



UN chief says “troubled” by post-election crackdown in Iran

Washington TV - October 16 - In a report released on Thursday, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said he was “deeply troubled” by reports of excessive force, arbitrary arrests and possible torture in the suppression of protests following Iran’s presidential election.

“The handling by authorities of the protests that followed has raised concerns about respect for freedom of expression, assembly and association, the use of force in policing demonstrations and the treatment of and due process afforded to detainees,” Ban wrote. The report to the UN General Assembly was dated 23 September, but was only released on Thursday.

Three death sentences linked to post-election unrest

Reuters - Oct 13 - The U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights urged Iran's appeal courts on Tuesday to carefully review death sentences handed down for three people over street unrest following the disputed election in June. International law stipulates that the death penalty can only be applied when strict conditions are met, specifically when defendants charged with the most serious crimes are subjected to "scrupulously fair trials", Navi Pillay said in a statement. The Iranian news agency ISNA reported on Saturday that a court had sentenced three people to death over the street unrest and links to exiled opposition groups.

ISNA, October 10 - On Saturday the Iranian regime sentenced to death three prisoners following show trials and forced confessions taken under torture. They were detained during recent anti-government protests in Iran.

Protesters sentenced from 6 months to 5 years of prison

Twenty political prisoners arrested in the recent events (after the elections) who had confessed against themselves in the Revolutionary Court were sentenced from 6 months to 5 years of prison and in two cases to flogging. An informed source who is also one of the detainees arrested in the recent events said that most of these people are ordinary and not political who were arrested on the streets in the initial days of the events after the elections.

"According to their families, Alireza Eshraqi was sentenced to five years of prison, Mohssen Jafari to four years, Mehrdad Varshuyi to three years, Yequtil Sha'uolian to two years and six months, Faramarz Abdollah to two years and four months, Amir Hojjati to two years and three months, Moussa Shah-Karami to two years and three months, Kamran Jahanbani to two years, Hossein Bastani to two years, Hossein Ezami to two years, Mehdi Fattah-bakhsh to a year and nine months, Majid Moqimi to a year, Mohammad Farahani to ten months, Mah-Mohammad Rassouli to 10 months, Meisam Qorbani to six months and 74 lashes and Iman Pour-Reza was sentenced to six months of prison", he added. (Human Rights Activists in Iran – Oct. 11, 2009)

Latest Juvenile execution in Iran condemned

Amnesty International – Oct 13 - Amnesty International has condemned the execution of Behnoud Shojaee, a 21-year-old Iranian, at Tehran's Evin Prison at dawn on Sunday, for a murder he was accused of having committed when he was 17. Behnoud Shojaee was sentenced to qesas (retribution) by the Criminal Court in Tehran on 2 October 2006, after he was found guilty of killing a youth during a fight in a park on 18 June 2005.

His execution had previously been postponed some six times.



Prisoner killed under torture in Kermanshah

Kurdistan Media – Oct. 10 - Ahmad Mohammadi, a Kurd man who was arrested in the Salas-Babajani region a while ago with three others passed away after being subjected to severe torture in a detention center. He dies last week after being tortured by the Kermanshah Intelligence agents. The three other men arrested with him were each sentenced to 12 years of prison and exile to Ardabil Prison.