

IRAN

Protestants

Hadi ASGARI

Date and place of arrest: On 26th August 2016, in a garden in Firouzkouh county, north of Tehran

Charges: Acting against national security, organizing and creating house churches

First court decision: On 8th April 2017, he was tried with Amin Afshar NADERI by Branch 26 of the Revolutionary Court.

Last court decision: On 11th June 2017, there was a second hearing in Tehran. However, he was not permitted to defend himself. The judge sentenced him to ten years of imprisonment.

Other information: He was arrested with Amir Saman DASHTI, Ramil BET-TAMRAZ, Amin Afshar NADERI and Mohammad DEHNAVI. Even though they were not having a worship session during their gathering, the mere possession of Christian material amongst them is considered an offence. Ramil BET-Tamraz and Mohammad DEHNAVI were released after posting bail of around \$33,000 each (approximately €31,000).

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2016/08/4608990/> , <http://hrwf.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Iran2017.pdf> , <http://bit.ly/2t04jCJ> , <http://bit.ly/2tRALaB> , <http://bit.ly/2t9f151> , <http://www.csw.org.uk/2017/06/28/press/3603/article.htm>

Pastor Vruir AVANESSIAN

Age: 61 years

Date and place of arrest: On 27th December 2012, in the northern district of Tehran

Charges: Action against national security and proselytizing Farsi-speaking citizens

Statement of the defendant: He claims he was at a gathering at a residential home to celebrate Christmas.

First court decision: On 7th September 2013, his trial was held behind closed doors in Branch 26 of the Revolutionary Court in Tehran.

Last court decision: On 5th December 2013, he was sentenced to 3 ½ years in prison.

Place of detention: Evin Prison in Tehran

Other information: Avanesian, an Armenian belonging to the Assemblies of God, is suffering severe health challenges.

Amir Saman DASHTI

Date and place of arrest: On 26th August 2016, in a garden in Firouzkouh county, north of Tehran

Charges: Having a non-Islamic party, possession of Bibles and Christian material

Other information: He was arrested with Hadi ASGARI, Amin Afshar NADERI, Ramil BET-TAMRAZ, and Mohammad DEHNAVI. Even though they were not having a worship session during their gathering, the mere possession of Christian material amongst them is considered an offence. Ramil BET-Tamraz and Mohammad DEHNAVI were released after posting bail of around \$33,000 each (approximately €31,000).

Source: <https://www.worldwatchmonitor.org/2016/08/4608990/>

Saheb FADAYEE

Date and place of arrest: On 13th May 2016, at his house church in Rasht

Charges: Alcohol consumption, acting against national security

First court decision: In September 2016, he was sentenced to eighty lashes for drinking communion wine. On 9th February 2017, he went to file an appeal of the flogging sentence. The judge is to deliver his verdict within twenty days.

Last court decision: On 6th July 2017, he was sentenced to ten years in prison.

Other information: He was arrested with Yaser MOSIBZADEH, Yousef NADARKHANI and Mohammad Reza OMIDI. The men are all converts from Muslim backgrounds. Drinking alcohol is not illegal for Christians in Iran, but is forbidden for Muslims. The sentence reflects the state's hardline refusal to recognize the right of Muslims to change their religion.

Source: <http://www.releaseinternational.org/will-they-be-lashed-for-taking-communion-wine/>
<http://www.csw.org.uk/2016/10/07/news/3286/article.htm>

Yusif FARHADOV

Age: 23 years

Place of residence: Marian Colony in Green Town, Lahore

Date and place of arrest: On 24th June 2016, in Tehran

Charge: Conducting activities against national security and missionary activities

First court decision: He was released on bail on 29th October 2016.

Last court decision: On 23rd May 2017, Judge Ahmadzadeh of Iran's revolutionary court sentenced him to ten years imprisonment.

Other information: He was arrested with Nasser Navard GOLTAPE, Eldar GURBANOV and Bahram NASIBOV from the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Source: <http://www.csw.org.uk/2017/07/04/news/3609/article.htm>

Ebrahim FIROUZI

Age: 28 years

Place of residence: Robat-Karim, twenty kilometres south-west of Tehran

Date and place of arrest: On 7th March 2013 in Tehran

Charges: Acting against national security, gathering, and collusion

Statement of the defendant: He launched and administered a Christian missionary website, and distributed Bibles. Security authorities and interrogators fabricated the allegations.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Penal Code Article 499 (Anyone who joins, as a member, any of the groups, societies, or branches aforementioned in article 498, shall be sentenced to three months to five years' imprisonment, unless it is proved that he had been unaware of its aims) and Article 500 (Anyone who engages in any type of propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran or in support of opposition groups and associations shall be sentenced to three months to one year of imprisonment).

First court decision: On 15th July 2013, the Revolutionary Court in Robat-Karim sentenced him to one year in prison and two years of exile to Sarbaz, a remote border city.

Last court decision: It was expected that he would be released on 13th January 2016. However, a new case was raised and he was sentenced to five years imprisonment by Branch 28 of the Revolutionary Court. On 11th December 2016, the sentence of five years of prison was re-affirmed.

Place of detention: Rajai Shahr prison

Other information: He is due for release from jail in January 2020.

Source: <http://mohabatnews.com/en/?p=3416>

Nasser Navard GOLTAPE

Age: 23 years

Place of residence: Marian Colony in Green Town, Lahore

Date and place of arrest: On 24th June 2016, in Tehran

Charge: Conducting activities against national security and missionary activities

First court decision: He was released on bail on 29th October 2016.

Last court decision: On 23rd May 2017, Judge Ahmadzadeh of Iran's revolutionary court sentenced him to ten years imprisonment.

Other information: He was arrested with Yusif FARHADOV, Eldar GURBANOV and Bahram NASIBOV from the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Source: <http://www.csw.org.uk/2017/07/04/news/3609/article.htm>

Eldar GURBANOV

Age: 23 years

Place of residence: Marian Colony in Green Town, Lahore

Date and place of arrest: On 24th June 2016, in Tehran

Charge: Conducting activities against national security and missionary activities

First court decision: He was released on bail on 29th October 2016.

Last court decision: On 23rd May 2017, Judge Ahmadzadeh of Iran's revolutionary court sentenced him to ten years imprisonment.

Other information: He was arrested with Yusif FARHADOV, Nasser Navard GOLTAPE and Bahram NASIBOV from the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Source: <http://www.csw.org.uk/2017/07/04/news/3609/article.htm>

Yaser MOSIBZADEH

Date and place of arrest: On 13th May 2016, at his house church in Rasht

Charges: Alcohol consumption, acting against national security

First court decision: In September 2016, he was sentenced to eighty lashes for drinking communion wine. On 9th February 2017, he went to file an appeal of the flogging sentence.

Last court decision: On 6th July 2017, he was sentenced to ten years in prison.

Other information: He was arrested with Saheb FADAYEE, Yousef NADARKHANI and Mohammad Reza OMIDI. The men are all converts from Muslim backgrounds. Drinking alcohol is not illegal for Christians in Iran, but is forbidden for Muslims. The sentence reflects the state's hardline refusal to recognize the right of Muslims to change their religion.

Source: <http://www.releaseinternational.org/will-they-be-lashed-for-taking-communion-wine/>
<http://www.csw.org.uk/2016/10/07/news/3286/article.htm> ,
<http://www.csw.org.uk/2017/06/28/press/3603/article.htm>

Yousef NADARKHANI

Date and place of arrest: On 13th May 2016, at his house church in Rasht

Charges: Alcohol consumption acting against national security

First court decision: In September 2016, he was sentenced to eighty lashes for drinking communion wine. On 9th February 2017, he went to file an appeal of the flogging sentence.

Last court decision: On 6th July 2017, he was sentenced to ten years in prison.

Other information: He was arrested with Yaser MOSIBZADEH, Saheb FADAYEE and Mohammad Reza OMIDI. The men are all converts from Muslim backgrounds. Drinking alcohol is not illegal for Christians in Iran, but is forbidden for Muslims. The sentence reflects the state's hardline refusal to recognize the right of Muslims to change their religion.

Source: <http://www.releaseinternational.org/will-they-be-lashed-for-taking-communion-wine/>
<http://www.csw.org.uk/2016/10/07/news/3286/article.htm> ,
<http://www.csw.org.uk/2017/06/28/press/3603/article.htm>

Amin Afshar NADERI

Date and place of arrest: On 26th August 2016, in a garden in Firouzkouh county, north of Tehran

Charges: Acting against national security", blasphemy, organising and creating house churches

Last court decision: On 8th April 2017, he was tried with Hadi ASGHARI in Branch 26 of the Revolutionary Court. The verdict has not yet been communicated. On 11th June 2017, there was a second hearing in Tehran. However, he was not permitted to defend himself. The judge sentenced him to fifteen years imprisonment.

Place of detention: Evin prison in Tehran

Date of release: He was released on bail (80,000 USD) at the end of July 2017.

Other information: He was arrested with Amir Saman DASHTI, Ramil BET-TAMRAZ, Hadi ASGARI, and Mohammad DEHNAVI. Even though they were not having a worship session during their gathering, the mere possession of Christian material amongst them is considered an offence. Ramil BET-Tamraz and Mohammad DEHNAVI were released after posting bail of around \$33,000 each (approximately €31,000).

Source: <http://bit.ly/2qrbUJc>

Bahram NASIBOV

Age: 23 years

Place of residence: Marian Colony in Green Town, Lahore

Date and place of arrest: On 24th June 2016, in Tehran

Charge: Conducting activities against national security and missionary activities

First court decision: He was released on bail on 29th October 2016.

Last court decision: On 23rd May 2017, Judge Ahmadzadeh of Iran's revolutionary court sentenced him to ten years imprisonment.

Other information: He was arrested with Yusif FARHADOV, Eldar GURBANOV and Nasser Navard GOLTAPE from the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Source: <http://www.csw.org.uk/2017/07/04/news/3609/article.htm>

Mohammad Reza OMIDI

Date and place of arrest: On 13th May 2016, at his house church in Rasht

Charges: Alcohol consumption, acting against national security

First court decision: In September 2016, he was sentenced to eighty lashes for drinking communion wine. On 9th February 2017, he went to file an appeal of the flogging sentence.

Last court decision: On 6th July 2017, he was sentenced to ten years in prison.

Other information: He was arrested with Yaser MOSIBZADEH, Saheb FADAYEE and Yousef NADARKHANI. The men are all converts from Muslim backgrounds. Drinking alcohol is not illegal for Christians in Iran, but is forbidden for Muslims. The sentence reflects the state's hardline refusal to recognize the right of Muslims to change their religion.

Sources: <http://www.releaseinternational.org/will-they-be-lashed-for-taking-communion-wine/> <http://www.csw.org.uk/2016/10/07/news/3286/article.htm> ,
<http://www.csw.org.uk/2017/06/28/press/3603/article.htm>

Massoud REZAIE (Church of Iran)

Date and place of arrest: In October 2012

Charges: Action against national security and propaganda against the regime

Last court decision: On 16th July 2013, he was sentenced to five years in prison.

Mohammad ROGHANGIR (Church of Iran)

Date and place of arrest: In October 2012

Charges: Action against national security and propaganda against the regime

Last court decision: On 16th July 2013, Mohammad Roghangir was sentenced to six years in prison. He started serving his sentence in July 2014.

Place of detention: Adel Abad prison in Shiraz

Maryam Naghash ZARGARAN

Age: 36 years

Date and place of arrest: On 5th November 2012

Charges: Conducting propaganda against the Islamic regime and acting against the national security

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Islamic Penal Code Article 610 (When two or more individuals collude and conspire to commit crimes against the national or foreign security of the country or prepare the facilities to commit the aforementioned crimes, unless they are regarded as *mohareb* [enemies of God], shall be sentenced to two to five years' imprisonment)

First court decision: In March 2013, she was sentenced to four years in prison.

Last court decision: He was granted furlough from 5th June 2016 to 27th June 2016 and returned to prison.

Place of detention: Women's Ward of Evin Prison, Tehran

Date of release: 1st August 2017

Other info: Zagaran was provided no legal counsel for her trial in 2013. She suffers from a number of health problems including a heart disease for which she received surgery in 2007 and needs further medication. Began a hunger strike in June 2016 petitioning a new trial

Source: <http://bit.ly/1TJCIaS>

Catholics

Anousheh REZA-BAKHSH

Date and place of arrest: On 20th February 2017, in Urmia in the Western Azerbaijan province in northwestern Iran

Charges: Spying for and contact with foreign countries

Place of detention: Evin prison, ward 4

Other information: She was arrested alongside Soheil Zagarzadeh SANI, her son. There has been no further update on their whereabouts and well-being since the day of their arrest. Soheil Zargarzadeh Sani is a psychology university student in his senior year. A group of intelligence officers raided their home and confiscated their books, including their Bibles and some books on Christian theology. The mother and son who were arrested were converts to the Catholic Church and had never been arrested before for their faith or any other reason.

Source: <http://mohabatnews.com/en/?p=3381>

Soheil Zagarzadeh SANI

Date and place of arrest: On 20th February 2017, in Urmia in the Western Azerbaijan province in northwestern Iran

Charges: Spying for and contact with foreign countries

Place of detention: Evin prison, ward 4

Other information: He was arrested alongside Anousheh REZA-BAKHSH, his mother. There has been no further update on their whereabouts and well-being since the day of their arrest.

Soheil Zargarzadeh Sani is a psychology university student in his senior year. A group of intelligence officers raided their home and confiscated their books, including their Bibles and some books on Christian theology. The mother and son who were arrested were converts to the Catholic Church and had never been arrested before for their faith or any other reason.

Source: <http://mohabatnews.com/en/?p=3381>

Muslims

Sufis/ Dervishes: Nematollahi Order

Omid-Ali AKBARI

Place of residence: Kavar county in Fars Province

Date and place of arrest: In September 2011 (released in anticipation of process)

Charges: Involvement in a skirmish and causing physical harm and violation of public order

Statement of the defendant: He says he is affiliated with the Nematollahi Gonabadi Sufi Order.

Last court decision: In May 2014, he was sentenced to three years in prison and required to pay blood money (diyeh - to compensate the injuries caused to Basijis and plainclothes forces) by the first branch of the General court in Kavar.

Hamid-Reza ARAYESH

Place of residence: Kavar county in Fars Province

Date and place of arrest: In September 2011 (released in anticipation of process)

Charges: Spreading corruption on the earth, membership of illegal group (being Dervish/friary), assembly and collusion with the intent to disrupt national security, causing physical harm and violation of public order, carrying illegal weapons and *Moharebeh* (enmity with God)

Statement of the defendant: He says he is affiliated with the Nematollahi Gonabadi Sufi Order.

First court decision: In October 2013, he was sentenced to permanent exile in the province of Khuzestan by Branch 2 of the Revolutionary Court of Shiraz.

Last court decision: In May 2014, he was sentenced to four years in prison and paying blood money (diyeh - to compensate the injuries caused to Basijis and plaincloth forces) by the 1st branch of the General court in Kavar.

Omid BEHROUZI

Date and place of arrest: On 27th October 2011

Charges: Membership in a sect endangering national security, propaganda against the state, insulting the Supreme Leader, disturbing the public mind, establishing and membership in a deviant group, disrupting the public order

Statement of the defendant: He says he contributed to the Sufi website Majzooban-e Noor (<http://www.majzooban.org/en>).

Last court decision: He was sentenced to 7 ½ years in prison by Branch 15 of Tehran's Revolutionary Court.

Place of detention: Evin Prison, Tehran

Amir-Hamzeh DEGHAN

Place of residence: Kavar County in Fars Province

Date and place of arrest: In September 2011 (released in anticipation of process)

Charges: Involvement in a skirmish and causing physical harm and violation of public order

Statement of the defendant: He says he is affiliated with the Nematollahi Gonabadi Sufi Order.

Last court decision: In May 2014, he was sentenced to three years in prison and required to pay blood money (diyeh - to compensate the injuries caused to Basijs and plaincloth forces) by the 1st branch of the General court in Kavar.

Kazem DEHGHAN

Place of residence: Kavar County in Fars Province

Date and place of arrest: In September 2011 (released in anticipation of process)

Charges: Spreading corruption on the earth, membership of illegal group (being Dervish/friary), assembly and collusion with the intent to disrupt national security, causing physical harm and violation of public order, carrying illegal weapons and *Moharebeh* (enmity with God)

Statement of the defendant: He says he is affiliated with the Nematollahi Gonabadi Sufi Order.

First court decision: In October 2013, he was sentenced to permanent exile in the province of Sistan and Baluchestan by Branch 2 of the Revolutionary Court of Shiraz.

Last court decision: In May 2014, he was sentenced to four years in prison and required to pay blood money (diyeh - to compensate the injuries caused to Basijs and plaincloth forces) by the 1st branch of the General court in Kavar.

Mohammad-Ali DEHGHAN

Place of residence: Kavar County in Fars Province

Date and place of arrest: On 13th May 2013

Charges: Enmity against God, assembly and collusion against national security, undermining national security, membership in organisations that aim to disrupt national security, involvement in a skirmish and causing physical harm, violation of public order, carrying illegal weapons, participating in the gatherings with the aim of overthrowing the Islamic Republic and enmity against the God and corruption on earth

Statement of the defendant: He says he is affiliated with the Nematollahi Gonabadi Sufi Order.

Article of the criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Penal Code Article 183 (Any person who resorts to weapons to cause terror and fear or to breach public security and freedom shall be considered as a *mohareb* [enemy of God] and corrupt on earth), Article 186 (All the members and supporters of a group or an organised association which have waged armed rebellion against the Islamic State, whilst the core of that organisation or group exists, shall be regarded as *moharebs* [enemies of God] provided that they know the stance of that group or organisation and have effective activities and efforts in support of its aims), Article 187 (Any person or group that plots to overthrow the Islamic State and to that end gathers weapons and explosives, as well as those individuals who knowingly and freely provide effective financial facilities or means and weapons to them, shall be regarded as *mohareb* [enemy of God] and corrupt on earth), Article 610 (When two or more individuals collude

and conspire to commit crimes against the national or foreign security of the country or prepare the facilities to commit the aforementioned crimes, unless they are regarded as *mohareb* [enemies of God], shall be sentenced to two to five years' imprisonment), Article 498 (Anyone, with any ideology, who establishes or directs a group, society, or branch, inside or outside the country, with any name or title, that constitutes more than two individuals and aims to perturb the security of the country, if not considered as *mohareb* [enemy of God] shall be sentenced to two to ten years' imprisonment), and Article 499 (Anyone who joins, as a member, any of the groups, societies, or branches aforementioned in article 498, shall be sentenced to three months to five years' imprisonment, unless it is proved that he had been unaware of its aims).

Last court decision: On 29th May 2014, he was sentenced to four years in prison and required to pay blood money (diyeh - to compensate the injuries caused to Basijis and plaincloth forces) by the 1st branch of the General court in Kavar.

Place of detention: Adel Abad prison

Amir ESLAMI

Age: 35 years

Date and place of arrest: On 4th September 2011

Charges: Assembly and collusion against national security, propaganda against the system, membership in a sect endangering national security, propaganda against the state, insulting the Supreme Leader, disturbing the public mind, establishing and membership in a deviant group, disrupting the public order

Statement of the defendant: He says he contributed to the Sufi website Majzooban-e Noor (<http://www.majzooban.org/en>).

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Penal Code Article 500 (Anyone who engages in any type of propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran or in support of opposition groups and associations shall be sentenced to three months to one year of imprisonment) and Article 610 (When two or more individuals collude and conspire to commit crimes against the national or foreign security of the country or prepare the facilities to commit the aforementioned crimes, unless they are regarded as *mohareb* [enemies of God], shall be sentenced to two to five years' imprisonment).

Last court decision: He was sentenced to 7 ½ years in prison by Branch 15 of Tehran's Revolutionary Court.

Place of detention: Evin Prison, Tehran

Ali KARAMI

Place of residence: Kavar County in Fars Province

Date and place of arrest: In September 2011, in Tehran

Charges: Conspiracy to disturb the social and national security

Statement of the defendant: He says he contributed to the Sufi website Majzooban-e Noor

<http://www.majzooban.org/en>.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Islamic Penal Code Article 610 (When two or more individuals collude and conspire to commit crimes against the national or foreign security of the country or prepare the facilities to commit the aforementioned crimes, unless they are regarded as *mohareb* [enemies of God], shall be sentenced to two to five years' imprisonment)

Last court decision: In May 2014, he was sentenced to three years in prison by branch 26 of the Revolutionary Court presided over by judge Mohammadzadeh.

Other information: He was arrested alongside more than fifteen other lawyers and managers of Majzooban Noor website (Nematollah Gonabadi Order News Site) in September 2011, in Tehran.

Afshin KARAMPOUR

Date and place of arrest: In September 2011

Charges: Membership in a sect endangering national security, propaganda against the state, insulting the Supreme Leader, disturbing the public mind, establishing and membership in a deviant group, disrupting the public order

Statement of the defendant: He says he contributed to the Sufi website Majzooban-e Noor (<http://www.majzooban.org/en>).

Last court decision: He was sentenced to 7 ½ years in prison by Branch 15 of Tehran's Revolutionary Court.

Place of detention: Evin Prison, Tehran

Other information: Karampour chose not to appear or defend him himself in court, and refused to file appeal in protest against numerous pre-trial irregularities and ill-treatment in detention by Intelligence Ministry agents.

Mehrdad KESHAVARZ

Place of residence: Kavar County in Fars Province

Date and place of arrest: In September 2011 (released in anticipation of process)

Charges: Involvement in a skirmish and causing physical harm and violation of public order

Statement of the defendant: He says he is affiliated with the Nematollahi Gonabadi Sufi Order.

Last court decision: In May 2014, he was sentenced to three years in prison and ordered to pay blood money (diyeh - to compensate the injuries caused to Basijs and plain clothed forces) by the 1st branch of the General court in Kavar.

Abouzar MALEKPOUR

Place of residence: Kavar County in Fars Province

Date and place of arrest: In September 2011 (released in anticipation of process)

Charges: Involvement in a skirmish and causing physical harm and violation of public order

Statement of the defendant: He says he is affiliated with the Nematollahi Gonabadi Sufi Order.

Last court decision: In May 2014, he was sentenced to three years in prison and ordered to pay blood money (diyeh - to compensate the injuries caused to Basijs and plain-clothed forces) by the 1st branch of the General court in Kavar.

Hamid-Reza MORADI SARVESTANI

Date and place of arrest: On 4th September 2011

Charges: Membership in a sect endangering national security, propaganda against the state, insulting the Supreme Leader, agitating the public consciousness, disruption of public order

Statement of the defendant: He claims he contributed to the Sufi website Majzooban-e Noor (<http://www.majzooban.org/en>).

Article of the criminal/ civil/ administrative code: Penal Code Article 183 (Any person who resorts to weapons to cause terror and fear or to breach public security and freedom shall be considered as a *mohareb* [enemy of God] and corrupt on earth), Article 186 (All the members and supporters of a group or an organised association which have waged armed rebellion against the Islamic State, whilst the core of that organisation or group exists, shall be regarded as *moharebs* [enemies of God] provided that they know the stance of that group or organisation and have effective activities and efforts in support of its aims), Article 187 (Any person or group that plots to overthrow the Islamic State and to that end gathers weapons and explosives, as well as those individuals who knowingly and freely provide effective financial facilities or means and weapons to them, shall be regarded as *mohareb* [enemy of God] and corrupt on earth), Article 610 (When two or more individuals collude and conspire to commit crimes against the national or foreign security of the country or prepare the facilities to commit the aforementioned crimes, unless they are regarded as *mohareb* [enemies of God], shall be sentenced to two to five years' imprisonment), Article 500 (Anyone who engages in any type of propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran or in support of opposition groups and associations shall be sentenced to three months to one year of imprisonment), Article 514 (Anyone who, by any means, insults Imam Khomeini, the founder of the Islamic Republic, and/or the Supreme Leader shall be sentenced to six months to two years' imprisonment), Article 618 (Anyone who disrupts the order and public peace or prevents people from their business by crying out and creating a row and outrageous behaviour or by assaulting other people shall be sentenced to three months to one year of imprisonment and up to seventy-four lashes), and Article 698 (Anyone who, with the intent to cause damage to someone or disrupt the opinion of the authorities or the public, sends a letter, complaint, correspondence, petition, report, or distributes printed or written paper, signed or unsigned, that contains false attributes of acts to an individual or legal person, whether explicitly or implicitly, and whether or not it causes physical or spiritual damages, or damages the victim's prestige, shall be sentenced to two months to two years' imprisonment, or up to seventy-four lashes).

Last court decision: He was sentenced to 10 ½ years in prison by Branch 15 of Tehran's Revolutionary Court.

Place of detention: Evin Prison, Tehran

Other information: He is the brother of Salehedin MORADI SARVESTANI.

Salehedin MORADI SARVESTANI

Date and place of arrest: In September 2011, and then again on 25th February 2015

Charges: Disturbing public order, propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendant: He says he is a Dervishes rights activist.

First court decision: He was sentenced to two years in exile and thirty lashes by Kavar's General Court. The Revolutionary Court of Shiraz sentenced him to two years in prison and two years in exile.

Last court decision: The initial verdict of Kavar's General Court was upheld by the appeal court. The verdict of the Revolutionary Court is currently in the appeal court.

Place of detention: Adel-Abad prison

Other information: He is the brother of Hamid Reza MORADI SARVESTANI.

Behyar RAJABI

Place of residence: Kavar County in Fars Province

Date and place of arrest: In September 2011 (released in anticipation of process)

Charges: Involvement in a skirmish and causing physical harm and violation of public order

Statement of the defendant: He says he is affiliated with the Nematollahi Gonabadi Sufi Order.

Last court decision: In May 2014, he was sentenced to three years in prison and ordered to pay blood money (diyeh - to compensate the injuries caused to Basijs and plaincloth forces) by the 1st branch of the General court in Kavar.

Farshid YADOLLAHI

Date and place of arrest: In September 2011

Charges: Membership in a sect endangering national security, propaganda against the state, insulting the Supreme Leader, disturbing the public mind, establishing and membership in a deviant group, disrupting the public order

Statement of the defendant: He claims he contributed to the Sufi website Majzooban-e Noor (<http://www.majzooban.org/en>).

Last court decision: He was sentenced to 7 ½ years in prison by Branch 15 of Tehran's Revolutionary Court.

Place of detention: Evin Prison, Tehran

Manouchehr ZARE

Place of residence: Kavar County in Fars Province

Date and place of arrest: In September 2011 (released in anticipation of process)

Charges: Involvement in a skirmish and causing physical harm and violation of public order

Statement of the defendant: He says he is affiliated with the Nematollahi Gonabadi Sufi Order.

Last court decision: In May 2014, he was sentenced to three years in prison and ordered to pay blood money (diyeh - to compensate the injuries caused to Basijis and plaincloth forces) by the 1st branch of the General court in Kavar.

Sufis/ Dervishes: Yarsan (Ahl-e hagh) Order

Younes AGHAYAN

Age: 32 years

Place of residence: Miandoab

Date and place of arrest: In October 2004

Charges: Carrying ammunition and arms, armed resistance against the Islamic Republic of Iran

Statement of the defendant: He claims he followed the Ahl-e Hagh faith.

First court decision: In January 2005, branch 2 of Mahabad Revolutionary Court sentenced him to five years in prison and death.

Last court decision: On 19th August 2015, his sentence was reduced to lifetime in prison when Iran's Supreme Leader declared an amnesty for some prisoners.

Place of detention: Urumia Prison

Other information: In October 2004, the police raided his village to remove signs with religious writings of Yari faith. He was arrested because he resisted the raid and confronted the police.

Bakhsh Ali MOHAMMADI

Place of residence: West Azerbaijan Province

Date and place of arrest: In 2004

Charges: Enmity against God

Statement of the defendant: He claims he followed the Ahl-e Hagh faith.

First court decision: He was sentenced to death.

Last court decision: In 2013, he was sentenced to five years imprisonment.

Place of detention: Urumia prison. On 4th November 2013, he was transferred to Yazd central prison.

Other information: He was arrested and tried alongside Abdollah QASEMZADEH and Sahand Ali MOHAMMADI. The three were given a shared fine of 400 million Tomans blood money.

Sahand Ali MOHAMMADI

Place of residence: West Azerbaijan Province

Date and place of arrest: In 2004

Charges: Enmity against God

Statement of the defendant: He claims he followed the Ahl-e Hagh faith.

First court decision: He was sentenced to death.

Last court decision: In 2013, he was sentenced to five years imprisonment.

Place of detention: Urumia prison. On 4th November 2013, he was transferred to Ardakan prison.

Other information: He was arrested and tried alongside Abdollah QASEMZADEH and Bakhsh Ali MOHAMMADI. The three were given a shared fine of 400 million Tomans blood money.

Abdollah QASEMZADEH

Place of residence: West Azerbaijan Province

Date and place of arrest: In 2004

Charges: Enmity against God

Statement of the defendant: He claims he followed the Ahl-e Hagh faith.

First court decision: He was sentenced to death.

Last court decision: In 2013, he was sentenced to five years imprisonment.

Place of detention: Urumia prison

Other information: He was arrested and tried with Bakhsh Ali MOHAMMADI and Sahand Ali MOHAMMADI. The three were given a shared fine of 400 million Tomans blood money.

Sunni Muslims

The Report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iran dated 13th March 2014¹ lists eighty-eight Sunni Muslims (thirteen Baluchis and seventy-five Kurds) who were in prison in 2014: thirty-one were sentenced to death and are on the death row; eight are serving prison terms ranging between ten and twenty years; twenty-five received prison terms from five to nine years, and all the others less than five years.

¹ See <http://shaheedoniran.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/A-HRC-25-61-updated.pdf>

The official charges are usually: Enmity against God (Clauses 183, 186 & 187) – Assembly and collusion against national security (Clause 610) – Undermining national security (Clause 498) - Membership in organisations that aim to disrupt national security (Clause 499) – Espionage (Clause 501) – Involvement in Salafi and terrorist groups.

Hassan AL-HAIDARI ABO WALID (Naim al-Haidari)

Age: 37 years

Place of residence: Al-Thawra

Date and place of arrest: On 26th August 2017, Al-Ahwaz

Charges: He was charged with being Sunni.

Last court decision: He has been sentenced to prison for an unknown period of time.

Place of detention: Unknown

Source: <http://acfh.info/en/?p=2410>

Collective arrests

Thirteen Sunnis (Ahwazi)

Date and place of arrest: On 11th August 2017, Ahvaz (Khuzestan Province)

Charges: They were charged with holding a traditional Sunni prayer group in public.

Place of detention: Ahvaz, although authorities in Ahvaz claim to have no information of the individuals or their arrest.

Other information: The names of those arrested are: Riyaz ZOHEIRI, Javad HASHEMI, Hossein HIAVI AL-HAEI, Hassan DALFI, Heidar SARI SAVARI, Milad AFRAVI, Yousef KHASARJI, Yaser SILAVI, Sajjad AL-HAI NASIRI, Ali BAVI, Shaker SHARIFI, Abbas SHARIFI and Ahmad HEIDARI.

Source: <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2017/08/sunni-arabs-beaten-and-arrested-in-iran-for-praying-in-public/>

Thirty-Three Sunnis

Date and place of arrest: In June and July 2009

Charges: Gathering against national security, propaganda against the regime, corruption on earth, and enmity against God

Statement of the defendants: They claim they were practicing or promoting their faith.

First court decision: They were all sentenced to death by branch 28 of the Revolutionary Court of Tehran, Branch 15 of the Revolutionary Court of Tehran and the Revolutionary Court of Sanandaj.

Second court decision: The sentences of Shahram Ahmadi, Seyed Jamal Mousavi, Abdorahman Sangani, Sedigh Mohammadi, Seyed Hadi Hosseini Hamed Ahmadi, Kamal

Molaei, Jamshid Dehghani, Sedigh Mohammadi and Seyed Hadi Hosseini were confirmed on appeal.

Last court decision: Shahram Ahmadi, Khaled Maleki, Mokhtar Rahimi, Bahman Rahimi, Kaveh Veisi, and Kaveh Sharifi were executed on 2nd August 2016.

Place of detention: Most are in Raja'i Shahr and Ghezel Hesar prisons, in Karaj; Mr. Mousavi is in Sanandaj Prison.

Other information: There were a total of thirty-three Sunnis arrested during this crackdown. Since their arrest, six were executed in 2015. The names of those that are still in prison (as of January 2017) are: Alam Barmashti, Seyed Shaho Ebrahimi, Varia Ghaderifard, Mohammad Gharibi, Farzad Honarjo, Mohammad Keyvan Karimi (released on parole on 19th April 2017), Taleb Maleki, Pouria Mohammadi, Keyvan Momenifard, Seyed Jamal Mousavi, Teymour Naderizadeh, Farshid Naseri, Ahmad Nasiri, Borzan Nasrollahzadeh, Idris Nemati, Omid Peyvand, Mohammadyavar Rahimi, Abdorahman Sangani, Amjad Salehi, Behrouz Shahnazari, Arash Sharifi, and Farzad Shahnazari.

Individual arrests

Hafez-Tohid GHOREISHI

Date and place of arrest: In September 2014

Statement of the defendant: He claims he preached Sunni Islam.

First court decision: He was sentenced to ten years in prison.

Last court decision: The prison term was reduced to seven years.

Place of detention: Raja'I Shahr prison in Karaj

Edrees NEMATI

Date and place of arrest: On 9th March 2011

Charges: Enmity against God

Statement of the defendant: He claims he preached Sunni Islam.

Last court decision: He was sentenced to death by Branch 28 of the Revolutionary court of Tehran.

Place of detention: Rajai Shahr prison, Karaj

Other information: He was tortured and forced to make filmed confessions that were broadcasted on state television.

Naser PIRI

Date and place of arrest: On 11th August 2014 in Zahedan

Statement of the defendant: He claims he preached Sunni Islam.

Last court decision: Islamic Revolutionary Court of Sanandaj sentenced him to five years in prison.

Place of detention: Sanandaj Central Prison

Other information: Mr. Piri previously had been arrested once before and was under investigation for approximately fifteen months by the Ministry of Intelligence in Sanandaj. After being released on bail, he was acquitted of the charges.

Shia Muslims

Ayatollah Mohammad Kazemeni BOROJERDI

Date and place of arrest: In October 2006

Charges: Enmity against God and spreading propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendant: He claims he was advocating the separation of religion and state, and speaking out on behalf of the rights of Iran's religious minorities as well as those of the Shi'a Muslim majority.

First court decision: In 2007, a Special Clerical Court sentenced him to death.

Last court decision: He was sentenced to eleven years in prison.

Place of detention: Evin Prison's Ward for the clergy

Other information: In addition to the imprisonment, the government banned him from practicing his clerical duties, and confiscated his home and belongings. During his imprisonment he was threatened several times with execution. He has finished his prison sentence but there are doubts that the Iranian Regime will ever release him.

Source: <http://bit.ly/2n9T1Is>

Hesameddin FARZIZADEH

Age: 25 years

Place of residence: Meshkinsharh

Date and place of arrest: November 2014 at home

Charges: Insulting the Prophet Mohammad and Ayatollah Khomeini

Last court decision: The Criminal Court of Meshkinshahr in Ardabil province sentenced him to seven years of in prison and seventy-four lashes and death (for apostasy).

Place of detention: Meshkinshahr Prison

Other information: The charge of apostasy stems from a book written by him, entitled "From Islam to Islam", in which he examines the history of Shi'a Islam and raises questions about certain facets of Shi'a beliefs.

Source: <https://deathpenaltynews.blogspot.be/2015/06/iran-iranian-writer-sentenced-to-death.html>

Amir GOLESTANI

Date and place of arrest: On 20th August 2013, in Tehran

Charges: Propaganda against the regime, insulting the Supreme Leader, publishing obscene photographs, conspiracy and blasphemy

First court decision: He was sentenced to twenty years and one day in prison by Branch 28 of the Revolutionary Court.

Last court decision: The initial verdict was upheld by the Appeals Court.

Ayatollah Mohammad Reza NEKOUNAM

Date and place of arrest: In January 2015, in Qom

Charges: Insulting a religious figure

Statement of the defendant: He says he criticized the fatwa that was issued by Ayatollah Makaram Shirazi against high speed Internet.

Last court decision: He was sentenced to five years in prison by a Special Clerical Court.

Place of detention: Saheli prison, in Qom

Source: <https://www.en-hrana.org/ayatollah-nekounam-transferred-hospital-tehran>

Seyed Masoud SEYED TALEBI

Date and place of arrest: On 23rd November 2013

Charges: Gathering and collusion against national security, propaganda against the regime, blasphemy

First court decision: He was sentenced to fifteen years and one day in prison.

Last court decision: He was sentenced to twenty years and one day in prison by Branch 28 of the Islamic Revolutionary Court.

Other information: His case was considered as an incomplete case in the branch 54 of the Appeal Court, and then was sent to the branch 28 of the Revolutionary Court. In this court, a new charge of blasphemy was added to the verdict.

Zoroastrian

Ebrahim (Nader) BABAIE ZEYDI

Date and place of arrest: In November 2011, after having been released on bail in January 2010

Charges: Propaganda against the regime, acting against national security

Last court decision: He was sentenced to six years and nine months in prison by Branch 26 of the Revolutionary Court.

Place of detention: Rajaie Shahr prison in Karaj

Other information: He has sustained injuries from the eight-year Iran-Iraq war.

Baha'is

The 2017 Report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iran stated that **90 Baha'is were in detention as of 2017**. In April, the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention ruled that the detention of 24 members of the Baha'i community was arbitrary and in violation of their human rights. HRWF Database comprises **sixty-six documented cases**.

The official charges for Baha'i prisoners in Iran are usually: Forming an illegal cult - Acting against national security – Espionage – Propaganda against the regime - Posing a threat to the holy regime of the Islamic Republic by teaching Bahaist ideas through communication with the usurper country of Israel – Plotting overthrow - Membership in an anti-Islamic group – Membership in illegal groups and assemblies - Membership in the deviant sect of Baha'ism with the goal of taking action against the security of the country, in order to further the aims of the deviant sect and those of organisations outside the country.

It appears that Baha'is are almost exclusively prosecuted for participation in their community affairs, including by facilitating educational services and publicly engaging in religious practices, such as attending devotional gatherings.

A number of prisoners are lecturers or work for the Baha'i Institute for Higher Education, an organisation aiming to provide higher education to Baha'is, as they are often barred from attending Iran's other universities.

Zarrin AGHAIE

Place of residence: Isfahan

Date of arrest: On 15th November 2015

Charges: Organizing illegal meetings opposing the Islamic Republic, active membership and participation in organized (illegal) institutions and meetings, effective teaching and propagation activities, promotion of anti-cultural values, creation and distribution of illegal multimedia materials, encouraging and exhortation of Muslims

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Penal Code Article 499 (Anyone who joins, as a member, any of the groups, societies, or branches aforementioned in article 498, shall be sentenced to three months to five years' imprisonment, unless it is proved that he had been unaware of its aims), and Article 500 (Anyone who engages in any type of propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran or in support of opposition groups and associations shall be sentenced to three months to one year of imprisonment).

Last court decision: On 16th May 2017, Judge Ravaanmehr ordered a six-month prison sentence, along with six months of suspended prison sentence (total of one year).

Source: <http://bit.ly/2ulA1Yh>

Sina AGHDAS

Place of residence: Mashhad

Date and place of arrest: On 11th July 2012 in Mashhad

Charges: Acting against national security by teaching the Baha'i faith

Statement of defendant: He claims that he made reference to a Quranic verse to highlight political/religious discrimination.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code:

First court decision: On 22nd April 2017, he was sentenced to one year imprisonment after two court sessions in branch eight of the Revolutionary Court in Mashhad.

Place of detention: Vakil Abad Prison of Mashhad

Other Information: He was arrested by security guards during a visit to the homes of two Baha'i residents. He was arrested with Shayan TAFAZOLI and Khashayar TAFAZOLI.

Source: <https://www.en-hrana.org/3-bahais-sentenced-prison-terms>

Hana AGHIGHIAN

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: Gorgan

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to nine years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and nine months in prison.

Place of detention: In June 2017, she surrendered herself to Amir Abad Prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Sonia AHMADI

Place of residence: Mashhad

Date and place of arrest: On 2nd November 2009

Charges: Propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendant: She claims to be a member of the Baha'i faith

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Penal Code Article 499 (Anyone who joins, as a member, any of the groups, societies, or branches aforementioned in article 498, shall be sentenced to three months to five years' imprisonment, unless it is proved that he had been unaware of its aims), and Article 500 (Anyone who engages in any type of propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran or in support of opposition groups and associations shall be sentenced to three months to one year of imprisonment).

Last court decision: She was sentenced to five years in prison, starting from September 2012.

Place of detention: Vakilabad prison in Mashhad

Other information: On 10th January 2014, she was released from Vakilabad prison with the promise that she would be given her complete freedom. However, on 10th April 2014, she was summoned to the Vakilabad prison to continue serving her sentence.

Fariborz BAGHI

Place of residence: Yazd

Date and place of arrest: In August 2012 (released on bail)

Charges: Acting against national security and propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendants: Claims to engage in peaceful practice of the Baha'i faith

Last court decision: On 7th March 2015, he was sentenced to two years in prison.

Place of detention: Yazd prison

Other information: He was arrested alongside his significant other, Nateghe NAEIMI, and is the brother of Farah BAGHI.

Shahab DEGHANI

Place of residence: Tehran

Date and place of arrest: In July 2012

Charges: Propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendant: He claims to be a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: He was sentenced to four years in prison by Branch 28 of the Islamic Revolutionary Court in Tehran. He started serving his sentence on 24th May 2014.

Last court decision: The appeals court upheld the sentence.

Place of detention: Raja'i Shahr prison in Karaj

Other information: He is married to Shomeis MOHAJER.

Shahram ESHRAGHI

Place of residence: Isfahan

Statement of the defendant: He claims to be a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: He was sentenced to four years in prison, of which one is suspended by Section 1 of the Revolutionary Court of Yazd.

Last court decision: On 16th April 2014, the provincial Appeals Court upheld the sentence. He started serving his sentence on 11th October 2015.

Place of detention: Isfahan prison

Shamim ETTEHADI

Place of residence: Yazd

Date and place of arrest: In March 2013

Charges: Propaganda against the regime and acting against national security

Statement of the defendant: He claims he broadcasted a video of the destruction of the Baha'is graveyard to a foreign TV channel.

Last court decision: On 16th June 2013, the Revolutionary Court of Yazd sentenced him to five years in prison.

Other information: He was previously arrested in 2011 and sentenced to ninety-one days of prison in March 2012. The appeal court changed it to three years of suspended prison. He is the son of Azam MOTAHARI.

Sheida GHODDUSI

Date of arrest: In 2015

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith.

Last court decision: The Golestan province Revolutionary Court sentenced her to eleven months imprisonment in 2015.

Other information: She began her prison sentence on 13th June 2017. She appealed the court's decision and is waiting for sentencing information.

Source: <http://bit.ly/2tmfHWI>

Haleh GHOLAMI

Date and place of arrest: On 27th January 2017, in the Shahrara area of Tehran

Charges: For her belief in the Baha'i faith and activism in child protection matters

Place of detention: Evin Prison

Date of release: On 6th March 2017

Other information: After her arrest, her home was searched and her mobile phones and tablets were confiscated. She is an activist for the protection of child labourers and orphans. She was freed on bail in March 2017.

Source: <http://bit.ly/2rwuv6Y>

Saba GOLSHAN

Place of residence: Isfahan

Statement of the defendant: He claims to be a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: He was sentenced to five years in prison, one year of which is suspended, by Section 1 of the Revolutionary Court of Yazd.

Last court decision: On 16th April 2014, the provincial Appeals Court upheld the sentence. He started serving his sentence on 12th August 2015.

Place of detention: Isfahan prison

Behnam HASSANI

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: Gorgan

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to nine years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and nine months in prison.

Place of detention: In June 2017, she surrendered herself to Amir Abad Prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Shahnam JADHBANI

Date and place of arrest: On 17th October 2012, in Minudasht

Charges: Propaganda in favour of the Baha'i faith and against the Islamic Republic by being members of an illegal organization, implementing proselytizing projects in Golestan Province, and collaborating with enemy states by actively promoting sectarian, anti-Islamic and anti-Shia objectives

Last court decision: In February 2016, he was sentenced to eleven years in prison.

Other information: He suffered a heart attack during his detention and spent three days in hospital, but was returned to his cell and remained there despite suffering severe pain.

Source: <https://sensday.wordpress.com/2016/01/26/24-bahais-in-gorgan-sentenced-to-a-total-of-193-years-in-prison> , <https://www.iranhumanrights.org/2016/03/twelve-bahais-allege-torture-in-detention/> , <http://cts.thesentinelproject.org/reports/view/1500?l=te>

Fariba KAMALABADI

Date of birth: 12th September 1962

Date and place of arrest: On 14th May 2008, in Tehran or Mashhad

Charges: Espionage, propaganda against the regime, assembly and collusion against national security

Statement of the defendant: She claims to be a leader of the Baha'i community

First court decision: In August 2010, she was sentenced to twenty years in prison (the longest terms of any current prisoners of conscience in Iran).

Second court decision: The sentences were upheld by the appeals court.

Last court decision: In November 2015, her sentence was reduced to ten years in prison.

Place of detention: Evin prison or Rajae Shahr prison

Date of release: In December 2017 after completing his sentence

Other information: She was arrested alongside Jamaloddin KHANJANI, Afif NAEMI, Saeid REZAIE, Mahvash SABET, Behrouz TAVAKKOLI and Vahid TIZFAHM. In September 2010, the authorities verbally informed the seven Baha'is that their twenty years sentences were reduced to ten years. Then, March 2011, prison authorities told them in that their initial twenty years sentences had been reinstated.

Vahid KARAMI

Place of residence: Isfahan

Date of arrest: On 15th November 2015

Charges: Organizing illegal meetings opposing the Islamic Republic, active membership and participation in organized (illegal) institutions and meetings, effective teaching and propagation activities, promotion of anti-cultural values, creation and distribution of illegal multimedia materials, encouraging and exhortation of Muslims

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Penal Code Article 499 (Anyone who joins, as a member, any groups, societies, or branches aforementioned in article 498, shall be sentenced to three months to five years' imprisonment, unless it is proved that he had been unaware of its aims), and Article 500 (Anyone who engages in any type of propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran or in support of opposition groups and associations shall be sentenced to three months to one year of imprisonment).

Last court decision: On 16th May 2017, Judge Ravaanmehr ordered a six-month prison sentence, along with six months of suspended prison sentence (total of one year).

Source: <http://bit.ly/2ulA1Yh>

Sima KEYANI (KIANI)

Date and place of arrest: On 8th March 2017, at her home in Rey

Charges: Unknown

Place of detention: Evin prison

Date of release: She was released on bail on 8th April 2017.

Other information: Her home was searched and a pickup truck was used to take away her religious books, along with religious images and family photographs.

Source: <http://wp.me/pNMoj-2R4> , <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17093/> , <https://sendsday.wordpress.com/2017/04/09/sima-keyani-free-on-bail-in-tehran/> <https://ce.wordpress.com/tag/bahai-faith/> , <http://bit.ly/2u8XDBV>

Jamaloddin KHANJANI

Age: 82 years

Date and place of arrest: On 14th May 2008, in Tehran or Mashhad

Charges: Espionage, propaganda against the regime, assembly and collusion against national security

Statement of the defendant: He claims to be a leader of the Baha'i community

First court decision: In August 2010, he was sentenced to twenty years in prison (the longest terms of any current prisoners of conscience in Iran).

Second court decision: The sentences were upheld by the appeals court.

Last court decision: In November 2015, his sentence was reduced to ten years in prison.

Place of detention: Evin prison or Rajae Shahr prison

Other information: He was arrested alongside Fariba KAMALABADI, Afif NAEMI, Saeid REZAIE, Mahvash SABET, Behrouz TAVAKKOLI and Vahid TIZFAHM. In September 2010, the authorities verbally informed the seven Baha'is that their twenty years sentences were reduced to ten years. Then, March 2011, prison authorities told them in that their initial twenty years sentences had been reinstated. On 22th April 2015, Iranian police demolished the home belonging to Mr. Khanjani in Semnan.

Manuchehr KHOLOUSI

Place of residence: Mashhad

Date and place of arrest: On 29th November 2013

Charges: Propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendant: He claims he was teaching the Baha'i faith.

Last court decision: On 8th July 2014, the Revolutionary Court of Mashhad sentenced him to six years in prison.

Place of detention: Minab prison

Other information: In 1999, Mr. Kholousi was sentenced to death for being a Baha'i. This sentence was reduced to one year in prison in the appeal court. He is the father of Nika and Nava Kholousi.

Nava KHOLOUSI

Place of residence: Mashad

Date and place of arrest: On 30th March 2014

Charges: Propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendants: She claims she participated in Baha'i activities.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Articles 499 (Anyone who joins, as a member, any of the groups, societies, or branches aforementioned in article 498, shall be sentenced to three months to five years' imprisonment, unless it is proved that he had been unaware of its aims), and Article 500 (Anyone who engages in any type of propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran or in support of opposition groups and associations shall be sentenced to three months to one year of imprisonment).

First court decision: She was sentenced to 4 ½ years in prison.

Last court decision: The initial verdict was confirmed by branch 20 of the Appeals Court of Khorasan Razavi.

Place of detention: Vakilabad prison

Other information: She was arrested alongside her sister, Nika KHOLOUSI. They are the daughters of Manuchehr KHOLOUSI.

Nika KHOLOUSI

Place of residence: Mashad

Date and place of arrest: On 30th March 2014

Charges: Propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendants: She claims she participated in Baha'i activities.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Articles 499 (Anyone who joins, as a member, any of the groups, societies, or branches aforementioned in article 498, shall be sentenced to three months to five years' imprisonment, unless it is proved that he had been unaware of its aims), and Article 500 (Anyone who engages in any type of propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran or in support of opposition groups and associations shall be sentenced to three months to one year of imprisonment).

First court decision: She was sentenced to six years in prison.

Last court decision: The initial verdict was confirmed by branch 20 of the Appeals Court of Khorasan Razavi.

Place of detention: Vakilabad prison

Other information: She was arrested alongside her sister, Nava KHOLOUSI. They are the daughters of Manuchehr KHOLOUSI.

Vahed KHOLOUSI

Date and place of arrest: In March 2010 (released on bail)

Charges: Collaboration and conspiracy to commit crimes against national security, membership in the Baha'i Faith and active participation in affairs of that community and contributing to its spread, propaganda against the regime of the Islamic Republic

Statement of the defendant: He claims membership and active participation in organizations defending both the right to education and human rights.

First court decision: In June 2011, he was sentenced to five years in prison by branch 28 of the Revolutionary Court of Tehran.

Last court decision: The initial sentence was upheld by the Appeals Court. He started serving his sentence on 13th September 2015.

Place of detention: Hall 12 of Section 4 in Rajai Shahr prison

Other information: Mr. Vahed Kholousi is a civil rights activist. He was expelled from the university because of his Baha'i membership.

Peyman KOUSH-BAGHI

Charges: Baha'i membership, acting against national security

First court decision: In May 2015, he was sentenced to five years in prison by Branch 28 of the Revolutionary court of Tehran.

Last court decision: The Appeals Court upheld the initial verdicts.

Place of detention: Evin prison

Other information: He was arrested alongside his significant other, Azita RAFIZADEH. They have a four-year-old son and they are both professors at the Baha'i Institute for Higher Education (BIHE). He began serving his sentence on 28th February 2016.

Yekta FAHANDEZH-SA`ADI

Place of residence: Shiraz

Date and place of arrest: On 19th March 2017

Charges: Propaganda against the regime and collusion

First court decision: On 16th June 2016, she was sentenced by Judge Doctor Sadati to five years in prison.

Last court decision: In December 2016, the Court of Review in Shiraz reduced her five-year sentence to two years in prison and a three-year suspended sentence.

Place of detention: Adel Abad prison

Other information: She was one of fifteen Baha'is arrested in Shiraz in 2010. On February 3, 2012, she was again arrested by agents from the Ministry of Intelligence and spent 82 days in the Ministry of Intelligence's Detention Facility 100 in Shiraz. She was released on bail and later charged with propaganda against the regime and undermining national security. She was given a five-year suspended sentence, but was later acquitted by the Court of Review.

Source: <https://sensday.wordpress.com/2017/03/26/yekta-fahandezh-saadi-begins-her-prison-sentence/>

Sorur Foroughi MAHDIABADI (Sorour Foroughi MEHDI ABADI)

Age: 69 years

Place of residence: Yazd

Date and place of arrest: On 21st February 2017, in Teheran

Place of detention: Yazd prison

Date of release: On 27th March 2017, she was released on bail of 200 million tumans.

Other information: She is not in good physical condition. She suffers from cancer and high blood pressure.

Source: <http://wp.me/pNMoJ-2Qr> , <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17033/>

Navid MOALLEM

Date and place of arrest: On 12th March 2017, in Minudasht, Golestan Province

Place of residence: Minudasht in Golestan Province

Charges: Unknown, but previously arrested and imprisoned for involvement with Baha'i religion

Other information: He and his wife Camelia BIDEKIAN had previously been arrested on 17 October 2012, and sentenced six years in prison on 27th January 2016. This sentence was reduced to one year and six-month imprisonment as part of a case named "Baha'is Arrested in Golestan Province" in 2016.

Source: <http://bit.ly/2renHK3> , <http://wp.me/pNMoj-2Ro>

Farahnaz MOGHADAM

Place of residence: Urumieh, a city in north of Iran

Date and place of arrest: On 30th January 2013 (released on bail after a few months)

Charges: Propaganda against the Islamic Republic, attracting Muslims, conspiracy and plotting through membership in the Baha'i Assembly

Statement of the defendant: She claims she was teaching the Baha'i faith.

First court decision: In spring 2014, she was sentenced to six years in prison by branch 1 of the Revolutionary Court.

Last court decision: The appeals court reduced the initial sentences to three years in prison.

Place of detention: Urumieh Prison

Shabnam MOTAHED

Place of residence: Yazd

Date and place of arrest: On 18th March 2015

Charges: Propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendant: She claims to be a member of the Baha'i faith

Last court decision: She was sentenced to two years in prison and a one-year suspended prison.

Place of detention: Central prison in Yazd

Other information: She was arrested alongside her significant other, Iman RASHIDI.

Adel NAEIMI

Place of residence: Tehran

Date and place of arrest: In May 2014 in Tehran

Charges: Baha'i membership and propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendants: They claim they were engaging in peaceful practice of their Baha'i faith

Last court decision: On 24th April 2013, he was sentenced to eleven years in prison by branch 28 of Revolutionary Court.

Place of detention: Rajai-Shahr prison and Evin prison

Other information: He was arrested alongside his relatives, Elham FARAHANI and Shamim NAEIMI. He is the elder brother of Afif NAEIMI.

Afif NAEIMI

Age: 53 years

Date and place of arrest: On 14th May 2008, in Tehran or Mashhad

Charges: Espionage, propaganda against the regime, assembly and collusion against national security

Statement of the defendant: He claims to be a leader of the Baha'i community

First court decision: In August 2010, he was sentenced to twenty years in prison (the longest terms of any current prisoners of conscience in Iran).

Second court decision: The sentences were upheld by the appeals court.

Last court decision: In November 2015, his sentence was reduced to ten years in prison.

Place of detention: Evin prison or Rajae Shahr prison

Other information: He was arrested alongside Fariba KAMALABADI, Jamaloddin KHANJANI, Saeid REZAIE, Mahvash SABET, Behrouz TAVAKKOLI and Vahid TIZFAHM. In September 2010, the authorities verbally informed the seven Baha'is that their twenty years sentences were reduced to ten years. Then, March 2011, prison authorities told them in that their initial twenty years sentences had been reinstated.

Nateghe NAEIMI

Place of residence: Yazd

Date and place of arrest: In August 2012 (released on bail)

Charges: Acting against national security and propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendants: Claims to engage in peaceful practice of the Baha'i faith

Last court decision: On 5th October 2015, she sentenced to two years in prison.

Place of detention: Yazd prison

Other information: She was arrested alongside her significant other, Fariborz BAGHI.

Shamim NAIMI

Date and place of arrest: In early July 2012

Last court decision: He was sentenced to 3 years in prison.

Place of detention: Raja'i Shahr prison

Date of release: In March 2017

Other information: He began his sentence on 11th May 2014 in Evin Prison, and was later transferred to Raja'i Shahr.

Source: <https://sensday.wordpress.com/2017/03/26/shamim-naimi-released-after-3-years-in-prison/>

Kayvan NEEKAEIN

Place of residence: Isfahan

Date of arrest: On 15th November 2015

Charges: Organizing illegal meetings opposing the Islamic Republic, active membership and participation in organized (illegal) institutions and meetings, effective teaching and propagation activities, promotion of anti-cultural values, creation and distribution of illegal multimedia materials, encouraging and exhortation of Muslims

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Penal Code Article 499 (Anyone who joins, as a member, any of the groups, societies, or branches aforementioned in article 98, shall be sentenced to three months to five years' imprisonment, unless it is proved that he had been unaware of its aims), and Article 500 (Anyone who engages in any type of propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran or in support of opposition groups and associations shall be sentenced to three months to one year of imprisonment).

Last court decision: On 16th May 2017, Judge Ravaanmehr ordered a six-month prison sentence, along with six months of suspended prison sentence (total of one year).

Source: <http://bit.ly/2ulA1Yh>

Sudabeh Mehdi NEJAD

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: Gorgan

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to six years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and six months in prison.

Place of detention: In June 2017, she surrendered herself to Amir Abad Prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Mitra NURI

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: Gorgan

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to six years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and six months in prison.

Place of detention: In June 2017, she surrendered herself to Amir Abad Prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Keyvan PAKZADAN

Date and place of arrest: On 1st June 2016, outside of his sister's home in Tehran

Charges: Membership in the Baha'i Administration

Last court decision: On 27th February 2017, he was sentenced to five years in prison by Judge Moqayesseh.

Place of detention: Evin prison

Other information: His home and workplace were searched and also his sister's effects. He was held for thirty-four days before being released on bail.

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17083/> ; <http://wp.me/pNMoJ-2QJ> ;

<https://senseday.wordpress.com/2016/06/05/one-new-arrest-in-tehran-2/> ;

<https://senseday.wordpress.com/2017/03/01/keyvan-pakzadan-sentenced-to-5-years-in-prison/>

Rofia PAKZADAN

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: She was arrested along with Parivash Shojaei on 17th October 2012 by agents at their homes, and released on bail until their sentences were issued. She was released on bail on a temporary basis

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith.

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to nine years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and nine months in prison.

Place of detention: On 3rd July 2017, she surrendered herself with Parivash Shojaei to Amir Abad Prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Shayda QODOUSI

Date and place of arrest: On 17th October 2012, in Gorgan

Charges: Propaganda in favour of the Baha'i faith and against the Islamic Republic by being members of an illegal organization, implementing proselytizing projects in Golestan Province, and collaborating with enemy states by actively promoting sectarian, anti-Islamic and anti-Shia objectives

Last court decision: In February 2016, he was sentenced to eleven years in prison in relation to his arrest in 2012.

Other information: He was arrested in 2012, and sentenced in 2016, along with twenty-three other Baha'is.

Source: <https://sensday.wordpress.com/2016/01/26/24-bahais-in-gorgan-sentenced-to-a-total-of-193-years-in-prison/> , <https://sensday.wordpress.com/tag/gorgan/>

Azita RAFIZADEH

Charges: Baha'i membership, acting against national security

First court decision: In June 2014, she was sentenced to four years in prison by Branch 28 of the Revolutionary court of Tehran.

Last court decision: The Appeals Court upheld the initial verdicts.

Place of detention: Evin prison

Other information: She was arrested alongside her significant other, Peyman KOUSH-BAGHI. They have a four-year-old son and they are both professors at the Baha'i Institute for Higher Education (BIHE). She began serving her sentence on 24th October 2015.

Kayvan RAHIMIAN

Age: 52 years

Date and place of arrest: On 14th September 2011 and released on bail on 21st September 2011, in Tehran

Charges: Assembly and collusion with intent to commit acts of crime against national security, membership in the perverse Baha'i sect

Statement of the defendant: He claims involvement with the Baha'i Institute for Higher Education. He was a lecturer at the Baha'i Online University.

Last court decision: On 12th June 2012 he was sentenced to five years in prison and a fine of approximately €6,000 Euro.

Place of detention: Evin Prison, Tehran

Iman RASHIDI

Place of residence: Yazd

Date and place of arrest: On 18th March 2015

Charges: Propaganda against the regime

Statement of the defendant: He claims to be a member of the Baha'i faith

Last court decision: He was sentenced to three years in prison and a one-year suspended prison.

Place of detention: Central prison in Yazd

Other information: He was arrested alongside his significant other, Shabnam MOTAHED.

Saeid REZAIE

Age: 56 years

Date and place of arrest: On 14th May 2008, in Tehran or Mashhad

Charges: Espionage, propaganda against the regime, assembly and collusion against national security

Statement of the defendant: He claims to be a leader of the Baha'i community

First court decision: In August 2010, he was sentenced to twenty years in prison (the longest terms of any current prisoners of conscience in Iran).

Second court decision: The sentences were upheld by the appeals court.

Last court decision: In November 2015, his sentence was reduced to ten years in prison.

Place of detention: Evin prison or Rajae Shahr prison

Other information: He was arrested alongside Fariba KAMALABADI, Jamaloddin KHANJANI, Afif NAEMI, Mahvash SABET, Behrouz TAVAKKOLI and Vahid TIZFAHM. In September 2010, the authorities verbally informed the seven Baha'is that their twenty years sentences were reduced to ten years.

Mahvash SABET

Date of birth: 4th February 1953

Date and place of arrest: On 5th May 2008, in Tehran or Mashhad

Charges: Espionage, propaganda against the regime, assembly and collusion against national security

Statement of the defendant: She claims to be a leader of the Baha'i community

First court decision: In August 2010, she was sentenced to twenty years in prison (the longest terms of any current prisoners of conscience in Iran).

Second court decision: The sentences were upheld by the appeals court.

Last court decision: In November 2015, her sentence was reduced to ten years in prison.

Place of detention: Evin prison or Rajae Shahr prison

Date of release: In December 2017 after completing his sentence

Other information: She was arrested alongside Fariba KAMALABADI, Jamaloddin KHANJANI, Afif NAEMI, Saeid REZAIE, Behrouz TAVAKKOLI and Vahid TIZFAHM. In September 2010, the authorities verbally informed the seven Baha'is that their twenty years sentences were reduced to ten years. Then, March 2011, prison authorities told them in that their initial twenty years sentences had been reinstated.

Pune SANAEI (Teimuri)

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: Gorgan

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to nine years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and nine months in prison.

Place of detention: In June 2017, she surrendered herself to Amir Abad Prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Afshin SEYYED-AHMAD

Date and place of arrest: On 28th June 2016, at Evin court

Charges: Propaganda against the regime, assembly and conspiracy

Last court decision: On 28th June 2016, he was sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment.

Place of detention: Hall 12 of Rajai Shahr prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17219/>

Parisa SHAHIDI

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: Gorgan

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to nine years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and nine months in prison.

Place of detention: In June 2017, she surrendered herself to Amir Abad Prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Parivash SHOJAEI

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: She was arrested along with Rofia Pakzadan on 17th October 2012 by agents at their homes, and released on bail until their sentences were issued. She was released on bail on a temporary basis

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith.

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to nine years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and nine months in prison.

Place of detention: On 3rd July 2017, she surrendered herself with Rofia Pakzadan to Amir Abad Prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Khashayar TAFAZOLI

Place of residence: Mashhad

Date and place of arrest: On 11th July 2012 in Mashhad

Charges: Acting against national security by teaching the Baha'i faith

Statement of defendant: He claims that he made reference to a Quranic verse to highlight political/religious discrimination.

First court decision: On 22nd April 2017, he was sentenced to one year imprisonment after two court sessions in branch eight of the Revolutionary Court in Mashhad.

Place of detention: Vakil Abad Prison of Mashhad

Other Information: He was arrested by security guards during a visit to the homes of two Baha'i residents. He was arrested with Shayan TAFAZOLI and Sina Aghdas.

Source: <https://www.en-hrana.org/3-bahais-sentenced-prison-terms>

Shayan TAFAZOLI

Place of residence: Mashhad

Date and place of arrest: On 11th July 2012 in Mashhad

Charges: Acting against national security by teaching the Baha'i faith

Statement of defendant: He claims that he made reference to a Quranic verse to highlight political/religious discrimination.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code:

First court decision: On 22nd April 2017, he was sentenced to one year imprisonment after two court sessions in branch eight of the Revolutionary Court in Mashhad.

Place of detention: Vakil Abad Prison of Mashhad

Other Information: He was arrested by security guards during a visit to the homes of two Baha'i residents. He was arrested with Khashayar TAFAZOLI and Sina AGHDAS.

Source: <https://www.en-hrana.org/3-bahais-sentenced-prison-terms>

Nazi TAHGHIGHI

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: Gorgan

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to six years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and six months in prison.

Place of detention: In June 2017, she surrendered herself to Amir Abad Prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Behrouz TAVAKKOLI

Age: 64 years

Date and place of arrest: On 14th May 2008, in Tehran or Mashhad

Charges: Espionage, propaganda against the regime, assembly and collusion against national security

Statement of the defendant: He claims to be a leader of the Baha'i community

First court decision: In August 2010, he was sentenced to twenty years in prison (the longest terms of any current prisoners of conscience in Iran).

Second court decision: The sentences were upheld by the appeals court.

Last court decision: In November 2015, his sentence was reduced to ten years in prison.

Place of detention: Evin prison or Rajae Shahr prison

Date of release: In December 2017 after completing his sentence

Other information: He was arrested alongside Fariba KAMALABADI, Jamaloddin KHANJANI, Afif NAEMI, Saeid REZAIE, Mahvash SABET and Behrouz TAVAKKOLI. In September 2010, the authorities verbally informed the seven Baha'is that their twenty years sentences were reduced to ten years. Then, March 2011, prison authorities told them in that their initial twenty years sentences had been reinstated.

Farahnaz TEBYANIAN (Farah Sanaei)

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: In Gorgan

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to nine years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and nine months in prison.

Place of detention: In June 2017, she surrendered herself to Amir Abad Prison

Other information: She began her prison sentence on 13th June 2017.

Source: <http://bit.ly/2tmfHWI>, <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Liza TEBYANIAN (Enayati)

Date and place of arrest: On 16th March 2017, at her home in Karaj, Alborz Province

Charges: Unknown

Place of detention: Raja'i Shahr prison

Date of release: She was released on bail on 26th March 2017.

Other information: Previously, the business of her husband was sealed by the government agents from the Office of Public Places because he is an adherent of the Baha'i religion. Police officers entered her home with a warrant, inspected her house and confiscated her

personal property, including religious and non-religious books; laptops and so forth, and arrested her. For a while, her family had no information of her whereabouts. She was later located and freed in March 2017 on bail.

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17105/> , <https://ce.wordpress.com/tag/bahai-faith/> ,

Pooya TEBYANIAN

Date and place of arrest: On 11th June 2011

Charges: Acting against National Security and propaganda against the system.

Article of the criminal/civil/administrative code: Article 498 (Anyone, with any ideology, who establishes or directs a group, society, or branch, inside or outside the country, with any name or title, that constitutes more than two individuals and aims to perturb the security of the country, if not considered as *mohareb* [enemy of God] shall be sentenced to two to ten years' imprisonment), and Article 500 (Anyone who engages in any type of propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran or in support of opposition groups and associations shall be sentenced to three months to one year of imprisonment).

Last court decision: He was sentenced to six years and a half in prison by the court of Judge Ayn Al-Kamal in 2011.

Place of detention: In solitary confinement in the central prison of Semnan

Vahid TIZFAHM

Age: 42 years

Date and place of arrest: On 14th May 2008, in Tehran or Mashhad

Charges: Espionage, propaganda against the regime, assembly and collusion against national security

Statement of the defendant: He claims to be a leader of the Baha'i community

First court decision: In August 2010, he was sentenced to twenty years in prison (the longest terms of any current prisoners of conscience in Iran).

Second court decision: The sentences were upheld by the appeals court.

Last court decision: In November 2015, his sentence was reduced to ten years in prison.

Place of detention: Evin prison and Rajae Shahr prison

Other information: He was arrested alongside Fariba KAMALABADI, Jamaloddin KHANJANI, Afif NAEMI, Saeid REZAIE, Mahvash SABET and Vahid TIZFAHM. In September 2010, the authorities verbally informed the seven Baha'is that their twenty years sentences were reduced to ten years.

Houshmand Dehghan YAZDALI

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: In Gorgan

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to six years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and six months in prison.

Place of detention: In June 2017, she surrendered herself to Amir Abad Prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Maryam Dehghan YAZDALI

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: In Gorgan

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to six years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and six months in prison.

Place of detention: In June 2017, she surrendered herself to Amir Abad Prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Mojdeh ZOHOORI (Fahandej)

Place of residence: Gorgan

Date and place of arrest: In Gorgan

Charges: She is a member of the Baha'i faith

First court decision: A court in Gorgan sentenced her to nine years in prison.

Last court decision: A court of appeal reduced her sentence to one year and nine months in prison.

Place of detention: In June 2017, she surrendered herself to Amir Abad Prison

Source: <http://iranpresswatch.org/post/17812/two-bahais-sent-gorgan-prison/>

Erfan-e Halghe

Collective arrest

According to Fars News Agency, on 6th February 2015, forty followers of Erfan-e Halghe were arrested. Among them, sixteen instructors of this spiritual movement were convicted of committing crimes. They were sentenced to a total of thirty-seven years in prison for insulting the sacred and subject to fines amounting to 130 million Toman for acquiring illicit wealth. According to HRANA News Agency, the same thing happened on 24th August 2015, in Qom, when after nine days of peaceful protest against the death sentence of Taheri (founder of Erfan-e Halghe in Iran), a group of Halghe activists was arrested.

Individual Arrests

Mohammadreza AFSHAR

Place of residence: Yazd

Date and place of arrest: On 29th June 2015

Charges: Interference in medical affairs

Statement of the defendant: Claims to be a trainer of the “Course of Erfan-e Halgheh”

First court decision: Two years in prison and a fifty-million Tomans fine

Place of detention: Evin Prison

Fahime A’RAFI

Date and place of arrest: On 25th August 2015

Charges: Insulting the sanctities

Statement of the defendant: Claims to have participated in a peaceful demonstration for freedom of religion

First court decision: Sentenced to five years in prison

Last court decision: The initial sentence was upheld by branch 54 of the Appeals Court.

Place of detention: Gharchak prison in Varamin

Saeed ARDESHIR

Date and place of arrest: On 16th September 2015, Tehran

Charges: Insulting the sanctities

Statement of the defendant: Claims to have participated in a peaceful demonstration for freedom of religion

First court decision: Branch 26 of the Revolutionary Court sentenced him to five years in prison.

Last court decision: Branch 54 of the Appeals Court upheld the initial verdict.

Place of detention: Evin prison

Ziba POUR-HABIB

Age: 56 years

Date and place of arrest: On 25th August 2015

Charges: Insulting the sanctities

Statement of the defendant: She claims to have participated in a peaceful demonstration for freedom of religion

First court decision: She was sentenced to three years in prison.

Last court decision: The initial sentence was upheld by branch 54 of the appeals court.

Place of detention: Evin prison

Other information: She is the teacher of Erfan-e Halghe.

Mohammad TAJIK PAZOUKI

Date and place of arrest: In June 2015, in Tehran

Charges: Insulting the sanctities

Statement of the defendant: He claims he was participating in a peaceful demonstration for freedom of religion

First court decision: He was sentenced to five years in prison by Branch 26 of the Revolutionary Court.

Last court decision: Branch 54 of the Appeals Court upheld the initial verdict.

Place of detention: Evin prison

Ardeshir SHAHNAVAZ

Date and place of arrest: On 27th June 2015, in Tehran

Charges: Blasphemy, acquiring illicit wealth, interference in medical affairs

Statement of the defendant: He claims he is a supporter of the “Course of Erfan-e Halgheh”

Last court decision: He was sentenced to five years in prison and fined thirty-million Tomans by Branch 15 of the Revolutionary Court.

Place of detention: Rajai Shahr (or Evin Prison)