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**Subject:**

Iran's Regime Propaganda to Censor Death Row in The Media

To whom it may concern,

In the past 24 hours, news headlines has recently claimed that the 15,000 protestors in Iran were not actually sentenced to death penalty. This misinformed report stated that only one protestor had been officially sentenced to death, thereby downplaying the very serious danger that all 15,000 prisoners are in.

While they are correct in claiming that death sentences have not been issued for 15,000 protesters, the fact is projected in a way that downplays the seriousness of the danger that the arrested protesters are facing. Hence, it can prevent world's awareness & consideration.

We encourage them to clarify the news precisely by explaining the whole story.

After killing +300s of protesters on the streets & a violent crackdown, last week, 227 of the 290 members of the Islamic Republic parliament published a letter comparing these protestors to ISIS and urged the

judiciary to "teach them a lesson" by applying the maximum penalty. Under the Islamic Republic, this indeed includes execution. [1],[2]

Parliament members in Iran are tightly handpicked by bodies close to the dictator's Supreme Leader (Khamenei) & are literally his mouthpieces. Instead of communicating the demands of people from across the country, they voiced the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC)'s will. IRGC members have been added to terror list of U.S., Canada, and EU countries.

It has not escaped our attention that the report on this situation was published soon after several members of the National Iranian American Council (NIAC) also denied the possibility of 15,000 death sentences under the guise of "fact-checking" news coming out of Iran [3]. The NIAC is allegedly one of the major propaganda arms for the Islamic Republic in the United States, which raises our concern as to what sources journalists relied on for this report.

Since its inception, the Islamic Republic has used fear tactics to force false confessions out of dissidents and frequently hands out heavy punishments and death sentences in kangaroo courts where defendants don't even have access to an attorney. The Iranian people have sacrificed a lot in order to prevent mass executions like those in the 1980s. Today, 15,000 lives depend on accurate, informed, and empathetic reporting. Anything less puts innocent protesters at risk.

The Iranian-American community around the world finds the report unacceptable, misleading and insulting.

As such we need to stop spreading misinformation about IRAN.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter,

Concerned Iranian-American activists

#### References

[1]

<https://www.newsweek.com/iran-votes-execute-protesters-says-rebels-need-hard-lesson-1757931?amp=1>

[2]

<https://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2022/11/06/692266/Iranian-MPs-urge-severe-punishment-those-inciting-riots>

[3] <https://twitter.com/hodakatebi/status/1592585765284089857?s=46&t=zNFsEidMtRRuKLMjpuUbrg>