



New protests during Friday prayers in Tehran

Iran Focus - Jul. 17 - Tens of thousands of opponents of the theocratic establishment took part at the weekly Friday prayers service at the University of Tehran, where former President Ayatollah Ali-Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani was delivering a sermon. State television channels which normally broadcast the service live, decided to forego live broadcasting today. Rafsanjani's sermon was at one stage interrupted by chants by protestors. There were chants of "Hashemi, if you keep silent, you are traitor". State Security Forces fired tear gas at the protestors and attacked them with batons outside Tehran University to force them to disperse. Protestors chanted "Political prisoners must be freed" and "Death to the dictator".



Iran: Arrests and deaths continue as authorities tighten grip

Amnesty Int – July 14: Amnesty International is concerned about further arrests of politicians, journalists, lawyers and others in connection with the recent disputed presidential election in Iran. Hundreds of people are believed to be detained – many held in undisclosed locations – across Iran. Scores more – possibly as many as 197 - are reported to have been arrested on 9 July 2009 at a demonstration marking the tenth anniversary of 18 Tir, the suppression of student-led protests in 1999.

Iranian regime forces brutally torture and rape girl for participating in rally

Iran National TV – July 17: The burnt corpse of Taraneh Mousavi, a 28-year-old woman who was arrested during a demonstration a month ago, was found on July 16 between Karaj and Qazvin, west of Tehran. The regime's forces have threatened Taraneh's family not to hold a funeral ceremony for her and not to tell anyone the way she was killed. Taraneh was arrested by the suppressive forces in Tehran's Shariati St and was immediately taken to one of the secret torture center where she was raped and abused. Two weeks after her arrest, an unidentified person called her mother and told her that Taraneh's corpse was in a hospital in Karaj but the hospital authorities denied it. Only one employee at the hospital said that the plainclothes agents brought in a woman with similar description to those of Taraneh while she was unconscious and she was taken away from there in the same state.



Bodies of hundreds of protesters in South Tehran mortuary's refrigeration room

Noruz Website – July 14: The bodies of hundreds of people who were killed in the recent unrest in the past month are kept in a large morgue's refrigerator in South Tehran. This is while many of the families of detainees go from prison to court and back again and do not get any answers from officials on the whereabouts of their loved ones. Some of the families are invited to go to unknown locations and after receiving threats that another one of their family members will be hurt, being forced to agree not to give out any information on the death of their children, and coerced into signing a paper which, confirms that their children died from an accident or another natural event, the bodies of their loved ones are handed over to them.

Seven photographers and Franco-Iranian cameraman arrested

Reporters Without Borders - July 17: Reporters Without Borders is very concerned about a crackdown in recent days on photographers and cameramen. At least eight have been arrested including Said Movahedi, a cameraman with French and Iranian dual citizenship. "The Iranian government fears images and has embarked on a manhunt for photographers and cameramen in an attempt to ensure that no professional photos or video gets out of the country,"