



Shabnam Dayani
ran over by IRGC vehicle,
then killed under
a barrage of bullets

400 fallen women marked
Iran women's resolve
for freedom and
equality

Monthly Report
of the Women's Committee
of the National Council of Resistance of Iran

December 2019

400 women fell for freedom during Iran protests, registered Iran women's resolve for freedom and equality

More than a month after the Iranian people's nationwide protests, new dimensions of the clerical regime's widespread use of violence and its crimes against women and other protesters are coming to light.

On December 15, 2019, the Iranian Resistance announced that the number of those killed by security forces during Iran protests [exceeded 1,500](#). At least 4,000 were wounded and at least 12,000 detained.



Then on December 23, 2019, citing sources within the clerical regime, Reuters confirmed that 1,500 people had been killed in Iran during less than two weeks of unrest that started on November 15. Reuters was told that about [400 women](#) and 17 teenagers were among those killed. The Iranian officials who provided the figures to Reuters, said they were based on information gathered from security forces, morgues, hospitals and coroner's offices.

Reuters said Khamenei's order to "do whatever it takes to stop them (the protesters)," had been confirmed by three sources close to the supreme leader's inner circle and a fourth official.

List of women killed during Iran protests in November 2019



The Women's Committee of the National Council of Resistance of Iran has compiled the names and reports on women killed by security forces during the Iran uprising in November 2019:

1. Ameneh Shahbazifard, 34 and mother of three – Karaj, Alborz
2. Azadeh Zarbi, 28 – Shahriar, Tehran
3. Azar Mirzapour Zahabi, nurse and mother of four – Karaj, Alborz
4. [Bita Khodadadi](#) – Karaj, Alborz
5. Chan'ani, a young girl– Mahshahr, Khuzestan
6. Elaheh Rastegar – Tabar
7. Esmat Heydari - Kermanshah
8. Fatemeh Habibi – Bahrestan, Tehran
9. Fatemeh Haqverdi – Ahvaz, Khuzestan
10. Fariba Al-e Khamis – Ahvaz, Khuzestan
11. Fariheh Karimzadeh – Ahvaz, Khuzestan
12. Golnar Samsami, 34 and mother of an 8-year-old boy – Shahriar, Tehran
13. [Halimeh Samiri](#) – Abadan, Khuzestan
14. Hasineh Atighi – Mahshahr, Khuzestan
15. Kowsar Baghlani – Ahvaz, Khuzestan
16. Kowsar Tab-e Matouqi– Ahvaz, Khuzestan
17. [Mahnaz Mehdizadeh Nader](#) – Karaj, Alborz
18. Maryam Esmaili – Ahvaz, Khuzestan
19. Maryam Eidani– Ahvaz, Khuzestan
20. Maryam Nouri – Robat Karim, Tehran
21. Marzieh Abbaszadeh – Robat Karim, Tehran
22. [Massoumeh Darabpour](#) – Ahvaz, Khuzistan
23. Mohaddeseh Moghaddam– Ahvaz, Khuzestan
24. Mina Sheikhi – 59 and mother of six – Tehran
25. Nasrin Baghlani – Ahvaz, Khuzestan
26. Nassim Ghorbani –Tehran
27. Nikta Esfandani, 14 – Tehran
28. [Nikta Khazaii](#) – Mehrshahr, Karaj, Alborz
29. Parisa Seifi – Kamyaran, Kurdistan
30. Parvaneh Seifi – Robat Karim, Tehran
31. Reyhaneh Maleki – Ahvaz, Khuzestan
32. Samaneh Zolqadr – Tehran
33. Soheila Fallahzadeh– Ahvaz, Khuzestan
34. Shahla Baldi– Ahvaz, Khuzestan
35. Shahla Rezaeipour – Karaj, Alborz
36. Sepideh Hassani – Naghadeh, West Azerbaijan
37. Shabnam Dayani – Behbahan, Khuzestan

38. Shelir Dadvand – Bukan, Kurdistan
39. Umm-e Walid – Mahshahr, Khuzestan
40. Yas Soleimani – Shushtar, Khuzistan
41. Vida Shakibaii-Nejad - Kermanshah
42. Zahra Sajedi – Abadan, Khuzistan
43. Zeinab Asakereh– Abadan, Khuzistan
44. Zeinab Nissanpour– Ahvaz, Khuzestan
45. Ziba Khoshgozar – Sanandaj, Kurdistan
46. A 13-year-old girl shot in the head – Behbahan, Khuzestan – eyewitness report
47. A female high school student shot by helicopter – Shiraz, Fars – eyewitness report
48. A female student from Saqqez – Sanandaj, Kurdistan – eyewitness report
49. A nurse in a hospital – Tehran – admission by [Friday prayer leader of Asalem](#)
50. A pregnant woman – Mahshahr, Khuzestan – eyewitness report
51. A pregnant woman – Saveh, Central – documented by video clip
52. A woman – Mahshahr, Khuzestan – eyewitness report
53. A young woman – Shahriar, Tehran – eyewitness report
54. An unidentified woman – Rasht, Gilan – eyewitness report

Ongoing arrests of protesters

The arrests, particularly the arrests of protesters, are still ongoing more than a month after the uprising in November.

Abdulreza Nazari, Commander of the State Security Force of Kerman Province, announced on November 28, 2019, that his forces had arrested 25 persons in Sirjan, including [five women](#) who had participated in the protests against fuel price hike. (The state-run Asr-e Iran website, November 29, 2019)

The Iranian state media reported that just on November 30 and December 1, 2019, more than 1,000 persons had been arrested in seven provinces. Over 400 in Alborz Province, 31 in Hormozgan, 70 in East Azerbaijan, 50 in Tehran, 240 in Kermanshah, 97 in Fardis, [Karaj](#), 25 in Kurdistan, 32 in Isfahan, and 26 people in Najafabad and Yazdanshahr.

Mehdi Tajik, Chief of Tehran’s Security Police, announced the identification and arrest of a woman in Karaj. (The state-run ROKNA news agency – December 4, 2019)

Commander of the State Security Force in Gilan Province announced that 4 instigators of protests in Rasht, including a 31-year-old woman, had been arrested. (The state-run Tasnim news agency, December 26, 2019)

The arrests of two female protesters in the early days of the uprising has also come to light.

[Ms. Maryam Payab](#) was arrested by agents of the State Security Force Intelligence in Behbahan at 10 p.m. December 19, 2019 and taken to prison. She had been shot in the back during the protests over fuel price hike in Behbahan on November 16, 2019.

Maryam Payab has a master’s degree in electrical engineering and has been an active conservationist in recent years in Behbahan.



[Massoumeh Soleimani](#), woman wrestler and holder of the Alish World Wrestling bronze badge in Kazakhstan, was arrested by security forces on the first day of the nationwide uprising in Khorramabad, capital of Lorestan Province, western Iran. Massoumeh Soleimani's family remained silent about her arrest in the hope that their daughter would be released. On December 16, 2019, her teammates decided to break the silence and announced her arrest in the cyberspace .



On December 7, 2019, a young woman by the name of Nadia Sobhani, 25, was arrested by the Department of Intelligence in Javanroud, Kermanshah. She is accused of filming the protests. The Sobhani family has not been successful in obtaining any information on the fate of their daughter.

Women's rights activists arrested

Three women were arrested during the 40th day ceremony in a village in Sowme'eh Sara, Gilan Province, commemorating Navid Behboudi, one of the young men slain in the protests in November.

The three women's rights activists, Mahrokh Rosta, Jelveh Javaheri, and Forough Samei-Nia, are still in custody and have been denied being released on bail.

[The 40th day ceremony](#) of Azar Mirzapour was held despite heavy security atmosphere and the presence of the IRGC, Bassij and police forces. Her ceremony was held in Khorramabad on December 26, 2019 in the presence of her family.



Prisoners report on torture of female protesters

One of the prisoners who had been arrested during the protests in November and detained for some time in the Prison of Marivan, Iranian Kurdistan, published a report on what he had witnessed in prison. One of his observations concerned the torture of a woman detainee. "One day, they brought a woman there for getting in touch with foreign media. After a few days, we no longer heard her cries under torture. I heard that she had been killed under torture," he wrote.

Political prisoner Nargess Mohammadi also sent out a letter from prison writing about the conditions of arrested protesters. In her letter on December 1, 2019, she wrote about a young man wounded in the protests who had been taken to Evin Prison. "His appearance showed that bleeding, infection and swelling of his feet had overwhelmed him and that was why the interrogators of Ward 209 of Evin had brought him from solitary to the clinic. He was very young and from Islamshahr. When we told him to insist on being treated for his leg otherwise it would be amputated, he said, 'I'm going to be executed, anyway. What's the difference with leg or without it? They have not even disinfected my wound since the day they arrested me.'"

[Nargess Mohammadi](#) also wrote about a 20-year-old woman. She said, "The interrogator had caught her by the hair and dragged her around. He had insulted her with very vile language, such that she couldn't repeat his words. Then he had opened his belt and banged it on the chair and table to frighten the young woman and have her say whatever they wanted in front of the camera. Not once, but several times."

Shocking admission to crime against humanity

[Mohammad Javad Baqeri](#), the Friday Prayer leader of the city of Asalem in Gilan Province and representative of the mullahs' supreme leader in this city, revealed that at one of Tehran hospitals, an innocent nurse was shot straight in the forehead as she was watching the protests from a window and attempted to take films.

In his sermon at the Friday prayer on December 6, 2019, Baqeri brazenly said, "They don't offer candies amidst the fight and clashes. There are bullets. Someone was telling me last night that (on one of the early days of the protests) he was in a busy hospital in Tehran. A female nurse went to the window. She said she wanted to take films (from the protests). As she was attempting to take a film from the protests outside, a bullet struck her right in the middle of her forehead!"

International censures

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights [Michelle Bachelet](#) issued a statement on December 6, 2019, expressing alarm at the continuing lack of transparency about casualties and the treatment of thousands of detainees, as well as continuing arrests reported to be taking place across Iran.

The UN High Commissioner said she is "extremely concerned about their physical treatment, violations of their right to due process, and the possibility that a significant number of them may be charged with offences that carry the death penalty, in addition to the conditions under which they are held."



European Union

Joseph Borrell, EU High Representative, said on December 18, 2019, "Over the past weeks, many people all across Iran have exercised their fundamental right to assemble and expressed their economic grievances. A growing body of evidence indicates that despite repeated calls for restraint, the Iranian security forces' disproportionate response to recent demonstrations has led to high numbers of deaths and injuries. For the European Union and its Member States, the widespread and disproportionate use of force against nonviolent protestors is unacceptable.

"We urge the Iranian authorities to ensure transparent and credible investigations to clarify the number of deaths and arrested, and to provide due process to all detainees. We expect all perpetrators of violence to be held accountable, and in line with statements by senior Iranian officials, all non-violent protestors currently held under arrest should be immediately freed.

"Iran's decision to shut down internet access to global networks for over a week prevented communication and the free flow of information for Iranian citizens. This is a clear violation of the freedom of speech. Fundamental rights such as freedom of expression and assembly must always be respected. The Iranian authorities must live up to their international obligations, especially the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

"The European Union addresses all issues of concern in its bilateral exchanges with Iran, including human rights, and will continue doing so."

U.S. Department of State

At a press briefing on December 5, 2019, Brian Hook, the Special Representative for Iran and Senior Advisor to the U.S. Secretary of State, affirmed that the number of deaths in the recent Iran

protests may have surpassed 1,000. He added that the regime's treatment of the Iranian people is abhorrent and unacceptable.

Mr. Hook said, "It appears the regime could have murdered over a thousand Iranian citizens since the protests began. We cannot be certain because the regime blocks information. Among those murdered are at least a dozen children, including 13 and 14-year-olds. We have received reports from family members of victims who tried to recover the bodies. The authorities demanded that the families first pay the cost of the bullets they used. In many cases, authorities would not hand over the bodies until their family promised not to hold public funerals."

Amnesty International

On December 16, 2019, Amnesty International issued a statement in which it said, "The international community must take urgent action, including through the UN Human Rights Council holding a special session on Iran to mandate an inquiry into the unlawful killings of protesters, horrifying wave of arrests, enforced disappearances and torture of detainees, with a view to ensuring accountability."

On December 28, 2019, [Amnesty International](#) warned against the possibility of torture and ill-treatment of detained protesters in Iran and issued a public call for the release of those arbitrarily detained.

Amnesty International said, "The authorities have arrested thousands of protesters as well as journalists, students and human rights defenders to stop them from speaking out about Iran's ruthless repression. Children as young as 15 have been arrested and detained alongside adults in prisons notorious for torture. Detainees have been subjected to torture and other ill-treatment; they have been beaten, punched, kicked and flogged by security forces. Many are being denied access to their families and lawyers."

European Parliament

On December 19, 2019, the [European Parliament](#) passed a [resolution](#) denouncing Iranian security forces' widespread and disproportionate use of force against protesters in the November 2019 protests.

MEP [Ana Fotyga](#), former Foreign Minister of Poland, who sponsored the resolution, said in her remarks: "Unfortunately we already know that around 1,500 people have been killed in Iran during the recent crackdown... Our voice, raised in a timely manner to defend the protesting Iranians, is a matter of life or death for many who are imprisoned and still suffering insecurity."



UN Human Rights experts

On December 20, 2019, sixteen [UN human rights experts](#), including Javaid Rehman, the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Iran, called on the Iranian authorities to release all individuals arbitrarily detained and mistreated during recent protests, and expressed concerns over the hundreds of people who have been killed.

"We are shocked at reports of the ill-treatment of those detained during the protests that took place in November 2019, and deeply disturbed that the reported use of excessive force by the Iranian security forces led to an untold number of casualties, including deaths," the experts said.

"Reports and footage indicate that Iranian security forces not only fired live ammunition at unarmed protesters, but also aimed at their heads and vital organs," the experts said.

Solidarity of mothers of the martyrs of Iran protests

One of the significant signs of women's perseverance in the Iran uprising in November 2019 was the role of mothers and families of Iran protesters in supporting the uprising.

These mothers did not waver after their children fell for freedom, but insisted on standing up to the mullahs' regime. They commonly said, "We will never forgive nor forget." They called for prosecution of perpetrators of this crime against humanity.

The family of Azar Mirzapour, killed during Iran protests, held their ceremony commemorating Azar despite heavy presence of security forces.

Mother of Pouya Bakhtiari also declared that she will not remain silent after her son's death.

These freedom-loving mothers believe the continuation of the uprising is the only consoling in this time of grief.

Another source of inspiration has been the solidarity demonstrated by mothers of execution victims and martyrs of previous uprisings with families of the martyrs of November uprising.

[Sherafat Zarrini](#) renowned as Dayeh Sharifeh dedicated her Peace and Reconciliation Award to mothers of all the martyrs of the Iran Uprising in November 2019.

[Laleh Park mothers](#) issued a statement regarding Iran protests in November. They called for unconditional release of all prisoners and abolition of torture and the death penalty.



Women political prisoners declare support for Iran protests

Political prisoners Zeinab Jalalian, Monireh Arabshahi, [Soheila Hejab](#), and [Nasrin Sotoudeh](#) wrote letters from prison, declaring support for Iran protests in November.

Kurdish political prisoner [Zeinab Jalalian](#) wrote from Khoy Prison:

"The deceptive government of the Islamic Republic continues to respond with bullets to the cries of Iranian people for freedom. But history has proved that no bullet can stifle and silence the rightful cries of the people of Iran.

"I feel your pain with every single cell because I have been incarcerated by these oppressors since 2007 for demanding freedom, justice and equality... So long as we breathe, we won't let the blood of these young people get wasted. And I, too, will remain in the camp of toilers and against oppressors until achieving victory."

Jailed civil rights activist Monireh Arabshahi wrote in her letter on December 14:

"In November, Iranians who were fed up with the crackdown of 2009 and 2018 (protests), once again took to the streets to protest the high price of gasoline and the status quo. They came to protest rules that are dependent on a medieval mindset which has led to an economic collapse and political pressure and oppression."



Stepping up public crackdown – Executions and flogging

On the other side of these shocking crimes against humanity perpetrated during and after Iran protests in November, the religious dictatorship stepped up implementation of the death penalties for death-row female prisoners.

The regime executed six women in the three weeks of December, alone:

1. [Somayyeh Shahbazi Jahrouii](#), December 4, 2019, Sepidar Prison of Ahvaz
2. Fatemeh Ghezel Safarlou, December 4, 2019, Gohardasht Prison of Karaj
3. Nargess o-Sadat Tabaii, December 4, 2019, Gohardasht Prison of Karaj
4. Maryam, December 8, 2019, Central Prison of Mashhad
5. [Fatemeh R.](#), December 9, 2019, Gohardasht Prison of Karaj
6. Eshrat Nazari, December 18, 2019, Gohardasht Prison of Karaj



The total number of women executed during Rouhani's tenure [reaches 103](#). Since the beginning of 2019, the regime [has executed](#) at least 16 women which is considered an escalation compared to the 6 women executed during the entire year 2018, ten women in 2017, and 9 women in 2016.

80-year-old woman flogged 70 lashes

A sentence of 70 lashes was carried out on Salbi Marandi, an 80-year-old woman from Khoy, and she was taken to the women's ward of Khoy Prison to serve eight months in prison while she had lost her motor ability.

On November 28, 2019, an 80-year-old woman by the name of [Salbi Marandi](#) was summoned to the Office of the Implementation of Verdicts in the city of Khoy. First, she was flogged 70 lashes of the whip and then, she was transferred to the women's ward of Khoy Prison.

The only reason for flogging the elderly woman was her protest and inquiry about the cause of her son's death in prison which prison authorities had claimed as a suicide.

The prison warden and the judge filed a complaint against this family and the Public Court of Khoy sentenced Salbi Marandi and Atefeh Zeinal-Nejad to 70 lashes and 8 months in prison, each. Atefeh Zeinal-Nejad has so far evaded reporting in to the court for her sentence to be implemented.