

URGENT ACTION

RISK OF PROTEST-RELATED EXECUTIONS AFTER UNFAIR TRIALS

At least eight individuals in Iran are under sentence of death in connection with the “Woman Life Freedom” uprising of 2022, and nine others have been arbitrarily executed following grossly unfair sham trials. The authorities have severely violated their fair trial rights and subjected many to torture and other ill-treatment, including beatings, electric shocks, and sexual violence. Concerns of further protest-related executions are mounting amid an ongoing execution spree.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter in your own words or using the sample below as a guide to one or both government officials listed. You can also email, fax, call or Tweet them.
- [Click here](#) to let us know the actions you took on **Sixth Urgent Action 103.22**. It's important to report because we share the total number with the officials we are trying to persuade and the people we are trying to help

Head of judiciary, Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei
c/o Embassy of Iran to the European Union,
Avenue Franklin Roosevelt No. 15,
1050 Bruxelles, Belgium

Supreme Leader 'Ali Khamenei
c/o Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to
the United Nations
622 3rd Ave, 34th floor,
New York, NY 10017
Email: iranunny@mfa.gov.ir

Your Excellency,

I am gravely concerned that at least 15 people are at risk of the death penalty in connection with the “Woman Life Freedom” uprising of September-December 2022. Among them are at least eight individuals – **Fazel Bahramian, Mahmoud Mehrabi, Mamousta Mohammad Khazrnejad, Manouchehr Mehman Navaz, Mehran Bahramian, Mojahed (Abbas) Kourkouri, Reza (Gholamreza) Rasaei, and Toomaj Salehi** – currently under the sentence of death and at risk of execution following grossly unfair trials involving convictions on charges of “enmity against God” (moharebeh), “corruption on earth” (efsad-e fel arz) and “armed rebellion against the state” (baghi).

I call on you to immediately and unconditionally release all those convicted and sentenced to death, indicted, or undergoing investigations solely for the exercise of their rights to freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly.

I further urge you to provide those detained access to their families and lawyers of their choosing, protect them from further torture and other ill-treatment and investigate torture allegations, bringing anyone found responsible to justice in fair trials. Finally, I urge you to grant independent observers access to capital trials and individuals on death row connected to protests and, more broadly, immediately establish an official moratorium on executions with a view of abolishing the death penalty.

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The trials of individuals for capital offenses in connection with the “Woman Life Freedom” uprising have borne no resemblance to meaningful judicial proceedings. Authorities have barred individuals from accessing any lawyers during the investigation phase and have barred independently appointed lawyers from attending trial hearings and accessing their clients’ casefiles. The authorities have also fast-tracked capital cases, with courts using torture-tainted “confessions” to issue convictions.

Amnesty International has documented the torture and other ill-treatment of five out of the eight individuals under sentence of death to extract forced “confessions”. According to informed sources, during interrogations, authorities subjected [Reza \(Gholamreza\) Rasaei](#) to electric shocks, suffocation by placing a plastic bag over his head, prolonged suspension, severe beatings, and sexual violence to compel his forced “confessions”. In April 2023, Iran’s judiciary announced that a Revolutionary Court in Ahvaz, Khuzestan province, sentenced [Mojahed \(Abbas\) Kourkouri](#) to death for “enmity against God”, “corruption on earth”, and “armed rebellion against the state”. His grossly unfair trial was marred by torture-tainted “confessions” obtained while he was subjected to enforced disappearance.

Of the eight individuals under sentence of death, [Toomaj Salehi](#) was sentenced to death in April 2024 solely in relation to his participation in the “Woman Life Freedom” uprising and social media posts where he condemned the Iranian authorities’ oppression, executions, and use of torture, and called for human rights and freedom for people in Iran. Mahmoud Mehrabi, who was arrested in February 2023 and released on bail on March 16, 2023 before being re-arrested several hours later, was sentenced to death for “corruption on earth” according to a post on X by his lawyer on May 5, 2024. In November 2022, a Revolutionary Court in Tehran convicted [Manouchehr Mehman Navaz](#) of “enmity against God” and sentenced him to death on allegations of setting fire to a state building during protests “with intent to confront the Islamic state”, in violation of international law which prohibits the death penalty for offenses that do not involve intentional killing. The court issued his conviction and death sentence just two weeks after his grossly unfair trial started on October 29, 2022.

In the aftermath of the “Woman Life Freedom” uprising, the Iranian authorities have intensified their use of the death penalty to instill fear among the population and tighten their grip on power. The use of the death penalty has [disproportionately](#) impacted Iran’s oppressed Baluchi ethnic minority, who constitute about 5% of Iran’s population, yet accounted for 20% of all executions in 2023. In 2024, the Iranian authorities have continued their execution spree, including against ethnic minorities and dissidents, and carried out at least 250 executions until May 20, 2024, according to the Abdorrahman Boroumand Centre.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: Persian, English, or your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: July 17, 2024

NAME AND PREFERRED PRONOUN: Fazel Bahramian, Mahmoud Mehrabi, Mamousta Mohammad Khazrnejad, Manouchehr Mehman Navaz, Mehran Bahramian, Mohammad Ghobadlou, Mojahed (Abbas) Kourkouri, Reza (Gholamreza) Rasaei, Saeed Shirazi, Abolfazl Mehri Hossein Hajilou (all he/him).

LINK TO PREVIOUS UA: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde13/7552/2023/en/>.