



FUTURE PLANS

- Efforts focused at increasing non-violent civil disobedience in the society.
- Allah o Akbar during the nights
- Writing slogans on the walls and bills
- Being out in the streets on Thursdays

NEWS

--BBC: Deputy commander of Tehran police said that the police intends to "focus" on major non-governmental organizations. Tehran police's spokesperson said: "The concern is that police surveillance is not enough on some of the public organizations and some administrative bodies are not run in an organized manner and need supervision".

--Voice of Freedom: Freedom of the Press Award for this year was awarded to Iranian journalists who are currently under pressure from their government. Maziar Bahari, the Newsweek reporter who was recently freed from an Iranian jail accepted the award on behalf of his colleagues.

--Sahaam News: Mehdi Karroubi continues his visits to the families of activists detained in prisons in Iran. He states that he aims to pursue their cause and put pressure on the government for their release.

--Radio Farda: Ayatollah Sanei, Shiite authority in Qom, continues to voice his criticism of the Iranian regime. In a recent statement, he said that the imprisonment and harassment of critics of the regime won't solve the country's problems. He has been one of the few clerics who showed a strong reaction to the government's behavior after the presidential elections. He has said "Unfortunately today some use Islam for their own personal gains and instead of serving Islam, they are using Islam to serve them",

--Radio Farda: In a letter to UN Secretary General, Shirin Ebadi has asked that the Islamic Republic of Iran's application for membership to Human Rights Council be rejected. In this letter, Mrs. Ebadi highlighted the many human rights abuses done by the Iranian regime, especially towards minorities, women and children.

--International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran: Aaron Rhodes, a spokesman for the campaign announced that 5 more persons have been sentenced to death based on their political activity. These individuals are a husband and a wife, along with their son as well as two family members. They have been accused of sending images and videos to Mujaahedeen-e-Khalgh, who are known to many as a terrorist organization. The spokesman for this campaign informs that the evidence used against the accused is incomplete and unjust. The names of these individuals are: Motahareh Bahrami, Mohsen Daneshpour Moghaddam (husband and wife), Ahmad Daneshpour (their son) and Hadi Ghaemi and Reyhaneh Haj Ebrahimi.

--JRS: The committee for Protection of Journalists has condemned the phone threats made against Maziar Bahari (Newsweek magazine reporter). In a statement released on April 19th, they urged the Iranian government to put a stop to its acts of intimidation.

NEWS OF THE ARRESTED

--JRS: Kiarash Kamrani, Omid Yavari, Arash Ghasemi, Abolfazl Ghassemi and Azra-Sadat

Email: student.information.center@gmail.com

Tel: +1 (253) 234-IRAN, +1 (253) 234-4726

Website: <http://www.iransic.com>

Join the mailing list: <http://groups.google.com/group/student-information-center>

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Ghazi Mirseyed, five detainees who were arrested during the elections protests, were sentenced to prison. A Kurdish citizen (from the city of Sanandaj) by the name of Habibolah Golparipoor has been sentenced to death.

--Radio Zamaneh: Some union members belonging to the Teachers Union Council have started a hunger strike to protest the illegal detainment and execution of fellow teachers. They urge others to join them in solidarity for the upcoming Teacher's day.

--Radio Zamaneh: Human Rights Committee has reported that Monireh Rabii who was arrested during the unrests has been sentenced to 5 years in prison. She has been accused of creating "war" against the regime. It is also thought that she is arrested because of her family members belong to the Mujahedeen-e-khalgh organization.

--Freedom Call: Mohammad Hossein Agassi, the lawyer of Amir Reza Arefi has reported that there is a possibility that his client's death sentence might be reduced.

--JRS: Following the lead of many political prisoners in Evin who started a political fasting. Many of their families also started the fasting outside the prison to show solidarity with their arrested family members.

--Radio Farda: Ten Iranian poets and writers wrote a letter demanding the freedom of Masoud Baastaani, the detained journalist.

--BBC: A group of Iranian political prisoners in Evin prison wrote a letter to religious leaders and complained about the behavior of the judicial officials and the lack of justice. They explained the abuse and the mistreatment. They also complained against the sham public trials and forced confessions that are used during these trials.

--Kalameh: Mohamad Nourizad the documentary maker who was arrested 120 days ago for writing letters which criticized the regime and the judiciary system has written a new letter from prison where he has shared some of his recent concerns.

--Kalameh: lawyer, Mohammad Mostafaei, the lawyer of a group of arrested activists wrote a letter to the head of judiciary last week criticizing a number of prisons rights abuses and lawless behaviors.

--Kalameh: Majid Tavakoli Polytechnic Student activist whose arrest started the veil campaign) was transferred to a new section of Evin prison after spending 125 days in solitary confinement. While his sentence had been handed down (8 years in prison, 5 years of no political activity and a 5 year travel ban), he was illegally held in solitary confinement and his prisoner rights were denied.

--JRS: Peyman Aref, a journalist and a law student at Tehran University who was arrested last June was temporarily released from prison until further decision is reached for his case. Dorsa Sobhani who was arrested a few months ago was also released.

--Rahana: Mitra Aali, biomedical engineering graduate student at Sharif University, who was arrested last month by the ministry of education has been conditionally released on bail.

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Student Information Center (SIC)

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--Radio Farda: Committee for Human Rights announced three-year imprisonment sentence for Hussein Baastaninejad, Mehrdad Varshouiy and Faramarz Abdolahnejad. Fouad Shams, student activist from Tehran University has been sentenced to 6 months in jail. Keyvan Samimi, journalist and human rights activist, has been sentenced to 6 years imprisonment for "disturbing public opinion and acting against national security".

--Kalameh: Kobra Zaghehdoost was confirmed to have been arrested nine months ago during vigil for the victims of post-elections protests.

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