

## NCRI Human Rights Center Weekly Bulletin

November 5, 2011

### **Systematic violations of the right to life**

Executions, arbitrary killings, deaths in custody, and death sentences

#### Execution

##### **Iran publicly flogs 3 men in Shahroud**

<http://isna.ir/ISNA/NewsView.aspx?ID=News-1881099>

Three convicted kidnappers in the town of Shahroud were publicly flogged.

According to reports, 99 lashes in public was part of a sentence passed down to R.M son of M., M.B son of A. and Y.A son of A. who were convicted of carrying out a kidnapping in Shahroud. Their sentence was carried out in public after it was upheld by the Supreme Court. (ISNA state-run News Agency- Oct. 31, 2011)

##### **Iran to publicly hang ‘narcotics smugglers’**

<http://www.mehrnews.com/fa/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsID=1448504>

The head of the Anti-Narcotics Police said, “The heads and traffickers of shishe [synthetic cocaine/meta-amphetamine] gangs will soon be publicly hanged”...

“In the near future, the elements and heads of shishe production and trafficking gangs will receive the maximum punishment in public with the cooperation of the judiciary”, Ali Movayedi said. (Mehr state-run News Agency - Oct. 31, 2011)

##### **Iran hangs man in Ilam**

<http://www.mehrnews.com/fa/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsID=1451300>

A man convicted of killing three relatives of the woman he wanted marry because they rejected his proposal was hanged on Thursday in Iran, the official IRNA news agency reported.

The man, identified by his initials Z.K., was executed in the town of Nourabad in western Iran. He was found guilty of killing the mother, brother and sister of the woman after they turned down his wedding offer around two months ago. (AFP - Nov 3, 2011)

**Inhumane treatment and cruel punishments**

Amputation, flogging, torture and humiliation

**Iran amputates hand of ‘thief’ in Yazd Prison**<http://isna.ir/ISNA/NewsView.aspx?ID=News-1879851>

The head of the Yazd Judiciary said that one of the main crimes in this province is robbery.

“On the grounds of dealing with robberies and robbers many measures have been taken including the implementation a hand amputation sentence and we hope that other robbers learn their lesson”, he said.

“One of the issues that decreases divine gifts [i.e. rain] is not carrying out divine punishments [hand amputation and flogging] and if divine punishments are carried out, divine gifts will increase”, Gholamhossein Heidari said.

He said that there are 190 prisoners [in Yazd] charged with immoral crimes and added that “this shows the judiciary’s determination in dealing with these crimes and people should have the necessary cooperation”...

The Yazd Prosecutor pointed to the amputation sentence that was carried out for a robber in Yazd Prison and said, “This person was convicted more than 8 times and had recently carried out 27 robberies from homes”.

“This sentence was carried out in prison so that other robbers learn a lesson”, Jamal Qezavati said. (ISNA state-run News Agency – Oct. 29, 2011)

**Men will receive 74 lashes for ‘harassing’ women on streets**<http://isna.ir/ISNA/NewsView.aspx?ID=News-1880921>

The head of the Saveh Judiciary pointed to the issue of disturbing children and women in public places and said, “There are instances of these disturbances and harassments of children and women and lawmakers have set punishments for these actions...”

“Article 619 of the Islamic Penal Code states that anyone who harasses or disturbs women or children or insults them with unconventional words or actions, will receive up to six months of prison and 74 lashes”. (ISNA state-run News Agency – Oct. 31, 2011)

**Penal court judge says Persepolis soccer players should be flogged for ‘immoral conduct’**<http://www.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=13900810000547>

A Tehran Penal Court Judge said in an interview with the Fars News Agency that ‘bills of indictments should be issued’ for [two of the] Persepolis’s soccer players because of their immoral conduct in the middle of the game.



Valliollah Hosseini said that article 637 of the Islamic Penal Code covers this issue in two sections.

“The first part of this code states that anyone who carries out a forbidden act in a public place or street will be punished”...

“This article states that if the conduct carried out by this person does not carry a punishment but [this person] has damaged public chastity, he will be sentenced to prison from 10 days to 2

months or 74 lashes”, he added. (Fars state-run News Agency – Nov. 1, 2011)

### Iran forcefully cuts off hair of soccer player in front of thousands of fan

<http://www.asriran.com/fa/sport>



The country’s Soccer Federation is obsessed with forcefully cutting an inch from a soccer player’s hair and is satisfied that by mandatorily cutting off a player’s hair, the atmosphere of Iran’s soccer league will become more moral.

Mandatorily cutting of the hair of Milad Fakhroddin, who plays in Kerman’s Mes Team, before the start of the a game between the Mes and Rah Ahan teams was a ridiculous

and insulting measure which in itself is testimony to the reason behind some of the prevalent problems in soccer and other sectors of the society...

Now that the Soccer Federation does not have the power to discipline a famous [soccer] coach, they instead cut off Milad Fakhroddin’s hair in front of thousands of fans. (Asre Iran state-run website – Nov. 1, 2011)

## Arbitrary arrests

### Social arrests

#### **Police arrest 13 men and women for participating in mixed gender party**

<http://aftabnews.ir/vdcf1cdyvw6dmya.igiw.html>

Security forces in the town of Torqabeh and Shandiz arrested 13 men and women in two parties. “After receiving information about a night party in a Villa in the Torqabeh-Shandiz intersection, security police entered the premises at 10 pm on Monday after getting permits and arrested three men and four women. The detainees were between 20 to 23 years old and were not related to each other”.

“Two bottles of alcohol were found after the villa was searched and seven cellphones and two automobiles were confiscated from the suspects”, Colonel Erfani said.

In the past few days, security forces arrested six other men and women in another party in the Sarasiab Village in Shandiz. (Khorasan state-run daily, Aftab state-run website – Nov. 1, 2011)

#### **Police crack-down and arrest Tehran residents to terrorize public**

<http://khabarfarsi.com/ext/1413392>

A number of disrupters of public order were arrested in Tehran. IRNA published the pictures of these detainees. (Fararou state-run website- Oct. 31, 2011)

[Note: These so-called criminals only had cellphones, kitchen knives, floppy disks, lighters and satellite receivers on them, as seen in the middle picture.]



#### **Security forces arrest and beat 31 girls and boys in b-day party in Tabriz**

Security forces arrested 31 girls and boys in a birthday party in a traditional coffee shop in Tabriz. According to reports, on Sunday October 30, security forces entered a coffee shop at 3 pm and arrested 16 girls and 15 boys after beating them.

The detainees were initially taken to police station 13 in Tabriz and then to the Security Police Station. They were taken to the Security Police Station at 8 pm while blindfolded. These boys and girls were kept in the police station's yard in freezing cold temperatures before being beaten again. According to this report, their feet and legs became numb from the cold.

They were finally released on bail after being filmed. (Human Rights Activists in Iran - Nov. 1, 2011)

## Prison

### Prison Condition

#### **Political prisoner diagnosed with cancer in dire condition in Evin Prison**

Political prisoner Ali Moezi who is in dangerous health is still detained in the notorious cellblock 209 in Evin Prison in a state of limbo.

This 58 year old political prisoner is suffering from bladder cancer and has not received any treatment for close to 5 months in cellblock 209 which is run by the Ministry of Intelligence. Despite his severe pain and suffering, he is constantly under interrogation and physical and mental torture by intelligence agency interrogators...

One of the reasons Moezi was arrested was because of his participation in the funeral of Mohsen Dokmeh Chi [who was also suffering from cancer in prison and passed away because of an intentional prevention of medical attention]. He is also under severe pressure because his two daughters are in Camp Ashraf in Iraq. (Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran - Oct. 29, 2011)

#### **Iran sentences student activist to six years of prison**



According to the latest reports, the six year prison term for Sharif University student Ali-Akbar Mohammadzadeh, was upheld by one of the branches of the Tehran Revolutionary Court.

Ali-Akbar Mohammadzadeh is a student activist and the secretary of the Sharif Industrial University's Student Association. He has been jailed in Evin Prison since February...

He was sentenced to five years of prison on charges of assembling and conspiring and one year of prison on charges of propagating against the government.

Notably, Mohamamdzadeh has been detained without the right to a

leave and is currently detained in cellblock 350 in Evin Prison...

This elite student was taken to the hospital because of his deteriorating health in prison and was once again transferred back to prison after a few days. (Daneshju News website – Nov. 3, 2011)

### Prison sentence

#### **Iran sentences man to 10 years of prison and 75 lashes for encouraging ‘corruption’**

<http://isna.ir/ISNA/NewsView.aspx?ID=News-1880195>

A convict charged with instigating and encouraging people to corruption and prostitution was sentenced to 10 years of prison.

According to reports, branch 101 of the Public Penal Court in Ashnavieh located in the Western Azarbaijan Province sentenced this convict to 10 years of prison, one year of forced residence in Zabol and 75 lashes. (ISNA state-run News Agency – Oct. 29, 2011)

#### **Iran sentences political prisoner to 6 years of prison**

According to the state-run Iran Daily, journalist Saied Leilaz Mehr Abadi, was sentenced to a six year prison term on charges of acting against national security, insulting officials and propagating against the government.

Leilaz is an economical commentator and reformist political prisoner. He is a history professor at the Beheshti University and the editor in chief of the banned Sarmayeh Daily. (Iran state-run Daily- Nov. 2, 2011)

### **Suppressive maneuvers**

#### **Iran shuts down 405 shops for selling ‘unconventional apparel’**

<http://isna.ir/ISNA/NewsView.aspx?ID=News-1882014>

The head of the Greater Tehran Police said that 405 clothes shops that sold unconventional clothing with the emblems of corrupt groups were shut down.

Hossein Sajedi Nia said that the plan to deal with shops that sell unconventional clothing with indecent images and shops that sell the emblems of corrupt groups (Satanist) was carried out. (ISNA state-run News Agency – Oct. 31, 2011)

## Violence against women

**Women's affairs official says bicycle riding for women is against Islamic principles**

<http://www.farsnews.com/newstext.php?nn=13900808000364>

The assistant head of the Center for Women's Affairs said, "Some municipality officials are talking about designing special women's bicycles but one has to take note that women riding bicycles in city streets is against the principles and values of Islam and that tight unsuitable clothing of female cyclers encourages improper veiling in the society". (Fars state-run News Agency - Oct. 30, 2011)