# 2023 News Updates

Dec. 22, 2023:

Amnesty International - Iran Team

On 19 December 2023, a Swedish appeals court upheld the conviction and life sentence against Hamid Nouri for his role in the 1988 prison massacres in Iran. The next day, on 20 December, Iranian state media disseminated a propaganda video with Ahmadreza Djalali's forced "confessions", which included being a spy for Israel. Ahmadreza Djalali has repeatedly denied these accusations and said his forced "confessions" were made under torture and other ill-treatment. The propaganda video includes the forced "confessions" of Swedish-Iranian Habib Chaab, whom the Iranian authorities arbitrary executed in secret in May 2023, further raising grave concerns that Ahmadreza Djalali is at risk of imminent execution. Then, on 22 December 2023, an official from the judiciary visited Ahmadreza Djalali in prison warning that his conviction and death sentence are "confirmed" and "will soon be implemented", according to information revealed by Ahmadreza Djalali's family. Outrageously, the official also claimed that Sweden is holding Hamid Nouri to pressure Iran to release Ahmadreza Djalali. These implausible claims have been repeated on Iranian state media in recent days, even though Ahmadreza Djalali has been in prison in Iran since 2016, more than two years before Hamid Nouri was arrested. Click here for more information.

#### Dec. 20, 2023:

Amnesty International issued today stating that at least five individuals in Iran are under sentence of death in connection with the "Woman Life Freedom" uprising of 2022, while at least 15 others are at risk of the death penalty and eight have been arbitrarily executed following grossly unfair sham trials. The authorities have severely violated their fair trial rights and subjected many to torture and other ill-treatment, including beatings, electric shocks and sexual violence. Concerns of further protest-related executions are mounting amid a sharp spike in the use of the death penalty with the authorities having executed at least 115 people in November alone. Click here for more information

# Oct. 17, 2023:

Amnesty International-USA

With the Israeli military offensive in Gaza and violence increasing in the West Bank and Israel, Amnesty's crisis investigation teams are on the ground and our Crisis Evidence Lab is working as quickly as possible to verify evidence in real time in order to **expose war crimes, protect civilians, and seek accountability for crimes committed.** Click here for more information.

### Oct. 11, 2023:

The death penalty is *always* wrong. It's wrong in principle: a violation of our most basic human rights. And it's wrong in practice: in the biased and unjust ways in which it's handed down. **And** 

in the U.S. the simple, horrible truth is that race is the single biggest predictor of who will be given a death sentence. To take actions, <u>click</u> here.

Oct. 09, 2023:

AI-USA

We can End the Death Penalty.

Hafez Ibrahim was only 17 years old when he was brought before a row of officers with rifles in hand, even though it was illegal to execute someone his age in Yemen. He thought the last thing he'd see was a small prison yard in Yemen. But just before he was about to be shot, he was taken back to his cell, with no explanation. Click here for more information.

Oct. 8, 2023

Amnesty International - Australia

Tell the Government of Alabama not to execute Rocky Myers

He is the father of four, grandfather to nine, and great-grandfather to one. He is loved by all his family, and really anyone he encounters. As a child, he was diagnosed as having an intellectual disability, and as an adult continues to struggle with reading, writing, or keeping dates and times straight. Click here to take Action.

Oct. 7, 2023:

Amnesty International - Iran Team

Nobel Peace Prize Winner Narges Mohammadi must be released immediately and unconditionally. <u>Click</u> here for more information.



Oct. 6, 2023:

Amnesty International - Iran Team

Call for immediate release of Nobel Peace Laureate, Narges Mohammadi. Click here for more information.



# Sept 21, 2023:

Amnesty International - Iran Team

Iran Compulsory veiling bill is despicable assault on rights of women and girls in Iran. Click here for more information.

### Sept. 12, 2023:

Amnesty International - Iran Team:

Protester Abbas Deris is at risk of execution in relation to the November 2019 nationwide protests in Iran. On 4 July 2023, his lawyer publicly stated that the Supreme Court had upheld Abbas Deris' conviction and death sentence for "enmity against God" (moharebeh). In late October 2022, a Revolutionary Court in Mahshahr sentenced Abbas Deris to death following a grossly unfair trial marred by "confessions" aired on state television weeks after arrest. Abbas Deris' request for judicial review remains pending before the Supreme Court. Click here to take Action.

July 30, 2023

Amnesty International - Iran Team:

The Iranian authorities are doubling down on their oppressive methods of policing and severely oppressing Iranian women and girls for defying degrading compulsory veiling laws, Amnesty International said today. <u>Click</u> here for more information.

June 16, 2023

Amnesty International - USA

Stop Execution of Disabled in Iran:

Iran: Further information: Grave execution risk for youth with disability: Mohammad Ghobadlou

June 16, 2023 Index Number: MDE 13/6889/2023

#### IRAN CENSORSHIP AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Mohammad Ghobadlou is at grave risk of execution in connection with Iran's nationwide protests amid a spike in executions since late April. Mohammad Ghobadlou received two death sentences after grossly unfair sham trials marred by torture-tainted "confessions" and failure to order rigorous mental health assessments despite his mental disability. In late May 2023, his lawyer revealed that the Supreme Court had rejected a request for judicial review of one his death sentences, raising fears that his execution could be carried out imminently. Click here for Urgent Action that is available at Amnesty Website.

### June 3, 2023:

Amnesty International - Iran Team:

Issued a press release on how Iranian authorities have turned prisons into killing fields as drug-related executions almost triple this year. Iranian authorities have executed at least 173 people convicted of drug-related offences this year after systematically unfair trials, nearly three times more than this time last year. Executions for drug-related offences make up two thirds of all the executions carried out in Iran in the first five months of 2023 and have predominantly impacted people from marginalized and economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Members of Iran's persecuted and impoverished Baluchi ethnic minority account for around 20 per cent of the recorded executions despite making up only five per cent of Iran's population. Click here for more information.

### May 16, 2023:

Amnesty International - Iran Team

The Iranian authorities have executed at least one Ahwazi Arab, 14 Kurds and 13 Baluchis following grossly unfair trials, and sentenced at least a dozen others to death since the start of the year, marking a chilling escalation in the use of the death penalty as a tool of repression against ethnic minorities, Amnesty International and Abdorrahman Boroumand Center said today.

<u>Click</u> here for more information.

May 15, 2023

Amnesty International - Iran Team

**Urgent Action:** 

Ali Mojadam, Moein Khanfari, Mohammad Reza Moghadam, Salem Mousavi, Adnan Ghobeishavi and Habib Deris – from Iran's persecuted Ahwazi Arab minority who are facing imminent execution. A Revolutionary Court in Ahvaz, Khuzestan province, used their torture-tainted "confessions" to sentence them to death in February after a grossly unfair trial. Iran's Supreme Court has upheld their convictions and sentences, meaning they could be executed at any time.

Click here for more info.

April 18, 2023

Amnesty International - Iran Team

**URGENT ACTION:** 

MILLIONS OF SCHOOLGIRLS AT RISK OF POISONINGThe rights to education, health and life of millions of schoolgirls are at risk amid ongoing chemical gas attacks deliberately targeting girls' schools in Iran.

Act now and write a letter to Mr. Montazeri to call his attention to this problem. <u>Click</u> here to access this UA

March 12, 2023:

Amnesty International - USA

An Urgent Action has been issued on four young men from Iran's oppressed Baluchi ethnic minority – Ebrahim Narouie, Kambiz Kharout, Mansour Dahmardeh and Shoeib

Mirbaluchzehi Rigi – who are at grave risk of execution in connection with protests in Sistan and Baluchestan province. They were sentenced to death based on torture-tainted "confessions" in grossly unfair trials. Two other young Baluchi men – Mansour Hout and Nezamoddin Hout – are facing retrials on capital charges also in connection with the protests. Click here to access this UA.

March 6, 2023:

Amnesty International - USA

Demand Justice for Rocky Myers who is on Death Row.

Amnesty has been campaigning to abolish the death penalty in the U.S. and worldwide for over 40 years. We also campaign to stop executions of specific individuals — and we've proven we can be successful when we raise our voices together.

Rocky Myers, a Black man, has been on death row in Alabama, USA, since 1994. A nearly all-white jury convicted and sentenced him to life without the possibility of parole for the murder of his white neighbor. The trial judge overrode their decision and imposed a death sentence — a practice now outlawed in Alabama.

Rocky Myers grew up in New Jersey in poverty. At 11, he was diagnosed with an intellectual disability. His assigned lawyer for post-conviction appeals abandoned his case without notice, making him miss key deadlines for judicial appeals. The courts relied primarily on IQ tests, a standard which the US Supreme Court found to be inadequate in 2014, to reject his request for a deadline extension submitted on the grounds that he had an intellectual disability. No evidence linked Rocky Myers to the murder, except for a VCR stolen from the victim, which he maintains he had found abandoned in the street. Key testimonies against him were tainted by inconsistencies and allegations of police pressure, with one later recanted as untrue. Rocky Myers faced execution in 2004 and 2012.

Click here to ACT NOW: Tell the Governor of Alabama to address all flaws in his case.

Feb 21, 2023:

Amnesty International - USA

Take Urgent Action for Kurdish Men Forcibly Disappeared for Months
Iranian authorities have forcibly disappeared Iranian Kurdish dissidents, Pejman Fatehi,
Vafa Azarbar Mohammad (Hazhir) Faramarzi and Mohsen Mazloum for seven months, by
concealing their fate and whereabouts from their families and lawyer since their arrests in
July 2022. They are at grave risk of torture and other ill-treatment and unfair trials on
charges that carry the death penalty. Click here to take Action.

Feb 9, 2023:

Amnesty International - USA
TAKE ACTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS:

CONGRESS: DON'T ABANDON UKRAINE!

Click here to Take Action.

Feb 6, 2023:

Amnesty International - USA

Leonard Peltier, a 77-year-old Native American man who has been imprisoned in the USA for 45 years and has a clemency petition pending before President Joe Biden, has contracted COVID-19. This heightens concern for Leonard Peltier's life and well-being given his age and serious underlying health conditions. Amnesty International urges President Biden to grant Leonard Peltier clemency on humanitarian grounds. Click here to Take Action.

Feb 3, 2023:

Amnesty International - USA

Defend Polish Abortion Activist Before Hearing on Feb. 6 (Poland: UA 28.22) For more information / Action, Click here.

Feb 1, 2023:

Amnesty International-USA

Responding to the announcement of charges brought against Memphis police officers in the death of Tyre Nichols, and body-camera footage released by Memphis Police Department, Amnesty International USA issued the following statement, demanding accountability: Click her for Action

Jan 21, 2023:

Amnesty International - Iran Team:

**Urgent Action:** 

Mohammad Ghobadlou, a 22-year old mentally challenged person is at grave risk of execution. Click here for Urgent Action.

Jan 12, 2023:

Amnesty International - Iran Team:

Calling on Iranian authorities to immediately halt all executions of people sentenced to death in relation to nationwide protests and condemning the arbitrary executions of **Mohammad Mehdi Karami** and **Seyed Mohammad Hosseini** on 7 January and warning that **Mohammad Ghobadlou** and others risk the same fate. On 2 January, the Supreme Court upheld the conviction and death sentence of Mohammad Ghobadlou, 22, in connection with the ongoing nationwide protests, making his sentence final and raising fears that his execution is imminent. In the past week, the authorities also announced five further protest-related death sentences imposed by Revolutionary Courts. For more information, <u>Click</u> here.