



Violation of Kurdish Human Rights in Iran
22nd Conference of Kurdish National congress of North America
Soraya Fallah

Under the authority of Islamic Republic of Iran several campaign of ethnocide has taken place. Kurds in Iran suffer tremendous discrimination, deprivation of resources, arbitrary arrests, and human rights violations . Amnesty International(AI), Human Rights Watch(HRW), The International Federation of Human Rights (FIDH), and several other local and domestic Kurdish human Rights organizations have reported the Islamic Republic’s atrocities against the Kurds, while calling “on the Iranian government to amend or abolish its security laws, press laws, and other legislation that allow the government to suppress the speech and activities of a range of individuals and to arrest them for exercising their rights to peaceful expression and association.

Human Rights Watch also urges the Iranian government to respect its international obligations, as well as basic rights stated in declaration of human rights , in granting and respecting the social, cultural, and religious rights of the Kurdish people.” Unfortunately, historically, any International calls for the recognition of the human rights of the Kurds have fallen on deaf ears in Iran and we don’t expect this call to be any different. In the past several months, violations of human rights has increased more than ever in Kurdistan. Arrests, prosecutions, imprisonments, unjust executions, and executions of political prisoners have been common practice by the Iranian authority. There have also been numerous reports on suspicious deaths of political prisoners, contributing to the systematic and continuous violations of human rights that presently exist in Kurdistan.

For interest of the time I have been given for my presentation I highlighted most important part in bullet points in slide shows:

- **Education and Language**

- The use of Kurdish language in schools and government offices continued to be prohibited. Those who campaigned for greater political participation or recognition of Kurdish economic, social and cultural rights faced threats, arrest and imprisonment. Members of Kurdish community were denied access to employment in the public sector under *gozinesh* (choose) legislation.
- Proponents of greater recognition of the Kurdish language and cultural and other rights were arrested and imprisoned after unfair trials.
- Only during past few months, accordingly, 110 Kurdish students that were studying in Kurdistan universities were arrested by the disciplinary police. 22 of them were temporarily suspended from school, while others were permanently expelled. 27 other Kurdish student activists were imprisoned.

- **Kurdish Religious**

- There are also religious and cultural discrimination against the estimated 12 million Kurds who live in Iran and form around 1/15 of the population. At least three Sunni clerics were killed in suspicious circumstances; others were detained and two executed, members of , Ali-Ellahi and Ahl-e Haq not only facing discrimination for their national identity, but for their religion status.

- **Kurdish Women**

Kurdish women face a double challenge to have their rights recognized -- as members of a marginalized ethnic minority, and as women in a predominantly man-power society.

- Although women and girls form the backbone of economic activity in the Kurdish areas, strict social codes are used to justify denial of their human rights. Such codes mean that it can be very difficult for government officials to investigate inequalities in girls' education, early and forced marriages, and domestic violence against Kurdish girls and women -- and the severe consequences of some of these abuses, including "honour killings" and suicide.

- Active women, both individual or member of organizations who speak up and politically active are facing prison, and death penalty, Zainab Jalalian Kurdish political activist, 27years old, was arrested in May 2008 in Kermanshah and accused of ‘waging war against God’ and belonging to the PKK. She is in death row and there is no news about her from March.



- Members of the armed group, Party for a Free Life in Kurdistan, PJAK, continued to be subjected of attack by Iranian forces. Many Kurds who were detained faced charges of membership or support of PJAK or other groups. Some, like teacher Farzad Kamangar, who denied the charge and was tortured, were sentenced to death, and executed following unfair trials.

- **Kurdish Organizations**

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- **Kurdish Civilian**

According to report from Human R.O.K and News Agencies, this past winter, at least 25 people in Kurdistan lost their lives due to the violation of

human rights by the government. 21 of these cases were reported to be of normal civilian that lived and owned trading businesses at the border.(they called Kolbars)

▪ *Death penalty against Kurds*

Early morning of May 9th 2010 the Islamic Regime executed five (5) political prisoners four (4) of whom were Kurdish political prisoners in the Evin Prison.

- Those executed are:
- 1. Farzad Kamangar
- 2. Ali Heydariyan
- 3. Farhad Vakili
- 4. Ms. Shirin Alam-Hooli and Mehdi Eslamiyan
- 5. Mehdi Eslamiyan
- It must be noted that Ms. Shirin Alam Hooli's case was still in the process of appeal and no judgment had been rendered.



- Neither the lawyers or the families of these prisoners had been given any notice that the execution was to be carried out that day. It is worth underlining that in at least three of the four cases an appeal court had not yet issued its final sentence, making the executions illegal even according to the Islamic Republic's own laws.
- Twenty political prisoners face imminent execution, 17 of whom are of Kurdish descent. Other political prisoners also are at risk of similar sentences.
- The names of the Kurdish political prisoners whom are to be executed are as follows:
- 1- Ms. Zainab Jalalian.
- 2- Habibollah Latifi.

- 3- Shirko Moarefi.
- 4- Rustam Arkya.
- 5- Hussein Khezri.
- 6- Anwar Rostami.
- 7- Mohammad Amin Abdollahi.
- 8- Qader Mohammad Zadeh.
- 9- Mostafa Salimi.
- 10- Hasan Talaey.
- 11- Iraj Mohammadi.
- 12- Rashid Akhkandy.
- 13- Mohammad Amin Agoshy.
- 14- Ahmad Pouladkhany .
- 15- Seyed Sami Hosseini .
- 16- Seyed Jamal Mohammadi.
- 17- Aziz Mohammad Zadeh.



Death By Hanging in Public:



But I would like to say :



I exist,
For my land Kurdistan
My friend, don't deny my existence
I am and I have been for thousand years,
Though I have been denied on your unfair maps
Which are drawn by my enemy's hand
I breathe in the live hearts of millions!
I am in my people's struggle,
In their sorrow and their joy...

- ASHEQ Translated by: Soraya Fallah

Sources:

Amensty International.org

_VOKRadio.com

RAHANA