

EXECUTIONS ARE ON THE RISE IN IRAN

HERE ARE THE FACTS AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

What are the facts about capital punishment in Iran?

- Following the post-election unrest in the summer of 2009, there has been a surge in the execution of political prisoners in Iran. According to credible international human rights organizations, the Iranian government has executed at least [86] people since the start of 2011.
- Amnesty International reported 112 executions in the eight weeks between the disputed election in June 2009 and Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's inauguration in early August.
- Since 1979, Iran's Islamic government has executed thousands of men, women, and children for non-violent political activity.
- Political prisoners who are executed in Iran are not afforded fair trials and are often subjected to gruesome torture.
- Iran continues to stone women to death for adultery.
- Iran remains one of the only countries in the world to execute juveniles. It also continues to execute adults for crimes they committed when they were under 18.

Is the Iranian government violating international human rights law?

- **Iran's shameful record of executing activists, without trial, for peaceful exercise of their political rights is a blatant violation of international law.**
 - o Iran has ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) which (i) obligates Iran not to arbitrarily deprive anyone of life; (ii) prohibits Iran from sentencing anyone to death except for "the most serious crimes" (which does not include peaceful political activity); (iii) entitles defendants to due process, fair trials and access to defense counsel; and (iv) gives every person the right to free speech, opinions, assembly, and religion.
- **Iran violates international law by carrying out the barbaric practice of stoning.**
 - o Under international law, including the ICCPR, execution by stoning constitutes a form of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.
- **Iran's execution of juveniles violates its obligations under international law.**
 - o Iran has signed the Convention on the Rights of the Child which prohibits execution of anyone under 18 and prohibits the use of capital punishment for crimes committed when a person was a minor.

What You Can Do:

- If you're a journalist, writer, blogger, or even if you just have a Facebook or Twitter account, please publicize the rapidly-deteriorating human rights situation in Iran.
- Contact your member of parliament, the Department of Foreign Affairs (engserv@international.gc.ca), and the Prime Minister's office (pm@pm.gc.ca) and let them know that you're concerned about the human rights situation in Iran and that you expect them to do more to bring attention to the surge in executions in Iran.
- Contact the Secretary General of the United Nations (sg@un.org) and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (npillay@ohchr.org) and tell them to assign a Special Rapporteur to investigate Iran's human rights violations. Contact the Secretary General of the United Nations (sg@un.org) and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (npillay@ohchr.org) and tell them to support the work of the Special Rapporteur on Iran.]

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