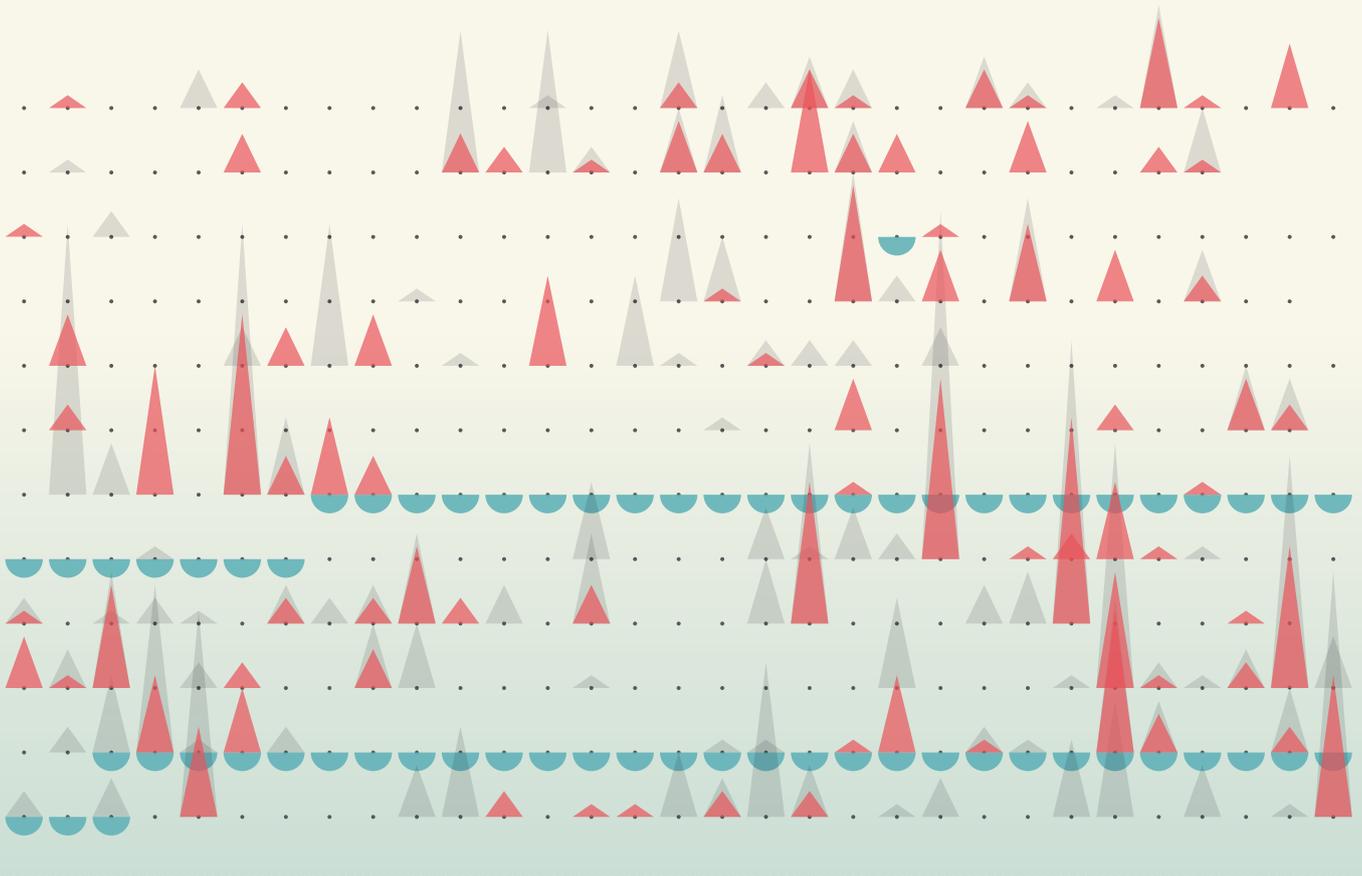
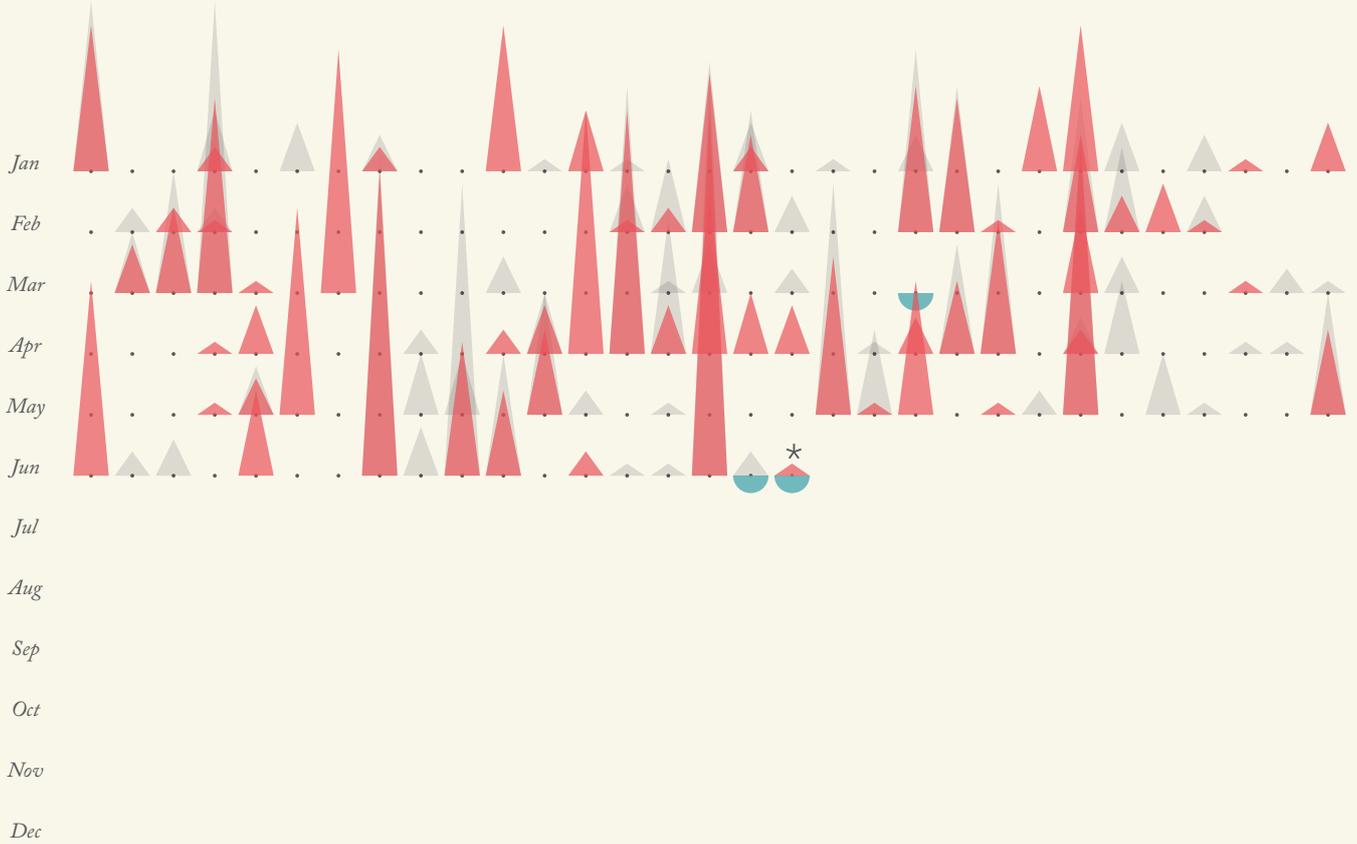


Deadly Injustice

Visualising executions in Iran,
2011-2015



2015 A closer look at Iran's 2015 Executions



* Data for 2015 finishes on June 18th

Iranian Holidays | Nowruz; March 21 | Ramadan; Jun 17 - Jul 17

Other Executions

Drug Related Executions

Executions per Day **3.86**

Total Executions **648**

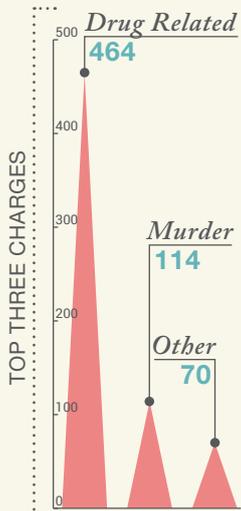
Deaths for Drug Related Charges **464 | 72%**

Days Without Execution **73**

At a Glance

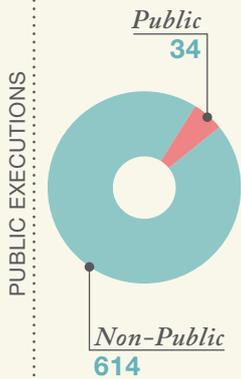
Drug-Related Charges

Executed Iranians



At least 648 people were executed in the first half of 2015 (January 1 to June 18). 463 of those executed were charged with drug offences. This means that there have been 100 more drug-related executions in the first half of 2015 than there were in all of 2014 (367), and 132 more than in 2013 (331). 12 women were among those executed on drug charges.

They carried handwritten banners asking the Iranian Supreme leader for forgiveness. The day after the demonstration 22 of the prisoners were transferred to solitary confinement; they were executed two days later.



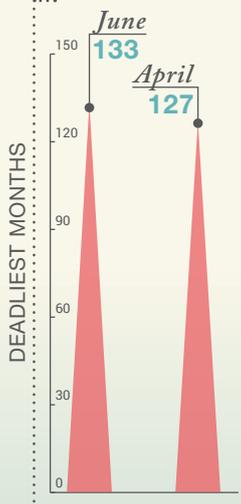
145 of the drug-related executions took place in one prison: Ghezel Hesar (in Karaj, West of Tehran). Most of them were executed in May and June. The surge in executions started after May 22, when a peaceful demonstration was held in the prison yard by a group of death row prisoners housed in Unit 2 of the prison. They carried handwritten banners asking the Iranian Supreme leader for forgiveness. The day after the demonstration 22 of the prisoners were transferred to solitary confinement; they were executed two days later.



Several group executions (of at least 11 prisoners at a time) took place in Ghezel Hesar in the weeks that followed. Most of those executed had been held in Unit 2, which currently houses more than 2000 death row prisoners who have been sentenced for drug-related charges.

IHR has received several accounts of unfair trials, torture and forced confessions. Prisoners are systematically subjected to torture in the first weeks or months after their arrest. They are also denied access to a lawyer during the interrogation period.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is currently finalizing a multi-million dollar funding package, including aid from several European countries, for Iran's counter-narcotics trafficking programs.



MOHSEN RAFEII

Executed for Drug-Related charges

Charged with drug offences, Rafeii is one of the death row inmates who participated in a prison riot in Ghezel Hesar in 2014. He was executed together with 10 other prisoners in Ghezel Hesar prison on May 21.



SALAR MAHMOUDZADEH

Executed for Drug-Related charges

Charged with drug offences, Mahmoudzadeh was executed alongside 10 other prisoners with similar charges in Ghezel Hesar prison on June 10, 2015.



Peaceful gathering of death row prisoners – Many of them were executed:

The group execution of Rafeii and 10 other inmates in Ghezel Hesar inspired inmates from Unit 2 of the prison to stage a peaceful protest. On May 22, a number of inmates gathered in the prison yard, carrying the holy Quran and holding banners asking the Iranian Supreme leader to transmute their death sentences into life in prison. The following day 22 prisoners were transferred to solitary confinement; they were all subsequently executed. In the 16 days that followed the demonstration, at least 56 prisoners were executed in Ghezel Hesar, all of them had been charged with drug offences.

Jan
97

Feb
80

Mar
25

Apr
65

May
83

Jun
72

Jul
10

Aug
99

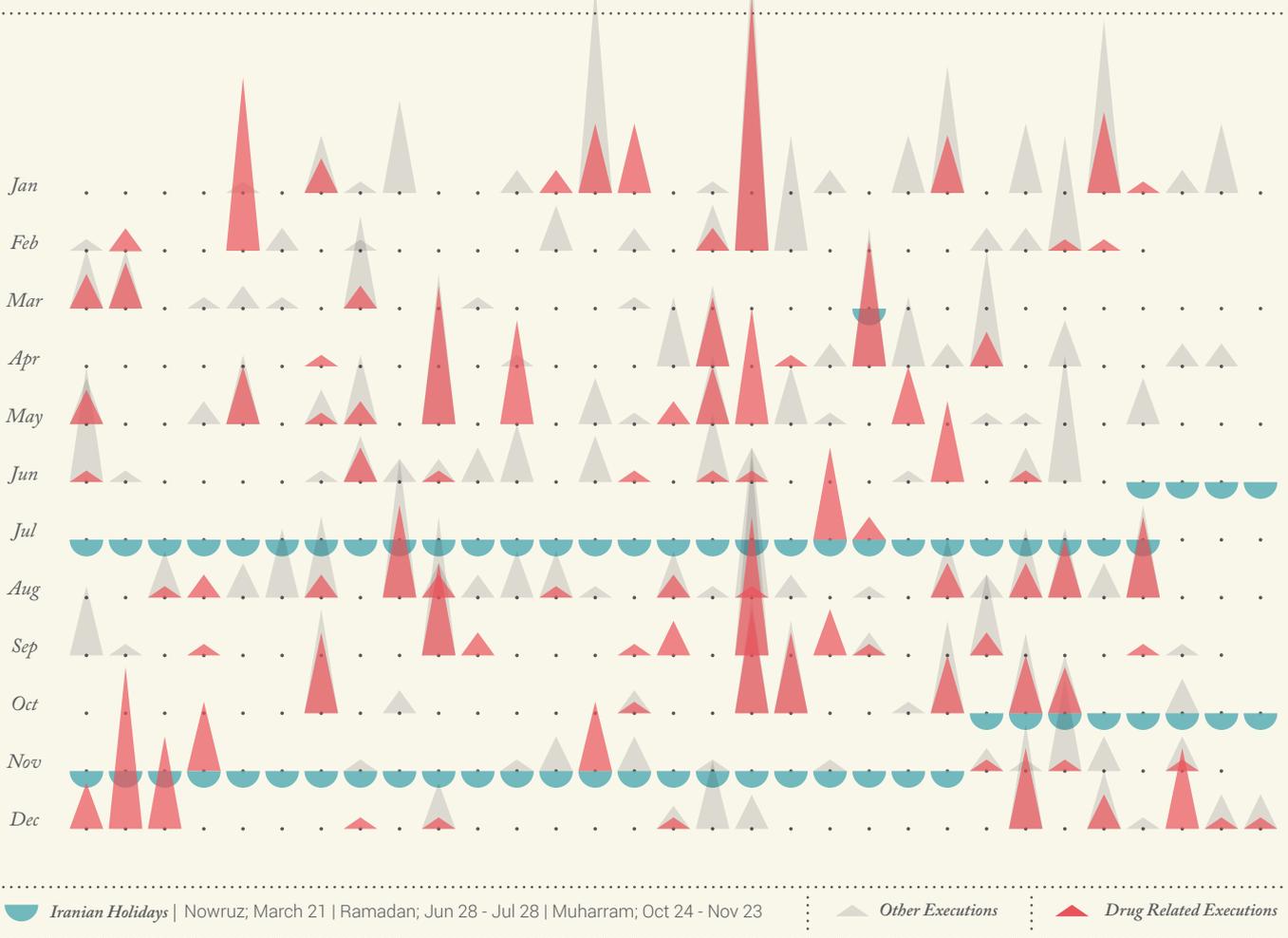
Sep
58

Oct
55

Nov
39

Dec
70

2014 A closer look at Iran's 2014 Executions



Executions per Day **2.06**

Total Executions **753**

Deaths for Drug Related Charges **367 | 48%**

Days Without Execution **199**

Mon
121

Tue
123

Wed
150

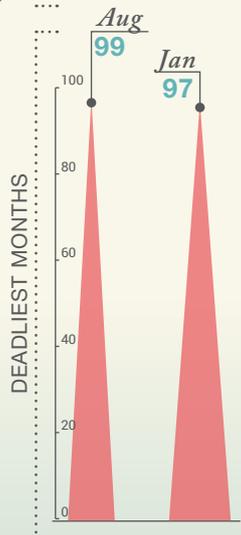
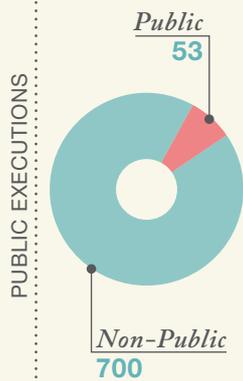
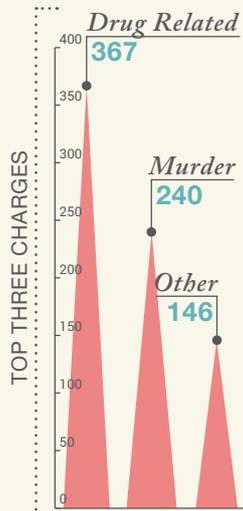
Thu
153

Fri
9

Sat
109

Sun
88

Break Down



Drug-Related Charges

753 confirmed executions took place in Iran in 2014, more than in any other year since the beginning of the 1990s. President Hassan Rouhani may have improved the country's outward relationship with the West, but 2014 was one of the worst years for Iran's offenders.

At least 14 juvenile offenders were executed in 2014, and there was a surge in executions of prisoners sentenced to death for their political or ideological affiliations, most of them coming from Iran's ethnic minority regions. At least 367 people, including two juveniles, were executed for drug-related charges in 2014, a 10% increase on the previous year (331). 26 women were executed in 2014, 18 of whom were charged with drug offences.

At least 14 juvenile offenders were executed in 2014, and there was a surge in executions of prisoners sentenced to death for their political or ideological affiliations, most of them coming from Iran's ethnic minority regions.

The two sites with the highest number of executions for drug-related crimes were Ghezel Hesar prison of Karaj (at least 62 executions) and Kerman Prison in southeastern Iran (at least 55 executions). Furthermore, of the 53 prisoners who were publicly executed in 2014, 4 were charged with drug offences.

While Iran carried out more than one execution for drug offences each day, Yury Fedotov, Executive Director of the United Nations' Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), told reporters in an international meeting held in Vienna in March 2014, that "Iran takes a very active role to fight against illicit drugs." Fedotov was impressed by reports showing that Iran had seized 388 tons of opium in 2012; the seizures constituted 72 percent of all such seizures around the world. However, in 2014 Iranian officials admitted for the first time that executions didn't help in reducing drug trafficking.

Executed Iranians

JANNAT
MIR

Executed for drug trafficking

13-year-old Afghan boy who was arrested on drug trafficking charges and hanged in the prison of Isfahan in April 2014 when he was 15 years old. His family couldn't pay to bring his body back to Afghanistan.



MOHSEN
AMIR-ASLANI

Executed for corruption on earth

Mohsen Amir-Aslani, 37, was executed on 24 September 2014 on charges of corruption on earth, insulting the Prophet Jonah, and heresy.

OSMAN
DAHMARDEH

Executed for drug offences

Arrested along with his mother and charged with drug offences. He was 17 when he was arrested. Both Osman and his mother were executed in Zahedan Prison on 8 September 2014.



HASHEM
SHAABANI

Executed for Moharebeh

32-year-old Arab poet who was executed together with Hadi Rashedi. The men were both members of a group called "Al Hiwar" (Dialogue). They were forced to confess under torture and were executed on charges of Moharebeh (waging war against God).

Jan
43

Feb
66

Mar
4

Apr
46

May
50

Jun
18

Jul
73

Aug
55

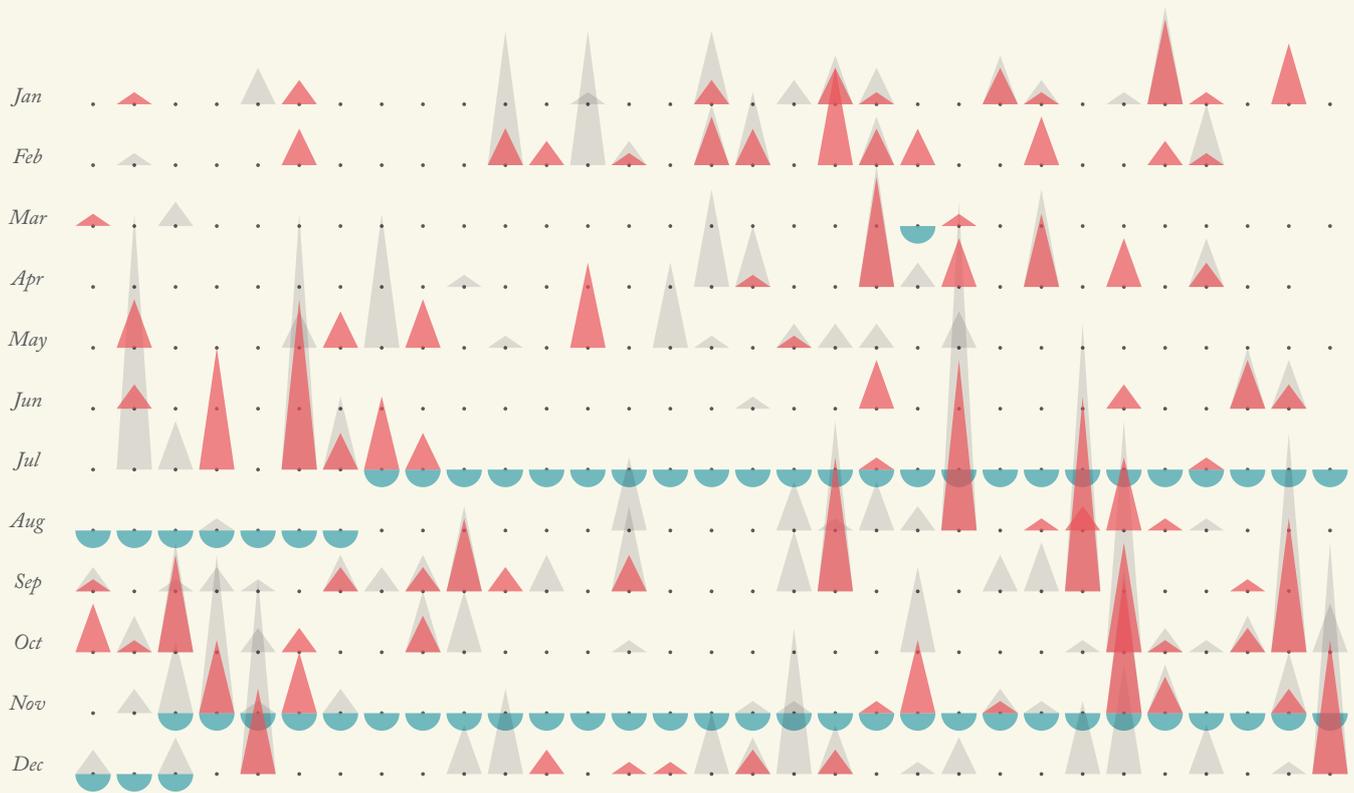
Sep
82

Oct
86

Nov
62

Dec
102

2013 A closer look at Iran's 2013 Executions



◐ Iranian Holidays | Nowruz; March 21 | Ramadan; July 8 - Aug 7 | Muharram; Nov 3 - Dec 3
 ◑ Other Executions
◑ Drug Related Executions

Executions per Day 1.88

Total Executions 687

Deaths for Drug Related Charges 331 | 48%

Days Without Execution 218

Mon
76

Tue
109

Wed
178

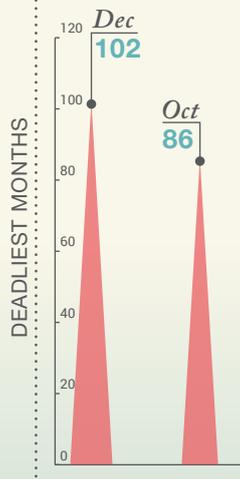
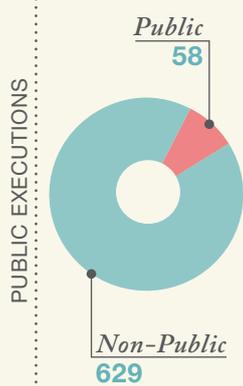
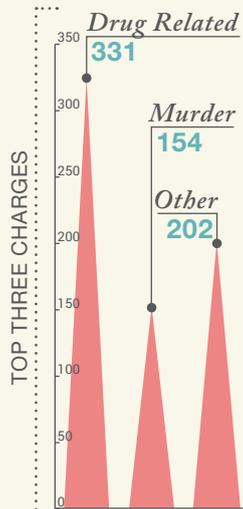
Thu
137

Fri
9

Sat
101

Sun
77

At a Glance



Drug-Related Charges

Human rights groups feared an increase in the number of executions in the months prior to the presidential elections in June 2013. With the memory of the protests following the 2009 elections still fresh, many feared that the authorities would increase their use of the death penalty as an instrument to spread fear and to prevent protests. As anticipated, the number of executions, especially public executions, was high during the first two months of the year.

But the true surge in executions started after Rouhani's election. At least 687 people were executed in 2013 (a 16% increase compared to 2012); more than two thirds of these executions took place after the presidential elections.

Around 20 public executions were conducted in January and February 2013. These cases included the public execution of two young people convicted of mugging a man for the equivalent of around \$25USD in Tehran.

But the true surge in executions started after Rouhani's election. At least 687 people were executed in 2013 (a 16% increase compared to 2012); more than two thirds of these executions took place after the presidential elections.

As in the previous years, drug-related charges accounted for the highest number of executions. At least 331 people who were executed in 2013 were charged with drug offences, a 25% decrease on 2012 figures. But the number of executions for murder cases (qesas, or 'retribution in kind') increased eight-fold on the previous year.

At least three juvenile offenders and 30 women were hanged in Iran in 2013. 21 of the executed women had been charged with drug offences.

The relative decline in the number of drug-related executions in 2013 may be related to the increased attention these executions had received over the past two years, and particularly the cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Iran on the fight against drug trafficking.

In 2013, the Danish government decided to stop its funding to the UNODC drug fighting program in Iran, in order to stop contributing to the execution of several hundred people every year.

Executed Iranians



ALIREZA MAFIHA, MOHAMMAD ALI SARVARI

Execution for Moharebeh

In the early hours of 20 January 2013, Alireza Mafiha (23) and Mohammad Ali Sarvari (20) were hanged in a public execution in Tehran. They had been arrested five weeks earlier after mugging a man for \$25USD. A Tehran court charged them with moharebeh (waging war against God) and "corruption on earth" and sentenced them to death.



HABIBOLLAH GOLPARIPOUR

Execution for Moharebeh

Habibollah Golparipour was sentenced to death after a five-minute trial in March 2010. He was arrested in September 2009 in north-western Iran and convicted of moharebeh and corruption on earth because of his alleged cooperation with a prohibited armed Kurdish opposition group. The court documents state that he was carrying books and documents belonging to the group when he was arrested; the documents do not mention any weapons.

MOHAMMAD TOUGANIA

Execution for drug charges

Mohammad Touganian was hanged in public in the city of Ahwaz on 29 June 2013. He was charged with buying, distributing, and selling around 18kg of crystal methamphetamine.

Jan
63

Feb
7

Mar
18

Apr
45

May
83

Jun
31

Jul
29

Aug
0

Sep
52

Oct
51

Nov
148

Dec
53

2012 A closer look at Iran's 2012 Executions



Executions per Day 1.58

Total Executions 580

Deaths for Drug Related Charges 439 | 76%

Days Without Execution 260

Mon
87

Tue
87

Wed
138

Thu
99

Fri
10

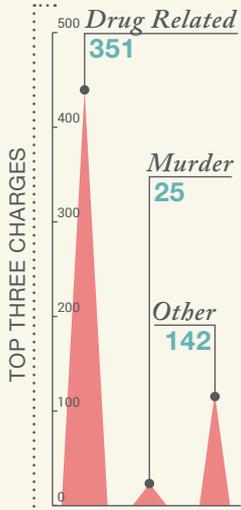
Sat
48

Sun
111

At a Glance

Drug-Related Charges

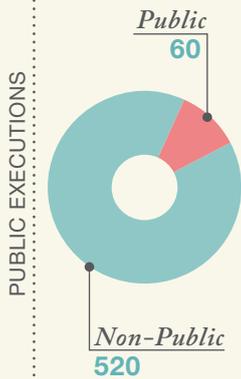
Executed Iranians



Official records show that 580 people were executed in 2012, but this figure doesn't include around 200 executions that were reported to Iran Human Rights, but which could not be sufficiently verified.

As was the case in 2011, the majority (76%) of those who were executed were charged with drug offences. Furthermore, one-third of the 60 people who were publicly executed were convicted of drug-related charges.

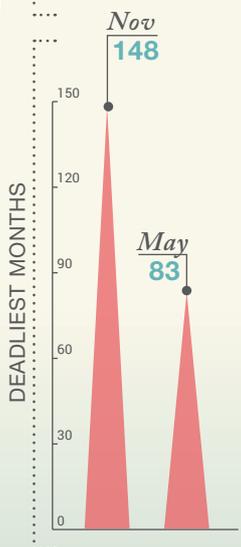
After a hiatus lasting several months, secret executions resumed in Vakilabad prison during the final months of 2012. Iran Human Rights received reports of more than 200 executions in Vakilabad prison; only 85 of these could be sufficiently verified.



In 2012, Iran's track record of executing hundreds of individuals each year on drug-related charges began to receive serious international attention. Several Iranian and international human rights NGOs started to focus on drug-related executions and the cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Iranian authorities.

After a hiatus lasting several months, secret executions resumed in Vakilabad prison during the final months of 2012. Iran Human Rights received reports of more than 200 executions in Vakilabad prison; only 85 of these could be sufficiently verified.

At least 27 Afghan citizens were executed in 2012 in Iran. Most of them were charged with drug offences. In 2012 four imprisoned Ahwazi Arab activists and six sunni Kurdish prisoners were executed. All of them had reportedly been subjected to torture and unfair trials and charged with Moharebeh (waging war against God).



SAEED SEDIGHI

Executed for Drug-Related charges

A shop-owner from Tehran, was executed along with nine others on drug charges. Thanks to the efforts of his family members, Saeed's case was brought to the attention of the international community. According to reports from Iran, Saeed Sedighi was subjected to torture after his arrest. He met his lawyer in person just 15 minutes before his trial; his trial lasted less than 30 minutes.



TAHA HEIDARIAN, ABDOLRAHMAN HEIDARIAN, ABBAS HEIDARIAN, AND ALI SHARIFI

On June 2012 .18 four Ahwazi Arab prisoners--Taha Heidarian, Abdolrahman Heidarian, Abbas Heidarian, and Ali Sharifi--were secretly executed by Iranian authorities. The prisoners- three of them brothers- were arrested following civil unrest and protests in Ahwaz in April 2011. According to reliable reports, the Heidarian brothers and Ali Sharifi were charged and convicted of Moharebeh (waging war against God) after having confessed under torture. They were denied fair trials or any other legal proceedings. Their confessions were aired on Press TV, and their bodies were not returned to their families

Jan
114

Feb
67

Mar
54

Apr
32

May
82

Jun
57

Jul
75

Aug
0

Sep
78

Oct
52

Nov
37

Dec
28

2011 A closer look at Iran's 2011 Executions



◐ Iranian Holidays | Nowruz; March 21 | Ramadan; July 31 - Aug 30 | Muharram; Nov 26 - Dec 26
 ◑ Other Executions
◑ Drug Related Executions

Executions per Day 1.85

Total Executions 676

Deaths for Drug Related Charges 514 | 76%

Days Without Execution 240

Mon
178

Tue
68

Wed
149

Thu
83

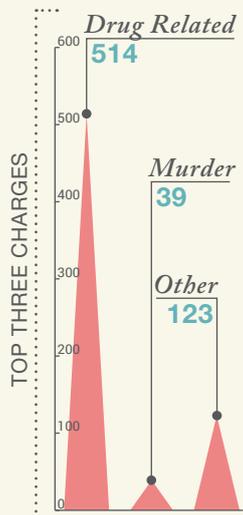
Fri
10

Sat
52

Sun
136

At a Glance

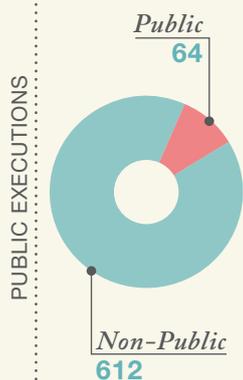
Drug-Related Charges



At least 676 people were executed in 2011. Iranian authorities continued executing several hundred prisoners each year on the pretext of fighting drug-trafficking. 81% of those executed in 2011 in Iran were charged with drug offences. The trials were conducted behind closed doors and it is not known whether the prisoners had access to lawyers or not.

The trials were conducted behind closed doors and it is not known whether the prisoners had access to lawyers or not.

Since more than 80% of those executed for drug-related charges are not identified by their family name, it is not possible to confirm the charges. In 2011, there was at least one person who was initially arrested and sentenced to death for participation in anti-regime protests, but was later executed on drug trafficking charges (see Case 1, right column). IHR cannot discount the possibility of similar drug trafficking cases having political overtones.

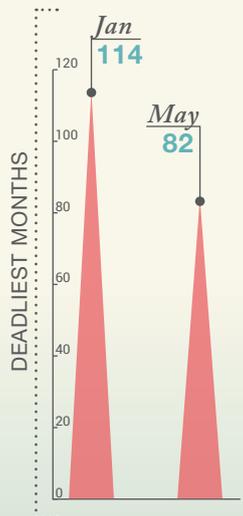


Among those executed for drug trafficking in 2011 were single mothers of dependent children, as well as prisoners whose families cannot afford funeral expenses. Vakilabad prison in Mashhad was the site of several hundred secret executions in 2011. 133 of the executions were confirmed with sufficient details and included in the 2011 report. Most of those executed in Vakilabad were convicted of drug charges. There were a significant number of foreign citizens, mainly Afghans, among those executed in Vakilabad.

At least four of those executed were charged with crimes alleged to have been committed when they were under 18 years of age.

What distinguishes the 2011 report from previous years is the dramatic increase in the number of public executions. 65 prisoners were hanged in public spaces in 2011, more than three times the annual average of the previous three years.

At least four of those executed were charged with crimes alleged to have been committed when they were under 18 years of age. Three men were executed on 6 September 2011 in Ahwaz (southwestern Iran). They were charged with sodomy under Iran's penal code.



Executed Iranians



ZAHRA
BAHRAMI

*Executed for
Moharebeh*

A dual Iranian-Dutch national who was arrested in December 2009 in the aftermath of a protest related to the disputed presidential election earlier that year. She was reportedly beaten and held for months without access to an attorney and sentenced to death for moharebeh (waging war against God) due to her connection with banned opposition groups. Several months later she was tried again and this time was sentenced to death for possession of narcotic drugs. She was finally executed in January 2011 for drug offences.

LAILA
HAYATI

*Executed for Drug-
Related charges*

Laila was a single mother of an -8year-old boy. She was arrested in 2009 because she had introduced someone who wanted to buy drugs to a drug dealer. She was later convicted of selling seven kilograms of heroin, a charge she never accepted. Before the execution she told the prosecutor: "you know that I am innocent". She neither cried nor begged for her life. She was executed in October 2011 in the prison of Hamedan.

HOURIEH
SABAHI

ROGHIEH
KHALAJI

Hourieh was the single mother of five children, one of them disabled.

Roghieh was single mother of a -12year-old son and a -10year-old daughter. Both women were hanged in October 2011 in Hamedan. Hourieh's family were too poor to pay for her funeral.