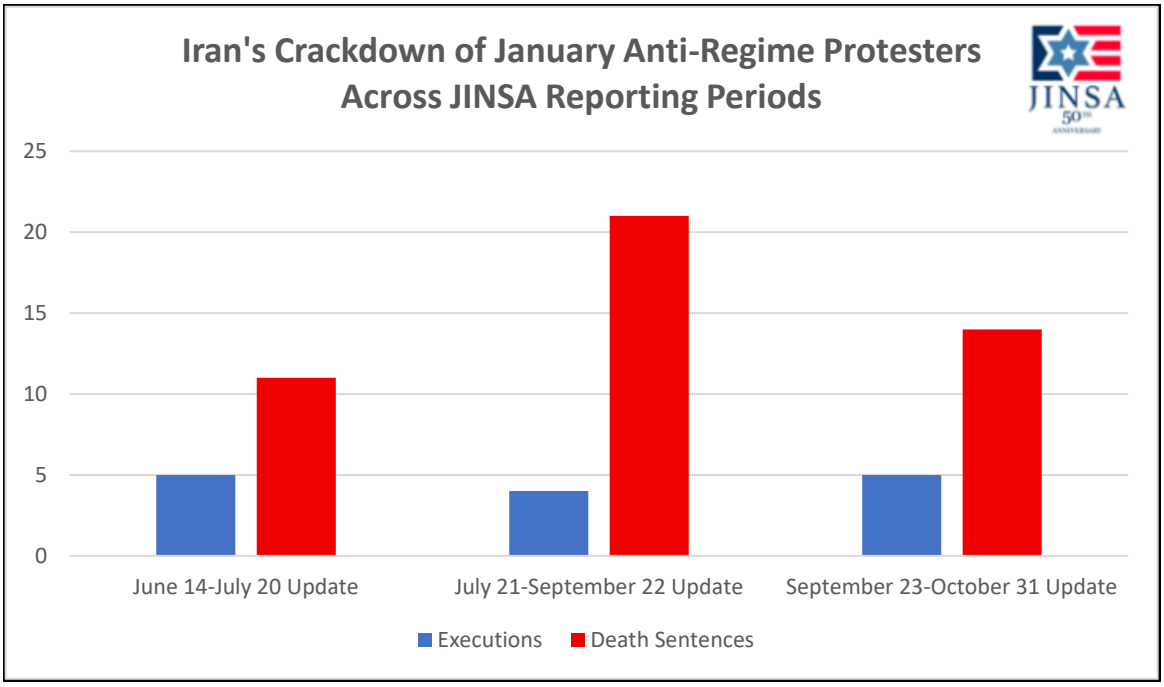
Iran Human Rights Violations Update: October 2026

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Between the release of JINSA's last Iran Human Rights Violations Update on September 23 and October 31, the Iranian government executed at least eight people on political and security related charges, including five people in just six days who participated in the nationwide anti-regime protests in January, up from seven protest-related executions the regime carried out between July 22 and August 23. The Iranian regime also sentenced 14 others to death for participating in the January protests. Additionally, authorities arrested protesters' family members and network contacts for seeking justice, including the lawyer who officiated the marriage of two detainees, one of whom authorities executed hours after their over-the-phone wedding.



Despite the regime enforcing harsh punishments for protesting, the Iranian people continued to demonstrate against unfair treatment by their government with laborers, trade unions, and professional organizations holding protests, according to the Human Rights Activists News Agency (HRANA). Notably, one woman, Raheleh Soltani, also bravely criticized the government for increasing her mother's medication prices, resulting in a five-month prison sentence for Soltani.

While continuing to suppress political opposition and protests, the regime cracked down on ethnic and religious minorities by arresting at least 55 Kurds, 10 Baloch citizens, and 10 Arabs who government forces detained without providing any reason for their arrests or concrete evidence for their alleged crimes. Authorities also sentenced at least 10 followers of the Baha'i faith to prison for promoting their religion, engaging in proselytizing actions, or holding membership in groups that the regime perceives as a threat to Islam.

Additionally, throughout the reporting period, authorities targeted teenagers, including several minors, in their nationwide assault. Notably, Basij forces, known for their suppression of political opposition in Iran, beat a 17-year-old boy to death for arguing with a guard outside his home, while security forces in North Khorasan Province arrested a 16-year-old boy for his connection to the January protests. The regime's arbitrary detentions also targeted several Kurdish teenagers, with authorities arresting a 15-year-old Kurdish boy in September without reason, and then detaining eight other Kurdish teenagers in October without reason, including a 17-year-old girl at her school. Furthermore, a 9-year-old Baloch child succumbed to his wounds after security forces shot him in the head.

The entries below highlight just some of the many cases of human rights abuses in Iran between September 23 and October 31.

1. Speech and Political Suppression

- On October 31, Hengaw reported that the Tehran Revolutionary Court sentenced Shahab Zohdi to death for protesting the regime in January, with authorities accusing him of setting fires to public facilities.
  - » The Tehran Revolutionary Court reimposed Zohdi's death sentence after the Supreme Court overturned it in August.
  - » The regime executed four other protesters involved in the same case in April, claiming the men set fire to the 185 Shahid Mahmoud Kaveh Basij base during the nationwide protests.
- On October 26, the Tehran Revolutionary Court sentenced Amirreza Rezaei, Vahid Ghahremani, and Mehdi Jalali, a former Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) member, to death for allegedly "carrying out operations for Israel," during the January protests.
  - » The Special Clerical Court already sentenced the former IRGC member to death for apostasy.
  - » That same day, HRANA reported that the Mashhad Revolutionary Court sentenced Hassan Golshan-Nejad to death for protesting the regime in January, with authorities accusing him of "carrying out operational activities in favor of Israel."
- On October 24, the Tehran Revolutionary Court sentenced 21-year-old Omran Amani to death for waging war against God during the January protests, but authorities have not yet released specific details about his case.
- On October 20, the Isfahan Revolutionary Court sentenced 22-year-old Ilya Ben Rashid to death for waging war against God by damaging public property during the January anti-regime protests in Shahin Shahr.
- On October 17, the Karaj Revolutionary Court sentenced 22-year-old Homayoun Shabankareh to death, charging him with waging war against God and conducting espionage during the war.
- On October 15, Iranian authorities detained Daiva Zakažauskaitė and Erika Šlimaitėtwo, two female Lithuanian tourists, without providing any reason for their arrests.
  - » According to Hengaw, Lithuanian authorities are currently unable to directly contact the women.
- On October 14, authorities at Kerman Central Prison executed Ali-Sina Mostafavi, accusing him of "waging war against God" by photographing projectile impact sites and sending them to foreign media during the war.
  - » Authorities also accused Mostafavi of supporting monarchist groups in Iran and possessing January protest videos on his phone.

- On October 7, Hengaw reported that an Iranian court sentenced Bahareh Aghaei, a lawyer, to 20 years in prison for supporting families of slain January protesters, attending a memorial ceremony for a murdered demonstrator, and posting on social media in support of the protest movement.
- On October 6, HRANA reported that the Tehran Revolutionary Court sentenced Barzou Rezaei to death for protesting the regime in January, accusing him of collaborating with hostile states.
- On October 6, Hengaw reported that in late September, an appeals court upheld the death sentence of Omid Goudarzvand Chagini, a former Iranian police officer, for allegedly damaging the Qazvin Governor's Office entrance during the January protests.
- On October 5, Basij forces violently arrested 17-year-old Omid Ghanouni after he argued with a Basij guard in Khansar, Isfahan Province.
  - The guards severely beat him during his arrest, including by striking him with a rifle butt and kicking him in the abdomen repeatedly at a detention facility, causing internal bleeding that resulted in his death the next day.
  - While the nature of the argument remains unknown, the Basij are responsible for suppressing political opposition in Iran.
- On October 5, authorities at Isfahan Central Prison executed 25-year-old Alireza Sepahi and 21-year-old Alireza Raisi, two defendants in the infamous "Isfahan Alikhani Square Case."
  - The case pertains to a January 8 incident in Isfahan's Alikhani Square where police shot and killed several anti-regime protesters, leading to clashes that resulted in the deaths of four security personnel. According to Hengaw, authorities tortured Sepahi and Raisi, forcing them to confess to their involvement in the clashes.
    - As of October 5, authorities had executed seven of the 12 defendants in the Alikhani Square Case.
  - Hours before Sepahi's execution, Amirsalar Davoudi, the lawyer representing detained protester Mashad Kashani, offitiated a wedding over the phone between the two inmates.
    - On October 11, plainclothes agents then arrested Davoudi, with authorities urging him to deny Sepahi and Kashani's marriage.
- On October 5, the Tehran Revolutionary Court sentenced Mohsen Babaei to death for waging war against God by protesting the regime in January.
- On October 4, the Isfahan Revolutionary Court sentenced Shohreh Mohammadi to 12 years in prison, accusing her of espionage and cooperating with hostile states.
  - Hengaw reported that intelligence agents posing as anti-narcotics forces first arrested her in March, and that the case against her stems from her private social media posts.
- On October 3, authorities at Shahrekord Central Prison executed Siavash Jamshidi, accusing him of waging war against God and opening fire on police during the January protests, as well as organizing actions against Iran's national security on social media.
- On October 3, authorities at a prosecutor's office in Dehdasht arrested Reza Mostafaei after he responded to a summons in relation to assisting the families of slain January protesters and writing statements the regime deemed harmful.
  - Mostafaei, who uses a wheelchair, was reportedly subjected to insults regarding his disability by an official during his judicial proceeding.
- On October 1, Hengaw and HRANA reported that the Tehran Revolutionary Court had recently sentenced four men to death for participating in the January protests.

  - » Authorities reportedly subjected three of the men, Masoud Toushmalani, Khosrow Mohammadnia, and Siran Shabani, all from Kermanshah, to forced confessions and ultimately charged them with waging war against God.
  - » The Court sentenced another man, Mehdi Nami, to death for allegedly "taking operational action in favor of hostile states" during the protests.
- On October 1, Hengaw reported that Iran's Supreme Court upheld Mojdeh Hashemi Bazargani's death sentence after a court accused her of waging war against God and espionage.
  - » According to Hengaw, authorities subjected Bazargani, a humanitarian worker, to torture and beatings, as well as forced confessions that Qazvin state television broadcasted portraying her as a spy for the United States and Israel.
- On September 30, authorities executed Ali Hemmati Sistani and Majid Nikandish in Mashhad for protesting the regime in January, accusing the men of contributing to the deaths of four security personnel during the demonstrations.
  - » According to HRANA, authorities interrogated both men, resulting in Sistani confessing to "setting fire to a store, blocking a roadway, and injuring a member of the security forces," while Nikandish confessed to "carrying a knife, damaging public property, and taking part in an attack on a store."
- On September 30, security forces in Ashkhaneh, North Khorasan Province, arrested 16-year-old Alireza Rashidi for protesting the regime in January.
  - » Authorities have yet to provide information on Rashidi's whereabouts or the charges against him.
- On September 29, police in two separate incidents arrested the family members of slain January protesters.
  - » In Babol, IRGC intelligence forces beat and arrested Mona Mahmoudian, who is seeking justice for her husband after security personnel killed him during the January protests.
  - » In Kelardasht, security forces arrested Amir Farnian, whose son authorities also killed in January amid the anti-regime demonstrations.
- On September 29, the Tehran Revolutionary Court sentenced Mohammad Amin Mandani to death and 20 years in prison for allegedly cooperating with hostile states and compromising national security by sending "the locations of certain sites" to unnamed sources during the Iran War in April.
- On September 26, the Mashhad Revolutionary Court sentenced Mahboubeh Shabani to death for tending to injured protesters and helping them receive medical attention in January, with authorities accusing her of supporting the United States, Israel, and other opposition groups.
- On September 24, the Tehran Revolutionary Court sentenced Mohammad Naderi to death on espionage charges related to the Iran War.

2. Religious and Ethnic Minority Abuses

- On October 31, the Kerman Revolutionary Court sentenced three followers of the Baha'i faith to prison for allegedly sharing propaganda and holding membership in groups that the regime deems a threat to its power.
- On October 29, IRGC forces arrested five Sunni Arab activists in Shavur, Khuzestan Province, without providing any reason for their detentions.
  - » Their arrests come three days after intelligence agents also arrested two Sunni Arab activists in Ahvaz, Khuzestan, without reason.

- On October 28, a border guard in Hirmand County, armed with a sniper rifle, shot Zibar Sasoli, a Baloch man, in the head, killing him.
  - The border guard and other forces present at the scene, who have refused to return his body to his family, did not fire a warning shot, nor did they provide a reason for targeting Sasoli.
- On October 27, intelligence ministry agents arrested six members of a Baloch family in Bampur, Sistan and Balochistan Province, accusing them of having connections to armed groups. During the arrests, the agents violently attacked the women present in the home, and then removed them before destroying the house with a rocket-propelled grenade.
  - The accusations and arrests come amid increased fighting between Iranian security forces and Baloch insurgents in southern Iran.
- On October 27, border guards in Baneh shot Ali Mashhouri, a Kurdish kolbar, severely wounding his legs, without warning him prior to the incident.
- Between October 3–21, security and intelligence forces arrested at least 43 Kurdish people in Kurdistan, Ilam, West Azerbaijan, and Tehran Provinces without providing a reason for their detentions.
  - In one notable incident, intelligence agents arrested Hassan Mostafaei, while he was driving his son to the hospital in Baneh. The authorities reportedly abandoned the boy on the street.
  - Eight of those arrested are teenagers, including six minors, one of whom authorities detained while she was at school.
- On October 18, security forces in Tabriz arrested two Turkish lawyers after they responded to a summons at the Tabriz Prosecutor's Office.
  - Authorities have yet to provide a reason for their detentions or where they are being held.
- On October 15, masked, plainclothes agents arrested two teenage Baloch brothers in Sib and Suran County in Sistan and Balochistan Province.
  - No agency has claimed responsibility for arresting the men, and no officials have provided information on the reason for their detention.
- On October 12, the Yazd Revolutionary Court sentenced a Baha'i woman to prison for "deviant propaganda activities contrary to Islamic law through the promotion of the Baha'i faith."
  - The Court also sentenced her husband to prison for aiding and abetting his wife's alleged crime.
- On October 11, authorities at Lakan Prison in Rasht executed Ayoub Mohammad Nabil, a Sunni Muslim Arab and Iraqi national, accusing him of spying for Saudi Arabia.
  - Nabil, who taught Quran, denied the accusations based solely on his identity as a Sunni Arab.
- On October 8, police in Ahvaz shot and killed Ali Zagheibi, an Arab man, while pursuing his vehicle.
  - Authorities have not disclosed the reason for following Zagheibi or where they are holding his body.
  - The fatal shooting comes after intelligence forces detained two other Arab men in Ahvaz on September 26 and October 1 without providing a reason for their arrests.
- On October 6, intelligence agents arrested Zhila Sadeghi, a Baha'i woman and mother of a detainee, without providing a reason for her arrest.

» HRANA reported that agents confiscated Sadeghi's vehicle and transferred her to a solitary confinement cell in Isfahan's Dowlatabad Prison.

- On September 29, judiciary officials in Tehran sentenced three followers of the Baha'i faith to a combined 35 years in prison for proselytizing activity contradictory to Islamic law and holding membership in groups the regime deems a threat to the country's national security.
- On September 27, Mohammadamin Dehghan, a 9-year-old Baloch child, succumbed to his wounds after security forces shot him in the head three days earlier.
  - » Authorities shot Dehghan and his father while they were transporting drinking water in their pickup truck in Saravan.
- On September 27, authorities transferred Parisa Eslami, a Baha'i woman, to Karaj's Kachouei Prison to begin serving a prison sentence after the Karaj Revolutionary Court charged her with conducting "deviant educational and proselytizing activities contrary to Islamic law," in October 2023.
- Between September 23–30, IRGC forces shot and killed three Kurdish men, including two tending to livestock and one kolbar.
  - » On September 30, without prior warning, IRGC guards shot Khaled Shir, a Kurdish man, while he tended to his livestock in Gwezeh, resulting in his death a day later. The shooting followed a September 29 incident in which IRGC forces also shot and killed Nayeb Karami, a Kurdish man grazing livestock near Bani Nar village in Salas-e Babajani County, Kermanshah Province.
  - » In that same county, border guards shot and killed Mohammad Sediq Avali, a Kurdish kolbar, at close range. They failed to provide any warning to the man before his murder.
  - » During this same reporting period, intelligence and security forces arrested at least eight Kurdish men, including a 15-year-old boy, without providing any reason for their detentions.
- On September 23, authorities at Karaj Central Prison executed Tourat Mohammadi, an Afghan national and former employee of an IRGC-linked organization, on espionage charges.
- On September 23, HRANA reported that an Iranian court sentenced Serkan Eren, a Turkish aid worker, to 10 years in prison after authorities detained him in June 2025.
  - » Authorities accused Eren, who resided in Germany, of "having ties with a hostile country."
- On September 23, Hengaw reported that the Sari Revolutionary Court sentenced Romina Goli, a Baha'i woman, to five years in prison and a decade of deprivation of social rights for "deviant educational or proselytizing activity contrary to or disruptive of the sacred law of Islam."