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Condemned for Dissent:

Political Prisoners on Death Row in Iran

IRAN HUMAN RIGHTS MONITOR (IRAN HRM)

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Contents

Introduction:.....	4
List of Political Prisoners Sentenced to Death.....	5
Naeb Askari.....	5
Mohammad Rahimi.....	5
Mohammad Javad Vafae Sani.....	6
Ali Mojadam.....	6
Moein Khanfari.....	6
Mohammadreza Moghadam.....	6
Mehdi Hassani.....	6
Behrouz Ehsani.....	6
Seyyed Salem Mousavi Alboshokeh.....	7
Habib Deris.....	7
Seyyed Adnan Mousavi Ghabishavi.....	7
Farhad Shakari.....	7
Isa Eidmohammadi.....	7
Abdolhakim Azim Gorgij.....	7
Abdolrahman Gorgij.....	7
Taj Mohammad Khormali.....	7
Mansour Rasouli.....	7
Bashir Ahmad Hossein Zehi.....	7
Denzo Chakeri.....	7
Sajjad Baluch.....	7
Moulavi Abdolrahim Koochi.....	8
Moulavi Amanollah Balouchi.....	8
Mohammad Zeinoddini.....	8
Adham Narouei.....	8
Jamshid Sharmahd.....	8
Yousuf Ahmadi.....	8
Rahim Barin.....	8
Mojahed Korkori.....	8
Farshid Hasan Zahi.....	9
Aref Khoshkar.....	9
Saeed Shirazi.....	9

Masoud Biranvand.....	9
Mohammad Keshvari	9
Seyyed Malek Mousavi.....	9
Ali Obaidavi.....	9
Shahab Nad-Ali	9
Shahin Vassaaf.....	9
Shahryar Bayat.....	9
Tavhid Faraji	9
Hatem Ozdemir.....	10
Idris Ali.....	10
Malek Ali Fadaei Nasab and Abdulrahman Gorgij	10
Abdolmalek Mir Baluchzehi.....	10
Amanollah Raisi	10
Shakir Behroozi	10
Ahmadreza Jalali	10
Manouchehr Mehman Navaz.....	10
Mohsen Rezazadeh Qaraghlou	10
Akbar Ghaffari	10
Mahmoud Meharabi	10
Eido Shahbakhsh and Abfolghani Shahbakhsh	10
Abdolrahim Qanbarzehi Gorgij	11
Soleiman Shahbakhsh.....	11
Fazel and Mehran Bahramian	11
Sharifeh Mohammadi	11
Pakhshan Azizi.....	11
Ali Dehani	11
Abbas Toranji.....	11
The Use of Forced Confessions and Lack of Fair Trials in Iran.....	11
1. Mojahed (Abbas) Korkori.....	12
2. Mahmoud Mehrabi.....	12
3. Abbas Deris.....	13
4. Fazel and Mehran Bahramian	13
5. Farhad Shakeri	13
6. Naeb Askari.....	14

7. Adham Narouei.....	14
8. The case of four Baluch political prisoners sentenced to death.....	14
9. The case of labor activist Ms. Sharifeh Mohammadi.....	15
Conclusion.....	16

Introduction:

Iran consistently ranks among the world's leading executioners, claiming the grim distinction of having the highest number of executions per capita. The Iranian regime extensively employs the death penalty as a tool not only for judicial punishment but also for political repression. The Iranian legal system, with its reliance on vaguely defined charges such as *Moharebeh* (waging war against God) and *Baghi* (rebellion), provides the state with broad latitude to impose capital punishment. These charges are frequently invoked not only in cases of violent crimes like murder but also to silence political dissent, protests, and religious beliefs that deviate from the state's official ideology.

Human rights organizations have repeatedly condemned Iran's widespread use of the death penalty, emphasizing that many executions follow deeply flawed trials, often lacking due process. Defendants are frequently convicted based on confessions extracted under torture or duress, raising serious concerns about the fairness of the legal proceedings. Despite international criticism, the Iranian judiciary continues to target vulnerable populations, including political prisoners, protesters, and ethnic and religious minorities, using the death penalty as a means of control and intimidation.

In recent years, the Iranian regime has intensified its use of capital punishment as a deterrent against political opposition, particularly following the widespread protests of 2019 and 2022. In response to these uprisings, the regime has escalated its repression by executing or sentencing to death those involved in protests, aiming to instill fear and suppress further dissent.

This report by Iran Human Rights Monitor (Iran HRM) seeks to document the harrowing experiences of political prisoners currently on death row in Iran. We have compiled the names and details of 61 political prisoners who have been sentenced to death, although this number is not exhaustive. It reflects the information we have gathered up to the end of September 2024.

The report is divided into two parts. The first section provides a list of the political prisoners facing death sentences, along with brief explanations of the circumstances surrounding their convictions. The second section delves into some sample cases, highlighting how these death sentences were issued based on confessions obtained through torture. These cases demonstrate clear violations of legal standards and underscore the lack of due process in Iran's judicial system. By shedding light on these injustices, we hope to raise awareness and call for international intervention to prevent executions in Iran.

List of Political Prisoners Sentenced to Death

Naeb Askari arrested in Urmia on March 23, 2021, Naeb Askari's death sentence was issued in absentia by the Urmia Revolutionary Court in 2018 for membership in PJAK (Party for a Free Life in Kurdistan). He was unaware of this sentence until October 16, 2023, when it was communicated to him in Urmia Central Prison. He remains imprisoned in Urmia, facing execution at any moment.



Mohammad Rahimi, aged 49, was arrested in February 2019 at the Sarvabad border. His death sentence was issued for *Baghy* due to his affiliation with the Kurdistan Freedom Party (PAK). In addition, he was sentenced to 35 years in prison for complicity in murder. His case has been upheld by the Supreme Court, and he remains imprisoned in Sanandaj Central Prison.

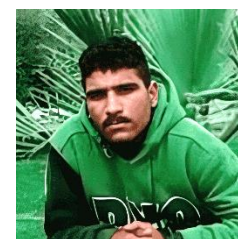
Mohammad Javad Vafae Sani, a former boxing champion, and a supporter of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI/MEK), Mohammad Javad Vafae Sani, was arrested by the IRGC in March 2020 following his involvement in the November 2019 protests. After enduring 65 days of torture, he was sentenced to death for "corruption on earth" in relation to alleged arson. Despite a Supreme Court overturning of the sentence, the Mashhad Revolutionary Court reimposed the death penalty in July 2023. The sentence was handed down for the third time on September 18, 2024, in Mashhad Prison, where Vafaie Sani has been held since his arrest in March 2020.



Ali Mojadam, arrested in February 2019, Ali Mojadam was sentenced to death for *Moharebeh* by the Ahvaz Revolutionary Court. He and five other political prisoners were accused of participating in armed operations against security forces in 2018. Mojadam is currently held in Sheyban Prison, Ahvaz.



Moein Khanfari, similar to Mojadam, Moein Khanfari was sentenced to death in February 2023 for *Moharebeh*. He was accused of killing police officers and a member of the Basij forces. Currently, Khanfari is imprisoned in Sheyban Prison, enduring the harsh conditions of death row.



Mohammadreza Moghadam another prisoner sentenced alongside Mojadam and Khanfari, Mohammadreza Moghadam is accused of armed resistance against the state and remains incarcerated in Sheyban Prison, awaiting execution.

Mehdi Hassani, was convicted on charges of "enmity against God," "corruption on earth," and "rebellion," and membership in the Mojahedin-e-Khalq (MEK), gathering classified information, and conspiring against national security.

He was arrested on September 11, 2022, in Zanzan and subsequently transferred to Evin Prison's notorious Ward 209, which is managed by the Ministry of Intelligence. He has endured significant psychological and physical torture during his imprisonment. Currently, he remains incarcerated in Ward 8 of Evin Prison, where political prisoners are often held.

The Iranian Revolutionary Court, sentenced him along with Behrouz Ehsani to death. On Wednesday, September 18, 2024, the 26th Branch of Tehran's Revolutionary Court, presided over by Judge Iman Afshari, officially notified the defense lawyer representing the two prisoners, Behrouz Ehsani and Mehdi Hassani, of the court's decision.

Behrouz Ehsani along with Mehdi Hassani, was convicted on charges of "enmity against God," "corruption on earth," and "rebellion," and membership in the Mojahedin-e-Khalq (MEK), gathering classified information, and conspiring against national security.

Arrested on December 6, 2022, at his home, also spent time in the Ministry of Intelligence's Ward 209 of Evin prison. Ehsani, a 67-year-old man who had a high school education and ran a small business, was only permitted a single brief phone call with his family during his early detention.

Seyyed Salem Mousavi Alboshokeh arrested in 2019, Seyyed Salem Mousavi Alboshokeh faces execution for his alleged involvement in attacks on security forces and his membership in the Harakat al-Nidal group. He is currently imprisoned in Sheyban Prison, Ahvaz.



Habib Deris was arrested in 2019 and sentenced to death in early 2023. Accused of being involved in armed confrontations, Deris remains imprisoned in Sheyban Prison, under threat of imminent execution.

Seyyed Adnan Mousavi Ghabishavi at just 27 years old, Ghabishavi was sentenced to death alongside five other prisoners for *Moharebeh*. He remains in Sheyban Prison, convicted of participating in anti-state actions.



Farhad Shakari a Sunni political prisoner, Farhad Shakari, was sentenced to death for his membership in the Salafi group Hezb al-Forqan. His sentence was issued by the Mashhad Revolutionary Court in 2019, and he remains imprisoned in Vakilabad Prison.



Isa Eidmohammadi another Sunni prisoner from Golestan Province, Eidmohammadi was arrested in 2015 and sentenced to death in 2019 for *Baghy*. He remains in Vakilabad Prison, Mashhad.

Abdolkhakim Azim Gorgij Abdolkhakim was arrested in 2015 and sentenced to death for his religious and political affiliations. He remains incarcerated in Vakilabad Prison, awaiting execution.

Abdolrahman Gorgij like his co-defendant Azim Gorgij, Abdolrahman was sentenced to death for *Baghy* and is currently held in Vakilabad Prison.

Taj Mohammad Khormali arrested in 2015, Khormali was sentenced to death for his involvement in Salafi groups and opposition to the regime. He remains in Vakilabad Prison, awaiting execution.

Mansour Rasouli accused of espionage for Mossad, the Israeli intelligence agency, Mansour Rasouli was sentenced to death in early 2023. He is currently imprisoned in Urmia Central Prison.



Bashir Ahmad Hossein Zehi arrested in Saravan, Bashir Ahmad was tortured during interrogation before being sentenced to death. His current status remains unknown.

Denzo Chakeri, a Pakistani national, Denzo Chakeri was sentenced to two death sentences for *Moharebeh* in Zahedan. His situation remains dire, as he is currently imprisoned in Zahedan Central Prison.

Sajjad Baluch, also a Pakistani national, was sentenced to death for his involvement in anti-state activities. He was under 18 at the time of his arrest and remains on death row in Zahedan Central Prison.



Moulavi Abdolrahim Koohi a resident of Padig Village, Abdolrahim Koohi was sentenced to death in 2019 for his opposition to the regime. He remains incarcerated, awaiting execution.

Moulavi Amanollah Balouchi arrested alongside Abdolrahim Koohi, Amanollah Balouchi faces execution for his opposition activities and remains imprisoned.



Mohammad Zeinoddini, was arrested on the street in the Sirchah area of Lashar district, Espakeh County, in early fall 2020. In late winter 2023, the Zahedan First Criminal Court sentenced him to death for allegedly killing three members of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). In mid-fall 2023, the Supreme Court upheld the sentence. He is currently held in Ward 9 of Zahedan Central Prison.

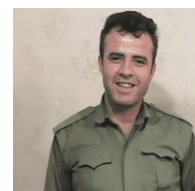
Adham Narouei, from Lashar, was arrested by IRGC intelligence agents in late spring 2021 and transferred to Zahedan. In late winter 2023, the Zahedan First Criminal Court sentenced him to death on charges of killing three IRGC members. The Supreme Court upheld the sentence in mid-fall 2023. Narouei is also in Ward 9 of Zahedan Central Prison. On May 30, 2024, he attempted suicide due to psychological pressure and was transferred to Khatam al-Anbiya Hospital.



Jamshid Sharmahd, an Iranian-German citizen born in 1955, is an electronics engineer and IT specialist. He managed Radio Tondar. In mid-summer 2020, Ministry of Intelligence agents abducted him in Dubai and brought him to Iran. On February 21, 2023, he was sentenced to death for "corruption on earth" related to planning terrorist activities in Shiraz in 2008. This sentence is subject to appeal.



Yousuf Ahmadi, 38, from Baneh, and father of three, was arrested in mid-spring 2020 by security forces, who shot him in front of his children. He was charged with "collaboration with opposition groups." Judge Sa'idi of the Revolutionary Court in Sanandaj sentenced him to death for "Baghi." He was informed of the ruling in prison.



Rahim Barin, was arrested in 2005 for allegedly killing a police officer during protests against the killing of political activist Kamal Asfaram. Under torture, he confessed and was sentenced to death for "acting against national security" and the murder of a government official. He is currently in Urmia Central Prison.

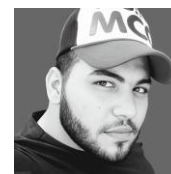
Mojahed Korkori, born May 2, 1983, was arrested on December 20, 2022, during an attack on the village of Porsurakh in Izeh by security forces. Two of his companions were killed. After his arrest, Korkori was tortured in al-Zahra Police Hospital in Izeh to force a confession. On April 6, 2023, he was sentenced to death by the Revolutionary Court of Izeh for "Moharebeh" and the murder of seven people, including Kian Pirfalak, despite the victim's mother stating that security forces were responsible for her son's death.



Farshid Hasan Zahi, 25, a construction worker from Zahedan, was arrested in late fall 2022 for allegedly shooting at a police vehicle during the nationwide protests. He was tortured and coerced into confessing. On November 12, 2023, he was sentenced to death by the Zahedan First Criminal Court. He is currently in Ward 9 of Zahedan Central Prison.



Aref Khoshkar was arrested during the 2022 protests. Held in Gohardasht Prison, he was tortured and forced to confess to the murder of an officer in Tehran. He was sentenced to death without a trial, lawyer, or defense. He was later transferred to Ghezel Hesar Prison, and no information about him has since been made available.



Saeed Shirazi, son of Alireza, was arrested during the 2022 protests and sentenced to death by Branch 15 of the Revolutionary Court in Tehran for "corruption on earth." There is no current information on his status.



Masoud Biranvand, born in 1979, from Borujerd, a truck driver and father of one, was arrested on October 27, 2022. Under torture, his death sentence was confirmed on December 22, 2022, for "Moharebeh."



Mohammad Keshvari was arrested during the November 2019 protests in Khorramabad. He was sentenced to death on June 28, 2020, by the Revolutionary Court. His whereabouts are unknown.

Seyyed Malek Mousavi, 23, from Shawor, Karkheh County, was sentenced to death in January 2024 for "Moharebeh." He is currently held in Ward 5 of Sheyban Prison, Ahvaz.



Ali Obaidavi was sentenced to death by the Revolutionary Court of Mahshahr on January 24, 2024. He and his brother were arrested for attacking a Bassij base in Hamidiyeh.



Shahab Nad-Ali, from Hamadan, was sentenced to death for "Baghi" in January 2024 for membership in opposition groups. He is a laborer, married, and father of a 12-year-old daughter.

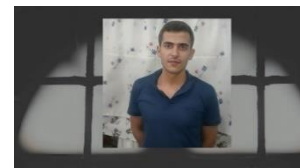
Shahin Vassaaf, a 27-year-old from Salmas, was sentenced to death by the Urmia Revolutionary Court for "spying for Israel." The sentence was communicated to him in Urmia Central Prison on October 2, 2024.



Shahryar Bayat, arrested during the 2022 protests, was sentenced to death and 18 years in prison for "insulting the Prophet." His death sentence was reinstated after an appeal, despite insufficient evidence.

Tavhid Faraji has been sentenced to death in Amol Prison for "insulting the Prophet" and alleged connections with foreign entities. His death sentence was recently issued and communicated to him in solitary confinement.

Hatem Ozdemir, a Kurdish political prisoner and Turkish citizen, was sentenced to death by Branch 3 of the Revolutionary Court in Urmia for "Moharebeh" (waging war against God). A previous death sentence for "Baghi" was overturned by the Supreme Court in March 2023, but the new sentence was officially communicated to him in Urmia Prison on May 19, 2024.



Idris Ali, a 32-year-old Kurdish porter from Sardasht, was sentenced to death by the Urmia Revolutionary Court on charges of "spying for Israel." He confessed under torture and is currently imprisoned.

Malek Ali Fadaei Nasab and Abdulrahman Gorgij, political prisoners in Vakilabad Prison, Mashhad, had their death sentences upheld by the Supreme Court in July 2023. Despite insufficient evidence, both were sentenced to death by the Mashhad Revolutionary Court for "Baghi" (rebellion).

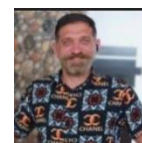
Abdolmalek Mir Baluchzahi, 37, was sentenced to death for "Moharebeh" and collaborating with dissident groups. His current status is unknown.

Amanollah Raisi, 39, from Jalak, was arrested by the IRGC in 2016 in Khash and sentenced to two death penalties for "membership in dissident groups." His current condition is unclear.

Shakir Behroozi, a citizen from Urmia, has been imprisoned since 2018. He was sentenced to death in September 2020 for "Baghi" and alleged membership in the Komala Party. He was tortured for over a year to extract a confession.

Ahmadreza Jalali, an Iranian-Swedish physician, was arrested in 2016 while visiting Iran for an academic event. He was sentenced to death in December 2017 by the Tehran Revolutionary Court for "spying for Israel." He is currently imprisoned in Evin Prison.

Manouchehr Mehman Navaz was arrested during the 2022 protests and sentenced to death by Branch 28 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court for "Moharebeh" and "corruption on earth." His current status is unknown.



Mohsen Rezazadeh Qaraghlu, arrested during the 2022 protests, was sentenced to death for "Moharebeh" by the Tehran Revolutionary Court. There is no information about his current status.



Akbar Ghaffari, arrested for sheltering protesters during the 2022 uprising, was sentenced to death for the murder of an officer in Tehran. He was forced to sign confessions while in solitary confinement. His current condition is unknown.



Mahmoud Meharabi, a detainee from the 2022 protests, was sentenced to death in mid-spring 2024 by the Isfahan Revolutionary Court for "corruption on earth."



Eido Shahbakhsh and Abfolghani Shahbakhsh were sentenced to death on February 4, 2024, by Branch 28 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court for "Baghi" through forming and joining anti-revolutionary groups. The case is filled with ambiguities and flaws, but they were sentenced under pressure from the IRGC Intelligence.

Abdolrahim Qanbarzahi Gorgij was sentenced to death alongside Eido and Abfolghani Shahbakhsh by the Tehran Revolutionary Court on similar charges. The case is deeply flawed, yet he was sentenced under IRGC pressure.

Soleiman Shahbakhsh was also sentenced to death on February 4, 2024, by Branch 28 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court for "Baghi." His case shares the same ambiguities and contradictions as the others, yet pressure from the IRGC led to his conviction.

Fazel and Mehran Bahramian, protesters arrested in Semirom, were sentenced to death on January 27, 2024, by the Semirom Revolutionary Court for "Moharebeh" and "acting against national security." The Appeals Court confirmed the sentences two days later.

Sharifeh Mohammadi, a labor activist imprisoned in Lakan Prison, Rasht, was sentenced to death for "Baghi" by Branch 1 of the Rasht Revolutionary Court. The ruling was communicated to her husband, Siros Fathi, on July 4, 2024. She was accused of membership in an opposition group.



Pakhshan Azizi was sentenced to death on July 23, 2024, by Branch 26 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court for "Baghi." Although the court accused her of engaging in armed activities, no evidence of such actions was provided.



Ali Dehani, a conscript at the Kaskin outpost in Bampoor County, was sentenced to death for allegedly killing four personnel at the outpost on November 6, 2022. He was tortured to force a confession, which he later retracted in court, but the judge sentenced him to death without considering his claims.



Abbas Toranji, a political prisoner, was sentenced to death behind closed doors on charges of killing a security officer. His trial was marked by serious violations of his right to a fair trial, and his life remains in danger.

The Use of Forced Confessions and Lack of Fair Trials in Iran

In Iran, forced confessions, extracted under torture, serve as a cornerstone in many cases where individuals are sentenced to death. This systemic abuse of human rights is well-documented by international human rights organizations, including Amnesty International and Iran Human Rights Monitor. Political prisoners, protesters, and ethnic minorities are often coerced into confessions that serve as the primary evidence against them in trials that lack transparency, legal standards, and proper representation.

Torture methods used to extract confessions in Iranian prisons include severe physical beatings, prolonged solitary confinement, mock executions, and psychological pressures that often leave the prisoners in critical physical and mental conditions. The judiciary in Iran relies on these forced

confessions, without considering the legitimacy of the claims or the legality of the means by which the confessions were obtained.

The legal proceedings for political prisoners are conducted behind closed doors without access to independent legal counsel. Courts fail to meet international legal standards, and many prisoners are denied the right to appeal or even proper representation by an attorney of their choice. This environment fosters a climate of fear and repression, where the judiciary is used as a tool of political control.

Below are some sample cases of political prisoners in Iran whose death sentences were based on forced confessions and unfair trials.

1. Mojahed (Abbas) Korkori



Mojahed Korkori, also known as Abbas, is a political prisoner from Izeh who has been sentenced to death by Branch 39 of the Supreme Court of Iran. His charges include “waging war against God” (*Moharebeh*) and “corruption on earth” due to his alleged involvement in anti-regime activities during the nationwide protests of 2022. The judiciary claims that Korkori was involved in the killing of Kian Pirmalak, a child who died during the protests. However, Pirmalak’s family, including the boy’s mother, has vehemently denied these claims, stating that Kian was killed by the security forces.

Korkori has been subjected to severe physical and psychological torture since his arrest on December 20, 2022. He was initially arrested during a military attack on his home in Izeh, during which two other civilians were killed. After his arrest, Korkori was confined to solitary confinement for more than 13 months. He endured brutal beatings that resulted in broken ribs, and he was repeatedly denied medical treatment. Despite his deteriorating health, the authorities have restricted his contact with the outside world, preventing him from making phone calls or receiving family visits.

His death sentence was recently upheld by the Supreme Court, and his case has been transferred to the Sentenced Enforcement Branch in Izeh, raising concerns about the imminent implementation of his execution.

2. Mahmoud Mehrabi



Mahmoud Mehrabi is another political prisoner facing a death sentence, currently held in Dastgerd Prison, Isfahan. Mehrabi was first arrested in February 2023 during the 2022 nationwide protests. After being released on bail, he was re-arrested shortly afterward and subjected to severe torture and mistreatment during his detention. He has been accused of “corruption on earth” due to his anti-regime activities, including spreading propaganda against the state on social media and inciting unrest.

Mehrabi’s physical condition has deteriorated significantly due to the torture he has endured. He suffers from severe vertigo, lung infections, and kidney problems, and has been deprived of medical care. He has also been placed in a ward with violent criminals, a clear violation of the principle of separating political prisoners from those convicted of common crimes.

In addition to his own suffering, Mehrabi’s family has also been targeted. His sister, Maryam Mehrabi, was arrested in June 2024 along with her two young children. She was subjected to

physical and psychological abuse and has been imprisoned in Dowlatabad Prison in Isfahan. In protest of her unjust detention, Maryam went on a hunger strike, further deteriorating her health. Despite the family's efforts to secure her release on bail, she remains imprisoned under harsh conditions.

3. Abbas Deris



Abbas Deris, a political prisoner from Mahshahr, was arrested following the 2019 protests in Iran. Deris was a witness to the massacre of protesters in the Mahshahr marshlands, an event in which security forces opened fire on unarmed civilians. In an apparent effort to cover up the killings, the judiciary accused Deris of “Moharebeh” and sentenced him to death.

Deris has consistently maintained his innocence, and his lawyer, Fereshteh Tabanian, has pointed out significant flaws in the case. Despite the family of the deceased officer in Deris's case declaring that they do not hold him responsible for the killing, the judiciary has upheld the death sentence. Deris's appeal for retrial was recently rejected by the Supreme Court, putting him at imminent risk of execution.

The emotional toll of Deris's sentencing has had devastating effects on his family. His wife suffered a stroke and died upon learning of the death sentence, leaving their three children orphaned and in the care of relatives.

4. Fazel and Mehran Bahramian



Fazel and Mehran Bahramian, two brothers from Semnan, were arrested during the 2022 nationwide protests and sentenced to death on charges of “Moharebeh” and “acting against national security.” The two brothers were subjected to extreme physical torture while in detention, with Mehran suffering broken limbs and Fazel sustaining injuries to his head and face.

The Bahramian brothers were transferred to solitary confinement in Dastgerd Prison in January 2024, where they were denied contact with their families. Their case has sparked outrage among the local population in their hometown, with residents engaging in strikes and protests against their death sentences.

Mehran Bahramian has protested his death sentence by going on hunger strikes and sewing his lips shut. Despite his critical condition, the authorities have refused to review his case, leaving him at grave risk of execution.

5. Farhad Shakeri



Farhad Shakeri, a Sunni political prisoner, has been on death row since 2019, sentenced to death by the Mashhad Revolutionary Court. Shakeri, along with four other Sunni prisoners, was convicted of “Baghi” (armed rebellion) due to his alleged membership in a Salafi group. Since August 2023, Shakeri has been on a hunger strike, protesting the unfairness of his trial and the issuance of his death sentence.

Shakeri's health has deteriorated severely during his hunger strike. He suffers from paralysis on one side of his body, speech difficulties, and extreme weakness. Despite his life-threatening condition, prison authorities have failed to provide adequate medical care, leaving his life in constant danger.

6. Naeb Askari



hearings.

Naeb Askari, a Kurdish political prisoner, is currently on death row in Urmia Prison. He was sentenced to death for “Baghi” due to his alleged affiliation with Kurdish opposition groups. Askari's case has been marked by judicial irregularities, including the absence of his defense lawyer during court

hearings. Askari has been subjected to long periods of solitary confinement and torture, and he has been denied contact with his family and legal representation. His family fears that his execution could be carried out at any moment, as his case has been transferred to the Supreme Court for final review.

7. Adham Narouei



prison after receiving minimal medical treatment.

Adham Narouei, a Baluch political prisoner, attempted suicide in May 2024 due to the immense psychological pressure he faced on death row. Narouei had been sentenced to death on charges of “Moharebeh” for allegedly participating in armed actions and killing security forces. Despite his critical condition following the suicide attempt, he was returned to

prison after receiving minimal medical treatment. Narouei's case highlights the extreme psychological toll that death row prisoners endure in Iran's prisons. The threat of execution, combined with the inhumane conditions of detention, leads many prisoners to take desperate actions in a bid to escape their fate.

8. The case of four Baluch political prisoners sentenced to death



Mohammadreza Amouzadeh. The court also accused them of involvement in security incidents between 2007 and 2015. Despite the ambiguities, flaws, and contradictions in the case, the prisoners were retried and sentenced under pressure from the Revolutionary Guards.

Four Baluch individuals—Eidou Shahbakhsh, Abdolghani Shahbakhsh, Abdolrahim Qanbarzahi Gorgij, and Soleiman Shahbakhsh—have been sentenced to death by the Tehran Revolutionary Court. The court convicted them on charges of "Baghi" (armed rebellion) and "formation and membership in anti-revolutionary terrorist groups." The ruling was issued by Branch 28 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court, presided over by Judge

Eidou Shahbakhsh and Abdolghani Shahbakhsh had previously been arrested, tried, and acquitted of the same charges in 2016, but they were rearrested by IRGC intelligence forces. Soleiman Shahbakhsh, one of the defendants, was only 12 years old at the time of the alleged crime, and under Iranian law, he should be subject to the "Act of Criminal Conduct by Children," making his death sentence illegal according to both domestic and international standards.

Abdolrahim Qanbarzahi Gorgij's conviction is based solely on forced confessions obtained through severe torture. He is illiterate, and forensic experts have confirmed that his fingerprint on the confession documents was coerced.

Death sentence for Eidou Shahbakhsh sent to the Supreme Court

The death sentences of Eidou Shahbakhsh and three other Baluch political prisoners—Abdolghani Shahbakhsh, Abdolrahim Qanbarzahi Gorgij, and Soleiman Shahbakhsh—have been referred to the Supreme Court. Eidou Shahbakhsh, a 35-year-old man from Sarjangan, Zahedan, was first arrested in 2016 and acquitted of all charges. However, under pressure from the IRGC's Intelligence Organization, his acquittal was overturned, and he was rearrested.

Shahbakhsh has been subjected to repeated physical and psychological torture to extract confessions. He has consistently maintained his innocence, and the only evidence against him is his confession, which was obtained under torture—despite the legal prohibition of using such confessions in court.

Eidou Shahbakhsh is married and has five children, one of whom is physically disabled.

9. The case of labor activist Ms. Sharifeh Mohammadi



Labor activist Sharifeh Mohammadi, a prominent women's and labor rights advocate from Rasht, has been detained in Lakan Prison for over six months under harsh conditions, deprived of her basic rights. She was arrested on December 5, 2023, by intelligence agents at her home and initially transferred to Sanandaj Prison before being returned to Lakan Prison. Throughout her detention, Ms. Mohammadi has been denied visits, phone calls, and access to legal representation, leaving her family and supporters in the dark about the charges against her.

Despite the completion of investigations into her case, she remains in a state of uncertainty. Sharifeh's husband, Sirius Fathi, has been actively advocating for her release, but was himself arrested in June 2024. He has since been temporarily released on bail, but the lack of transparency from judicial authorities persists. To date, there has been no clear information on the charges brought against Ms. Mohammadi, though she is reportedly accused of "association with a political organization," an accusation her family firmly denies.

Sharifeh's detention has been marked by physical abuse, with reports of torture during interrogations. Her health has deteriorated, with untreated infections and injuries adding to her suffering. Despite international outcry from human rights organizations and trade unions in France and Denmark, who demand her immediate release, the Iranian authorities have upheld her death sentence. She has been accused of "Baghi," or armed rebellion against the government, based on alleged ties to an opposition group. Both her family and human rights groups contest these accusations, insisting she has been targeted for her labor activism.

Conclusion

The cases outlined in this report are emblematic of the broader human rights violations in Iran's justice system. The widespread use of the death penalty, especially against political dissidents and protesters, reflects the regime's determination to stifle dissent and maintain control through fear and intimidation. Many of these prisoners have been sentenced to death based on confessions obtained under torture, denied access to proper legal representation, and subjected to inhumane treatment during their detention.

International pressure is critical in urging the Iranian government to respect the rights of political prisoners and halt the implementation of death sentences. The global community must advocate for an end to these abuses and call for the end of executions.