

Dear JHU Graduate Student Body,

Many students of Iranian descent on our campus, and worldwide, have been heavily impacted by the horrific events that have transpired in Iran since September 2022. We want to extend our condolences and amplify their call for awareness and help.

Protests erupted after the death of Mahsa Jina Amini, a 22 year-old teacher who was kidnapped by Iran's morality police for not wearing her compulsory hijab to their standards. She was soon pronounced dead after reported torture.

The Iranian government has since responded to protesters with deadly force in streets, places of worship, and academic institutions. Unarmed civilians, professors, students, and children continue to be imprisoned, assaulted, and killed.

Mahsa's fate has been shared by other Iranians subjected to severe oppression for the past 44 years who continue to fight for basic human rights. These include rights in law, travel, education, and public dress code, where women and cultural groups face the most extreme discrimination.

We acknowledge that these events have taken an immense emotional toll on our Iranian community while they continue their day-to-day student obligations. We strongly stand behind students of Iranian descent at JHU and are in solidarity with the Iranian people who continue to fight for their basic human rights.

To our fellow Iranian students, we want to say that we are here for you, to listen and provide any form of support that we can. You are not alone.

In solidarity,

The Graduate Representative Organization