

The concern around prisoners being used as human shields arises from the reported presence of security or government personnel inside a prison complex holding a large portion of the detainee population. Such a presence may expose prisoners to heightened risk if military or security-linked sites are located inside or near the facility, while the detainees' presence could be used to deter attacks.

Key concerns reported

- Heavy damage to food supply facilities due to a missile attack, resulting in severe disruption to food distribution.
- Lack of access to food, medicine, and other basic necessities.
- Reported abandonment of the facility by prison officials and staff.
- Welding of ward doors and installation of additional lock rings to prevent prisoners from exiting.

- Prisoners are left without effective protection during military operations, armed attacks, fires, or internal unrest.
- Absence of clear evacuation or rescue procedures in the event of an emergency.
- Risk that prisoners could be abandoned inside the facility without protection, evacuation, medical care, or basic supplies.
- Concern that prisoners may be deliberately placed at risk or used as human shields to prevent military strikes.



Kachui Prison (Fardis), Karaj, near an oil depot, Alborz province

First Week of March 2026

A verified report published on social media warned that in the first week of March 2026, a massive fire and widespread fuel leakage near the Karaj oil depot, alarmingly close to Kachui Prison, posed a serious threat to the lives and health of hundreds of prisoners.

Toxic smoke from burning petroleum products reportedly filled the area while inmates had no means of emergency evacuation or access to a safe shelter. The report described the prison as a potential “death trap.” The report warned that inhaling thick smoke could cause irreversible lung damage and gradual suffocation. In such a critical situation, the responsibility for the life and health of each prisoner rests directly with the security and judicial authorities of the Islamic Republic.

Key concerns reported

- Fuel leakage was reported near the prison.
- Prisoners were exposed to toxic smoke from a nearby petroleum fire.
- No emergency evacuation measures were reported.
- No known access to safe shelter or protective facilities.
- Risk of serious respiratory harm, including lung damage, suffocation, and potential mass-casualty conditions.



Mahabad Prison and Miandoab Prison, Mahabad and Miandoab, West Azerbaijan

2 March 2026 — Mahabad Prison

On Tuesday, March 2, 2026, following the bombing of a military facility near Mahabad Prison, prisoners reportedly staged a protest after their ward doors were locked.

The protest was met with special forces and tear gas. Following the incident, nearly 100 inmates convicted of common offences and several political prisoners with short-term sentences, either on bail or holding business permits, were reportedly granted 15-day leave or temporarily released.

Key concerns reported

- Prisoners were locked inside the wards during the nearby bombing.
- Protests were suppressed with special violent force and tear gas.
- Temporary release was granted to some prisoners, often on high bail, while others remained detained or were transferred.
- Political prisoners faced heightened danger in the aftermath of the crackdown.

4 March 2026 — transfer from Mahabad Prison to Miandoab Prison

On Thursday, 4 March 2026, at least 18 political prisoners were transferred from Mahabad Prison to Miandoab Prison without prior notice.

A later report stated that after the transfer of prisoners from Mahabad Prison, an additional 120 inmates, including 38 political prisoners, were moved under strict security measures to Miandoab Prison and held in quarantine under extremely harsh conditions. The transfer reportedly occurred after prisoners staged a protest following a bombing near Mahabad Prison. During the crackdown, three political prisoners named Naser, Younes, and Habib (surnames unknown) were reportedly transferred to an unknown location. According to local sources, the transferred prisoners were held in two rooms, the ward doors were locked, and they had not been provided with food at the time of the report.

Key concerns reported

- Transfer of prisoners without notice to families or lawyers.
- Quarantine under extremely harsh conditions.
- Prisoners locked in rooms without food.
- Three named political prisoners were transferred to unknown locations.
- Risk of enforced disappearance and ill-treatment.



Shahramfar Detention Facility, Sanandaj, Kurdistan

9 March 2026

On March 9, 2026, as the international military conflict continued, reports indicated that political detainees in Sanandaj were transferred from detention centres operated by the Intelligence Department and the IRGC Intelligence Organization, including the Shahramfar facility, to the city's central prison. The lack of transparent information has raised concerns about the detainees' condition.

Key concerns reported

- Transfer of political detainees during the escalation of the international military conflict.
- Lack of transparency about detainees' condition and legal status.
- Restrictions on temporary leave.



Sheiban Prison, Ahvaz, Khuzestan

8 April 2026

Reports from Sheiban Prison in Ahvaz indicate a critical situation marked by severe overcrowding, water shortages, and disease outbreaks among detainees. Hundreds of prisoners are reportedly held in cramped conditions amid widespread uncertainty, with inadequate access to water, limited sanitary facilities, and unhygienic conditions. Reports also indicate bedbug infestations. Many detainees at this facility are reportedly held in custody without trial or verdict.

Key concerns reported

- Severe overcrowding.
- Lack of clean water and sanitation.
- Disease outbreaks and bedbug infestations.
- Detention without trial or verdict.
- Serious threats to detainees' lives, health, and basic rights.



Other Reports about Current Prison Conditions

2 April 2026

According to a report received by CFPPI on April 2, 2026, one inmate described prison conditions in Greater Tehran Central Penitentiary as catastrophic, stating: “They are keeping us in prison without food and medicine to let us die.”

According to this report, prisoners had been given only one-third of their previous food rations, and no bread had been provided. Three guard officers who had previously been present reportedly vacated the prison. A single guard occasionally visited the wards but reportedly did not respond to prisoners’ requests for food and medicine.

The report also stated that prisoners’ morale had significantly deteriorated after the execution of several fellow prisoners. Prisoners also reported increasing pressure and threats of harsher sentences.

The report further described:

- Heavy locks on ward doors instead of active guard supervision.
- Health and medical services were effectively cut off.
- Medication brought by families was not delivered to prisoners.
- One diabetic prisoner was deprived of essential medication for over three weeks and was in a dangerous physical condition.
- Many other prisoners with other chronic illnesses, such as high blood pressure, diabetes, and cancer, were denied their medication.
- Authorities are warning prisoners that interviews or contact with foreign media could result in the death penalty.
- The issuance of death sentences is raising concerns about prisoners’ fates.

Key concerns reported

- Starvation conditions and denial of bread.
- Denial of medication and medical care.
- Abandonment by guards.
- Ward doors locked with heavy locks.
- Executions and threats of harsher sentences.

Repeated Patterns of Abuse, Torture and Neglect Across Prison Facilities

Prisoners trapped during bombings, explosions, fires, and the escalation of international military conflict

Across multiple reports, prisoners were described as being locked in confined rooms, wards, solitary cells, or sealed sections while explosions occurred nearby. The reports described conditions in which the constant sound of explosions shook windows and walls, leaving prisoners unable to leave. These conditions were reported at several facilities, including Evin Prison, Greater Tehran Central Penitentiary, Mahabad Prison, and Kachui Prison.

Key concerns

- Prisoners were locked in wards during nearby explosions.
- No evacuation procedures.
- No safe shelters.
- Prisoners unable to protect themselves.
- Increased psychological trauma caused by confinement during bombardment.
- Risk that prisoners may be deliberately placed in harm's way.

Risk of prisoners being used as human shields

Several reports raised concerns that political prisoners and other detainees were being placed in circumstances that could amount to being used as human shields.

The strongest allegations came from Greater Tehran Prison, where security officials were reportedly present in buildings within the prison complex. Prisoners were reportedly locked behind welded doors and additional locking rings. More than 30,000 prisoners were reportedly held at the facility. Some prisoners described their confinement as an attempt to turn them into human shields. The March 5 CFPPI press release also warned that detainees may be transferred to IRGC-controlled sites or deliberately placed in harm's way as military operations intensified.

Starvation, food deprivation, and shortages of basic necessities

Food deprivation was a recurring theme across reports.

Facilities affected included:

- Greater Tehran Central Penitentiary/ Fashafouyeh, where food warehouses or food supply facilities were reportedly destroyed, and severe shortages followed.
- Chabahar Prison, where prisoners protested after several days of food ration cuts and the reported complete cessation of food.
- Evin Prison, where food distribution reportedly stopped in the women's ward and Ward 7, with only limited bread or very limited simple meals provided.

Die in Prison or Die by Execution During War

- Greater Tehran Central Penitentiary/ Fashafouyeh, where prisoners reportedly received only one-third of their previous food rations and no bread.
- Miandoab Prison, where transferred prisoners from Mahabad reportedly had not been provided with food.

Denial of medical care and medication

Reports from multiple prisons described a lack of access to medical care and essential medication.

Key examples:

- Prisoners at Greater Tehran Central Penitentiary are reportedly unable to access life-saving treatment after damage to food and administrative facilities.
- The April 2 report described prisoners with diabetes and high blood pressure being denied medication, including one diabetic prisoner who was deprived of essential medication for more than three weeks.
- Reports from Sheiban Prison described disease outbreaks, water shortages, poor sanitation, and bedbug infestations.
- Kachouyi Prison reports warned of toxic smoke inhalation and possible lung damage, with no evacuation or medical protection.

Forced transfers and disappearances

Reports described forced or sudden transfers in several locations:

- Evin Prison Ward 209 prisoners reportedly transferred to undisclosed locations on March 2.
- Dastgerd Prison prisoners reportedly transported by bus to unknown destinations.
- Mahabad prisoners transferred to Miandoab Prison under strict security measures.
- Three political prisoners from Mahabad, Naser, Younes, and Habib (unknown surnames), were reportedly transferred to an unknown location.
- Sanandaj political detainees transferred from intelligence detention centers to the central prison.

Executions, death sentences, and threats of execution

Various reports from prisons repeatedly referenced executions and death sentences during wartime conditions. Reported concerns include:

- CFPPI's March 13 press release stated that authorities were carrying out executions and issuing new execution sentences.
- CFPPI's March 5 press release stated that executions of prisoners were continuing despite the ongoing war and that new detainees were reportedly facing prosecution and additional execution sentences.
- The April 2 report stated that prisoners' morale had plunged after the execution of several fellow prisoners.
- The same April 2 report stated that authorities had warned prisoners that interviews or contact with foreign media could result in the death penalty.
- Reports from Adelabad Prison described prisoners being confined in basement solitary sections, reportedly used to hold prisoners prior to execution.

Statements and Threats by Regime Representatives and Institutions

4 March 2026 — Judiciary Chief Gholam-Hossein Mohseni-Eje'i

On March 4, 2026, the regime's judiciary chief, Gholam-Hossein Mohseni-Eje'i, publicly threatened that those who "say or do anything in support of the U.S.–Israeli airstrikes" would face harsh punishment.

8 March 2026 — Prosecutor General's Office

On 8 March 2026, Iran's Prosecutor General's Office issued a statement warning Iranians living abroad that if they cooperated with what it described as "hostile enemies," they could face severe punishment.

Citing Iran's law on the "intensification of punishment for espionage and cooperation with Israel and hostile countries," the statement warned that any "operational activity, intelligence cooperation or espionage" for such countries could result not only in confiscation of property but also the death penalty.

10 March 2026 — Police Chief Ahmadreza Radan

Iran's Police Chief, Brigadier General Ahmadreza Radan, warned that security forces would treat anyone who took to the streets "at the enemy's request" as an "enemy."

Radan added, "All our forces have their fingers on the trigger and are ready to defend the revolution and support their people and their country."

Key concerns

- Expansion of repression beyond Iran's borders.
- Threats directed at Iranian diaspora communities and activists abroad.
- Use of property confiscation and death penalty threats to intimidate political activity.
- Explicit threat of lethal force against protesters.
- Framing protesters as enemies.
- Increased risk of violent suppression of public demonstrations.

Continued Deterioration of Conditions After the Ceasefire

Reports received by CFPPI indicate that prison conditions have continued to deteriorate following the ceasefire. Rather than taking effective measures to protect prisoners and detainees, the authorities have reportedly continued to invoke wartime conditions as a pretext to restrict access to medical care, medication, family visitation, and other basic rights.

Families in various cities across Iran have reported that they have been denied visits with imprisoned relatives. In Greater Tehran Central Penitentiary, CFPPI received alarming reports in May 2026 of a rapidly worsening scabies outbreak amid severe overcrowding, inadequate sanitation, and lack of access to medical treatment. This case, summarized in **Appendix A**, illustrates the continuing health risks faced by prisoners even after the active phase of the conflict.

CFPPI is also deeply concerned that the authorities have used the wartime crisis and its aftermath to intensify the use of death sentences against political prisoners and other detainees. Political prisoners have reportedly faced fabricated charges such as “espionage,” “spying for Israel,” or “collaboration with hostile states.” Gholam-Hossein Mohseni-Eje’l, head of the judiciary, has called for expedited trials and executions of individuals accused of supporting or collaborating with hostile states, including Israel. Parliament has also reportedly advanced legislation that, pending approval by the Guardian Council, would expand the application of the death penalty to broadly defined national security offences, including “cooperation with hostile governments” and “espionage.”

These developments heighten the risk that political prisoners and newly arrested detainees may be subjected to rushed proceedings, coerced confessions, denial of due process, and execution under vague or fabricated national security charges. CFPPI maintains and regularly updates a list of political prisoners in Iran who have been sentenced to death or are at risk of receiving death sentences.

Urgent Appeal for the International Community to Act

CFPPI calls on governments, the European Union, the UN Independent Fact-Finding Mission on Iran, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iran to take immediate action to investigate the conditions in prisons across Iran and to pressure the Islamic Republic of Iran to:

- *Publicly disclose the whereabouts, legal status, and physical condition of all prisoners who have been transferred, are missing, or have been subjected to enforced disappearance.*
- *Conduct prompt, independent, and impartial investigations into the denial of adequate food, safe drinking water, medical care, legal representation, and contact with family members.*
- *Immediately restore and guarantee prisoners' access to family visits, telephone communication, legal counsel, medical care, essential medicines, adequate sanitation, and measures to prevent and treat infectious diseases, including urgent responses to outbreaks in detention facilities.*
- *End the arbitrary transfer of prisoners, incommunicado detention, torture, starvation, executions, and all other forms of cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.*
- *Comply fully with the Geneva Conventions and applicable international humanitarian law by protecting all detainees from the effects of hostilities, ensuring they are not used as human shields, evacuating or relocating prisoners from facilities exposed to military danger where necessary, and ending unlawful confinement and transfers.*
- *Immediately and unconditionally release all political prisoners and detainees held for exercising their fundamental rights.*

CFPPI further calls on governments worldwide to adopt coordinated and concrete measures in response to the Islamic Republic's escalating repression. These measures should include closing Iranian diplomatic missions where consistent with international law and national obligations, expelling officials acting on behalf of the Islamic Republic where justified, freezing or seizing assets linked to those responsible for serious human rights violations in accordance with applicable law, maintaining sanctions against the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and individuals responsible for grave abuses, and increasing coordinated international pressure to secure the release and protection of political prisoners and ensure accountability for violations of international human rights and humanitarian law.

Appendix A: May 2026 Report on Scabies Outbreak in Greater Tehran Central Penitentiary

On 14 May 2026, the Campaign to Free Political Prisoners in Iran (CFPPI) received alarming reports regarding the rapid spread of scabies, a highly contagious parasitic skin disease, among prisoners in Greater Tehran Penitentiary, also known as Fashafouyeh. Scabies is caused by microscopic mites that burrow into the skin, leading to intense itching, inflammation, infection, and painful skin lesions. The disease spreads rapidly in overcrowded and unsanitary environments, particularly where prisoners are denied access to proper hygiene, clean living conditions, and medical treatment.

Reports indicated that the outbreak has continued to worsen amid severe overcrowding, inadequate sanitation, and the absence of proper medical care. According to information received by CFPPI, prisoners have little to no access to doctors, medication, or essential healthcare services. Sources inside the prison report that authorities have failed to provide the necessary facilities, treatment, and preventive measures to contain the spread of infections and skin-related diseases.

Public health experts stress that controlling scabies requires immediate and coordinated medical intervention, including simultaneous treatment of infected individuals, disinfection of living areas, sanitation of personal belongings, and strict hygiene measures. According to reports received by CFPPI, no effective action has been taken by prison authorities to contain the outbreak.

The situation places prisoners, many of whom already suffer from chronic illness, untreated medical conditions, and long-term denial of healthcare, at even greater risk. In addition to the physical consequences, the outbreak is intensifying psychological distress and pressure on detainees held under already degrading conditions.

The **Campaign to Free Political Prisoners in Iran (CFPPI)** is one of the first organizations advocating globally for the release of political prisoners in Iran. CFPPI is dedicated to amplifying the voices of detainees and their families while actively working to end all forms of torture and abolish the death penalty in the country.

If you would like to support, please check out our website and [Take Action](#).

Join our social media. Contact us:

