



COMMITTEE IN SUPPORT OF REFERENDUM IN IRAN

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Human Rights in Iran – November 2004

Death sentences and Executions

2 young men to be executed

Etemad daily, Nov. 1 – The Supreme Court upheld the death decree for a 24-year-old man by the name of Moussa. This young man will soon be taken to the gallows.

Iran daily, Nov. 1 – A young worker has been sentenced to execution by a court judge.

3 death sentences

Khorassan daily, Nov. 7 – Tayebah, a 28-year-old woman, was sentenced to death. The Supreme Court upheld the death sentences for two men named Alireza, 29, in Karaj, and Behrouz in Qazvin.

Death sentence in Tehran

Iran daily, Nov. 10 – A man in Tehran was sentenced to death. He was charged with killing a Tehran district mayor.

16-year-old boy to be executed

AFP, Nov. 16, Tehran - Iran's hard-line judiciary has sentenced a 16-year-old boy to death. The boy was only identified as Vahid.



Political prisoner to be executed

INTV, Nov. 21 - An Iranian political prisoner was sentenced to death. The state-run Iran daily reported that Hojat Z. was sentenced to death for allegedly bombing the regime's Engelab building in 1998. The man sentenced to death is the brother of one of the slain Mojahedin members Khaz-al Zamani, from the city of Ilam.

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Political observers say issuing the death sentence for a case from six and a half years ago is only a reaction to the great blow the regime has received from the resistance's revelation of its clandestine atomic sites in recent days.

Boy, 19, sentenced to death

Iran daily, Nov. 21 - The Iranian officials in Tehran issued the death sentence for a 19-year old boy by the name of Majid.

Three execution sentences

Aftab Daily, Nov. 22 - Death sentences have been issued for two men by the names of Mohsen and Davoud who are accused of clashing with security forces. During this clash that took place 45 days ago, the forces fired at these two young men, killing one passer-by and injuring another. The Supreme Court also issued 5 death sentences in public for a man in Tehran. He is to be hanged mid-December in Tehran's Qaytarieh district.

Execution in Public

INTV, Nov. 25 - An individual accused of murder was executed on Tuesday November 23 in the city of Isfahan. His sentence was carried out at 6 am in Touqhchi square (Qods).



Killing of youth in public

INTV, Nov. 27 - A 20-year old youth was killed in Salmas after being beaten with batons, punched and kicked by agents of the theocratic regime.

Payam Erfani Nejad was accused of speaking to a girl in the streets when violently attacked by the Iranian regime's agents. According to eye-witnesses, the government agents beat Payam to death and abandoned him on the street. He was beaten so much that his face was torn and his eyes and face were so bruised that he could not be identified.

Women sentenced to stoning

Iran Focus, Nov. 30, Tehran - The Supreme Court of Iran has upheld a stoning sentence for a woman by the name of Hajieh Esmailvand accused of adultery. She has been serving prison time in the town of Jolfa (northwestern Iran) since Jan. 2000 for having an affair with a



17-year-old boy. Originally she had been sentenced to 5 years imprisonment and 'death by hanging'; however the Supreme Court subsequently changed the verdict from 'death by hanging' to 'death by stoning'.

The boy whom Hajieh had the affair with is also on death row awaiting official orders to be hanged in public. His identity has not been made clear.

The Supreme Court has also upheld the death sentence for a 24-year-old woman called Najmeh Vosoogh Razavi who was studying law in university. Najmeh is to be hanged in public next week.

Arrests, Tortures and inhumane punishments

Boy dies after receiving 85 lashes

Iran Press News, Nov. 16 - A 14 year old boy died on Thursday, November 11th, after having received 85 lashes in the town of Sanandadj. He was guilty of breaking his fast during the month of Ramadan...

Due to the public's realization of the events surrounding the boy's circumstances the cemetery was stormed [in protest] and his burial did not take place. According to informed sources, supervisors have instructed that the burial take place in the presence of his closest relatives, surveyed by security forces.



Freedom of expression

Civil society activists, human rights defenders under attack

Amnesty International – Statement, Nov. 10 - Efforts by Iran's judiciary to curtail freedom of expression and association are now increasingly encroaching on human rights defenders and civil society activists. Reports of around 25 internet journalists and civil society activists arbitrarily arrested in recent weeks mark an alarming rise in human rights violations in Iran.

"The judiciary has placed Iran's growing civil society under attack. The targeted arbitrary arrests and detention in secret places along with reports of ill treatment of activists like Omid Memariyan, Mahboubeh Abbasgholizadeh and journalist Hanif Mazrou'i clearly expose the judiciary's intention to clamp down on Iran's burgeoning civil society", Amnesty International said today.



Ousted Iranian MPs facing jail

AFP, Nov. 17, Tehran - Iran's hardline judiciary has said it will uphold jail terms handed out to former pro-reform MPs who sat in the last parliament, press reports said Wednesday.

The decision affects Mohsen Armin, Fatemeh Hagheghatjou, Mohsen Mirdamadi, Hossein Loghmanian and Mohammad Dadfar, all of whom are on the left of the embattled reform movement, local papers said.

"The verdicts are definitive and must be upheld ... I think they will be carried out soon," newspapers quoted a judiciary spokesman as saying.

Crack down on Internet loggers

Eurasia Net Civil Society, Nov. 18 - Iran's neo-conservatives are restricting access to the Internet, according to international human rights groups. The crackdown is designed to aid a broader Iranian neo-con effort to stifle their reformist opponents.

About half a dozen prominent, reform-oriented activists who use the Internet and Web logs, or blogs, to spread their messages have been detained over the last two months. New York-based Human Rights Watch (HRW) characterized the wave of arrests in a November 9 statement as an attempt to close "last remaining outlet for freedom of expression in the country."

Women

Woman, 74, two sisters commit suicide

Sharq daily, Nov. 1 – Yesterday an old woman died after throwing herself from the fifth floor of an apartment in Shahriar. Also two sisters attempted suicide in Navab district yesterday evening that lead to the death of the younger sister after she threw herself from the seventh floor of a building.

Female Majlis deputy calls for execution of street women

Aftab-e Yazd daily, Nov. 20 – Eshrat Shayeq, Majlis deputy from Tabriz, said, "We have no vacuum in the law on street women [prostitutes]. If 10 street women were to be hanged, we would not have street women anymore. Any judge who says there is a vacuum in law on street women, I will answer him myself."



Other news

1,660 youths commit suicide every year

Iran Focus, Nov. 7 - A recent report released by the Iranian regime's department of statistics states that on average the number of youths that successfully commit suicide every year is 1,660. The same report also stated that youth and children between the ages of 15 and 24 commit the most number of suicides compared to other age groups. On Wednesday, a 26-year-old female diplomacy student committed suicide by jumping off a bridge in the suburbs of the Iranian capital of Tehran. Iran has the highest suicide rate in the world.

Young man humiliated in northern Iran

Iran National TV, Nov. 10 - Iranian officials in Babol took a young man around the avenues. In a bid to disgrace the young man and humiliate his dignity, agents shaved his hair like a cross, put a long stick through his sleeves, and took him around the streets. Eyewitnesses said people who were there and saw the scene openly cursed the agents there.

Growing rate of suicide

Radio France Internationale, Nov. 21 – Hamed Haddadi, the top player on Iran's national basketball team, slashed his artery.
ISNA, Nov. 21 – Two-hundred eighty-three (283) Tehran school students have attempted suicide during the past year.

