



Special Report

The State of Women's Executions in Iran



In Observance of the International Day to End Violence Against Women

(November 1, 2023 – November 25, 2024)

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1. Introduction

As the world marks the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, it is essential to shed light on the grim realities faced by women in Iran. These women, who already endure systemic oppression and violence, are subjected to one of the highest rates of execution globally.

In a society where laws often amplify rather than mitigate gender-based violence, Iranian women face profound and unique threats. They live under legal and cultural norms that intensify their vulnerability instead of offering protection. These conditions frequently force women into dire situations where survival choices lead to criminal prosecution and, ultimately, execution.

This report documents and analyzes the cases of women who faced capital punishment between November 1, 2023, and November 25, 2024. By sharing individual stories and examining systemic patterns, it seeks to raise awareness of the injustices endured by these women and to call for international attention to address these human rights violations.

The cases reviewed include women coerced into crime due to abusive circumstances, such as victims of child marriage, poverty, and a lack of social support, including isolated mothers. These stories highlight a harsh reality where gender-based violence intersects with an unforgiving judicial system.

As these narratives unfold, it is crucial to reflect on the human cost of such practices and advocate for justice systems that protect the most vulnerable instead of punishing them.

2. Propose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to document the executions of women in Iran from November 1, 2023, to November 25, 2024. It highlights how Iran's judiciary, heavily influenced by strict interpretations of Sharia law, combined with the country's struggling economic and social systems, fosters the criminalization of women—a particularly vulnerable group within Iranian society.

In Iran, the judiciary operates not only as a tool of suppression against women but also as a mechanism that perpetuates emotional and irrational tendencies in society, favoring the use of the death penalty. By shedding light on these cases, this report aims to raise awareness among international human rights organizations about the dire conditions faced by women sentenced to death. These

women are among the most “intersectionally vulnerable,” facing both gender-based discrimination and harsh judgments under a Sharia-based judicial system. This system often overlooks the role of patriarchal laws and inadequate social support in driving women into situations that lead to criminal acts.

Ultimately, this report serves as a call to action for the international community to push for systemic reforms in Iran’s judicial practices and to support human rights defenders working to end the execution of women in Iran.

3. Reporting Challenges

Documenting the executions of women in Iran poses several significant challenges. One of the primary issues is the pervasive lack of transparency from government institutions. Strict media censorship and government crackdowns on independent human rights organizations severely restrict the flow of information, often making it inaccessible, incomplete, or distorted.

Furthermore, as Freshteh Goli (2024) notes, Iranian women who have been incarcerated face enduring social consequences, including family estrangement, societal exclusion, and the stigma associated with imprisonment. This stigma extends to the families of women sentenced to execution, compelling many to avoid publicly acknowledging their situation. As a result, relatives often choose to remain in the shadows, concealing their association with the convicted individual to escape societal judgment. Consequently, the names, photographs, and personal details of these women frequently remain inaccessible due to the protective silence maintained by their families.

Despite these substantial obstacles, this report relies on reliable sources, including independent human rights organizations and verified accounts, to ensure accuracy. It seeks to provide a comprehensive and clear portrayal of the state of women’s executions in Iran, even when information is scarce or challenging to obtain.

4. Methodology

This report employs a multi-method approach to document and analyze the cases of women executed in Iran between November 1, 2023, and November 25, 2024. Given the restrictions on information access within Iran, this section outlines the strategies used for data collection, verification, and analysis, as well as the steps taken to address limitations.

4.1. Data Collection

The data for this report were obtained from a combination of credible sources, including:

- Monthly reports from Iranska Föreningen Mot Avrättningar (IFMA), which provide detailed information on executions during the reporting period.
- Reports from international human rights organizations such as Iran Human Rights and Amnesty International, as well as independent Iranian Human Rights organisations including Hrana, Hengaw, Hal Vash,
- Iranian state-run media including outlets like Rokna, Mizan, Mashregh News, Tasnim and Mehr.
- Independent Media, such as Iran Wire and **local reports from local individuals within Iran**, which offer unique insights and perspectives often missing from official records.

4.2. Data Verification and Cross-Referencing

Given the lack of transparency in Iran, data was meticulously cross-referenced across multiple sources to ensure accuracy. Local reports were particularly valuable for corroborating details. In cases of discrepancies between independent reports and official media, the report prioritized verified information from reputable human rights organizations, IFMA, and firsthand testimonies from local sources.

4.3. Analysis Framework

An analytical framework was developed to categorize and interpret the data. This framework focused on two key areas:

- Case Profiles: Each case was analyzed for key details such as age, family situation, charges, and special circumstances (e.g., child marriage, socio-economic background).
- Socio-Legal Context: The analysis considered the impact of Sharia law, patriarchal norms, and socio-economic conditions that contribute to the criminalization of women in Iran.

5. Limitations

This report recognizes several significant limitations stemming from restricted access to data within Iran. Government censorship, the absence of public court records, societal stigma, and the fear experienced by victims' families pose substantial challenges to obtaining accurate information. While local reports have been invaluable in providing critical insights, they occasionally lack detail due to safety concerns.

Despite these challenges, the report employs rigorous cross-referencing of multiple independent sources to ensure the highest possible reliability. Instances where verification was incomplete are explicitly noted to uphold transparency.

6. Content of the Report: Review of Executions of Women in Iran from First November, 2023 to November 25, 2024

This section reviews the executions of women carried out in Iran during the specified period. It highlights the number of executions, the judicial reasons and charges behind them, their geographical distribution across provinces and prisons, and instances of political executions. Additionally, it examines the issuance and confirmation of death sentences for both political and non-political prisoners, as well as cases involving the execution of spouses.

The report also explores the human and social impacts of these executions, particularly on the families of the victims.

6.1. Total Number of Executions

During the specified period, at least 30 women were executed in Iran following death sentences. It is crucial to acknowledge that this figure is based on available data and may not represent the full extent of the issue. Both Iran Human Rights and Amnesty International have reported that many executions are either unannounced by Iranian authorities or deliberately concealed by the victims' families, who fear societal stigma and retribution.

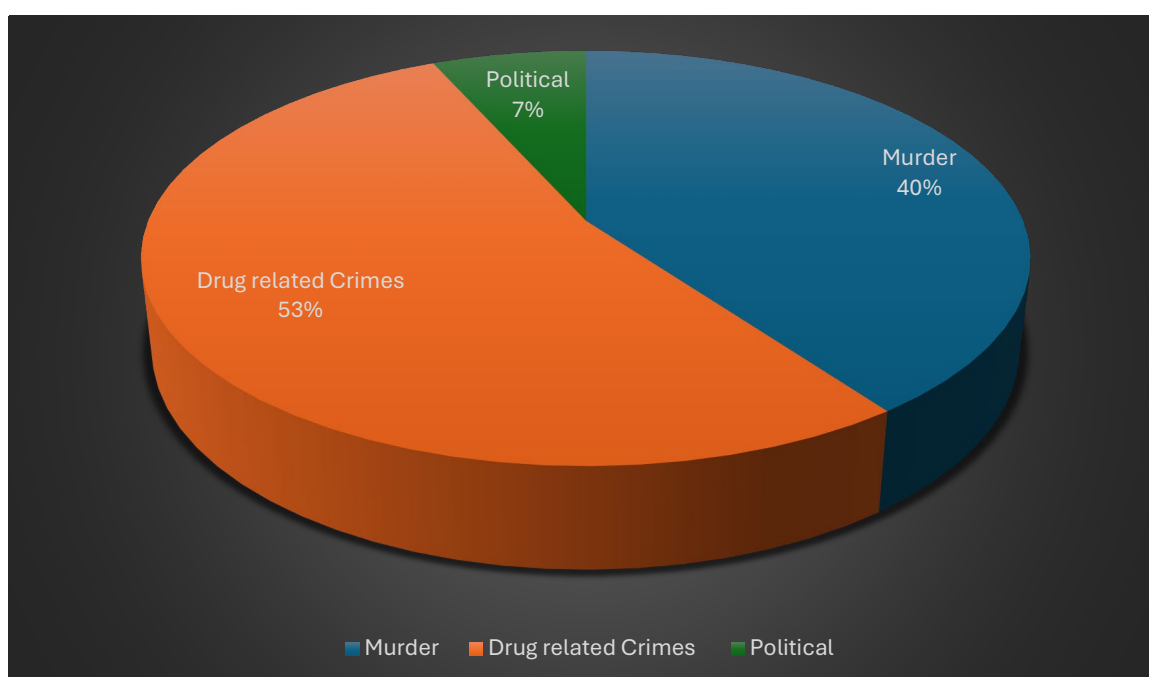


The severe restrictions on information access, combined with the lack of transparency from Iranian authorities, result in some executions going unreported by activists and human rights organizations.

Based on the collected data, the highest number of executions occurred in December 2023 and October 2024, with 5 executions recorded in each month. This was followed by May, July and November 2024, each with 4 recorded executions.

6.2. Reasons for Executions

The data collected indicate that women in Iran were executed for a variety of offenses. The primary reasons for issuing death sentences during the specified period were **drug-related crimes**, **premeditated murder** (qisas), and **political crimes**.



Drug-related offenses accounted for the largest proportion of executions, comprising approximately **53%** of all cases. Following this, of the women were executed under retribution laws (qisas), typically for charges of premeditated murder. Political crimes represented a smaller fraction, making up about **7%** of the total executions of women during this period.

These figures underscore the dominant role of drug-related offenses and qisas in the capital punishment of women in Iran. In contrast, the lower percentage of political crimes highlights the targeted nature of executions against women involved in political dissent.

6.2.1. Execution of Political and Social activists

Political executions in Iran represent a distinct and severe form of judicial repression, often targeting women involved in activism, dissent, or political opposition. These cases exemplify the Iranian government's use of capital punishment as a tool to silence voices of resistance, particularly among women who challenge the status quo.

Despite widespread international condemnation, the Iranian judiciary frequently relies on charges such as “moharebeh” (waging war against God), “*baghy*” (rebellion), “*Mofsed-e-felarz*” (corruption on earth), and “espionage” to prosecute political activists. These charges are broad and vaguely defined, often applied without adherence to fair trial standards, making political executions a grave violation of human rights.

- **Nasim Namazi**

Among the notable cases during the reporting period is that of **Nasim Namazi**, who was executed on December 29, 2023, alongside three male political activists in the central prison of Urmia, West Azerbaijan province. Information about Nasim Namazi's case remains scarce, and notably there are no publicly available photos of her, reflecting the lack of transparency in political executions. Although the Iranian state media, Tasnim News, broadcasted a “confession” video featuring **Vafa Hanareh** and other unidentified individuals, there was no visible female participant in the footage (Tasnim News, 2023), casting further doubt on the validity and transparency of the evidence presented against her.

- **The Secret Execution of Parnian Daliri**

According to *Goya News*, reports have emerged regarding the secret execution of **Parnian Daliri**, a student at the University of Art, who was arrested during the *Women, Life, Freedom* protests in 2022. Journalist *Delbar Tavakoli* suggests that Parnian may have died as a result of torture while in detention, but the Iranian authorities allegedly misled her family, claiming she was executed.

Details about Parnian's arrest, the charges against her, and the judicial process remain unknown. There had been no prior media coverage of her detention, and her case only came to light after reports of her death surfaced. Her family has faced intense pressure from the authorities, and her mother recently passed away under distressing circumstances.

The secrecy surrounding Parnian's death exemplifies the broader strategy of the Iranian government to suppress information about the arrests and deaths of protesters. This case underscores the ongoing human rights violations, the lack of transparency, and the brutal treatment of detainees associated with the revolutionary Women, Life, Freedom movement.

6.2.2. Executions for Drug-Related Crimes

Drug-related offenses have historically been a significant reason for the execution of women in Iran. Despite international criticism of Iran's harsh anti-drug laws, the country continues to issue death sentences for crimes involving drug trafficking and possession. During the reporting period, 16 women were executed on charges related to drug offenses. Many of these women were from impoverished or vulnerable backgrounds, often coerced or forced into drug trafficking due to financial hardship or exploitation. The disproportionate application of the death penalty highlights the severe impact of Iran's punitive drug policies on women, particularly those from marginalized communities.

- **Zar Khaton Mazarzahi**

Zar Khaton Mazarzahi was executed on November 15, 2023, on charges of carrying drugs in Kerman prison. According to Halvash (2023), due to extreme financial poverty, Zar Khaton was unable to secure legal representation at any stage of her trial. A Baluch human rights activist reported that her family had to sell the earrings of her one-year-old grandchild just to cover the travel expenses to visit Zar Khaton for the last time before her execution. Iran Wire (2023) also reported that her family could not afford an ambulance to transport her body after

the execution, and it was only through the financial contributions of friends and acquaintances that they were able to arrange for her burial.

Zar Khaton's case illustrates the severe socio-economic hardships faced by marginalized communities in Iran, particularly among the Baluch ethnic minority. The inability to access legal support and the extreme financial constraints experienced by her family highlight the systemic inequalities that exacerbate the vulnerability of women accused of drug-related crimes.

- **Execution of Couples**

During the reporting period, there were two documented cases in which both members of a couple were executed on charges related to drug offenses. These cases are discussed below.

These cases are discussed below:

- ❖ *The Execution of Marjan Hajizadeh: A Juvenile Victim of Drug-Related Charges*

The execution of juvenile offenders constitutes a severe violation of international human rights standards, including the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which explicitly prohibits the use of the death penalty for individuals who were under 18 at the time of the offense. Despite these protections, Iran continues to execute individuals who were juveniles at the time of their alleged crimes. One particularly concerning case during the reporting period is that of Marjan Hajizadeh, a child bride and juvenile offender.

Marjan Hajizadeh was sentenced to death at the age of 16, following her arrest alongside her husband, **Esmail Hoseinkhani**, on charges of carrying drugs. As a child bride, Marjan was placed in a vulnerable situation early in life, where she faced significant coercion and exploitation. Her involvement in drug-related activities was likely influenced by her circumstances and her husband's control. Despite being a juvenile when the sentence was issued, Marjan was executed on April 11, 2024, at the age of 19, alongside her husband.

The case of Marjan Hajizadeh highlights multiple layers of injustice: the criminalization of a juvenile, the exploitation of a child bride, and the harsh application of drug laws. Her execution reflects a broader disregard for international legal standards and underscores the failure of the Iranian judicial

system to protect vulnerable young women from severe and disproportionate punishment.

❖ *Unidentified Female Victim Executed Alongside Partner for Drug Trafficking*

On March 18, 2024, a couple was executed in Tabriz prison on charges of carrying 3 kilograms of drugs, according to Iran Human Rights Organization (2024). The report indicates that an unidentified woman was executed alongside her husband, Yasin Zolfaghari. The couple had been married for only one year before they were sentenced to death.

6.2.3. *Executions for Murder*

During the reporting period, 12 women were executed on charges of murder in Iran. A significant proportion of these cases involved the killing of a close family member, most commonly a spouse. In many instances, women who commit murder in Iran do so as an act of desperation, driven by years of abuse, domestic violence, or severe mistreatment. The absence of adequate legal protections, coupled with societal and cultural pressures, leaves many women trapped in abusive marriages with few viable options for escape.

In a legal system where claims of self-defense or domestic violence are often dismissed or ignored, women are sometimes pushed to the extreme measure of taking the life of their abuser as a final attempt to end the cycle of violence. The judicial response, however, is frequently harsh, with little consideration given to the underlying circumstances that led to the crime. As a result, many women are sentenced to death without a thorough examination of the history of abuse or the coercive factors that may have influenced their actions.

The reports published by international human rights organizations have identified several women executed for charges related to murder during the reporting period. The table below provides details of some of these cases:

No	Date of Execution	Name	Prison	Description of the murder
1	2023.12.06	Samira Sabzianfar	Ghezelhesar	Murder of husband
2	2024.01.31	Zahra Nazarian	Sabzevar	Murder of sister's husband
3	2024.04.25	Sahar ?	Karaj	Murder of husband
4	2024.05.16	Razieh	Vakil Abad	Murder of own children
5	2024.07.20	? Mahmoudinia	Adelabad	Murder of husband
6	2024.10.01	Akhtar Ghorbanloo	Ahar	Murder of husband

7	2024.10.02	Zahra Feizi	Tabriz	Murder of husband
8	2024.10.02	Leila Ghaemi	Ghezelhesar	Murder of husband
9	2024.10.20	Nastaran ?	Tabriz	Murder of Mother- in -law

7. Executions of Women with Physical and Mental Health Challenges

The execution of women with significant physical and mental health challenges underscores the extreme nature of Iran’s judicial practices, particularly in cases where the vulnerabilities of the accused are ignored. International human rights standards emphasize the need for special protections for individuals with mental illnesses or severe physical conditions, including prohibitions against the use of the death penalty. Despite this, Iranian courts have continued to sentence women with clear physical or psychological challenges to death, disregarding their health conditions and the circumstances that led to their crimes. During the reporting period, there were several cases of women executed despite suffering from serious health issues. This section highlights two notable cases:

- **Raziyeh: The tragedy of killing two children**

Razieh was the mother of two young children, Tahereh (8 years old) and Alireza (4 years old), whom she tragically killed. She was executed on May 16, 2024 for the crime.



According to a report by **Khabar Online**, a news outlet affiliated with the Iranian regime, the article highlighted the intense economic and social pressures faced by Razieh, stating: *“Economic pressures and social harms led her to a terrible decision. After separating from her second husband, she*

struggled with financial difficulties and social isolation, unable to care for her two young children alone. This desperation drove her to the horrific act of killing her two innocent children” (Khabar Online, 2024). The portrayal of Razieh’s case by Khabar Online appears to emphasize the external pressures and hardships she faced, subtly attributing her actions to the broader economic and social issues prevalent in Iran. While this narrative acknowledges the severe circumstances surrounding her case, it also shifts the focus away from the systemic failures of the state to provide adequate support for single mothers and families in crisis. By highlighting her economic struggles, the report implicitly acknowledges the dire conditions faced by many women in similar situations, yet it fails to address the

deeper systemic issues, such as the lack of social safety nets, mental health support, and legal protections for vulnerable women.

This case underscores the broader failures of the judicial system in Iran to consider mitigating factors like mental health and socio-economic hardship. Instead of addressing the root causes that led to such a tragic outcome, the legal response was to issue a death sentence, further illustrating the punitive approach of the Iranian judiciary, even in cases involving individuals with significant challenges.

- **Parvin Mosavi**

Parvin Mousavi, a 53-year-old woman, was executed on May 18, 2024, in Urmia prison, West Azerbaijan province, on charges of carrying 5 kilograms of drugs. Despite her conviction, Parvin's case drew significant attention due to her severe health condition; she was reportedly suffering from cancer. According to Sareh Sedighi, a former cellmate, Parvin's family had been given assurances by Mohsen Ejehi, the Head of the Judiciary of Iran, that she would be released due to her illness.

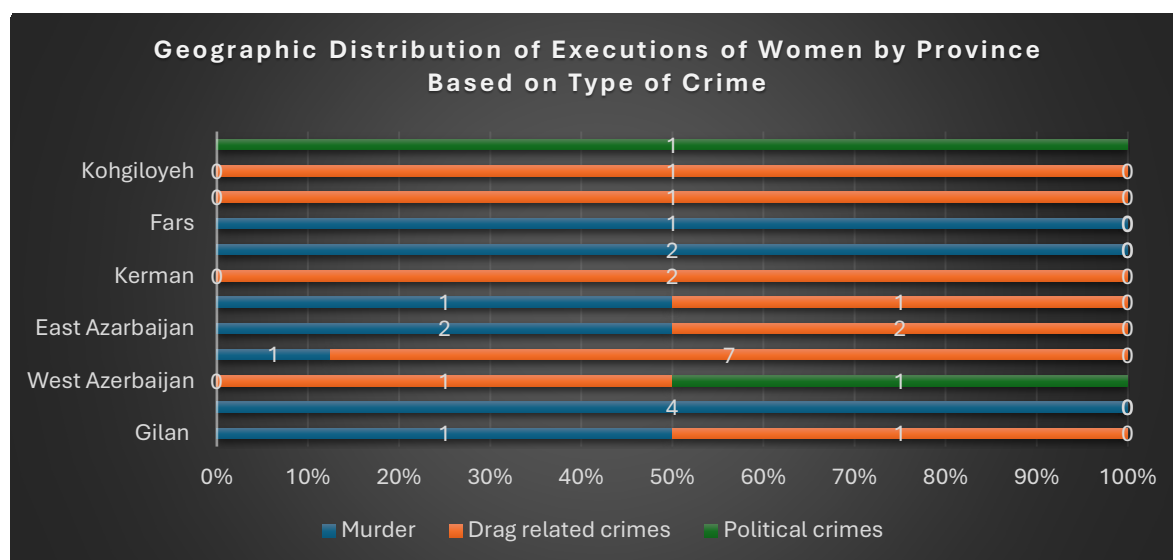


Following international criticism and the disclosure of her case by human rights organizations, **Mehr News**, a state-affiliated media outlet, claimed that anti-government media had falsely portrayed Parvin as a political prisoner, asserting instead that she was a drug offender. Mehr News and Shargh daily also denied reports of her illness, rejecting claims about her cancer diagnosis.

The conflicting narratives surrounding Parvin Mousavi's case reveal the broader issue of state-controlled media discrediting reports from independent human rights organizations. By denying her illness and emphasizing her drug-related charges, Mehr News attempted to undermine the credibility of international reports and diminish the gravity of executing a severely ill woman. The case of Parvin Mousavi illustrates the disregard for basic human rights in the Iranian judicial process, where even promises made by high-ranking officials, such as Mohsen Ejehi, are not upheld, and vulnerable prisoners are executed despite severe health conditions.

8. Geographical Distribution of Executions of Women

This section examines the geographical distribution of executions of women based on the types of crimes across various provinces in Iran.



Analyzing these statistics reveals significant regional disparities, with certain provinces witnessing higher numbers of executions than others.

According to the collected data, women were executed in 12 out of the 31 provinces in the country. The province with the highest number of executions was South Khorasan, accounting for 31% of all recorded executions during the reporting period, with a total of 8 executions carried out in the prisons of Birjand and Sabzevar.

The data also indicates that executions of women occurred across 16 different prisons, including: Birjand, Ahar, Tabriz, Tehran, Hamedan, Ghezel Hesar, Lakan, Urmia, Sabzevar, Zanjan, Karaj, Kerman, Vakilabad, Nishabour, Adelabad, and Yasuj.

9. Issuance and Confirmation of Death Sentences

It is challenging to determine the exact portion of death sentences issued by the Iranian judiciary or those confirmed by the Supreme Court due to a lack of transparency and restricted access to official records. Therefore, this section highlights selected cases of women who were sentenced to the death penalty during the reporting period.

9.1. Death Sentences for political and social activities

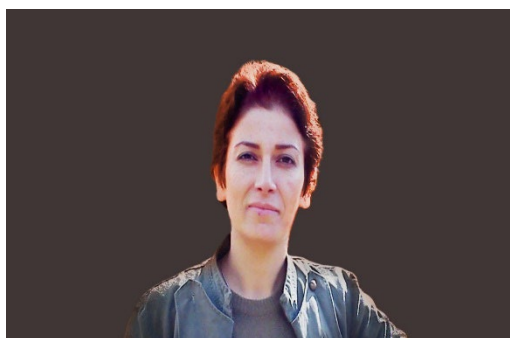
In Iran, women involved in political activism or social advocacy face severe risks, as the judicial system frequently uses politically motivated charges to issue death sentences. Accusations such as “moharebeh” (waging war against God), “baghy” (rebellion), and “espionage” are often applied broadly, targeting individuals who challenge the state’s authority or engage in civil society efforts. These charges are typically vague, allowing for harsh sentences without due process or fair legal representation.

Women activists, particularly those from marginalized ethnic groups, are disproportionately affected, as their advocacy for human rights or community support is framed as a threat to national security. The following cases highlight the severe judicial responses faced by women involved in political and social activities during the reporting period.

- **Pakhshan Azizi**

Pakhshan Aziz, a civil society activist was sentenced to death in July 2024.

She was convicted of baghi (rebellion) due to her involvement in human rights activities, including providing aid and support to children and women in northeastern of Syria and Kurdistan region of Iraq during the brutal attack by ISIS to Kurdistan region. Her humanitarian efforts, aimed at assisting vulnerable populations in conflict zones,



were reframed as acts of rebellion by the Iranian judiciary, underscoring the risks faced by activists who engage in social and humanitarian work.

- **Verishah Moradi**

Varisheh Moradi, a Kurdish political prisoner and member of the East Kurdistan Free Women Society (KJAR), was sentenced to death in November 2024. Her conviction followed two court hearings held on June 16 and October 5. Throughout the trial process, Moradi was denied the right to defend herself, and the presiding judge barred her legal team from presenting any defense. The lack of fair Kurdish activists, particularly women, who challenge the state’s authority.



of fair trial procedures in her case highlights the systemic legal biases faced by Kurdish activists, particularly women, who challenge the state's authority.

9.2. Death sentences for Marginalized Women: Family Protection and Ethnic Discrimination



- **Soudabeh Irandgani**

In October 2024, a campaign by Baluch activists on social media reported that Soudabeh Irandgani, a 34-year-old mother of six from the Baluch ethnic minority, had been sentenced to death on a charge of murder. According to Iran Wire (2024), Soudabeh became involved in a verbal conflict with another woman whose child had been killed by Soudabeh's child. In a desperate attempt to save her child's life, Soudabeh took responsibility for the murder herself, placing her own life at risk of execution.

Soudabeh's case is emblematic of the double discrimination faced by Baluch women in Iran, who not only contend with gender-based biases but also systemic ethnic discrimination. As a member of the marginalized Baluch community, her access to legal representation and a fair trial was likely compromised, reflecting broader patterns of judicial inequality experienced by ethnic minorities in the country. Moreover, her case highlights the dire circumstances under which mothers in Iran may sacrifice themselves to protect their children, even at the risk of execution.

9.3. Death Sentence for Adultery (Zenā-ye Mohseneh)

Zenā-ye Mohseneh specifically refers to adultery committed by a married individual who has a legal, ongoing sexual relationship with their spouse. Under Iranian and traditional Sharia law, this offense is seen as a grave violation of the marital bond, punishable by the death penalty.

Traditionally, the punishment for Zenā-ye Mohseneh is stoning to death (rajm), but due to international pressure, stoning has often been replaced by other forms of execution, such as hanging.

According to a report by Mashregh News (2024), in March 2024, a man in

Tehran filed a complaint with the police, accusing his wife, Maryam, and her employer, Khosrow, of engaging in an illicit relationship. His suspicions grew after noticing a strong resemblance between Khosrow and his young son. A subsequent DNA test confirmed that he was not the biological father of either child;



both children were fathered by Khosrow. Following their arrest, the husband demanded the harshest punishment for both Maryam and Khosrow. During the trial, Maryam defended herself by claiming that her husband was unable to have children, and that she had sought Khosrow's help for artificial insemination, denying any act of adultery.

Under Sharia law, a charge of Zenā-ye Mohseneh traditionally requires either multiple confessions (four times) from the accused or testimony from at least four reliable adult male witnesses who directly observed the act. Despite this high burden of proof, the court sentenced both Maryam and Khosrow to death, underscoring the strict and often arbitrary application of this law.

10. The Impact of Executions on Families

The ages of the women executed during the reporting period ranged from 19 to 53 years, reflecting a wide demographic spread. Most of these women were married and had children, with a portion of these children being under 18 years old at the time of their mother's execution. The majority of these women were sentenced to death on charges related to the killing of their husbands or a male relative of their husbands.

In the Iranian legal system, the custody of minor children is typically transferred to the paternal grandfather after the death of the father. This legal framework creates a deeply troubling situation in cases where the mother has been executed, often as a result of qisas (retribution) sought by the paternal family. In effect, the children are placed under the guardianship of the very individual who pursued the death sentence against their mother, leading to a conflict of interest that exacerbates the trauma faced by these young victims.

The following cases illustrate the devastating consequences of this legal arrangement, highlighting the complex and often overlooked impact of executions on the surviving family members.

- **Samira Sabzian Fard: A Victim of Child Marriage and Familial Retribution**

Samira Sabzian Fard who was a victim of child-marriage was executed on December 6, 2023, on the charge of killing her husband. Samira was the mother of two children 10 and 15 years old.

One day before Samira's execution, a member of the Iranian Föreningen Mot Avrättningar (IFMA) spoke with her father-in-law, urging him to consider the emotional impact on his grandchildren if he proceeded with qisas against their mother. When asked what he intended to tell his grandchildren in the future about their mother's fate, he responded: *"My grandchildren believe that their mother and father died in a car accident. They know nothing about what truly happened."*



This narrative contrasts sharply with the account published by Iran Wire, which claimed that Samira was allowed to meet her children one last time before her execution. The discrepancy between these two narratives underscores the lack of transparency in the judicial process and the complex web of secrecy surrounding executions in Iran, particularly when family members are directly involved in seeking retribution.

The legal system's decision to place the children in the custody of the same family member who pursued qisas against their mother creates a profound conflict of interest and sets the stage for potential neglect, abuse, or emotional manipulation. These children are doubly victimized: first by the loss of their mother through execution and then by being placed in an environment where their welfare may not be the primary concern.

In such cases, the state fails to provide adequate protection and support, leaving the children vulnerable to long-term emotional and psychological damage. Without external intervention, such as mental health support or social services, these children may struggle to break free from the cycle of trauma and marginalization.

11. Conclusion

This report documents the executions of women in Iran from November 1, 2023, to November 25, 2024, highlighting the systemic failures of the judicial system and the dire circumstances faced by women who become entangled in the legal process. The data reveal a troubling pattern of disproportionate punishment, often inflicted on marginalized and vulnerable women, including victims of child marriage, impoverished individuals coerced into drug trafficking, and political activists challenging the state's authority.

The narratives presented illustrate the intersectional vulnerabilities of these women, where gender-based discrimination is compounded by ethnic biases, socio-economic disadvantages, and a harsh interpretation of Sharia law. The legal framework, instead of protecting these women, exacerbates their suffering, pushing them into criminalized roles and ultimately leading to their execution.

Furthermore, the impact of these executions extends beyond the women themselves, devastating their families, especially their children. The practice of transferring custody to the paternal grandfather—often the same individual who sought retribution—highlights a profound conflict of interest and exposes the children to further psychological trauma and instability.

The lack of transparency in the judicial process, combined with state-controlled narratives, has resulted in numerous cases being concealed from the public eye, as evidenced by the hidden executions of political prisoners like Parnian Daliri. The denial of basic legal rights, such as access to fair trials and the consideration of mitigating circumstances, underscores the systemic human rights violations pervasive in Iran's judiciary.

12. Recommendation and Suggestions

12.1. Increased International Advocacy

Human rights organizations and international bodies must intensify their efforts to advocate for a moratorium on the death penalty in Iran, particularly for vulnerable women and juvenile offenders. The international community should use diplomatic channels to pressure Iranian authorities to uphold international human rights standards.

12.2. Legal Reforms and Protections for Vulnerable Groups

Iran's judicial system urgently needs reforms to protect vulnerable women from harsh sentencing, especially in cases involving drug-related offenses, child marriage, and domestic abuse. Legal safeguards should be established to ensure that mitigating factors such as mental health, socio-economic hardship, and histories of abuse are considered in sentencing decisions.

12.3. Support for Families and Children of Executed Women

International and local NGOs should prioritize mental health and social support programs for the children of executed women. Advocacy efforts should focus on changing the current legal framework, which places children in the custody of the same individuals who pursued qisas against their mother, to protect the welfare of these children and prevent further trauma.

12.4. Transparency and Accountability in the Judicial Process

The Iranian government must be held accountable for the lack of transparency in the judicial process, particularly in cases involving political executions. Independent investigations should be conducted into reported cases of torture, coerced confessions, and hidden executions, with a demand for greater access to information for both local and international human rights monitors.

12.5. Raising Awareness through Documentation and Reporting

Continued documentation and reporting of executions, as done by IFMA and other human rights organizations, are crucial to shedding light on these human rights violations. Efforts should be made to amplify these reports in international forums and media to ensure that the voices of the victims are not silenced and that the issue remains on the global agenda.

12.6. Promoting Legal Aid and Support Services

There is a critical need for increased legal aid services for women facing capital charges in Iran. International legal organizations could collaborate with local activists to provide pro bono legal support, ensuring that women have access to competent defense and a fair trial process.

13.Final Remarks

The report highlights the urgent need for systemic change in Iran’s legal approach to capital punishment, particularly concerning vulnerable women. It serves as a call to action for the international community, human rights defenders, and legal reform advocates to work together in addressing these deep-seated issues. By exposing these injustices and amplifying the stories of the women who have lost their lives, we can strive toward a more just and humane legal system that prioritizes protection over punishment.

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