TARGETED CRACKDOWN ON HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

16 September-30 November 2022
This report has been prepared by Iran Human Rights (IHRNGO)

Iran Human Rights is an independent non-partisan NGO based in Norway. Abolition of the death penalty, supporting human rights defenders and the rule of law constitute the core of our activities.

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Cover photo: a Baluch woman writes: “Woman, Life, Liberty”
photo by a citizen journalist

Dedicated to Jina (Mahsa) Amini, whose cruel murder became the catalyst for the largest human rights movement and inspired generations in Iran and beyond.
This report documents the targeted and systematic crackdown of human rights defenders and their rights violations in Iran. In contrast to previous years’ reports which covered a one-year period, this year, Iran Human Rights’ Human Rights Defenders report is limited to 16 September-30 November 2022. This decision was made due to the bloody suppression of protests by the Islamic Republic.

Nationwide protests broke out across Iran following the state-murder of Jina (Mahsa) Amini, a 23-year-old Kurdish girl in police custody. The people expressed their will through the slogan, “Woman, Life, Liberty,” which encompasses the most basic human rights; rights they have been deprived of for decades in Iran.

All Iranians who took to the streets to demand their basic human rights are human rights defenders according to the United Nations definition. However, it was impossible to include hundreds of thousands of protesters, especially the thousands arrested and killed. This report therefore, focuses on human rights defenders such as lawyers, journalists, families seeking justice, civil activists, teachers, workers’ rights activists, women’s rights activists, artists and environmental activists. However, as this is not a complete list of all human rights defenders arrested in those categories, it cannot be considered a statistical report. Rather, Iran Human Rights has tried to open a small window to acquaint the international community with Iranian human rights defenders and the targeted crackdown against them by the Islamic Republic. Their current status has been updated according to the available information and to the best of our knowledge at the time of writing. It is important to note that the majority of those released have been so on bail pending legal action.
Lawyers representing political prisoners have been under judicial harassment for years. Many are serving lengthy sentences for simply carrying out their professional duties and many more stripped of their law licence as punishment. Following the start of the mass arrests in September, lawyers across Iran declared their pro-bono services for protesters. And one by one, they were arrested. Some were also arrested at protests staged by lawyers against systematic breaches by the Judiciary and in support of protesters. As the people on the frontline of the battle for justice, their arrests have a detrimental impact on the thousands of protesters currently behind bars, some of whom face the death penalty without any experience of the “laws” and complexities of a system of injustice. The 46 lawyers are listed according to their respective provincial bar associations.

ALBORZ BAR ASSOCIATION

AHMAD ALI BARANI
Activism: Alborz Bar Association lawyer
City: Karaj
Date of arrest: October 8
Status: Jailed

SAEED ATAI-KACHOUI
Activism: Alborz Bar Association lawyer
City: Karaj
Date of arrest: October 8
Status: Jailed

MINA BOZORGI
Activism: Alborz Bar Association lawyer
City: Karaj
Date of arrest: October 8
Status: Jailed

Introduction

Human rights defenders have always been under repression by the Islamic Republic. However, their targeted and systematic repression has dramatically increased in recent years. In its 2019/2020 Human Rights Defenders report, Iran Human Rights documented 54 human rights defenders which doubled in 2021 with more than 100 human rights defenders. This upward trend continued in 2022, reaching a peak with the current report documenting 218 human rights defenders who have been arrested and harassed in less than three months. While the Islamic Republic is considered one of the biggest repressive states in the world, this report shows that the targeted crackdown on human rights defenders, was unprecedented following the outbreak of nationwide protests, even for the Islamic Republic.

Iran Human Rights Director, Mahmood Amiry-Moghaddam said: “Three months have passed since the beginning of the nationwide protests in Iran. Changing the political system is the core protest demand but the demands of those who take to the streets at the risk to their lives, is even greater than the change of system. The people of Iran have stood up to claim all the rights millions have been deprived of for decades. All protesters who took to the streets are themselves human rights defenders according to the UN definition. Human rights defenders play an important role in the ‘Woman, Life, Liberty’ revolution.”

This report shows that the Islamic Republic’s response to any human rights activism is violent crackdowns, and that the situation of human rights defenders has significantly deteriorated compared to last year. Many activists were unlawfully arrested “preemptively” at their homes and locations other than protests. Activists like Golrokh Irayi-Ebrahimi, Milad Fadayi, Saba Sherdoost and Majid Tavakoli. A significant number of defenders also suffer from illnesses. Arash Sadeghi was arrested despite suffering from a rare form of cancer. Rapper Toomaj Salehi is facing charges that carry the death penalty for his protest songs. There are also teachers who were arrested or faced reprisals for refusing to hand over names of protesting/striking students and pupils, with one losing her life due to a heart attack from the pressure.

Lawyers willing to represent protesters and other human rights defenders have been particularly targeted at an unprecedented rate with at least 46 subjected arrests or legal action.

Iran Human Rights calls on civil society worldwide to support their colleagues who are fighting for their fundamental rights under such difficult circumstances in Iran. Artists, Bar Associations, workers’ unions, journalists, women’s activists and others can help save their lives by being their voices. We call on well-known figures to take coordinated action by each following up on the situation of one of the people listed in this report, and to be their voice in interviews and public appearances.

Many of the human rights defenders are behind bars in dangerous conditions; international pressure and raising the political cost of the repression, is the only way to reduce the pressure on them.
ASTAREH ANSARI
Activism: Fars Bar Association lawyer
City: Shiraz
Date of arrest: November 2
Status: Released

EBRAHIM GHAEDI
Activism: Fars Bar Association lawyer
City: Shiraz
Date of arrest: November 2
Status: Released

MOHAMMAD HADI JAFARPOUR
Activism: East Azerbaijan Bar
Association lawyer
City: Tabriz
Date of arrest: October 18
Status: Released

NEGIN KIANI
Activism: East Azerbaijan Bar
Association lawyer
City: Tabriz
Date of arrest: October 23
Status: Released

SINA YOUSEFI
Activism: Vice-chairman of the Human
Rights Commission of the Azerbaijan
Bar Association
City: Tabriz
Date of arrest: October 18
Status: Released

GHASEM BODI-BANAB
Activism: East Azerbaijan Bar
Association lawyer
City: Tabriz
Date of arrest: October 15
Status: Jailed

AMIR MEHDIPOUR
Activism: East Azerbaijan Bar
Association lawyer
City: Tabriz
Date of arrest: October 18
Status: Released

MEHDI SAFARI
Activism: Fars Bar Association lawyer
City: Shiraz
Date of arrest: November 3
Status: Released
LAWYERS

**BAHAREH SAHRAIAN**
Activism: Fars Bar Association lawyer  
City: Shiraz  
Date of arrest: November 1  
Status: Released

**NAZANIN SALARI**
Activism: Fars Bar Association lawyer  
City: Shiraz  
Date of arrest: November 1  
Status: Jailed

**AMIN SAMANI**
Activism: Fars Bar Association lawyer  
City: Shiraz  
Date of arrest:  
Status: Released

**MAHMOUD TARAVAT ROI**
Activism: Fars Bar Association lawyer  
City: Shiraz  
Date of arrest: November 1  
Status: Released

**ALIREZA ZARE**
Activism: Fars Bar Association lawyer  
City: Shiraz  
Date of arrest: November 2  
Status: Released

**ISFAHAN BAR ASSOCIATION**

**ROSAY ETENAD-ANSARI**
Activism: Isfahan Bar Association lawyer  
City: Isfahan  
Date of arrest: October 5  
Status: Jailed

**ZAHRA KHOURDECHI**
Activism: Kerman Bar Association lawyer  
City: Sirjan  
Date of arrest: 27 November  
Status: Released

**MARYAM ARVIN**
Activism: Kerman Bar Association lawyer  
City: Sirjan  
Date of arrest: 27 November  
Status: Released
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAWYERS</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **GHAHREMAN KARIMI** | Activism: Kermanshah Bar Association lawyer  
City: Paveh  
Date of arrest: October 30  
Status: Released | |
| **MASSOUD KEIKHANI** | Activism: Khorasan Razavi Bar Association lawyer  
City:  
Date of arrest:  
Status: Released | |
| **ALI KHANZAI** | Activism: Khorasan Razavi Bar Association lawyer  
City:  
Date of arrest:  
Status: Released | |
| **SHOHREH HADADIAN** | Activism: Khorasan Razavi Bar Association lawyer  
City:  
Date of arrest:  
Status: Released | |
| **MEHRAN HEIDARI** | Activism: Khorasan Razavi Bar Association lawyer  
City:  
Date of arrest:  
Status: Released | |
| **MITRA IZADIFAR** | Activism: Khorasan Razavi Bar Association lawyer  
City:  
Date of arrest:  
Status: Released | |
| **SEYED HOSSEIN PAI-LAKHI** | Activism: Khorasan Razavi Bar Association lawyer  
City: Mashhad  
Date of arrest:  
Status: Released | |
| **MARZIEH MOHEBI** | Activism: Khorasan Razavi Bar Association lawyer  
City:  
Date of arrest:  
Status: Facing charges | |
LAWYERS

KURDISTAN BAR ASSOCIATION

GOLALEH VATANDOUST
Activism: Kurdistan Bar Association lawyer
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: October 4
Status: Released

MAZANDARAN BAR ASSOCIATION

ZAHRA NAZARI KAMISHANI
Activism: Mazandaran Bar Association lawyer
City: Sari
Date of arrest: November 4
Status: Jailed

MARKAZ (CENTRAL) BAR ASSOCIATION

AMIN ADEL AHMADIAN
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 25
Status: Jailed

HASSAN ASADI ZEIDABADI
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 16
Status: Jailed

MOHAMMADREZA FAGHIHI
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 12
Status: Released

MAHSA GHOLAMALIZADEH
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 24
Status: Released

OVEIS HAMED TAVASOLI
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 16
Status: Released

SAEED JALILIAN
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 24
Status: Released
ARASH KEYKHOSRAVI
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Karaj
Date of arrest: November 19
Status: Jailed

RUHOLLAH MOHAMMAD REZAEI
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 7
Status: Released

MOSTAFA NILI
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 26
Status: Released

BABAK PAKNIA
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 24
Status: Released

MILAD PANAHIPOUR
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 28
Status: Released

HOSSEIN REZAEI
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 12
Status: Jailed

SAEED SHEIKH
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 24
Status: Released

FERESHTEH TABANIAN
Activism: Markaz Bar Association lawyer
City: Mahshahr
Status: Faces charges
Without free press, journalists who defy strict censorship laws and regulations have been permanent fixtures in Iranian prisons since the Islamic Republic's inception. But following the state-killing of Mahsa (Jina) Amini on September 16, the net widened to also include journalists, reporters and photojournalists working for state-sanctioned media and outlets. The arrests of Nilufar Hamedi who took the photo of Jina's parents hugging at the hospital and Elaheh Mohammadi who covered her funeral as part of their work assignments, were an early clear message that the mere acknowledgement of any reality but state propaganda would be punished. As the weeks passed, authorities delivered on their message, and continue to do so.
JOURNALISTS

FARKHONDEH ASHOURI
Activism: Freelance/former Fars news
City: Shiraz
Date of arrest: October 17
Status: Jailed

IMAN BEHPASAND
Activism: Meydan website
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 12
Status: Jailed

MILAD BIDARIGH
Activism: Masal Otagh Khabar Director
City: Masal
Date of arrest: Late November
Status: Jailed

MARAL DARAFARIN
Activism: Freelance
City: Lahijan
Date of arrest: November 1
Status: Jailed

MALIHEH DARKI
Activism: Freelance/photographer
City: Abadan
Date of arrest: October 26
Status: Jailed

DAVOD DAVODI
Activism: Freelance photographer
City: Shiraz
Date of arrest: October 12
Status: Jailed

HOSSEIN ESMAILI
Activism: Freelance photographer
City: Shiraz
Date of arrest: October 10
Status: Released

MILAD FADAYI-ASL
Activism: Freelance
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 10
Status: Released
YAGHMA FAKHSHAMI
Activism: Freelance
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 2
Status: Jailed

KAMYAR FAKOOR
Activism: Freelance
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 6
Status: Jailed

NASTARAN FARKHEH
Activism: Shargh newspaper
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 27
Status: Released

SAEEDEH FATHI
Activism: Sports journalist
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 16
Status: Jailed

AFSHIN GHOlamI
Activism: Tafakore Enteghadi Monthly
City: Bukan
Date of arrest: October 12
Status: Jailed

FARSHID GHorbanpour
Activism: Haft Sobh (7AM) newspaper
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 25
Status: Jailed

NILOUFAR HamedI
Activism: Etefaghieh newspaper
City: Bojnourd
Date of arrest: September 30
Status: Jailed

NASRIN HASSANI
Activism: Etefaghieh newspaper
City: Bojnourd
Date of arrest: September 30
Status: Jailed
JOHN MARSH
Activism: Sports journalist/podcaster
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 3
Status: Jailed

ALIREZA JABARI-DARESTANI
Activism: Mehr news agency
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 25
Status: Jailed

ARIA JAFARI
Activism: ISNA news agency
City: Isfahan
Date of arrest: September 25
Status: Released

ADEL KARIMI
Activism: Hajeh newspaper
City: Mahabad
Date of arrest: October 11
Status: Jailed

PAYAM KHODABANDEHLU
Activism: Cinemafa
City: Hamedan
Date of arrest: September 11
Status: Jailed

ALIREZA KHOSHBAKHT
Activism: Rahbord newsagency
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 23
Status: Jailed

MASSOUD KORDPOUR
Activism: Lorestan Press House
City: Boroujerd
Date of arrest: October 22
Status: Jailed

POURIA MAHVADI-MOGHADAM
Activism: Lorestan Press House
City: Boroujerd
Date of arrest: October 22
Status: Jailed
MARYAM MAZROUI
Activism: Documentary maker/photographer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 5
Status: Released

NAZILA MAROUFIAN
Activism: Rouydad 24 news agency
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 30
Status: Jailed

YALDA MOAYERI
Activism: Iranian Photojournalists Association
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 21
Status: Jailed

ELAHEH MOHAMMADI
Activism: Ham Mihan newspaper who covered Mahsa Amini’s funeral
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 23
Status: Jailed

FAHIMEH NAZARI
Activism: Entekhab news agency
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 13
Status: Jailed

RUHOLLAH NAKHAEI
Activism: Cinemafa
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 23
Status: Jailed

EHSAN PIRBORNASH
Activism: Sports Bank Editor
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October
Status: Jailed

VIDA RABANI
Activism: Documentary maker/photographer
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 24
Status: Jailed
The Islamic Republic has been crushing protests, arresting, torturing and executing protesters and all opposition since they took power. Families of their victims are threatened and pressured to stay quiet and face reprisals for speaking out. The movement of families seeking justice was an organic response to the brutal reality of the bloody 1980s and though weakened under intense repression, it was reformed following the 2019 nationwide protests and has been growing since. Many family members seeking justice are currently behind bars and many more have been subjected to harassment. With the Islamic Republic’s ongoing crimes, unfortunately many more families will become part of this movement.

**SAJAD RAHMANI**
Activism: Gilan Press House member
City: Masal
Date of arrest: November 29
Status: Jailed

**OMID TAHAN BIDHENDI**
Activism: Mehr news agency
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 4
Status: Jailed

**MARYAM VAHIDIAN**
Activism: ILNA news agency
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 27
Status: Jailed

**FARZANEH YAHYA ABADI**
Activism: Freelance
City: Abadan
Date of arrest: October 19
Status: Jailed

**ELHAM AFKARI**
Activism: Sister of executed protester Navid Afkari arrested with 3-year-old daughter and husband (both released)
City: Shiraz
Date of arrest: November 10
Status: Jailed

**HAMIDEH KETABDAR**
Activism: Sister of protester Ebrahim Ketabdar, killed in Nov 2019 nationwide protests, arrested with husband, Hossein
City: Karaj
Date of arrest: November 15
Status: Released

**MR GHOLIPOUR**
Activism: Father of protester Pejman Gholipour, killed in Nov 2019 nationwide protests
City: Karaj
Date of arrest: November 17
Status: Released
In every corner of Iran, activists have been fighting for civil rights in their communities and cities despite targeted crackdowns and lengthy prison terms. With the start of protests, many activists were arrested around the country, often as a pre-emptive measure. But a civil society with experienced activists who have years of repression and prison experience behind them, will continue to fight for human rights, even from behind bars. People like Arash Sadeghi, an outstanding voice for both political and ordinary crime prisoners who is held without adequate medical care despite his cancer diagnosis. The start of protests also saw a crackdown on internet access and security activists who were providing crucial information and knowledge to fight the state-imposed internet disruptions and shutdown but crucially teaching people how to avoid arrest through internet security.
SOHEIL ARABI
Activism: Human rights defender
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 10
Status: Released

ALI ASADOLLAHI
Activism: Writer/poet
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 21
Status: Jailed

HOSSEIN DARVARI
Activism: Right to internet access
City: Sari
Date of arrest: October 3
Status: Released

GOLROKH EBRAHIMI-IRAYI
Activism: Human rights defender
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 4
Status: Jailed

ARIN EGHBALI
Activism: Right to internet access
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 4
Status: Released

MASOUD GHALANDARI
Activism: Civil activist
City: Yasuj
Date of arrest: December 10 (2nd arrest)
Status: Jailed

SAEED HALICHI
Activism: Civil activist
City: Yasuj
Date of arrest: September 21
Status: Released

AMIN HEIDARIAN
Activism: Civil activist
City: Yasuj
Date of arrest: September 21
Status: Released
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Activism</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Date of arrest</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOHA MORTEZAEI</td>
<td>Student activist</td>
<td>Tehran</td>
<td>November 21</td>
<td>Jailed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KAMBIZ NOROUZZADEH</td>
<td>Civil activist</td>
<td>Tehran</td>
<td>October 19</td>
<td>Jailed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POURAN NAZEMI</td>
<td>Civil activist</td>
<td>Sanandaj</td>
<td>November 12</td>
<td>Jailed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOHEILA KHALEDIAN</td>
<td>Civil activist</td>
<td>Yasuj</td>
<td>September 21</td>
<td>Jailed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIVA MASOUDI</td>
<td>Civil activist</td>
<td>Sanandaj</td>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>Released</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMIR EMAD MIRMIRANI</td>
<td>Right to internet access/security</td>
<td>Tehran</td>
<td>October 5</td>
<td>Released</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARASH SADEGHI</td>
<td>Human rights defender</td>
<td>Tehran</td>
<td>October 20</td>
<td>Jailed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SAEED SHIRZAD
Activism: Children's rights activist
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 2
Status: Released

HOSSEIN RONAGHI
Activism: Freedom of speech activist
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 24
Status: Released

MOHSEN TAHMASEBI
Activism: Right to internet access
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 3
Status: Released

ADEL TAELEBI
Activism: Right to internet access
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October
Status: Released

MAJID TAVAKOLI
Activism: Civil activist
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 23
Status: Released

AMENEH ZAMANI
Activism: Children's rights activist
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 24
Status: Jailed
Despite state repression, Iranian teachers have managed to organise through unions, staging mass nationwide protests demanding basic rights and free education for children earlier this year when dozens of teachers were arrested. Some still remain behind bars and many more union activists have since been arrested. When primary and secondary school pupils and university students began striking and protesting on campuses around Iran in the course of the current protests, it was the actions of a few good teachers that saved the lives of many students. Teachers who refused to hand over CCTV footage and lists of striking students, teachers who used their bodies to shield children from batons and weapons, teachers who defied threats and reprisals to publicly defend their students and paid the price. We will not know all their names and faces until Iran is free and their battle to protect children from state violence continues.

ALI AMERI
Activism: Teachers Trade Unionist
City: Bordsekan
Date of arrest: November 27
Status: Released

JAMIL BAHRAMI
Activism: Kurdistan University professor, arrested after reading speech in support of students
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: November 22
Status: Jailed

BEHROUZ CHAMANARA
Activism: Kurdistan University Kurdish literature professor, arrested for supporting student protests
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: November 26
Status: Released

HEIDAR DARAYI
Activism: Teachers Trade Unionist
City: Ilam
Date of arrest: November 1
Status: Jailed

MOHAMMAD HASSAN DAVOUDI
Activism: Teachers Trade Unionist
City: Miandoab
Date of arrest: October 27
Status: Jailed

ALI HAJI
Activism: Teachers Trade Unionist
City: Jolfa
Date of arrest: November 13
Status: Jailed

HAMID JAFARI NASRABADI
Activism: Teachers Trade Unionist
City: Kashan
Date of arrest: October 19
Status: Jailed
**ZAHRA LORI**

**Activism:** Teacher who prevented pupil arrests by deleting CCTV footage  
**City:** Kerman  
**Status:** Passed away from heart attack due to pressure and reprisals

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**FARZIN MOAFAQHGI**

**Activism:** Teachers Trade Unionist  
**City:** Kamyaran  
**Date of arrest:** September 19  
**Status:** Jailed

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**HAMID MOJIRI**

**Activism:** Kurdistan University professor, arrested after reading speech in support of students  
**City:** Sanandaj  
**Date of arrest:** October 12  
**Status:** Jailed

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**JAMSHID MOZAFARI**

**Activism:** Teachers Trade Unionist  
**City:** Saqqez  
**Date of arrest:** November 15  
**Status:** Jailed

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**PIROUZ NAMI**

**Activism:** Teachers Trade Unionist  
**City:** Ahvaz  
**Date of arrest:** October 22  
**Status:** Released

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**MASOUMEH OGHABNEISHIN**

**Activism:** Teacher who prevented pupil arrests by deleting CCTV footage  
**City:** Karaj  
**Date of arrest:** October 11  
**Status:** Jailed

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**AFSANEH RABIEI**

**Activism:** Teachers Trade Unionist  
**City:** Shahreza  
**Date of arrest:** October 3  
**Status:** Released

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**HAMID RAHMATI**

**Activism:** Teachers Trade Unionist  
**City:** Shahreza  
**Date of arrest:** October 3  
**Status:** Released
LATIF ROUZIKHAH
Activism: Teachers Trade Unionist
City: Jolfa
Date of arrest: October 15
Status: Jailed

HAMED SAEEDI
Activism: Teacher who stopped security forces beating his pupils
City: Saqez
Date of arrest: October 8
Status: Jailed

ABOLFAZL SHAYAN
Activism: City: Sanandaj
Status: Physical Education teacher who was expelled from his job and banned from teaching for refusing to provide list of striking students

IRAQ TOBEHIHA
Activism: Teachers Trade Unionist
City: Najaf Abad
Date of arrest: November 26
Status: Jailed

BAHAM YAGHOUBI
Activism: Teachers Trade Unionist
City: Tabriz
Date of arrest: October 4
Status: Released

SOHEILA ZALBEIGI
Activism: Teachers Trade Unionist
City: Qazvin
Date of arrest: November 17
Status: Jailed

SATTAR ZAREI
Activism: Teachers Trade Unionist
City: Khomeini Shahr
Date of arrest: October 12
Status: Jailed

AKBAR ZAREIN-RIZI
Activism: Teachers Trade Unionist
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 26
Status: Jailed
With the gross systematic human rights violations in Iran, there has been less room and time for environmental rights. However, when the Islamic Republic started cracking down on environmental activists like the Persian Wildlife Heritage Foundation which was fighting for endangered leopards, it was clear that the remits of state-repressions encompasses all living creatures. Iranian environmental activists have continued to be targeted regardless of which part of the environment they defend. The following are just a few of Iran's environmental activists fighting to preserve forests, mountains, rivers, lakes and their wildlife.

**SHADI ASLANI**
- Activism: Environmental activist
- City: Sanandaj
- Date of arrest: September 21
- Status: Released

**SHABGERD GULABI**
- Activism: Environmental activist
- City: Galugah
- Date of arrest: October 14
- Status: Released

**MASOUMEH HAGHANI**
- Activism: Environmental activist
- City: Sanandaj
- Date of arrest: November
- Status: Jailed

**SAMAN KHadem**
- Activism: Environmental activist
- City: Shiraz
- Date of arrest: October 13
- Status: Jailed

**SIRUR MOLAYI**
- Activism: Environmental activist
- City: Sanandaj
- Date of arrest: October 26
- Status: Jailed

**VAHAB MOHAMMADIPOUR**
- Activism: Environmental activist
- City: Kamyaran
- Date of arrest: September 19
- Status: Jailed

**AMIR NADIMI**
- Activism: Environmental activist
- City: Sanandaj
- Date of arrest: November 22
- Status: Jailed
Worker’s rights activists and unions in particular, have been under great state repression while conditions for workers have continued to drastically decline. Many worker’s rights activists and unionists were arrested throughout the year, particularly around International Workers’ Day on May 1. As workers around the country continue to join mass strikes, it is clear that there are many local activists that we have yet to learn about. This is a list of just some of the workers’ rights activists arrested during the current protests.

**GHADER PAKNAHAD**
Activism: Environmental activist  
City: Piranshahr  
Date of arrest: November 12  
Status: Jailed

**KEYKHOSRO YAZDANI**
Activism: Environmental activist  
City: Ghaemshahr  
Date of arrest: September 22  
Status: Released

**LOTFOLLAH AHMADI**
Activism: Worker’s rights activist  
City: Sanandaj  
Date of arrest: September 19  
Status: Released

**AMIR CHAMANI**
Activism: Worker’s rights activist  
City: Tabriz  
Date of arrest: November 6  
Status: Jailed

**MEYSAM EBRAHIMI**
Activism: Worker’s rights activist  
City: Tehran  
Date of arrest: October 18  
Status: Jailed
**WORKERS RIGHTS**

**MEHDI FAZLI**
Activism: Worker's rights activist
City: Tabriz
Date of arrest: 
Status: Jailed

**YOUSEF GERAMIPOUR**
Activism: Worker's rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: 
Status: Jailed

**ASAD MEFTAHI**
Activism: Worker's rights activist
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 9
Status: Jailed

**SAMAD MOHAMMADI**
Activism: Worker's rights activist
City: Tabriz
Date of arrest: October 29
Status: Jailed

**SOHEIB NADERI**
Activism: Worker's rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: November 23
Status: Jailed

**NEDA NAJI**
Activism: Worker's rights activist
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 13
Status: Released

**DAVOD RAZAVI**
Activism: Worker's rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 28
Status: Jailed

**KAMRAN SAKHTEMANGAR**
Activism: Worker's rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 28
Status: Jailed
While the women's rights movement has always been an integral part of Iranian civil society, following the state killing of Jina (Mahsa) Amini, the movement stood at the forefront of protests. Many women's rights activists were arrested at Jina's funeral in Sanandaj and in the days that followed. They have since been systematically targeted in towns and cities around the country, but continue to fight against gender based discrimination both societally and politically.
HAYAT ALMASI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 22
Status: Jailed

FATEMEH AMIRI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 22
Status: Jailed

BAHAR ASLANI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 26
Status: Released

MORVARID AYAZ
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Rasht
Date of arrest: September 21
Status: Released

BAYAN AZIZI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 29
Status: Released

ELMIRA BAHMANI
Activism: Gender rights activist
City: Rasht
Date of arrest: September 27
Status: Released

AIDA DARVISHI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Zanjan
Date of arrest: October 1
Status: Released

SAFIEH GHAREBAGHI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 29
Status: Released
### Women's Rights

**MAHRU HEDAYATI**
- Activism: JIVANO feminist collective
- City: Sanandaj
- Date of arrest: September 19
- Status: Jailed

**MASOUMEH HOJABRI**
- Activism: Women's rights activist
- City: Piranshahr
- Date of arrest: October 7
- Status: Released

**NARGES HOSSEINI**
- Activism: Women's rights activist
- Revolution Street girl
- City: Kashan
- Date of arrest: September 29
- Status: Jailed

**FARANAK JAFARI**
- Activism: Women's rights activist
- City: Gachsaran
- Date of arrest: September
- Status: Released

**AZADEH JAMAATI**
- Activism: JIVANO feminist collective
- City: Sanandaj
- Date of arrest: September 19
- Status: Jailed

**MOJGAN KAVOUSI**
- Activism: JIVANO feminist collective
- City: Sanandaj
- Date of arrest: September 19
- Status: Jailed

**SORAYA KHEDRI**
- Activism: Women's rights activist
- City: Tehran
- Date of arrest: November 16
- Status: Jailed

**LEILA MANSOUR**
- Activism: Women's rights activist
- City: Tehran
- Date of arrest: November 16
- Status: Jailed
RAOUFEH MIRBAGHERI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Tankabon
Date of arrest: October 26
Status: Released

FARZANEH MIRFARDI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad
Date of arrest: October 11
Status: Released

LEILA MIRGHAFARI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: September 29
Status: Released

JINA MODARES GORJI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 21
Status: Released

GASHIN MOHAMMADIAN
Activism: JIVANO feminist collective
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 19
Status: Jailed

MONIREH MOHAMMADI
Activism: JIVANO feminist collective
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 19
Status: Jailed

SOHEILA MOHAMADI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: October 11
Status: Released

GELAREH MORADI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Paveh
Date of arrest: September 21
Status: Released
WOMEN’S RIGHTS

Iran Human Rights | Targeted Crackdown on Human Rights Defenders in Iran 2022

MANOUREH MOUSAVI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Mashhad
Date of arrest: September 20
Status: Released

FARIDEH NEMATI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 30
Status: Released

LEILA PASHAYI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 23
Status: Released

FARANAK RAFIE
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 18
Status: Released

EVIN RASTI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Marivan
Date of arrest: September 19
Status: Jailed

SUSAN RAZAN
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 20
Status: Jailed

BARAN SAEDI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Sanandaj
Date of arrest: September 19
Status: Jailed

SARIA SHARIFI
Activism: Women’s rights activist
City: Marivan
Date of arrest: September 19
Status: Jailed
In the shared space between the arts and human rights, artists have the historical role of translating and conveying often complex issues in simple terms using the most universal language, human emotions. The arts have the power to transcend language, culture and location. But faced with strict censorship laws, an artist’s creativity must become multi-layered to survive. And Iranians have creatively thrived which became even more evident from the outset of the Mahsa (Jina) Amini protests when the internet started filling with creations of all kinds. Shervin Hajipour created the now iconic “For Freedom” anthem from ordinary Iranians’ tweets in the early days and was immediately arrested. His song has been translated into different languages and sung by international artists on stages around the world and by ordinary citizens at protests everywhere. Toomaj Salehi who was already an outspoken rapper and activist with previous arrests, defied all attempts and threats and continued to speak out until he was violently arrested. Toomaj who had rapped an anti-death penalty song last year, now faces death penalty charges himself. While many artists from all backgrounds have publicly stood with the people against the Islamic Republic rulers, the following are those who used their art to do so.

**SABA SHERDOOST**
Activism: Women’s rights activist  
City: Tehran  
Date of arrest: October  
Status: Jailed

**BAHAR ZANGIBAND**
Activism: JIVANO feminist collective  
City: Sanandaj  
Date of arrest: September 19  
Status: Jailed

**MARZIEH ZIARI**
Activism: Women’s rights activist  
City: Amol  
Date of arrest: October 31  
Status: Jailed

**MONA BORZOUI**
Activism: Lyricist  
City: Tehran  
Date of arrest: September 28  
Status: Released
SOHEILA GOLESTANI
Activism: Actress
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 29
Status: Jailed

SHERVIN HAJIPOUR
Activism: Singer of the revolution anthem, “For Freedom”
City: Sari
Date of arrest: September 29
Status: Released

MOJGAN ILANLU
Activism: Documentary maker
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 18
Status: Jailed

MAHMoud MIRAZAI
Activism: Musician
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 4
Status: Jailed

SEYEDEH ZEINAB MOUSAVI
Activism: Stand-up comedian
City: Qom
Date of arrest: September 29
Status: Released

HAMID POURAZARI
Activism: Director/actor
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: November 29
Status: Jailed

TOOMAJ SALEHI
Activism: Rapper
City: Chahar Mahal and Bakhtiari
Date of arrest: October 30
Status: Jailed, indicted for charges of efsad-fil-arz (corruption on earth) which carry the death penalty

BEHROUZ YASEMI
Activism: Poet
City: Tehran
Date of arrest: October 17
Status: Jailed