



Massacre in the Shadows:

Iran's 1988 Prison Executions and the Echo of Global Silence

In the summer of 1988, Iranian authorities systematically executed thousands of political dissidents under a secret order issued by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, burying victims in unmarked mass graves. In an era without smartphones or social media, the regime successfully concealed the slaughter from the public and the outside world for months and years. Decades later, despite modern social media documenting ongoing daily executions and crackdowns in real time across Iran, human rights advocates argue that the international community still watches in relative silence and the global inaction continues.

Two More January Protesters Executed



In August 2026, Iranian authorities executed two protesters involved in the January 2026 uprisings, drawing severe condemnation from human rights organizations over unfair trials and forced confessions.

Shahram Sadeghi was executed in Karaj on August 16. Judicial authorities accused him of injuring seven police officers with a vehicle during the protests, though independent records of his trial were never released. Ghaem Hosseini was executed in Isfahan's Dastgerd Prison on August 20. His death marks the fifth execution linked to the controversial "Alikhani Square" protest case.

Human rights groups, including the Campaign to Free Political Prisoners, continue to strongly condemn the ongoing executions and demand the immediate release of all political dissidents.

Activist Soheil Arabi Sentenced to Five Years for Assisting Protest Victims

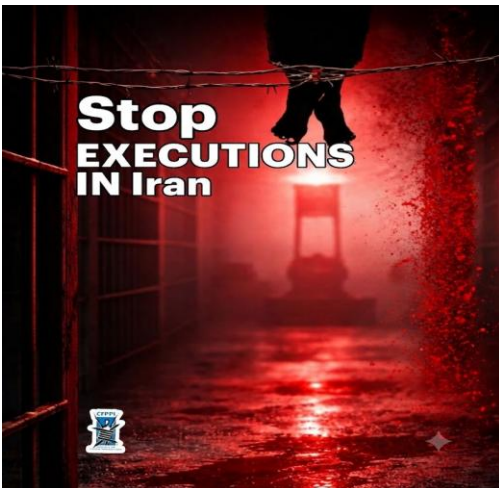
Iranian civil activist Soheil Arabi has been sentenced to five years in prison and a two-year social media ban by the Tehran Revolutionary Court. His conviction for "collusion against national security" stems primarily from his efforts to coordinate humanitarian aid for injured protesters and prisoners' families, as well as his online criticism of systemic corruption. Despite Arabi's defense that his aid network focused strictly on providing basic needs like food and healthcare for over 200 families, the court classified his charity and advocacy as severe security offenses.

Iranian Medical Student Handed Death Penalty After Aiding Wounded Protesters

In an alarming escalation of capital punishment against demonstrators, Iranian authorities have sentenced Sepehr Amirzadeh, a 22-year-old medical student from Isfahan, to death. Reports indicate that Amirzadeh's charges stem entirely from his decision to administer vital medical aid to injured protesters during the January 8 and 9 unrest. Following the demonstrations, Iranian security forces raided his family's home on January 10, taking him into custody before the judiciary handed down the death sentence for his humanitarian assistance.



Mass Hunger Strike Sweeps 60 Iranian Prisons as "No to Execution Tuesdays" Campaign Marks 134th Week



The "No to Execution Tuesdays" hunger strike campaign has expanded to 60 Iranian prisons in its 134th week. Coinciding with the anniversary of the 1988 prison massacres, striking inmates are protesting a recent surge in state violence, noting that at least 39 political prisoners have been executed since late March. In response to this escalating crisis, campaign organizers are urgently calling on the international community to condition all diplomatic and trade relations with Iran on the immediate halt of the death penalty.

List of political prisoners in Iran sentenced to execution or in danger of being given death sentence:

<https://wp.me/p9yWrK-3jp>

Four Women, Four Cases, One Shared Threat: Execution Looms in Mashhad's Vakilabad Prison

At least four women in Mashhad's Vakilabad Prison are facing severe charges that carry the risk of the death penalty, enduring agonizing uncertainty as their cases proceed through the Iranian judicial system.



- Mahboubeh Shabani (30): Charged with Moharebeh (Enmity against God) for allegedly taking wounded January protesters to the hospital.
- Zeinab (Aban) Mousavi: Facing Moharebeh charges alongside her brother; her case is awaiting indictment at the Revolutionary Court.
- Roya Jamilian Motlagh: Under investigation for Sab-al-Nabi (Insulting the Prophet).
- Haniyeh Sarbouzi (29): A mother of one child, currently in the investigatory phase for Baghi (Armed rebellion).

Campaign to Free Political Prisoners is urging the international community to amplify their stories and apply public pressure to prevent these women from being sentenced and executed in silence.

International Open Letter Calls for Freedom and Human Rights in Iran

Dozens of prominent academics, artists, and left-wing voices, including Angela Davis, Judith Butler, Michael Löwy, and Mumia Abu-Jamal, have signed an open letter supporting Iran's political prisoners and calling for an end to executions, repression, and war.

CFPPI welcomes this important act of solidarity.

Let's turn solidarity into a global movement:

- Free all political prisoners!
- Stop executions — abolish the death penalty!
- End repression and war!

Read the open letter published in The Guardian:

[Open Letter to Iran-political-prisoners](#)

IFJ Condemns 15-Year Prison Sentence for Iranian Photojournalist Yalda Moaiery



The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) has strongly condemned a 15-year prison sentence handed down to Iranian photojournalist Yalda Moaiery, demanding the immediate dismissal of all charges against her.

Branch 29 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court sentenced Moaiery in absentia over her media activities and online posts. Moaiery stated she was unable to attend the trial because she never received a formal judicial summons.

IFJ General Secretary Anthony Bellanger expressed full solidarity with Moaiery, denouncing the Iranian judiciary's reliance on vague charges as a calculated tactic to suppress journalists and silence critical voices.

Moaiery has faced continuous state pressure. She was previously arrested while covering the 2022 nationwide protests following the death of Jina (Mahsa) Amini and spent months in detention before being released on bail. More recently, in February, state security forces raided her home and confiscated her electronic devices.

We invite concerned individuals to please use the form on our website to send a letter to your government:

<https://cfppi.org/urgent-action-required-write-to-officials-about-crimes-against-humanity-in-iran/>

Be Their Voice

Every voice matters — and yours can make a difference. Join us in amplifying the cries for freedom echoing from prisons in Iran. Invite us to speak at your community, workplace, or event and help shed light on the silenced.

Together, we can turn awareness into action — and silence into justice.

If you would like to support, please check our website and **Take Action**

