

December 2022 Newsletter

December 24th marked the 100th day of the Iranian revolution. Despite the brutal crackdown afforded by the regime to unarmed protestors, the revolution calling for freedom, democracy, equality, Human Rights, and decency has stood firm.

The international community has continued its support and solidarity. This is a revolution and a freedom movement that has certainly captivated the heart and souls of many.

Democratic countries and the United Nations have also increased the pressure on the theocratic regime in Iran by introducing further sanctions and denouncing the brutality faced by unarmed protestors.



On 14th December 2022, the United Nations unanimously voted to expel the Islamic Republic from the Commission on the Status of Women. This was a historic act as it is the first time that a member state has been expelled from a UN commission.

Although this will not significantly affect the Islamic Republic and its hard stance against the protestors, it is a symbolic 'slap in the face' by the international community and will surely provide a boost to the Iranians in Iran.





The U.N Human Rights Council unanimously voted to create a fact-finding mission in November 2022, so that an investigation regarding the alleged breaches of Human Rights by the Islamic Republic may be fully investigated.

The first team arrived in Tehran and they were immediately offered a handsome bribe which was rejected. We eagerly await the outcome of their investigation.

With regret, December witnessed the first of what is expected to be many executions by the Islamic Republic of protestors.

On December 8^{th,} 2022, Mr. Mohsen Shekari, 23, was executed charged with 'Enmity Toward God and corruption on Earth'. His sham summary trial by the Islamic Revolutionary court had no legal representative or due process. He was executed without the knowledge of his family.



The murder of Mohsen Shekari was soon followed by a second execution in the Eastern city of Mashad. On 12th December, Mr. Majid Reza Rahnavard, 23, was executed following yet another sham summary trial with no legal representative or due process. Mr. Rahnavard had a large tattoo of the Iranian emblem of the 'Lion and Sun' on his left arm. It is rumoured that the authorities broke his left arm prior to the execution.





There are over an estimated 18,000 protestors in custody. Many are beaten, tortured, and raped. There is no legal representative. Many tens of thousands have been arrested at home or at work. Some have been kidnapped from the streets by secret service forces as they have been identified as actively participating in protests. Their whereabouts and fates remain unknown.

Lifeless corpses of teenagers are now turning up in side streets of towns and cities, rivers and fields. The inhumane brutality and crimes against humanity are now being recorded and noted by the United Nations and the international community.

The Islamic Republic parliament voted unanimously to execute these protestors at the earliest opportunity. Many hundreds have now been charged with 'Enmity towards God and Corruption on earth'. These charges carry the death penalty.

A campaign to help protect the protestors condemned to death has started. Politicians have sponsored a prisoner and we all hope that this pressure will force the regime in Tehran to reconsider the brutal act of execution.

Many German, Norwegian, and Dutch politicians have sponsored protestors. On 19th December 2022, with the kind help of Suzy Stride, an informal meet and greet at the House of Commons resulted in three MPs sponsoring prisoners and many more taking to social media to sponsor a protestor. Mr. Jeremy Corbyn wrote a letter to the Islamic Republic Judiciary condemning the actions of the Islamic Republic and demanding the release of protestors.

We hope that with the help of Suzy Stride we can have another meeting with the Parliamentarians in January 2023.



Suzy Stride

International protests in major cities are an ongoing event and we ask all our members to actively participate in continuing to highlight the Human Rights abuses that continue to destroy the lives of the Iranian people on a daily basis. These protests are also an opportunity to network and find each other.

Many of our members have now had an opportunity to engage with their local MPs. This raises awareness and the local constituent has the right to ask for their MPs help. Due to these interactions, the MPs have written to the Foreign Secretary and raised questions in Parliament sessions. If you would like help on how to contact your MP with a letter requesting a meeting, please contact the Board members.

Our association has also engaged with Persian media. Two TV interviews regarding our meeting with the Parliamentarians on 19.12.22 and current events in Iran were discussed. There are plans for further TV interviews in the near future.

We thank all of you that have contributed to funds for Iran. We are happy to announce that first aid packages have now successfully arrived in Iran. Many protestors with injuries that are not life-threatening are avoiding health centers as they are immediately arrested on arrival. Most require minor treatment at home or in a small private clinic. Medical supplies are a vital lifeline as many can be treated safely without the risk of an arrest and subsequent torture, rape, and execution.

Our website *aihra.info* has a donate button. Donations are via Simurgh Foundation, a well-known and trusted project that will send 100% of the funds safely to Iran.

We thank you all for your continued support, enlightened ideas and projects, and above all your kindness and humanity.

On behalf of the board of directors and project managers, we wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a 2023 filled with health, happiness and freedom.

