

2025
April-June

**IRAN:
A HUMAN RIGHTS
REPORT ON THE
AZERBAIJANI
TURKS IN IRAN**

Quarterly Report

About the Foundation for Inclusive Society

The foundation for Inclusive Society (FIS), a nonprofit based in the United States, is dedicated to studying and empowering minority groups. Through conducting analyses and publishing reports on human rights and environmental issues, FIS strives to meet the needs of marginalized communities. Visit our official website, www.inclusivevision.org, to access our latest reports and publications. For inquiries, feel free to reach out to us at secretary@inclusivevision.org.



Summary

This report provides a detailed overview of human rights violations committed against Azerbaijani Turks in Iran during the second quarter of 2025 (April–June). It documents a range of abuses including arbitrary arrests, unfair sentencing, executions, physical assaults, and intimidation by security forces. The persistent and systematic nature of state repression targeting this community is recorded. By presenting these cases, this report aims to shed light on the ongoing denial of fundamental human rights and freedoms faced by Azerbaijani Turks in Iran.

During this reporting period, 20 individuals were detained and later released, while 8 others received prison sentences in connection with their activities. At least 13 people were executed by hanging, reflecting the continued reliance on capital punishment despite mounting international calls for its abolition.

A separate but equally concerning development relates to the denial of birth certificates. The inability to obtain this essential document, particularly among ethnic minority communities, represents a serious human rights violation with long-term implications for children's access to education, healthcare, and civil rights. During this period, at least 7 newborns were denied birth certificates.

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Part One

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Introduction


1.1 Introduction

This report sheds light on the persistent human rights violations affecting Azerbaijani communities in Iran, where access to independent monitoring remains severely restricted. Despite mounting and well-documented evidence, Iranian authorities continue to deny the existence of such abuses. By issuing these quarterly assessments, we aim to provide credible documentation, raise awareness at both national and international levels, and support those who endure systemic injustice.

The first section of the report examines the widespread practice of arbitrary arrests, often followed by conditional releases, and outlines the experiences of individuals sentenced in Azerbaijani regions. These cases demonstrate a consistent pattern of restricted legal access, denial of due process, and the broader absence of effective human rights protections.

Particular attention is devoted to Iran's extensive use of capital punishment, both as a judicial measure and as a political instrument. The report highlights increasing international concern over the prevalence of executions, noting that organisations such as Amnesty International and the UN General Assembly have consistently called for a moratorium and eventual abolition. Executions not only violate fundamental rights but are also frequently applied to individuals accused of political dissent or social activism, underscoring their function as a tool of repression.

The report also documents the unlawful summoning practices of Iranian intelligence agencies, which routinely bypass legal procedures by issuing threats, phone calls, and informal directives to pressure and intimidate activists. In addition, it records government-imposed suspensions affecting students, professionals, and civil society actors, along with persistent harassment and threats designed to silence dissent.



Furthermore, the report addresses violations of children's rights, specifically cases in which the authorities refused to issue birth certificates to children whose parents selected Turkic names. This discriminatory practice reflects a broader policy of cultural and linguistic suppression targeting minority communities.

Finally, the report presents a set of targeted recommendations aimed at ending these practices and fostering a society in which fundamental freedoms are respected. Implementing these measures would strengthen the rule of law, protect vulnerable groups, and advance human rights in Iran. Contact details are provided for those seeking further information or wishing to engage with the findings.

1.2 Methodology

This section outlines the methodology used in compiling this human rights report on Azerbaijani Turks in Iran for the period of April to June 2025, detailing the approaches applied in collecting and analyzing the information presented.

1.2.1 Objectives

The primary aim of this report is to draw attention to specific instances of human rights violations experienced by the Azerbaijani Turks in Iran. It sheds light on a spectrum of violations, including arrests and subsequent releases, forced exile cases, and instances where punitive measures, such as executions, were disproportionately severe.

The report goes beyond documentation by advancing recommendations to address the identified human rights violations, with the aim of promoting accountability, justice, and the protection of fundamental freedoms. By exposing these violations and proposing concrete measures, it seeks to contribute to efforts to rectify the injustices faced by Azerbaijani Turks in Iran and emphasizes the urgent need for action to safeguard their rights and dignity.

1.2.2 Sources of Information and Data Collection

The information presented in this report is the result of collaborative efforts by a network of Azerbaijani human rights activists operating both inside and outside Iran. In particular, sixteen activists working within Iran played a central role in gathering and transmitting evidence of human rights violations in the Azerbaijani regions. Their contributions form the foundation of this report and provide invaluable insight into the lived realities of Azerbaijani Turks facing systemic repression.

A wide range of sources were consulted to ensure the comprehensiveness of the report. These included eyewitness testimonies, accounts provided by victims' families, published reports, and statements from protesters themselves. Such firsthand materials were complemented by additional documentation collected by activists, reflecting diverse perspectives and experiences. Together, these sources provide both personal narratives and contextual evidence, enabling a fuller understanding of the patterns of abuse documented in Azerbaijani regions.

To guarantee the accuracy and reliability of the information, a rigorous verification process was applied. All testimonies and reports were cross-referenced with credible news outlets, public records, and other reputable sources. This multi-layered approach not only served to corroborate individual accounts but also helped establish the overall authenticity of the findings. By triangulating evidence from multiple, independent sources, the report seeks to ensure that its conclusions are well-substantiated and reflective of the broader human rights situation affecting Azerbaijani Turks in Iran.

1.2.3 Data Analysis

To provide a comprehensive understanding of the human rights violations faced by Azerbaijani Turks in Iran, the collected information underwent a structured process of examination and classification. The data was organized into distinct categories, each corresponding to a specific type of violation, ensuring a clear and systematic presentation of the documented abuses.

The analysis process emphasized both breadth and depth. Testimonies, reports, and other forms of evidence were carefully reviewed and categorized to highlight patterns of repression and their broader impact. This approach allowed for a coherent overview of the violations while also capturing the nuances of individual experiences, offering an in-depth perspective on the scale and nature of the abuses.

To guarantee authenticity and reliability, the Foundation for Inclusive Society applied rigorous verification methods. All data was cross-referenced with multiple independent sources, including credible news outlets, public records, and information from activists, to establish consistency and accuracy. The collaborative efforts between the Foundation and Azerbaijani human rights defenders, combined with this stringent verification process, enhance the credibility and integrity of the findings. As a result, the report presents a reliable and comprehensive account of the systemic violations affecting the Azerbaijani Turkish community in Iran.

Part Two

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Detained and Released Individuals

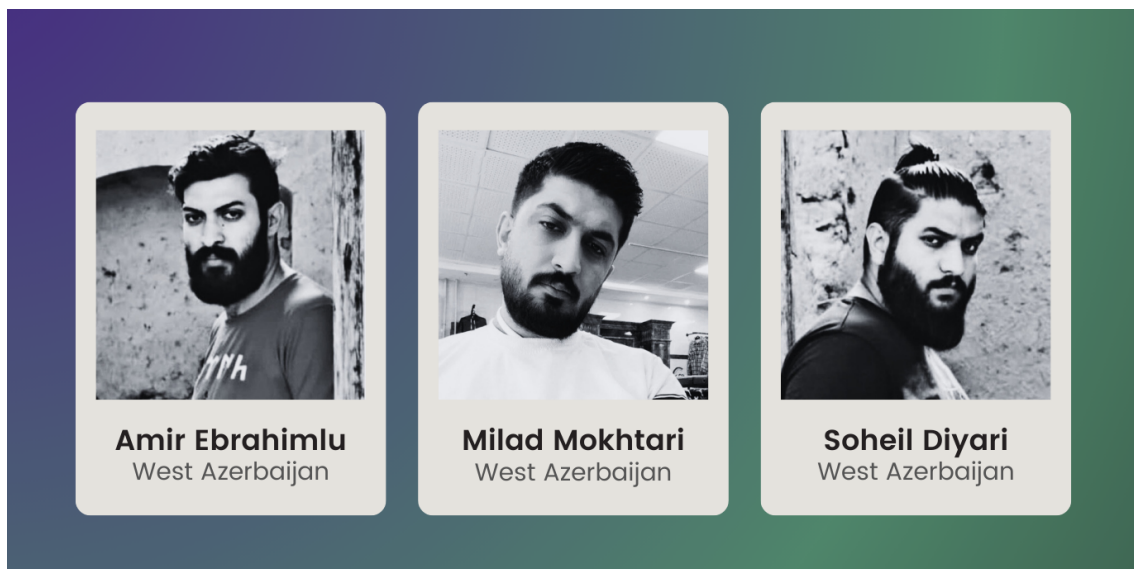
2.1 Detained and Released Individuals

In Iran, the practice of arbitrary arrest and conditional release has become a recurring feature of state repression. These detentions frequently target human rights activists, journalists, religious minorities, and members of marginalized communities whom the authorities perceive as threats. Individuals are often subjected to interrogations, coercive questioning, and an array of charges ranging from peaceful activism to espionage, many of which lack credible evidence. Extended periods of detention without formal indictment or access to fair legal proceedings remain common, in violation of internationally recognized standards of due process.

While some detainees are eventually released—either due to insufficient evidence, political expediency, or international pressure—many remain imprisoned under harsh conditions. Those who remain in custody frequently report ill-treatment, including solitary confinement, physical abuse, and torture aimed at extracting false confessions. These practices undermine fundamental protections enshrined in Articles 9 and 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), to which Iran is a State Party, and contravene the prohibition of torture and ill-treatment as recognized under customary interna-

tional law and the UN Convention against Torture (CAT).

The repetition of these arrests and releases reflects deeper structural obstacles to the realization of fundamental freedoms in Iran. This pattern erodes the right to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, and association, all of which are guaranteed under international law. The UN Human Rights Council and successive UN General Assembly resolutions on the human rights situation in Iran have repeatedly urged the government to cease the practice of arbitrary detention, release individuals held for exercising their fundamental rights, and ensure accountability for those responsible for abuse. Despite these calls, the cycle of detention and release continues to function as a tool of intimidation, silencing dissent and reinforcing a broader climate of fear.



On April 4, 2025, Siamak Azizzadeh, Hamed Navidi, and Amir Azizzadeh were detained in El-Golu, Tabriz following celebrations of the Tractor football team's victory over Esteghlal Tehran. The arrests involved assault and physical harm, and the detainees were later released upon posting bail.

On April 10, 2025, activist Sayyad Mohammadian, a resident of Karaj, was released from Kachooei Prison after completing a six-month sentence that began on November 25, 2024. He had previously faced repeated pressure from security and judicial authorities over his

peaceful cultural and national activities and had been subjected to imprisonment on multiple occasions.

On April 26, 2025, Azerbaijani civil activist Ali Babaei was detained after appearing before Branch 2 of the Tabriz Revolutionary Court to replace his bail. Due to delays attributed to staff at the prosecutor's office and the court, the administrative procedures were not completed, and he was transferred to Tabriz Prison. On April 27, Babaei was brought back to Branch 2 under restraint, and upon completion of the bail replacement process, he was released.

On May 2, 2025, Kazem Safabakhsh, a leader of the Tractor football team supporters in Azerbaijan, was detained by law enforcement while entering Sardar Azadegan Stadium in Qazvin to attend a match between Tractor and Shams Azar. He was transferred to the Public and Revolutionary Prosecutor's Office in Qazvin, where on May 8 he was formally charged with 'disturbing public order' and 'membership in separatist groups.' Bail was set at 400 million tomans, and he remained in custody at Qazvin Prison until May 24, when he was released upon posting bail.

Saman Bidar faced judicial proceedings alongside Kazem Safabakhsh. On May 8, 2025, the Public and Revolutionary Prosecutor's Office in Qazvin formally charged him with 'disturbing public order' and 'membership in separatist groups.' His bail was set at 4 billion rials, and after several days in detention, he was released from Qazvin Prison on May 10 upon posting bail.

On May 6, 2025, Abolfazl Ranjbari, a practicing lawyer, author, and university faculty member in Tabriz, was detained by Ministry of Intelligence agents outside his private residence in Tabriz. No information has been publicly disclosed regarding the charges or subsequent legal proceedings.

Behzad Pashazadeh, an Azerbaijani activist from Urmia, was detained on May 7, 2025 by security forces in his private shop. He was reportedly charged with "insulting ethnic groups" and "disturbing public order." Following his detention at Urmia Central Prison, Pashazadeh was released on bail on May 13, 2025, after posting bail amounting to 700 million tomans.

On May 7, 2025, Azerbaijani activist Houshang Naghizadeh was detained by security forces at his private residence in Urmia. He was reportedly charged with 'disturbing public order' and 'insulting ethnic groups' and was held for a period in Urmia Central Prison. Naghizadeh was released on bail on May 8, 2025.

He has previously been detained on multiple occasions, including in 2006 following International Mother Language Day celebrations; in 2013 on the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture; in 2018 during street protests against a racist offense by the newspaper Tarh-e No; in 2020 for supporting the liberation of Azerbaijan's Karabakh region; and in 2022 during protests in Urmia against the drying of Lake Urmia.

On May 8, 2025, Azerbaijani activist Yousef Kari was detained by security forces in Shariati Square, Ardabil, during which he was reportedly subjected to physical assault. He was released the following day after one day in detention.

On May 8, 2025, Sajjad Ghorbani was detained by security forces in Shariati Square, Ardabil, during which he was reportedly subjected to physical assault. He was released the following day after one day in detention.

On May 18, 2025, several supporters of the Tractor football team in Malekan, including Mehdi Khalilzadeh, Milad Baghbani, and Reza Dashtbani, were detained by security and law enforcement forces and transferred to an unknown location. No verified information regarding their release has been made available.

On May 25, 2025, Babak Asadi, residing in Haris, was detained by security forces and transferred to Tabriz Central Prison. Asadi had reported on his Instagram page regarding oral statements made by the Intelligence Office, and his detention subsequently took place. On May 27, 2025, Babak Asadi was released on bail after posting 2 billion tomans.

On June 3, Aydin Mohammadi was released from Evin Prison. He had previously been sentenced by Branch 15 of the Islamic Revolutionary Court, presided over by Judge Abolghasem Salavati, to three years' imprisonment on charges of 'propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran' and 'assembly and collusion with the intent to disrupt internal and

external security,' with two years of the sentence suspended.

On June 11, Hossein Hajizadeh was detained and beaten by the Salmas Intelligence Department. He was subjected to torture during interrogation, sustaining serious head injuries that required 11 stitches. He was released later the same day.

On June 17, 2025, Azerbaijani civil activist Tohid Amir-Amini was detained by security forces in Ardabil. Agents entered his father's house without presenting a judicial warrant and detained him violently. He was initially charged with 'propaganda against the regime.' On June 26, he was transferred to Ward 7 of Ardabil Central Prison, and on June 28 he was released on bail.

Amir-Amini has previously faced imprisonment. On February 21, 2019, International Mother Language Day, he was arrested for his civic activities and subsequently served four years in prison before being released on February 8, 2023.

On June 22, 2025, Javad Fathlu, a political and civil activist and supervisor at Chaldiran Hospital, was detained by intelligence agents of the IRGC in Khoy at his parental home. He was reportedly charged with "spreading false information" and "propaganda against the regime." Fathlu had previously been imprisoned during the protests of 2022.

On June 23, 2025, Rahim Baghal-Asghari, an Azerbaijani cartoonist and researcher, was detained by security forces in Tabriz. He was released two days later, on June 25. To date, no detailed information has been made available regarding the reasons for his detention or the conditions under which he was held.

On June 24, 2025, Morteza Haqir-Entezar was detained by security forces in Tabriz. He was reportedly charged with "propaganda against the regime" and "collaboration with Israel."



Sentenced Individuals

3.1 Sentenced Individuals

Following judicial proceedings, certain individuals are formally convicted and sentenced by Iranian courts. These sentences may include imprisonment, fines, probation, community service, or other penalties imposed under domestic law. However, in contexts where systemic human rights concerns are well-documented, such convictions often raise serious doubts regarding the fairness and transparency of the proceedings.

Concerns consistently reported by international observers include limited or denied access to independent legal representation, reliance on coerced confessions, and the absence of impartial and competent tribunals. Such deficiencies violate core protections guaranteed under Articles 9 and 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), to which Iran is a State Party, including the right to liberty, the presumption of innocence, and the right to a fair and public hearing.

The imposition of these sentences, despite procedural flaws, underscores the wider pattern of judicial repression in Iran. Both the UN Human Rights Committee and the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran have



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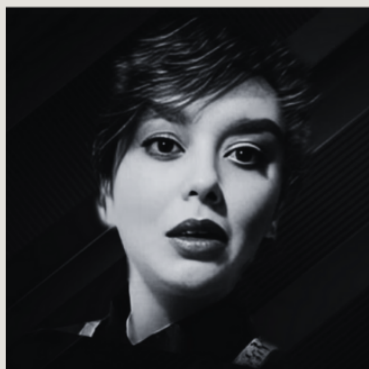
Taher Naghavi
Tehran



Vadud Asadi
Gilan



Mohammadreza Faghihi
Tehran



Armita Pavir
East Azerbaijan



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repeatedly emphasized that convictions handed down after trials lacking due process cannot be considered valid under international law. The continuation of such practices not only undermines the domestic rule of law but also places Iran in direct breach of its international obligations.

On April 5, 2025, the sentence of five years and six months' imprisonment against Azerbaijani activist Vadood Asadi, currently held in Evin Prison, was upheld in full by Branch 11 of the Gilan Provincial Court of Appeal. He was convicted on charges of 'propaganda against the state,' 'membership in anti-government groups,' and 'insulting the Supreme Leader,' which collectively resulted in the imposition of this sentence. Asadi had previously been arrested and convicted for his civic activities, and in March 2025 he was transferred to Evin Prison to serve his term.

On April 5, 2025, Azerbaijani civil activist Salar Taher-Afshar was transferred to Evin Prison to serve a five-year prison sentence. He had been convicted by the Tehran Revolutionary Court on the charge of 'assembly and collusion with the intent to act against national security,' a verdict later upheld by the Court of Appeal. Taher-Afshar was originally arrested in February 2024 in Urmia and was subsequently released on bail pending trial.

Taher Naghavi, a practicing lawyer, is currently serving a five-year sentence in Evin Prison on the charge of 'assembly and collusion against the regime.' According to the prison doctor's assessment, he required specialized prostate tests, yet prison authorities delayed his transfer to a hospital until April 22, 2025. The test results indicated the need for surgery, but the authorities continue to obstruct the procedure. He also suffers from spinal problems and has, at times, been denied telephone contact with his family.

Naghavi was previously convicted by Branch 15 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court, presided over by Judge Abolghasem Salavati, receiving a one-year prison sentence for 'propaganda against the state' and five years for 'assembly and collusion against the state.' As supplementary penalties, he was also subjected to a two-year travel ban and a two-year deprivation of social and political rights, including membership in political parties. This verdict was upheld in full by Branch 36 of the Tehran Provincial Court of Appeal.

Karim Esmaeilzadeh, who was arrested on March 10, 2025, by Tabriz Intelligence Forces, was transferred to Tabriz Prison after a week in the intelligence detention center and remained there until June 20 in a state of uncertainty. He was violently detained following a confrontation with officers. During his time in Tabriz Prison, he was largely denied family visits and telephone contact. He also suffered from gastrointestinal illnesses but was deprived of necessary medical treatment by the prison authorities. In addition, he was subjected to beatings by prison officers while in custody.

Esmaeilzadeh has been repeatedly arrested and imprisoned by security forces, primarily in connection with his environmental activism, particularly his protests against the drying of Lake Urmia.

Abdolaziz Azimi Ghadim, an Azerbaijani activist held in Evin Prison, ended his hunger strike on April 15, 2025, after 45 days. As a result of severe weight loss, he developed serious peripheral nervous system problems, including complete numbness in his right hand and partial numbness in his left. Although the prison doctor ordered his hospitalization, the authorities have refused to transfer him to appropriate medical facilities.

Azimi Ghadim was arrested in February 2024 without adherence to fair trial standards and, in October 2024, was sentenced by Branch 15 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court, presided over by Judge Abolghasem Salavati, to six years' imprisonment on charges of 'assembly and collusion against the state' and 'propaganda against the state.' This sentence was later upheld by the appellate court.

It should be noted that Ayaz Seifkhah also went on a hunger strike in support of Abdulaziz Azimi-Ghadim and in protest against the unfair judicial process. Seifkhah was taken into custody in February 2024 in violation of fair trial standards. In October 2024, Branch 15 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court, presided over by Judge Abolghasem Salavati, sentenced him to thirteen years' imprisonment on charges of "espionage" and "assembly and collusion against the state." These sentences were subsequently upheld by the Court of Appeal.

Araz Amani, an Azerbaijani activist imprisoned in Evin Prison, has been denied telephone contact with his family for an extended period, a restriction reportedly imposed in

response to his activities inside the prison. He was arrested in February 2024 without adherence to fair trial standards and, in October 2024, was sentenced by Branch 15 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court, presided over by Judge Abolghasem Salavati, to 13 years' imprisonment on charges of 'espionage' and 'assembly and collusion against the state.' The sentence was upheld by the appellate court on April 13, 2025.

Individuals Subjected to Capital Punishment

4.1 Individuals Subjected to Capital Punishment

While state-controlled news agencies frequently justify executions by citing charges such as drug smuggling or murder, human rights organizations have consistently challenged both the fairness of these trials and the legitimacy of capital punishment itself. Amnesty International has condemned Iran's extensive use of the death penalty, characterizing it as cruel, inhuman, and degrading, and continues to call for the complete abolition of executions. Defendants charged with capital crimes are routinely denied fair trial guarantees, including access to independent legal counsel, protection against coerced confessions, and impartial judicial review—violations that contravene Iran's obligations under Articles 6 and 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

The discriminatory application of the death penalty compounds these concerns. National minorities, including Baloch and Azerbaijanis, are disproportionately targeted, reflecting broader systemic discrimination. Research by Iran Human Rights (IHR) documented that in 2023 alone, at least 171 Baloch prisoners were executed, representing 21 percent

of all recorded executions despite Baloch people constituting only a small percentage of the national population. This pattern suggests not merely judicial overreach but structural inequities that heighten the vulnerability of minority groups to state violence.

International standards and resolutions underscore the severity of these violations. The UN General Assembly's resolution 77/222 (December 2022) calls upon all States "to establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty" and emphasizes that capital punishment should not be applied in a discriminatory manner or following proceedings that fall short of international fair trial standards. Iran's continued reliance on executions particularly against minorities in flawed judicial processes stands in direct contradiction to these international norms.

The persistence of such practices highlights the urgent need for sustained international scrutiny and accountability. Iran's actions not only undermine its commitments under the ICCPR but also contravene the spirit of successive UN General Assembly resolutions urging the progressive restriction and eventual abolition of capital punishment. In this context, the role of international monitoring mechanisms, UN Special Procedures, and civil society advocacy remains essential in pressuring Iranian authorities to halt executions, address systemic discrimination, and uphold the rights and dignity of all communities, particularly ethnic minorities most at risk.

Ehsan Faridi, a student from Tabriz, has been sentenced to death by Branch 2 of the Tabriz Revolutionary Court on charges of moharebeh (waging war against God) through alleged membership in the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization. He is currently held in the quarantine ward of Tabriz Central Prison, where he has spent more than ten months in detention without access to leave. Reports indicate that he was subjected to severe physical and psychological torture during detention and that the court's decision was based primarily on intelligence reports, including forced confessions obtained under duress.

Faridi was re-arrested in March 2024 following a summons by Branch 15 of the Tabriz Prosecutor's Office. He had previously been temporarily detained in March 2023 for six months on charges of 'propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran.'

On April 15, the capital punishment of Marziyeh Esmaeili was carried out in Qazvin Central Prison. She had been sentenced to death on the charge of drug trafficking.

On April 18, the capital punishment of Shamseddin Fazli was carried out in Tabriz Central Prison. He had been sentenced to death on the charge of intentional homicide.

On April 29, the capital punishment of Hossein Rafieinia was carried out in Zanjan Central Prison. He had been sentenced to death on the charge of intentional homicide.

On May 6, the capital punishment of Hassan Saei was carried out in Tabriz Central Prison. He had been sentenced to death on the charge of intentional homicide.

On May 6, the capital punishment of Rouhollah Ghahremani was carried out in Tabriz Central Prison. He had been sentenced to death on the charge of murder.

On May 21, the capital punishments of Naser Dahar, Ghanbar Ghaffari, and Nouraddin Mohammadzadeh were carried out in Birjand Central Prison. They had been sentenced to death on charges related to narcotics.

On June 3, the capital punishment of Gholi Faramarzi was carried out in Tabriz Central Prison. He had been sentenced to death on drug-related charges.

On June 11, the capital punishment of Alireza Heidarzadeh was carried out in Maragheh Central Prison. He had been sentenced to death on the charge of intentional homicide.

On June 11, the capital punishment of Naghi Soufian was carried out in Ahar Central Prison. He had been sentenced to death on the charge of intentional homicide.

On June 11, the capital punishment of Shahin Karami was carried out in Ardabil Central Prison. He had been sentenced to death on the charge of intentional homicide.

Documented Cases of ID Denial

5.1 Documented Cases of ID Denial

The ability to name a child is a fundamental right intrinsically linked to personal autonomy, cultural identity, and family life. In Iran, however, state authorities impose strict and discriminatory restrictions on naming practices, disproportionately affecting national minorities such as the Azerbaijanis and Baloch communities. Civil registry offices enforce a restrictive list of government-approved names, largely Persian and Shiite-Islamic in origin, while rejecting non-Persian or culturally distinct names. In cases where parents select names outside these state-sanctioned lists, birth certificates are withheld, leaving children without official recognition.

This practice constitutes a serious violation of international human rights law. Under Article 7 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), to which Iran is a State Party, every child has “the right to be registered immediately after birth, to have a name, and to acquire a nationality.” Denial of birth certificates not only undermines this right but also obstructs access to healthcare, education, and other essential public services, placing affected children in situations of structural disadvantage and vulnerability. Furthermore,

such measures contravene Article 24 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which guarantees every child the right to a name and legal recognition without discrimination.

Beyond the deprivation of essential services, this policy reflects a broader strategy of cultural and linguistic repression. By limiting the use of non-Persian names, Iranian authorities are erasing markers of minority identity, in direct contradiction to Article 27 of the ICCPR, which protects the rights of ethnic, religious, and linguistic minorities to enjoy their own culture, practice their religion, and use their language. The UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) has consistently emphasized that states must respect and promote minority cultural rights and avoid practices that lead to assimilation or exclusion.

The systematic denial of birth certificates to children from minority backgrounds thus represents both an immediate violation of children's rights and a long-term mechanism of cultural suppression. It perpetuates inequality, entrenches social marginalization, and undermines the principles of dignity and non-discrimination enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In Ardabil, a child has been denied a birth certificate because their parents chose the Turkic name 'El Ana.' Although this name has previously been registered in Iran, civil registry officials refused to issue the certificate. Under Iranian law, once a name has been accepted and issued, it should not be restricted again. Despite this, the child's parents continue to face obstacles in obtaining the birth certificate.

In Maku, West Azerbaijan Province, a child has remained without a birth certificate for more than five years after the parents chose the Turkic name 'Chaghri Manas,' which references a legendary figure in Turkic culture. Civil registry officials have refused to issue the certificate on this basis.

In Varzeqan County, East Azerbaijan Province, a child has been denied a birth certificate after the parents selected the Turkic name 'Gurshad.' Civil registry officials refused to issue the documentation on this basis.

In Tabriz, officials at the Civil Registration Office refused to issue a birth certificate for a child named 'Sevgi,' despite the fact that this name has previously been registered for many individuals. After two months of delays, the parents were eventually able to obtain the certificate.

In Tehran, the Civil Registration Office withheld a birth certificate for eleven months for a child whose parents had chosen the name 'Ilkay.'

In Tabriz, the Civil Registration Office refused to issue a birth certificate for a child whose parents had chosen the name 'Hakan.'

In Tabriz, the Civil Registration Office refused to issue a birth certificate for a child whose parents had chosen the name 'Asena.'



Recommendations

Fundamental rights, such as the right to a fair trial, freedom of expression, and freedom from torture, are systematically violated by the Iranian government's harsh tactics, including arbitrary detentions, physical abuse, and mistreatment, as demonstrated in recent cases. While some detainees have been released on bail or due to international pressure, many still endure ongoing legal battles, harsh detention conditions, and constant threats. The repeated pattern of arrest and release highlights the pervasive atmosphere of fear and repression faced by political activists in Iran. International pressure must be intensified to urge the Iranian government to respect its citizens' rights, release political prisoners, and end the cycle of arbitrary detention and mistreatment.

Governments and international organizations must pressure Iranian authorities to end the use of exile as a punitive measure and restore the rights of those exiled, allowing them to return to their homes without fear of further persecution. The international community must also continue providing support to those affected by these abuses and hold the Iranian regime accountable for its systematic persecution of activists and human rights defenders.

The global community must urgently act to pressure Iran to cease executions,

especially for non-violent crimes such as drug-related offenses. The application of the death penalty in Iran constitutes a grave human rights violation, compounded by procedural abuses such as forced confessions, unfair trials, and inadequate legal representation. Special attention should be given to the execution of women and ethnic minorities, as these cases further highlight the government's discriminatory policies and its use of capital punishment as a tool for political repression.

In addition, the international community should demand transparent and independent investigations into executions, stronger sanctions against the judiciary, and accountability for those directly involved in carrying out death sentences. Solidarity with victims' families and advocacy for comprehensive reforms in Iran's legal and judicial systems are crucial to ensuring justice and accountability.

The systemic persecution and harassment of cultural and national activists, such as Peyman Ebrahimi Dinvar, for expressing their cultural identities and engaging in peaceful activities like Azerbaijani dancing must end immediately. Such repression violates international laws that protect essential rights, including freedom of expression and assembly. The Iranian government must release all detained cultural activists, safeguard their rights, and allow cultural expressions to flourish without fear of intimidation or violence.

International human rights organizations must continue monitoring the treatment of detainees in Iran and holding the government accountable. Pressure should be applied to ensure transparency in the treatment of prisoners, the right to medical care, and the establishment of independent monitoring systems to protect the well-being of incarcerated individuals, particularly those suffering from serious health conditions exacerbated by violence, torture, or hunger strikes.

The Iranian government must urgently end the practice of denying identification certificates to children, particularly those from marginalized communities like Azerbaijanis, Baluch, and other ethnic minorities. This denial of basic rights perpetuates cycles of poverty, exploitation, and social exclusion, constituting a clear violation of international human rights agreements. Legislative and regulatory reforms are necessary to guarantee that all children,

regardless of social or ethnic background, have access to identification documents. Providing these documents will not only protect their right to basic services such as healthcare, education, and social protection but also promote equity and social inclusion. The international community must monitor this issue, pressure the Iranian government to address it, and support activists and civil society organizations advocating for the rights of these underrepresented groups.

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