

Table of Contents

- [More than 30 Baha'i graves razed by Iranian authorities at Tehran mass gravesite](#)
 - [Religious persecution and issues – Monthly Digest February](#)
 - [Religious persecution and issues – Monthly Digest January](#)
 - [Religious persecution and issues – Monthly Digest December](#)
-

More than 30 Baha'i graves razed by Iranian authorities at Tehran mass gravesite

[BIC](#) (05.03.2024)— More than 30 new graves of deceased Baha'is at a Tehran mass grave have been razed by the Iranian authorities, with grave markers removed, and bulldozers used to flatten the resting places. The work had also been carried out to make it seem that the area did not contain any new graves.

Iran's government has used this site to [forcibly bury](#) Baha'is for more than two years—[without allowing families to be present](#) or respecting Baha'i funeral practices. Desecrating grave sites has been a constant feature of the Iranian government's 45-year campaign of systematic persecution of the Baha'is and follows years of harassment at the cemetery.

But razing these fresh gravesites represents an unprecedented and inhumane attack on the Baha'i community in Iran.

The remains of these Baha'is had been interred only in recent months, whereas past destructions of Baha'i cemeteries targeted sites that were several decades old.

"It's almost Nawruz and while families who have recently lost their loved ones are still grieving their passing, the Iranian authorities impose fresh horrors on them, proving, ultimately, their utter inhumanity," said Simin Fahandej, Representative of the Baha'i International Community (BIC) to the United Nations in Geneva. "They are destroying the graves of people who died only in the past few months, even just a few weeks ago, people whose memories are still fresh in the minds and hearts of their loved ones. No religious or cultural norm, in any part of the world, supports this kind of cruel desecration. This is cultural cleansing, through the destruction of graves and cemeteries, aiming to erase Baha'i identity from the consciousness of the Iranian people.

"Before the 1979 Islamic Revolution, Tehran's Baha'i community owned an 80,000 square meter cemetery at Khavaran, and a 1.5 million square meter [cemetery property at Kabirabad](#). Both properties were confiscated in the 1980s by the new Islamic Republic and at least 15,000 graves were demolished at Khavaran.

A smaller 17,000 square meter property known as [Golestan Javid](#)—adjacent to a mass grave of thousands of political prisoners executed by the government in the 1980s—was then [given](#) to the Baha'i community. But now the Baha'is also have limited access to this site. Ministry of Intelligence agents [took over the cemetery](#) in 2021 and have made it increasingly difficult for the Baha'is to use their own cemetery.

In 2022 the agents began to forcibly bury deceased Baha'is in narrow plots that were a part of the mass grave site. Iranian Baha'is were appalled at this effort to use the remains of their loved ones to erase the history of the mass grave site containing the loved ones of many other Iranians.

Baha'is across Iran have suffered repeated violations of their [funeral and burial rights](#) since the Islamic Revolution—part of a systematic plan to “block” the “[progress and development](#)” of the Baha'i community in every area of life. Reports over the decades have also emerged of cemetery desecrations in [Shiraz \(link is external\)](#), [Sanandaj \(link is external\)](#), and many other locations.

“In Iranian culture, cemeteries and places of burial are sacred as they show not only respect to the dead and their families but also as places that connote identity and culture. Through this unprecedented act of utter cruelty, Iran's government has shown its mercilessness to those who are grieving, and even to the dead, with no regard to what is sacred,” Ms. Fahandej added. “All Iranians are suffering from many economic and social challenges—which also impact the Baha'is who [cannot bury their loved ones](#) in peace even as they are targeted by [intensified and brutal new forms of persecution](#) in recent months. Dozens of Baha'i families must bear the heartbreak of seeing the remains of their loved ones trampled on by those very authorities that should be protecting, not punishing, its citizens. The Iranian government must end its cultural cleansing of the Baha'i community, immediately, an act which further undermines its own reputation and credibility in the eyes of the world.”

Religious persecution and issues – Monthly Digest February

Christians

Christian convert released on bail of nearly \$40,000

Article 18 (27.02.2024) - A Christian convert detained for three weeks, following his arrest by Ministry of Intelligence agents, has been released on bail equivalent to nearly \$40,000, according to an Iranian Christian news agency.

Iman Golzar was released on 7 February on bail of 2 billions tomans (around \$38,000), reports Mohabat News.

He had been arrested at midnight on 16 January at his home in Dezful, western Iran, then held incommunicado in an unknown location.

[Continue reading ...](#)

Christian convert imprisoned and exiled by Islamic Republic 'died of heart attack'

Article 18 (22.02.2024) - A Christian convert who had been imprisoned and exiled by the regime has been found dead aged 37.

Ebrahim Firouzi's family told mourners at his burial today (Thursday, 22 February) that “he died of a heart attack” on Tuesday, 20 February.

Paying tribute to Ebrahim, Article18 Director Mansour Borji, said: "Ebrahim's untimely death is devastating. We have followed his case since he was arrested by the Iranian regime for going to a house-church and for being in possession of Bibles. "The Islamic Republic of Iran had sentenced Ebrahim for 'acting against national security', but nothing could have been further from the truth.

[Continue reading...](#)

'Faceless victims: rights violations against christians in Iran'

Article 18 (19.02.2024) - Article18's newly released annual report focuses on the many victims whose names and faces remain unknown, due to fear that publication of their cases may worsen their plight.

"Despite a comparable number of Christians being arrested in 2023 as in previous years – 166 arrests were documented in 2023, compared to 134 in 2022 – fewer names and faces could be publicised," notes the report, 'Faceless Victims: Rights Violations Against Christians in Iran', released today in collaboration with Open Doors, CSW and Middle East Concern.

Arrests came in waves in 2023, the report notes, with "just a handful reported prior to June, then over 100 within the next three months, before a further rash of arrests at Christmas.

[Continue reading...](#)

For Iranian converts claiming religious persecution, European courts require proof of faith

Religion news (19.02.2024) - The tattoo spelling "GOD" sits prominently between the man's eyebrows, a letter disappearing with every furrowed expression.

The green ink, which draws sideways glances from nearby tables as Arash sips his cappuccino, would swiftly get him arrested or killed back home, apostasy being a crime of the highest order. But the British courts were not so convinced of his newfound religious beliefs.

Arash, an Iranian who converted from Islam to Christianity and sought asylum in the U.K., has had a difficult time proving he is really Christian. Immigration officials were skeptical when they read his application and saw the pictures of his permanent brow, said Arash, whose name has been changed by request to protect his family members who remain in Iran.

[Continue reading ...](#)

Christian convert facing imprisonment in Iran threatened with deportation from Turkey

Article 18 - (16.02.2024) - A Christian convert who fled Iran in 2013 to escape his impending imprisonment on account of his faith now faces the threat of deportation from Turkey.

Mojtaba Keshavarz Ahmadi, who is 56 years old, was arrested suddenly on 29 January by the Turkish immigration authorities and transferred to a deportation camp in western Turkey, where he remains.

Mojtaba was accused of leaving his city of residence, Düzce, which is near Istanbul, without authorisation – something he denies and for which the Turkish authorities provided no evidence.

[Continue reading...](#)

Persecution against Christians in Iran continues to worsen

Religion unplugged (09.02.2024) - Iranian Christians continued to face harassment, arrests and imprisonment last year for practicing their faith, according to a report issued on Monday.

The 35-page report, issued by four non-profit organizations advocating for persecuted Christians across the world, found that Christians have been deprived of their right to freely practice their faith.

This lack of religious freedom, the report said, affected both “recognized” Christians of Armenian and Assyrian descent and converts.

[Continue reading...](#)

Baha’is

Two Iranian Baha’i women face new charges after release

Iran Press Watch (25.02.2024) - Two Iranian Baha’is, Roha Imani and Firoozeh Sultan Mohammadi, were summoned to face new charges following their release from custody in December 2023.

Reports say the Fifth Investigation Branch of Kerman informed both women on February 20 that they are accused of “promotion of the Baha’i faith” and activities deemed inconsistent with the Islamic Sharia law.

Imani and Mohammadi were initially arrested at their homes in Kerman on December 4, 2023, and held in solitary confinement for 17 days before being released on bail.

In the past year, many Baha’is, predominantly women, have been subjected to arrests and imprisonment.

Iranian agents beat Baha’i youth during attack on educational group—and knowledge itself

Iran Press Watch (16.02.2024) - On the morning of 12 February, in the Iranian city of Qaemshahr, a group of young Baha’is had gathered in a private home owned by a Baha’i woman, Maryam Zabihi Zamani, when 15 agents of the Ministry of Intelligence burst in and proceeded to raid the premises in an attack on the simple act of working to acquire knowledge. The young Baha’is were at the home to sit an exam as part of their informal studies in the Baha’i Institute for Higher Education. Iran’s government bars young Baha’is from entering the country’s established universities—forcing Baha’is to meet in private homes and through informal groups to pursue university-level studies.

[Continue reading...](#)

Baha’i Citizen Rouya Sabet arrested in Shiraz

Iran Press Watch (16.02.2024) - On February 15, Baha'i citizen **Rouya Sabet** was arbitrarily arrested in Shiraz by IRGC Intelligence agents and transferred to an undisclosed facility.

A source close to her family confirmed Sabet's arrest, revealing to HRANA that IRGC Intelligence is responsible for the apprehension. The source disclosed that Sabet, who had traveled to Shiraz from the UAE on January 4 to care for her elderly parent, was scheduled to return on January 25. However, two days before her planned departure, IRGC Intelligence agents executed a search warrant at her parent's residence.

[Continue reading...](#)

Baha'i educator Keyvan Rahimian receives nine-year prison sentence

Iran Press Watch (15.02.2024) - Keyvan Rahimian, a Baha'i citizen and lecturer at an online university affiliated with the Baha'i community, has been sentenced to nine years in prison, accompanied by a fine and a six-year deprivation of social rights.

The verdict, issued by Branch 15 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court, outlines a five-year sentence for "educational activities and propagating against Sharia Islam" and a four-year sentence for "assembly and collusion against national security." Alongside the prison term, Rahimian has been prohibited from exercising social rights and ordered to pay a fine.

[Continue reading...](#)

Iranian Baha'i woman jailed for five years

Iran Press Watch (14.02.2024) - A Baha'i woman was apprehended by agents of the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence on the streets of Shiraz on February 13 and taken to Adel Abad prison to start her prison sentence.

The First Branch of Shiraz Revolutionary Court sentenced **Mina Karami** to five years in prison after finding her guilty of "deviant educational and propaganda activities contrary to or disruptive of the Sharia of Islam."

She was also given a ten-year deprivation of social rights and a two-year travel ban. Branch 37 of the Court of Appeal of Fars Province later upheld the ruling. Karami's ordeal began in September 2021, when agents of the Shiraz Intelligence Department searched her residence.

Following the search, Karami was summoned to the Intelligence Department for interrogation and arrested. She was later released on bail.

Baha'i Citizen Shahdokht Khanjani faces eleven-year sentence upheld on appeal

Iran Press Watch (09.02.2024) - In the ruling issued on January 27, 2024, Khanjani was sentenced to ten years for "forming groups to act against national security" and one year for "propaganda against the regime." She is also prohibited from joining political/civil/cultural groups and parties, with restrictions on social media activities for two years.

According to Article 134 of the Islamic Penal Code, the ten-year term for the first charge is enforceable.

Initially, the Revolutionary Court of Semnan had sentenced Khanjani to 11 years for the mentioned charges, along with five years for “propagating the Baha’i sect.” On appeal, the latter charge was dropped, as it was deemed inseparable from the charge of “forming groups to act against national security.” Additionally, a fine and a 15-year deprivation of social rights were annulled.

[Continue reading...](#)

Azita Foroughi went to Vakil Abad Prison in Mashhad to serve her sentence

Iran Press Watch (06.02.2024) - Today, Saturday the 27th of January, Azita Foroughi Motlagh, a Baha’i citizen living in city of Mashhad, went to Vakil Abad prison in this city to serve her sentence.

According to HRANA news agency, the news organ of the Human Rights Activists in Iran, Azita Foroughi Motlagh went to Vakil Abad prison in Mashhad to endure imprisonment.

Earlier, she was sentenced to three years and eight months in prison by Branch One of Mashhad Revolutionary Court. This verdict was finally confirmed in the thirty-fifth branch of the Court of Appeals of Khorasan Razavi province.

In August of this year, this Baha’i citizen faced the opening of a judicial case against her in the Mashhad Prosecutor’s Office and was summoned to Branch 903 of the District 9 Prosecutor’s Office of Mashhad.

[Continue reading...](#)

Religious persecution and issues – Monthly Digest January

Christians

Arrested Christian convert held incommunicado in unknown location, parents ‘very worried’

Article 18 (22.01.2024) - A Christian convert arrested last week remains in detention in an unknown location, according to a report by an Iranian Christian news site.

Iman Golzar was arrested at his home in Dezful, western Iran, at midnight on 16 January by plainclothes agents of the Ministry of Intelligence, who showed no warrant and confiscated his computer and CCTV cameras, according to Mohabat News.

Iman was then reportedly taken away to an unknown location, with no news of him since, despite the efforts of his parents, who are deaf, to discover his whereabouts and condition.

[Continue reading...](#)

Iran once again ranked among top 10 persecutors of Christians

Article 18 (17.01.2024) - Iran has once again been named among the top 10 worst persecutors of Christians.

Iran ranks in 9th place on the 2024 World Watch List, published today by Article18’s partner organisation, Open Doors International.

Last year Iran ranked in 8th place, but Iran's overall "score" remained the same, meaning its one-place improvement on the list – a return to its 2022 ranking – was a reflection of worsening conditions in another country (namely Sudan), rather than any improvement for Christians inside Iran.

[Continue reading...](#)

Christian convert, 60, summoned to begin prison sentence for house-church leadership

Article 18 (05.01.2024) - A 60-year-old Iranian Christian convert has been summoned to begin her six-year prison sentence for "acting against national security by promoting 'Zionist' Christianity" through leadership of a house-church.

Mina Khajavi, who was arrested back in 2020, was sentenced in 2022 alongside fellow Christian convert Malihe Nazari, who also received a six-year sentence, and Iranian-Armenian pastor Joseph Shahbazian, who was sentenced to 10 years.

Mina shortly after the accident.

However, while Joseph and Malihe began serving their sentences a few months later, Mina was viewed as being unfit to serve her sentence, after she was run over by a car.

[Continue reading...](#)

Four Christian converts including Afghan refugee remain detained three weeks after arrest

Article 18 (03.01.2024) - Four Christian converts, including an Afghan refugee, remain in detention over three weeks after their arrest in Shahriar, west of Tehran, Siroos Khosravi.

The arrests followed an 11 December raid by 30 intelligence agents on a house-church gathering, where around 25 men, women and children had gathered to pray and worship together and to plan their Christmas celebration.

The agents read out the names of three of the individuals present, two of whom – a woman in her early thirties and a 70-year-old man – were arrested on the spot, while the third, a man named Siroos Khosravi, was arrested three days later after answering a summons for further questioning.

[Continue reading...](#)

Christian convert still in custody after Christmas Eve arrest

Article 18 (03.01.2024) - A Christian convert previously forced to attend "re-education" sessions with an Islamic cleric remains detained following his arrest during a Christmas Eve raid on his home in Dezful, western Iran.

Esmail Narimanpour's home was searched and his Christian books confiscated during the 6pm raid, though the arresting agents did not have a warrant.

Esmail was able to call his family briefly on Christmas Day to tell them that he was being held in Ahvaz, 150km south of Dezful.

[Continue reading...](#)

Baha'is

BIC Geneva: Iranian thought leaders call for an end to the "historical shame" of Bahá'í persecution

News Baha'i (17.01.2024) - A group of more than 150 Iranian human rights advocates and social and political activists have signed a powerful public statement (in Persian with English translation) condemning the "new wave of arrests against Bahá'ís and their deprivation of basic human and civil rights."

Joining countless others in echoing the spirit of the Our Story Is One campaign, the group has urged their compatriots to "raise their voices" in solidarity with Iran's Bahá'í community.

[Continue reading...](#)

Two Baha'is in Shiraz summoned to prison

Iran Press Watch (16.01.2024) - Two Baha'í citizens, Mina Karami and Soroush Iqani, face imminent imprisonment as the Iranian government escalates its crackdown on the religious minority.

According to HRANA human rights website, on January 15 Mina Karami, a Baha'í citizen in Shiraz, received a summons from Branch 1 of the General and Revolutionary Prosecutor's Office in the city.

The summons instructed Karami to appear before judicial authorities on February 1 to start a five-year prison sentence she had received during a previous trial.

In September 2022, Karami was convicted by Branch 1 of the Shiraz Revolutionary Court on charges of "deviant educational and propaganda activities contrary to Islamic Sharia law."

[Continue reading...](#)

Baha'i homes raided in Tabriz

Iran Press Watch (12.01.2024) - In a coordinated operation on January 9, agents of Iran's Ministry of Intelligence raided the homes of several Baha'í families in Tabriz, marking a fresh escalation in the government's pressure campaign against the religious minority.

IranWire obtained a report detailing the raids, which targeted at least six Baha'í households.

Agents confiscated religious texts, photos, and personal belongings, including computers and mobile phones.

No official charges or justification for the searches were provided, and the families were reportedly threatened.

[Continue reading...](#)

Baha'i mother and sons sentenced to jail in Iran

Iranwire (11.01.2024) - - A revolutionary court in the Iranian city of Bojnurd has sentenced a Baha'i family to a combined total of four years and eight months in prison, a human rights website reported.

Shayan Senaei has been sentenced to a two-year and two-month prison term, along with a 50 million tomans (\$1,000) fine. His brother, Faran Senaei, received a two-year and six-month prison sentence, while their mother, Sholeh Shahidi, has also been fined 50 million tomans, as reported by HRANA.

The court also mandated a 10-year ban from using specific social public services and the confiscation of personal assets owned by the individuals.

[Continue reading...](#)

Iranian Court sends 63-year-old Baha'i to seven-year imprisonment

Iran Press Watch (08.01.2024) - The Khorasan Razavi Court of Appeal has confirmed an eight-year prison sentence handed down against Sirus Zabihi Moghadam, a 63-year-old Bahai citizen residing in Mashhad.

The initial ruling was issued by the Mashhad Revolutionary Court on November 24 last year.

According to the verdict, Zabihi was sentenced to seven years in prison for "forming and being a member of opposition groups [accused of] forming Baha'i organizations with the intention of disrupting national security."

He was also sentenced to an additional year for "propaganda against the system."

[Continue reading...](#)

Farmers displaced and farmlands seized as Iran's government intensifies Baha'i religious persecution

BIC - (04.01.2024) Farmlands, rice paddies and walnut orchards belonging to Baha'i families in the village of Ahmadabad, a lush and fertile agricultural community in Mazandaran province, were forcibly seized this week by Iranian officials who claimed the lands on behalf of the Iranian government.

No compensation or official documents justifying the seizures were provided by the agents who conducted the raid.

The raid is the latest incident in a rising pattern of persecution against the Baha'is across Iran—and the third recent example of religiously-motivated property seizures against Baha'i farmers in Mazandaran province.

[Continue reading...](#)

Government seizes Baha'i lands in Sari County

Iran Press Watch (03.01.2024) - On January 1, 2024, police agents and forest rangers carried out the confiscation of approximately 60 hectares of Baha'i-owned land in the Ahmadabad Village, adjacent to Sari in Mazandaran Province.

Acting on the orders of the Sari Prosecutor, the agents blocked access to the village and took possession of the lands. Ahmadabad Village is predominantly inhabited by Baha'is, and according to a resident who spoke to HRANA, the police have cordoned off the confiscated lands with barbed wire. Of these lands, 25 are already under wheat cultivation, a practice maintained by Baha'is for decades.

[Continue reading...](#)

Religious persecution and issues – Monthly Digest December

Christians

'Christmas is always a reminder of our arrest and imprisonment'

Article 18 (22.12.2023) - Four Iranian Christians who were arrested at Christmas time or spent the festive season in prison have shared with Article18 how Iranian Christians celebrate Jesus' birth with a mixture of joy and trepidation.

"We used to celebrate most of the New Year and Christmas days in fear and worry," recalls Pastor Farhad Sabokrooh, who was arrested in 2011 during a Christmas gathering for the church he and his wife led in their home in Ahvaz, western Iran.

[Continue reading...](#)

Armenian Christian remains in Evin Prison four months after arrest

Article 18 (13.12.2023) - An Armenian citizen, who was one of over 100 Christians arrested in Iran this summer, remains detained in Evin Prison more than four months later.

Hakop Gochumyan, 35, was visiting Iran with his wife Elissa, who is an Iranian-Armenian, and their two children, when they were arrested on 15 August in Pardis, just outside Tehran.

The couple and their children, who are aged seven and 10, were having dinner at a friend's home, when a dozen plainclothes agents of the Ministry of Intelligence raided the property.

[Continue reading...](#)

Two house-church members detained in unknown location after coordinated arrests

Article 18 (12.12.2023) - A former prisoner of conscience and his brother remain in detention in an unknown location after four house-church members were arrested yesterday during coordinated raids by intelligence agents on their homes and shops near Tehran.

The name of the detainees cannot be divulged at this stage, but their arrest was reported to be violent.

The former prisoner's son was also arrested during a simultaneous raid on his shop in Karaj, but he was released later that day, as was **Milad Goodarzi**, another former prisoner of conscience who had been arrested during a concurrent raid on his home.

[Continue reading...](#)

House-church leader returns to prison after first home visit since sudden transfer

Article 18 (05.12.2023) - A house-church leader serving a six-year sentence for "propagating Christianity" has returned to a prison on the other side of the country from his wife and daughter, after a first visit home since his sudden transfer five months ago.

Abdolreza Ali Haghnejad, known as Matthias, was transferred without warning – or the chance to say goodbye to wife Anahita and daughter Hannah – back in July, and had to pay for his travel expenses to return home to Anzali, which is in north Iran, 1,000 miles from Minab Prison in the far south.

[Continue reading...](#)

Baha'is

UN General Assembly Resolution calls for Iranian government to stop persecuting Baha'is

Iran Press Watch (23.12.2023) - The latest and 36th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution expressing serious concern over a broad range of human rights violations including the situation of Baha'is in Iran and other religious minorities, and calling on the Iranian government to "eliminate" all forms of religious discrimination and persecution, passed today at a plenary session of the UN's General Assembly.

The resolution, which had already been adopted at the UN General Assembly's Third Committee last month, was endorsed and adopted today with 78 votes in favor, with 30 against and 68 abstentions.

[Continue reading...](#)

Shiva Khalili taken into custody and transported to prison

Iran Press Watch (22.12.2023) - **Shiva Khalili**, a Baha'i adherent residing in Babol (Mazandaran province), has been taken into custody and transported to Babol central prison in order to undergo the one-year imprisonment verdict.

According to a report received by the Hengaw Organization for Human Rights, on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, the Baha'i adherent Shiva Khalili was taken into custody and transported to Babol Central Prison after she was summoned by the Branch of Execution of Sentences of Babol Court.

[Continue reading...](#)

Baha'i Citizen Nafisa Sa'adat Yar receives prison sentence and social deprivations

Iran Press Watch (22.12.2023) - As of the ruling issued on November 20, 2023, **Sa'adat Yar** is facing a one-year sentence for "spreading propaganda against the regime" and an additional four years of social deprivations.

Nafisa Sa'adat Yar and her husband, Pouya Amri, were apprehended by security forces in January 2023, later securing their release on a bail of 500 million Tomans (approximately 10,000 Dollars) in August of the same year. Unfortunately, both faced employment termination following pressure from security institutions.

[Continue reading...](#)

Baha'i woman arrested in Iran's Shiraz

Iran Press Watch (20.12.2023) - Security agents detained a Baha'i woman in the streets of Shiraz on December 18, as the authorities intensified their crackdown on members of the religious minority.

The officers took **Yekta Fohandej** to her home, searched it, and confiscated numerous personal belongings of the woman and her husband, including religious books and photographs.

There were no other details available about the case.

[Continue reading...](#)

Iranian Baha'i sentenced to four years in prison

Iran Press Watch (20.12.2023) - An Iranian court has sentenced a Baha'i citizen, **Hourieh Mohseni**, to three years' imprisonment and an additional year of suspended time.

The First Branch of the Revolutionary Court of the northeastern city of Mashhad alleged that Mohseni was a member of "a social action and development group that aimed to promote Baha'ism with the intention of disrupting national security."

It further accused her of "propaganda against the Islamic Republic in favor of the Baha'i faith."

The court hearing was conducted without the presence of either the defendant or her legal counsel.

[Continue reading...](#)

Jailed Baha'i and war veteran denied basic needs in prison

Iran Press Watch (15.12.2023) - **Behrouz Farzandi**, 57, a former prisoner of war during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq War and a member of the persecuted Baha'i religious minority who is currently in jail, has been barred from shopping at the prison store for over 60 days and thus unable to obtain basic and essential items for his daily needs.

Access to the store is managed through a shopping card - which prison authorities have withheld from Farzandi.

The shopping card, typically issued for up to three days by the relevant bank, has been withheld from Farzandi despite multiple requests by him and his family over the past two months.

[Continue reading...](#)

Fariba Kamalabadi and Mahvash Sabet started a three-day hunger strike in protest of the government's devastating treatment of Baha'is in Iran.

Iran Press Watch (14.12.2023) - In protest against the government's devastating treatment of Baha'is in Iran, we are going on a three-day hunger strike for the 9th, 10th, and 11th of December 2023, and we desire the rights of the Baha'is of Iran to be recognized.

In February 2007, while seven members of Yaran Iran underwent severe interrogation over the period several months in cells 209 of Evin Prison, a letter signed by the Attorney General of Iran (Mr. Ghurban Ali Dori Najafabadi) was provided to them. The content of the letter and demands of the officials were as follows:

[Continue reading...](#)

Iranian Baha'is targeted by "brutal" new tactics - including denial of marriage licenses

Iranwire.com (13.11.2023) - A recent statement by the Baha'i International Community has confirmed that the Iranian government is using "brutal" new repressive and coercive measures against Iran's Baha'is.

The tactics have aimed to instill fear and deprive Baha'is of peace and security in their daily lives, ultimately stripping them of any semblance of citizenship rights in Iran, the statement said.

[Continue reading...](#)

Three Baha'i Citizens receive prison sentences and social sanctions in Sari

Hrana - (04.12.2023) - As per the verdicts issued on November 28, 2023, Saha Sabeti has been sentenced to 33 months in prison for charges of "membership in groups acting against national security" and "engaging in educational activities and propaganda against Islamic Sharia." Additionally, she faces a fine and a 13-year prohibition from participating in educational and cultural pursuits.

Behrooz Rahmani has been fined and sentenced to a ten-year ban on educational and cultural activities for similar charges. Likewise, Alizadeh Rooshankoochi, found guilty of "engaging in educational activities and propaganda against Islamic Sharia," has received a parallel punishment to Behrooz Rahmani.

[Continue reading...](#)
