



Struggling for people's rights

Report on victims during the election protests in Iran



ALL HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL IN IRAN



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Forword

Iran will be holding presidential elections this year on June 14. It is the first time that the country has gone to the polls since the violent crackdown on the protests over President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's disputed re-election in 2009.

At least 4,000 people were arrested after the polls on 12 June 2009, some 200 of whom were put in jail. But even after four years, there are still no clear data on the exact number of individuals who were killed during the post election protests. In an interview during his eighth visit to the United States in 2011, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said that it was but a small group of protesters who had been killed during the rampage when buildings had been destroyed and cars set on fire. He added, "Only about 33 people were killed during the post-election riots, two thirds of whom were security and police officers and ordinary pro-regime citizens."

56 families are said to have reported the death of a close relative during the post-election riots; the opposition, however, puts the figure at more than 70. Not all the families and friends broke their silence.

While pursuing the cases of their murdered loved ones, the families of the victims were subjected to massive pressure on the part of the Intelligence service. A number of them were ultimately arrested and gaoled as a result of their persistence. Many others were summoned to various security organizations and warned against holding any form of public funeral or tribute for the victims. Several others were even ordered to remove the headstones from the victims' graves, if the inscription bore the word 'martyr'.

Several of the victims' families began writing letters to various official agencies, including





the office of the Supreme Leader, the Office of the President and the Head of the Judiciary. Later they went on to file official complaints in various courts, demanding that the killers be identified and brought to trial. To date, however, most of the families' lawsuits filed with Iran's judiciary remain unheeded.

To this very day, officials of the Islamic Republic refuse to accept any responsibility for the post-election murders and continue to produce conflicting reports on the subject. Disappointed with the internal judicial process, number of the families, whose relatives had fallen victim to repression in the wake of the election protests, turned to international organizations for help.

The Iranian journalist and writer, Masih Ali-nejad, wanted to find out about the known and unknown victims and their families; she undertook research in to the media and official data and interviewed relatives of the victims. What had happened to their lost ones? What kind of problems did they face? How did they deal with their loss? Many of the cases had been previously documented, but the cumulative effect of the data underscores a clear pattern of systematic gross human rights violations by the Iranian security forces.

The following section provides a series of fairly brief descriptions of the murdered victims and their families' struggle for justice. The international community must insist that Iran identify and convict the killers, as well as put an end to its repression of protesters and civil society activists. People in Iran should not risk imprisonment or death simply because they have chosen to exercise their right to free speech, peaceful assembly and association.

Recommendations to members of the Human Rights Council:

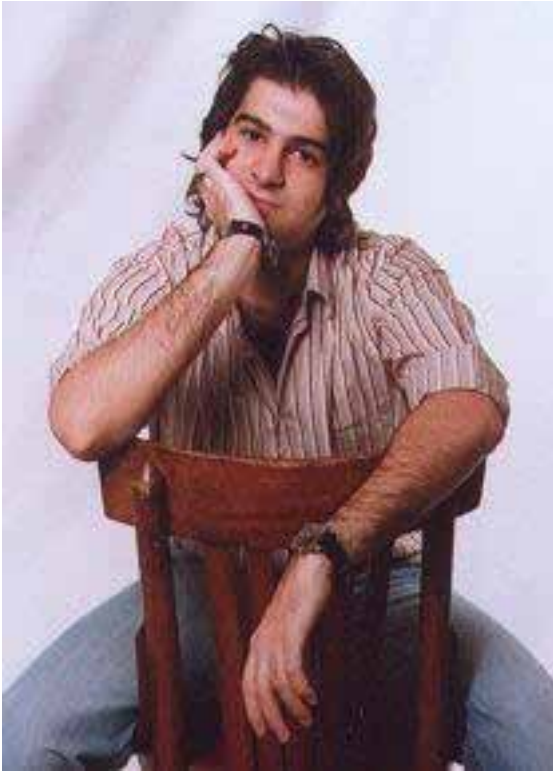
- **Urge the Iranian government to implement transparent and widespread investigations into**

the killings and arbitrary detentions of peaceful protestors in the wake of the election protests in 2009.

- **Call on the Iranian government to investigate and prosecute government and security involved in killings, arbitrary arrests and detention, and other serious human rights abuses relating to incidents since the disputed presidential election.**
- **Urge the Iranian government to release all persons presently victimized for peacefully exercising their rights to free expression, association, and assembly.**
- **Urge the Iranian government to establish independent election monitors and observation.**

Recommendations to the Government of Iran:

- **Ensure that families, whose relatives had fallen victim to repression in the wake of the election protests, receive appropriate compensation and legal justice.**
- **Abolish the security laws under the Islamic Penal Code (the Security Laws) as well as the 2010 adopted Computer Crimes Law that permits the government to arbitrarily suppress and punish individuals for peaceful political expression.**



1. Amir Javadifar

Amir Javadifar, a 25-year old student from Ghazvin Azad University, was arrested by the Basij (paramilitary supporters of the regime) on 9 July 2009 in the Amirabad district of Tehran, during a peaceful demonstration protesting against the result of the presidential elections and commemorating

the tenth anniversary of 9 July 1999 (when in an assault on the Tehran University dormitory plainclothes security forces killed several students). Upon his arrest, Amir was beaten up, his eyes were injured and he suffered head injuries as well. He was taken to the police station on Enghelab Avenue, but when his conditions deteriorated, he was taken to Firouzggar hospital and his family was informed. The family transferred Amir to Laleh hospital, a more suitable hospital with better equipment, in Shahrak-e Ghrab the same night, where other injuries to his body were detected. He was released from hospital the next day and, accompanied by his father; he was taken by the guards to Tehran police headquarters only to be moved on to the Kahrizak detention centre.

In an interview, an eyewitness stated that Mr. Javadifar died five days after being transferred to Kahrizak. In the course of his detention at Kahrizak, he was transferred yet again to Evin prison.

In the investigation committee's report, it was confirmed that Amir had been incapacitated by the beatings he had suffered at the time of

his arrest. He had thus been unable to bear the traumas at Kahrizak.

During Amir's funeral, his father Ali Javadifar told VOA, "Amir was hospitalized at Firouzggar hospital. He underwent a full check-up and stayed there the whole night. He was healthy and I took him to the police station on his own two feet. He drank a soda before he left and laughed, saying that he would be back in two days. But my son left never to return. Why did they give me his dead body when I had brought him to them? I took him there because I knew my son had not done anything wrong. Now I think respecting the law is a mistake. Who will hear me out now? They should investigate the whole thing according to the law and bring to justice those whoever ordered and executed [the killing]."

Babak Javadifar, Amir's brother also said: "I approached the people in Kahrizak. Some said that Amir had lost his sight during his final days. Some said because of the unhealthy conditions in the prison, his eyes became infected after he had been beaten, as a result of which he was blinded. Consequently, Amir was unable to walk without assistance. On 14 July 2009, at 12:30 pm, as a result of the beatings, Amir collapsed on the bus in transit from Kahrizak to Evin prison. They took him off the bus and laid him down on the ground. Someone started to resuscitate him. This person later said that Amir coughed up blood while he was administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation. They didn't take Amir to the hospital. Perhaps if they had, he would still be alive." Later, those who witnessed his death testified to the manner in which he had died. His father was summoned to Kahrizak to collect his son's body.

Babak Javadifar also commented on the legal procedures surrounding his brother's case. "The police officers, who were accused in connection with his case in March 2010 and 2011, were found guilty and duly charged. The second



part of his case related to the judicial personnel. In respect of the three judges, including the notorious Saeed Mortazavi, a suspended verdict was returned. To date, however, the courts have not upheld this ruling. The families of those who lost their loved ones, like us, didn't choose to seek revenge along the lines of 'an eye for an eye'. We were of the opinion that simply killing someone would not solve the problem. We wanted those, whose orders had led to this horrendous tragedy, to be brought to justice in a courtroom.

Follow-up 23.5.2013: The father of Amir Javafifar withdrew the murder suit against Saeed Mortazavi the Tehran prosecutor during after election protests of 2009, after a private meeting on 19.5.2013 with him.

Date of birth: 14.9.1984

Date of death: 14.7.2009



2. Mohammad Kamrani

Mohammad Kamrani, 18, was arrested on 9 July 2009 in Tehran Vali-Asr Square and transferred to the Kahrizak detention centre. Kahrizak is notorious for its inhumane conditions and the maltreatment of those held prisoner there. A few days later, Mohammad was transferred to Evin prison and members of his family were told that their son was on the verge of being released. When they went to pick up Mohammad, they were told he had been transferred to hospital. The devastated family rushed to Loghman hospital and found their child in a critical condition, still surrounded by the police. The family insisted on transferring him to a hospital with better facilities and were able to take him to Mehr hospital. However, as a result of the torture, beatings and injuries to his body he had suffered during his arrest, his condition deteriorated and he died in Mehr hospital. Mohammad was getting prepared to take the entrance exams to medical school, but his life was cut short at the age of 18. Mohammad's body is buried in Behesht-e-Zahra, the central graveyard in Tehran.

In an interview with Masoumeh Alinejad aka Masih, an Iranian journalist and writer, Mohammad's father, Ali Kamrani, said: "The so-called plain-clothes agents arrested him and beat him savagely. Even when the poor boy was in a coma and running a high fever, they chained him to the hospital bed at Loghman hospital. He died after they moved him to the Mehr hospital."

He went on to say, "Only God knows what we went through when we heard the testimonies of those detained in the Kahrizak detention centre, at the trial





of those convicted of committing crimes in that prison.

After the trial, neither I nor Mohammad's mother, nor his two sisters, were able to sleep. That night we were all shattered by the horrible things we had heard. They should show the video of the trial of those convicted of committing crimes in Kahrizak so that people know the enormity of the tragedy. Those who ordered these crimes must be prosecuted. Everybody is asking who issued the orders to the plainclothes agents? Who is backing them? How many organizations are responsible for the national security?"

When Mohammad's family were informed about their son's death, Mohammad's father wrote a complaint to Hashemi Shahroudi (member of the Guardian Council and former head of the Iranian Judiciary). Shahroudi mentioned the name of the prosecutor Saeed Mortazavi, an ally of President Mahmoud Ahmadi-nejad, as the one who had ordered the transfer of prisoners to Kahrizak. Shahroudi wrote a memo seeking further investigation into the case. Mohammad's father also wrote a letter to the Supreme leader Ali Khamenei, and Khamenei also ordered that further investigations be conducted into the case. Mr Saeed Morta-

zavi, the prime suspect, and Mr Ali Akbar Heidarifar, the second suspect, responsible for the death of Mohammad Kamrani are still free. Their trial has not yet finished.



Date of birth: 16.6.1991

Date of death: 16.7.2009

3. Mohsen Ruholamini Najafabadi



Mohsen Ruholamini Najafabadi was an informatics student at the School of Engineering at Tehran University. He was arrested on the 9 July 2009 and died in custody a few days later. He was the son of Dr. Ruholamini, former head of the Pasteur Institute of Iran, Secretary General of the Justice and Development Party and advisor to one

of the presidential candidates, Mohsen Reza'i. Dr. Ruholamini described his son as: "Pure, kind, and with no attachment to this world. Highly inquisitive, he was always in search of the truth."

According to eyewitnesses, on July 9, 2009, Mohsen Rohoulamini and others were arrested by plainclothes agents and taken to the Tehran police station in Kargar Street near Enghelab Square. On the morning of 10 July 2009, they were transferred by bus to Evin Prison and from there to the Kahrizak detention centre.



In an open letter, Hossein Alaie, one of the ex-commanders of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) revealed the details of Mohsen Rohoulamini's death. According to him, someone phoned Mohsen's father at his office and told him: "You are an official of the regime. Why don't you go and look for your son?" The father replied that for the past two weeks he had been looking everywhere for his son, but nobody knew where he was. The person on the phone expressed his/her condolences and told Mohsen's father where he could retrieve his son's body.

Mohsen Rohoulamini's father said: "I went to the coroner's office and discovered that my son had been beaten and injured while in detention. When I saw his dead body, I realized that his face had been smashed. My son was an honest man. He never lied. He had answered their questions honestly. Perhaps, they were unable to tolerate his truthfulness and so they beat him severely and tortured him to death."

Members of Mr. Ruholamini's family had gone to numerous departments for information about his whereabouts. Officials at Evin prison had told the family that their son would soon be released. However, a few days later, they infor-

med the family that they should come and retrieve their son's body.

Mohsen Ruholamini's father confirmed that the death of his son was due to torture. After studying his son's medical file, Mr. Ruholamini's father stated, "They had removed from the file details pertaining to where he had died. My son had not received any medical attention after being injured and his blood was infected; his temperature was very high, owing to which he contracted meningitis. He was transferred, as an unidentified person, to Tajrish Hospital on Wednesday, 22 July 2009. His body was taken to the morgue the following morning."

Date of birth:
21.5.1984

Date of death:
16.7.2009



4. Ramin Pourandarjani

Ramin Pourandarjani, born on 9 June 1983, was a 26-year old physician who, in the course of his compulsory military service with the Greater Tehran police force, was posted to the Kahrizak detention centre. His military service was to end in April 2010 and he planned to continue his studies outside Iran. Dr. Pourandarjani died on 10 November 2009 under mysterious circumstances.

He was a doctor who examined some of the prisoners who had been killed or injured in the course of the post-election protests in 2009. Officials initially attributed his death to a heart

attack, but later the Police Chief Ahmadi-Moqaddam announced that Pourandarjani had committed suicide. Later, Abbas Jafari-Dolatabadi, successor to Saeed Mortazavi, said that Dr. Pourandarjani had been poisoned. According to a docu-





ment printed in Roozonline, a police officer, Lt. Noorian from Tehran police station #129, who was the first officer to arrive at the scene of the crime, had written in his report that the victim bore traces of bruising and blood spots were visible around his neck.

Pourandarjani had earlier testified before a parliamentary investigation commission that a jailed protester (Mohsen Rouholamini Najafabadi), whom he had treated at Kahrizak prison in Tehran, died as a result of torture. The authorities at Kahrizak had threatened to kill him, should he disclose the cause of death of, and the nature of the injuries suffered by, the detainees.

His father Reza Qoli Pourandarjani said to Roozonline: "First they said he had suffered a heart attack. Later, they claimed that my son had committed suicide. After that they told us that he had died owing to an overdose. They have not given us a clear answer."

The Iranian authorities did not permit Pourandarjani's family to have an autopsy performed. Pourandarjani is buried in the northern city of Tabriz. Unusual security measures were in place during his funeral. Iran's judiciary is reluctant to investigate Pourandarjani's death.

According to Reza Qoli Pourandarjani, the family filed a complaint in Tehran and demanded that his death be investigated. Despite the case being taken up at a criminal court, no progress of any kind has been reported to date.

Date of birth: 9.6.1983

Date of death: 10.11.2009

5. Ali Hassanpour

Ali Hassanpour, born on 4 March 1961, was married and a father of two children, 14 and 21 years old. He was shot in the face and died on Azadi Square during the demonstrations

on 15 June 2009 when he was helping another person who had been injured. 104 days later his body was handed over to his family for burial.





A picture of his body covered with blood and lying on the ground among the protesters was published in the media on the day of incident. In an interview, his wife Ladan Mostafaei told the reporter that when she had shown her husband's photo to the authorities, they denied any knowledge of him.

Ladan Mostafaei published the information about her husband's death. She demanded an inquiry and filed a complaint against both those who had ordered and those who had carried out the killing. She has not received any response from the Iranian authorities. Thus, like other families of those who died during the protests, she turned to international bodies for justice.

In an interview with Masih Alinejad, Ladan-Mostafaei said: "I have contacted the judicial authorities, at least four times a month, to ask who pointed the gun at my husband and killed him just because he was on the street. Each time that they appear at international meetings, Mr Larijani and other officials come up with different explanations for the killings of the demonstrators. Sometimes they 'blame' British agents; other times they say the United States and Israel are behind the killings or they claim that Monafeghins (the derogatory name coined by the Iranian regime for the opposition groups, mainly the PMOI) were behind the massacres. I have told the judicial authorities that, according to countless witnesses, my husband was shot from the rooftop of the 117 Battalion of Ashura Basij building. The arms experts of the judicial authorities have confirmed that a Kalashnikov was the rifle used to kill him."

She added that during the first two years, the Iranian authorities had not done anything for the family and showed no sympathy at all for their situation. The government agencies failed to reply to the inquiries of the judge in charge of the case. The media inside Iran are unable to pass on their demands to the United Nations and human rights organizations. In fact, nobody has been held responsible for the death of our loved ones. She thus expects the international human rights groups to seek justice.



Date of birth: 4.3.1961

Date of death: 15.6.2009

6. Sohrab Arabi

Sohrab Arabi, 19 years old, disappeared after the demonstration on 15 June 2009. He went there together with his family. After 26 days of searching through prisons, police stations and hospitals, Sohrab's body was found in a morgue. The family had searched for him from the very first day, but no one told them what had hap-

pened to him. He was shot in the chest. In the documents given to the family, the date of death was set at 18 June 2009. What had happened in those three intervening days? The family did not receive any explanation from the authorities.



Parvin Fahimi, Sohrab Arabi's mother, was among the first members of the group of Mourning Mothers not to stay silent. A few days after 22 July 2009, the day she buried her son, Parvin Fahimi and other members of the One Million Signatures Campaign for woman's rights urged others to break their silence. They visited the mother of Neda Agha Soltan, who had been shot dead during the 2009 election protests. The women activists and the reporters in Iran later published the news of that endeavour.

In an interview with Kaleme, Parvin Fahimi-said said that she would forgive the killer of her son under the sole condition that all the political prisoners were set free and declared innocent.

In the interview with Masih Alinejad, Sohrab's mother said: "I was open to the idea of an interview with the Iranian state-run television and radio. I requested something simple. I said I would participate in an interview if they wished to report on everything that a mother had to say. I could have told them what had happened to me. They didn't want that. Later, the press and TV showed up. I asked them not to censor me and, as a mother, I just wanted to express my view about my right to search for Sohrab's murderer. I told them no benefit stood to be gained from simply announcing that some of the rioters killed our children. I wanted to be permitted to say who had

[really] killed our children in the streets and in Kahrizak. I am a human being living in Iran; it is my legal right to have access to the national media in order to tell others what happened to my son. My statements are not political. But they did not want to listen to me and learn about how Sohrab was shot."

Parvin Fahimi's home as well as her neighbours' houses have been attacked several times. She has been summoned and detained. She told Masih Alinejad that: "They cruelly attacked and detained young people in the neighbourhood, of which Sohrab was a member. Why should young protesters in this country be held captive by a government that lies?"

After failing to receive any response about the inquiry into her son's murder, Parvin Fahimi suggested that the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon visit the families of the martyrs to hear their stories.

Date of birth: 23.2.1990

Date of death: 18.6.2009



7. Ahmad Naiem Abadi

Ahmad Naiem Abadi, born on 22 March 1987, was among the protesters who were marching peacefully on 15 June 2009. He was in the immediate vicinity of Azadi Square. He died later in Rasoul-e Akram hospital in Tehran.

He was among the first demonstrators to be killed at the time. The coroners at Kahrizak returned Ahmad's body to his family a week after his death.

During a visit with Mir Hossein Mousavi and Zahra Rahnavard, Ahmad's father gave a full description of how his son died. According to the report published by Kaleme, Ahmad's father said: "At the time, we, as a family, were also out on the streets protesting against the election results, demanding that our votes be counted and our democratic rights respected. Nobody imagined such a ferocious reaction on the part of the government directed against the people who were simply asking that their valid votes be duly accounted for."

After Ahmad was murdered, the websites linked to the Iranian government named him as a member of the Basij. Iranian President Ahmadinejad said during his trip to New York that many of the protesters who had been killed were members of the Basij. However, in an interview with Masih Alinejad, Ahmad's father said: "I will not allow them to count my son among the members of the Basij. My son was not a Basiji.

He went out clad in a green shirt and bearing green symbols because he was unhappy with the outcome of the election; that was the reason for his participation in the demonstrations."

Ahmad's family has filed numerous complaints, but no response has ever been forthcoming.

As in the case of families of many other victims, the Iranian authorities offered Ahmad's family compensation so as to remain silent. His family refused to accept the money and insisted on an investigation being carried out with the aim of punishing the individuals responsible for the killing of innocent protesters such as Ahmad.



Date of birth: 22.3.1987

Date of death: 15.3.2009





8. Moharram Chegini Gheshlaghi



Moharram Chegini, a 34-year-old married man, was shot and killed close to the 117 Battalion of Ashura Basij building on Azadi Street on 15 June 2009.

Masoumeh Chegini, Moharram's wife, state in an interview with Masoumeh Alinejad: "They never think about what happens when the primary person providing for the family is killed! Under such dreadful conditions, how can a widow continue to support her family? Why did the

officials never even speak to our lawyer?" The wife received a 'martyrdom card' and offers of some money, but she never received an explanation for the killing of innocent young people who had asked for nothing more than due account be taken of their votes.

Ali Chegini, the victim's brother, also spoke to Jaras (www.rahesabz.net). He said his brother had attended the street protests in the humble neighbourhoods in the southern part of Tehran, where even the basic needs of life are

difficult to attain. He also added that the state-run media had produced films about the Green supporters with the express aim of presenting them as lacking any respect for Islamic values. Not surprisingly, many people refuse to consider sympathizing with a protest movement that is purported to run counter to their religious beliefs. "They look down on us, as if being Green, means we have a contagious disease", Ali Chegini reported.

Masoumeh Chegini said that even after two years, nobody has informed her why they had not been able to find her husband's killers. The Iranian authorities have not followed up on the family's complaint and launched an investigation.

Date of birth:
1.8.1975

Date of death:
15.6.2009



9. Ramin Ramezani

Ramin Ramezani, a young man aged 22, was killed on 15 June 2009: a victim of a direct gunshot wound.

A few months later, the Where Is My Vote website published an interview with his mother. Ramin's mother expressed her disbelief that

her son was killed in a rally. She could never have imagined her son would die as a result of attending a peaceful protest.

Ramin's mother stayed up late that night, awaiting her son's return. She finally received a call from Ramin's cell phone. Anxious and exhilarated, she answered the phone only to hear a stranger's voice talking about arranging [a



time for the family] to pick up Ramin's body from hospital.

When his mother heard the word 'body', she put the phone down, screamed and fainted. According to the report, Ramin's parents collected their son's body on his birthday. Since then not one of their complaints has been answered.

Ramin's father, Mehdi Ramezani, said he saw the bullet that had destroyed his son's kidney and lungs. Iran's judiciary not only ignored their complaints; worse still, they also arrested Ramin's father at the cemetery and sent him to gaol. Members of the security force arrested him as he grieved at his son's grave in the Tehran cemetery. He was released a few weeks later on being granted bail in the order of 200 million tomans.

Thereafter, Ramin's family remained silent and talked less about their son to the media.



Date of birth: 20 April 1987

Date of death: 15 June 2009

10. Davoud Sadri

Davoud Sadri was shot dead in front of the 117 Battalion of Ashura Basij military bases on Azadi Street.

A video of him being shot was posted on the Internet. It reveals that he was shot in the heart while people were trying to carry away his body on their shoulders.

State-run media reported that Davoud Sadri was a member of Basij. In an interview with Masih Alinejad, Davoud's father Ahmad Sadri said, "My son was not a member of the Basij. The Iranian news media interviewed me, but reported whatever they wanted. It is not true; my son was an ordinary person."

Davoud's father was upset that his son had been described as a Basiji. He said that in return for 30 years of honest service for his country, they had murdered his young son.

"Worse still, at the building of the Foundation of Martyrs, I was told that I should be proud of my son because he had been a member of the Basij! I asked them, 'Why should I lie when my son wasn't even a member of the Basij? My son was an ordinary worker who had been murdered. I told them that it was of crucial importance to the interests of the country that his killer be prosecuted.'"

He added: "As a father, I twice visited the location where my son had been shot and launched my own investigations into the incident. Witnesses said the agents on the rooftop of the Meghdad Basij building had opened





fire on the people below. A person, who had witnessed the killing, told me how a mother and daughter had been showered with bullets in a child-care centre and told me the whole story. Local residents said the main reason for the people suddenly rushing onto the street was that they had heard the sound of gunshots. In other words, they had come out to see what all the noise was about, but instead they were mown down by agents of the regime. My son was out on the street pursuing his daily livelihood. But even if he had been taking part in the demonstrations, should bullets be the response to people asking about the whereabouts of their votes? Couldn't they have waited until the people had returned to their homes? Was it necessary to shoot people dead?"

To date, the Iranian authorities have not responded to the family's complaint.

Date of birth: 5 August 1983

Date of death: 15 June 2009



11. & 12. Sorour Boroumand Chokami and Fatemeh Rajabpour Chokami

Both Sorour Boroumand Chokami, 58 years old, and her daughter, Fatemeh Rajabpour Chokami, aged 38, were killed on 15 June 2009. According to Sorour's husband, on the day the demonstrations were held, both women were fatally shot when in the vicinity of a child-care

centre located in the neighbourhood of the 117 Battalion of Ashura Basij building. In the words of Ebrahim Rajabpour, Sorour Boroumand's husband, his wife and daughter were shot in the throat and back. When he arrived at the scene, they were already dead, soaked in blood. The doctors believe that both were killed instantly.



Witnesses have photos and films taken at the scene that show mother and daughter being shot and killed while the paramilitary Basijis were firing from the rooftops and windows of the Basij building. State-run media, including the Fars News Agency, claimed that the two Iranian citizens had been supporters of the Velayat-e Faghih (theocratic) regime and had been killed by the protesters. Many family members have rejected this assertion, while others have remained silent, out of fear.



Sorour Boroumand Chokami,
date of birth: 31 May 1949

Fatemeh Rajabpour Chokami,
date of birth: 8 July 1971

Date of death: 15 June 2009



13. Hesam Hanifeh

Hesam Hanifeh, 19 years old, was shot dead in front of the 117 Battalion of Ashura Basij building on 15 June 2009. In the first few days, state-run media announced that Hesam's family had pressed charges against Mir Hossein Mousavi. But in an interview with Rooz Online, Hesam's mother denied the validity of the news and said, "The charges were lodged against the killers of their son and for that reason the family had demanded that the names of the murderers be revealed". She added that they had not accused Mr. Mousavi or anyone else for the death of their son because the names of the killers were still unknown.

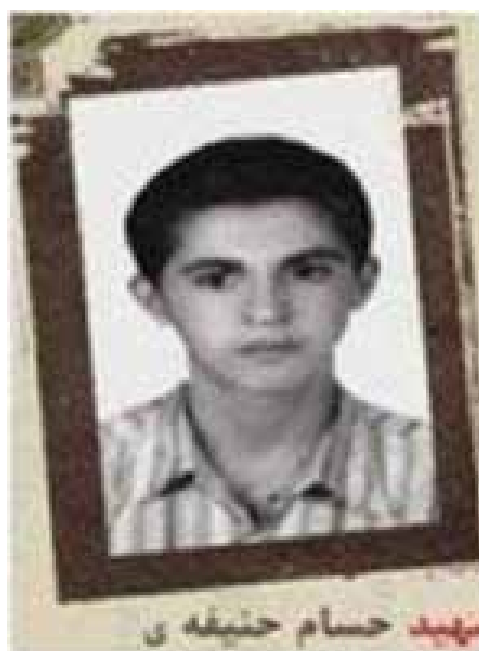
Furthermore Hesam's mother said, "Although my husband is a worker and we face financial difficulties, we have not accepted money as compensation". She added that a life cannot be replaced by money; they needed to know what happened to their son. She went on to say that her son was an ordinary person and had been recently hired by a cartography company in line with his own business. The authorities had told the parents that their son had been shot accidentally. They, however, still needed to know who the killer was.

Hesam's family took their complaint to the criminal court, albeit to no avail. Hesam's mother stated that the authorities from the Foundation of Martyrs had contacted them. They had said that Hesam had not been a participant in the demonstrations. He had been shot dead by

accident and suggested that the family accept that Hesam had been a martyr: a status that yielded some benefits for the family. Hesam's mother, however, said that all they wanted was to track down the killer who had 'accidentally' taken Hesam's life.

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 15 June 2009





14. Hossein Akhtarzand

Hossein Akhtarzand, 32 years old, a resident of the city of Isfahan who participated in the protests, was beaten and killed by the militia. A commander in the special unit in Isfahan, however, reported that he had fallen from the third floor while under the influence of drugs. In the first days of post-election violence, witnesses posted photos of Hossein Akhtarzand on the social media showing that he had been badly beaten on his left arm and left leg and the right side of his back, in addition to a deep laceration down his right-hand side (as certified in the sheet officially provided by the coroner).

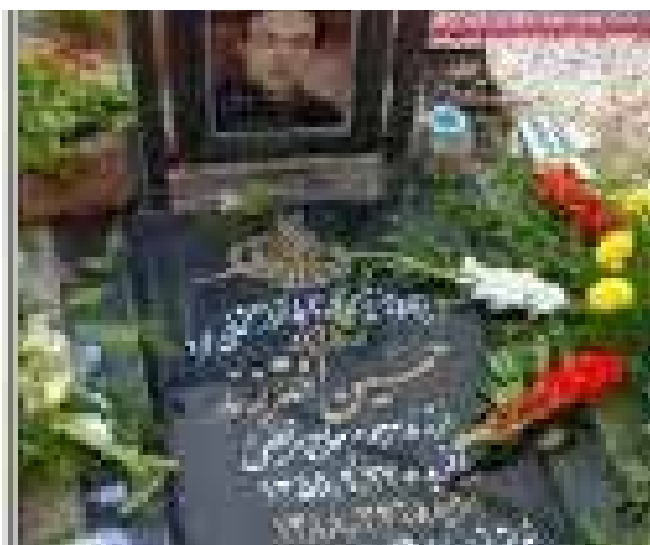
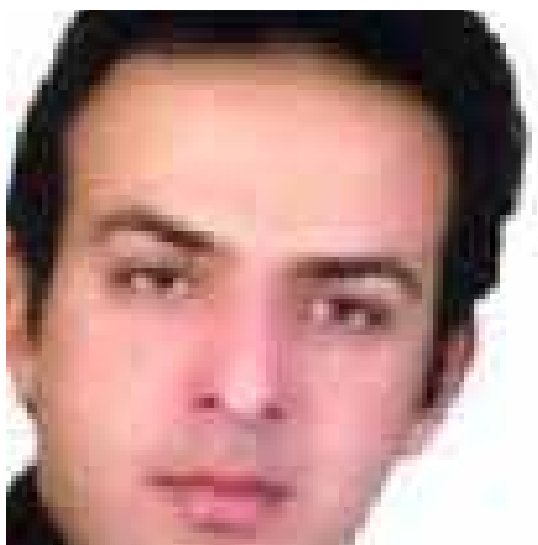
Hossein Akhtarzand's family remained silent for a period of two years, but in an interview with Masih Alinejad Ater, Hossein's brother, Javad Akhtarzand, exposed the killing of his brother by the authorities in Isfahan. In his words, "In the city of Isfahan, as in many other cities, protests flared up against the June 2009 elections. Owing to the heavy-handed approach adopted by the officials, people ran for their lives and Hossein tried to hide in a clinic building. However, he was discovered by the security agents and tossed down from the top of the building, the claim being that he had jumped of his own accord". His mother, Zahra Madame, challenged the official version and stated that

the people present at the time Hossein was pushed off the top of the building told her the truth. Based on photographs, she raised a question about Hossein having been badly injured before his body was found on the ground".

His mother added that they have the pictures to prove that the injuries on her son's body had been pre-inflicted. It is very painful for a mother to see the dead body of her tortured child. A doctor had told her that even if Hossein had survived, given the severity of the blow to his spinal cord, he would have suffered from tetraparesis for the rest of his life. His mother said that her pursuit of justice has been unsuccessful. The officials did not accept any responsibilities, but claimed instead that Hossein had brought death upon himself by participating in the street demonstrations.

Date of birth: 18 December 1976

Date of death: 15 June 2009





15. Kianoosh Asa

Kianoosh Asa, 25 years old, was of Kurdish origin and a petrochemical engineering student at the University of Science and Technology in Tehran. He had gone missing after attending the demonstration on 15 July 2009. Ten days later, his body was delivered to the coroner's office and his family were informed. Kianoosh Asa's family published an open letter to the head of the judiciary and demanded an investigation into his death. They wrote in the letter, "Eye-witnesses have informed us that Kianoosh was seen to have received a bullet wound on one side of his body. However in the coroner's office, his body was seen to bear traces of another bullet wound in his neck. The disturbing question is who was behind the second shot?"

Kianoosh's family said people saw Kianoosh being taken to hospital after being injured, but then he was taken away to a different location along with some other wounded demonstrators. During the examination of his body, yet another bullet was found in his body. There is no explanation regarding his being shot fatally during the time that he was already injured. Ira-

nian security officials repeatedly pressurised and persecuted Kianoosh's family. On several occasions they summoned and detained Kianoosh's brother, Kamran Asa. After Kamran was arrested, his sister told the BBC, "Kianoosh was killed six months ago. Since then we have had no peace, how much longer will this go on?"

**Date of birth: 20
March 1984**

**Date of death: 15 July
2009**



16. Mahmood Raesi Najafi



Mahmood Raesi Najafi was on his way home from work on 15 June 2009 when he was attacked and injured by the security forces near Azadi Square. As a result of those injuries he died 13 days later. Following Mahmood's death, his wife Khadijeh Heydari and his father visited the presidential candidate Mehdi Karroubi. According to Saham News, in that meeting she explained to Mr. Karroubi, how her husband had died. She told him that when Mahmood returned home on 15 June, he was badly injured and unable to stand on his own two feet.

Mahmood himself said: "After work when I was returning home near Azadi Square, I saw peo-



ple running away. I had no idea why armed agents were chasing and beating the people with batons. I was caught up in the chase and got cornered. They attacked and hit me brutally and I fell unconscious to the ground. When I came to, I realized that I was in a moving vehicle surrounded by other unconscious or dead people. I banged on the floor as hard and loud as I could and the agents stopped the vehicle. Once they discovered that I was alive, I pleaded with them, telling them that I was not an active demonstrator and was only walking home from work and my family were waiting for me. One of the agents felt sorry for me; he pulled me aside and threw me out of the vehicle.

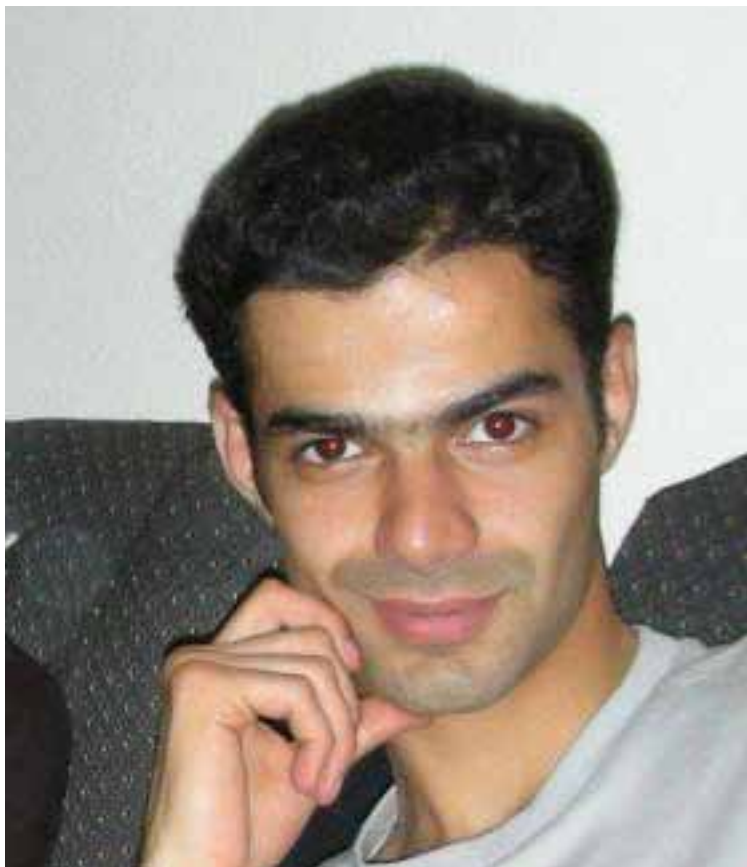
Najafi's family have since taken legal action regarding his death at the hands of the security forces. But, as in other cases, the judiciary has not taken any action.

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 15 June 2009



17. Mostafa Ghanian



Mostafa Ghanian, was a young student. He was shot in the head and killed while shouting "Allah O Akbar" (God is great) from a rooftop on the night of 16 June 2009. At the time people had taken to protesting against fraudulent presidential elections during the day, at night they shouted from the rooftops of their houses. In a videotape taken during the memorial held in Mashhad, Mostafa's father described his son's death in detail. Mostafa had gone up to the rooftop to chant "Allah O Akbar"; but some five minutes later a noise was heard, and when the father reached the top of the building, he found his son's body covered in blood. Mostafa died in his father's arms after being shot in the head.

The state-run media quoted Mohammad Taqi Ghanian as saying: "Mir Hossein Mousavi was responsible for my son's death and I will persist in following the matter legally until Mousavi is prosecuted". This fake interview was strongly criticized by Mohammad Ghanian, whereafter the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) was



forced to publish an interview with him, in whom he said: “I have said nothing to any newspaper about who was behind the killing of my son”.

Mostafa’s family has not yet received any reply from the judiciary office and the case has remained intentionally unsolved.

Date of birth: 24 June 1983

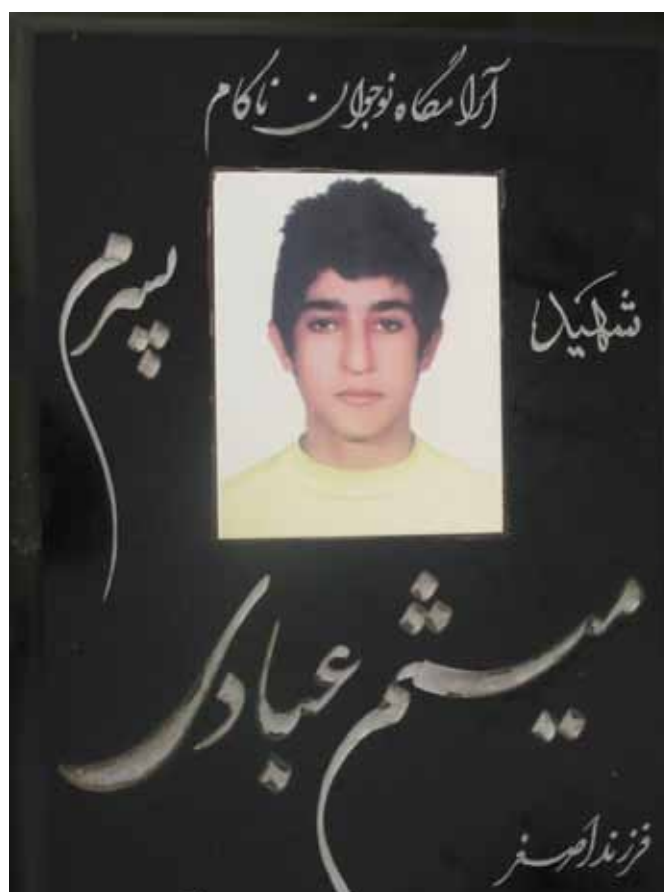
Date of death: 16 June 2009



18. Meysam Ebadi

Meysam Ebadi, a teenager, a mere 16 years old, was shot dead on 14 June 2009 during the early stages of the protests. After visiting his family, a reporter affiliated to the Kaleme website described what he saw as follows. “The small house belonging to the family is located in the Kian Shahr district of Tehran. Meysam’s picture hangs on the wall in a corner. He was shot dead on 14 June 2009. From the age of 14, Meysam started working at a sewing shop in order to help his family. After more than a year since his death, members Meysam’s family, in a state of utter disbelief, is still clad in black and mourn his death”.

In response to the question raised by the reporter from Kaleme about the status of the legal investigation into Meysam’s case, Asqar Ebadi, Meysam’s father, said “They do not want to put anyone on trial, nor are they willing to tell us the murderers’ names. We were told that a Basiji by the name of Mohammad shot Meysam point blank in the stomach. He was gaoled for a few months and later released. We were not informed about his release and no reason was given.





At the time of investigation by the first branch in the Investigation office in Tehran, a good judge called Shamloo was assigned to the case, only to be transferred later to another branch. It might be that he has since been dismissed, because when Mohammad was released from gaol, the judge complained “He could not do much when ordered around by fifteen-year old boys”. He was alluding to members of the Basij.

In an interview with Masih Alinejad, Meysam’s father said that his son worked in a sewing shop and on that day had gone out on to the street to demonstrate. He had witnessed the arrest and beating of a young woman whom he tried to help, but they shot him in the stomach. Meysam’s family took his case to the judiciary

office in order to find the killer. The well-known Iranian solicitor, Nasrin Sotoudeh also took on his case only to be imprisoned herself a month later. At a later juncture the family took their case to the International Court and as a result the UN Special Rapporteur has been involved in helping to find the killer.

Date of birth: spring of 1992

Date of death: 14 June 2009

19. Lotfali Yousefian

Lotfali Yousefian, 56 years old, was a worker who during the demonstrations in June 2009 inhaled tear gas on the street and suffered respiratory problems. After a few days, his health markedly deteriorated. He was taken to hospital by his family; he did not survive and ultimately died. Mr. Yousefian was a close relative of Ali Hassan Pour, another protester who was killed during the demonstrations.

In an interview with Masih Alinejad, his son Arash Yousefian said that his father had not been a political activist. On 8 June 2009 when he was driving back from work, he got caught in the clashes between the demonstrators and the security forces milling around Azadi Square. Some of the clouds of tear gas entered his car and he felt very sick. Later on, he had difficulties breathing and the family took him to Avehina hospital in Tehran, where he died a few days later.

As for the complaint lodged with the judiciary, Arash Yousefian added when they went to collect their father’s body, the doctor had been told to certify that death was due to a cardiac arrest. Otherwise, if the real reason, tear gas inhalation, were to be given, the body would not be released. The problem they now face is that it is difficult to open a case for him.

Date of birth: 10 May 1951

Date of death: 8 June 2009



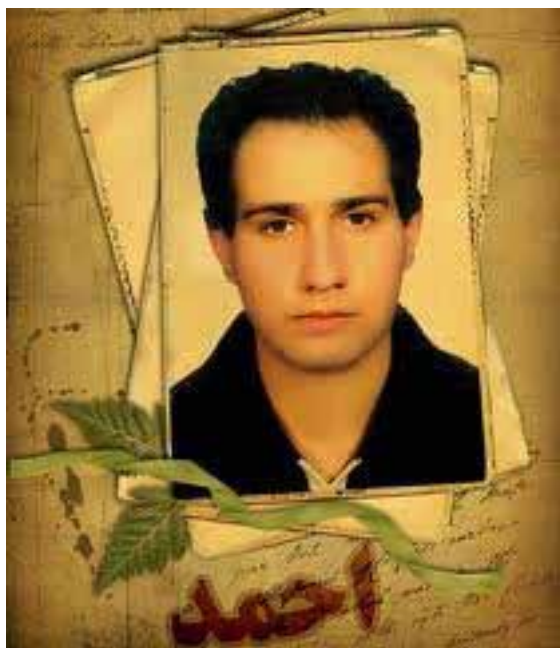
20. Ahmad Nejati Kargar

Ahmad Nejati Kargar was arrested on 14 June 2009. He was brutally beaten and as a result he contracted an infection culminating in the loss of bodily functions and ultimately death. At the time of his death, the pro-government media announced that Mr. Kargar was alive. The reason for that claim was that a blog had posted material in which the officials had referred to a blogger, Mr. Kargar. The idea behind the regime's denial of Mr. Kargar's death was to challenge the claims being made at the time that many protesters had been killed by the security agents. According to Saham News, Ahmad's family contacted Mehdi Karoubi with all due caution at that juncture and told him about their son's death.

The official website of Mourning Mothers also published a report in which Ahmad's mother related her story to other mothers who had lost their children during the mass protests. She explained that "When Ahmad was released from prison; he said that the prison guards used to beat them every morning. After long days of torture the prisoners were only given a piece of bread and small amount of potato, while they

had them sleep in a very cramped space. In an interview with Masih Alinejad, Ahmad's mother said that "I can never forget the night when members of the family called, urging us to watch the 20:30 programme on the state television. We had just buried our son and there they were broadcasting a fake programme to show the nation that his story was a lie. That hurt us even more."

She added that "While we were burying Ahmad in a grave where his brother Mehdi had been buried eight years previously, the security agents were filming the grave in such a way as to prove their point that it was Mehdi's grave and Ahmad was alive". Ahmad's mother said, "I cannot forgive those who did not respect our broken hearts and our reputation and who played such an immoral game with us. I submitted a complaint to the state TV, because they had lied to the people. We all want to find out who killed Ahmad. We have not received any response and not one authority is accepting the responsibility to find out the truth".



Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 14 June 2009



21. Ashkan Sohrabi

Ashkan Sohrabi was an IT student at Qazvin Azad University. Three bullets hit him during the post-election protests on 20 June 2009 and he died later in hospital.

This was the day after Ayatollah Khamenei's speech during the Friday Prayers in Tehran in which he criticised the post-election protests and warned the protesters on the streets.

In the first few days after her son's death, Zahra Nikpeyma, Ashkan's mother, said in an interview with the VOA, "Ashkan was preparing for an exam that he was due to take a few days later. He told me that he was going out to see his friend and would be back soon. Ashkan went out at 7:30pm on 20 July 2009 and said he would return in five minutes, only to be shot dead near our house around the same time. The security forces claim that they didn't kill anyone during the protests. They are lying. They shot my son on an empty street and he never returned home that day."

In another interview with the BBC, Ashkan Sohrabi's mother said, "My only son Ashkan was a painter. He had earned a black belt in Taekwondo. They killed my son in less than five minutes. And no one has been held responsible. Who is responsible for the death of my son?"

Ashkan's mother asks why peaceful protests are considered a crime. She said, "After Ashkan was killed, not even one of the authorities came to visit us. A representative of the Red Cross visited us only once and expressed their condolences. They may have forgotten my son, but we will never forget him. We are still looking for the party or parties to this crime."

As for the judicial procedures on her son's case, she said in an interview "We got a lawyer, Ms Majdzadeh, to represent us and look into his case, but our efforts have not led to any particular results. We still do not know who shot and killed him."



Date of birth: 30 January 1983

Date of death: 20 June 2009

22. Neda Agha Soltan

Neda Agha Soltan, 27 years old, was shot in Amir Abad (Tehran) on Saturday 20 June 2009. A video clip of her last moments was quickly uploaded on to Youtube and broadcast by many major news agencies and websites.

As a result of international coverage of this tragic event, the Islamic Republic of Iran has gone to great lengths to create the impression that the clip was a fake. They have endeavoured



to link Neda's death to the opposition groups outside Iran, to whom they attribute the blame.

After Neda's death, a group of "Mourning Mothers" and "One Million Signatures Campaign", together with Sohrab Arabi's mother and the mother of Ashkan Sohrabi, went to Neda's house to meet her family and mother. For the first time Neda's mother gave a description of what the family had gone through that day. Neda's mother said, "She (Neda) called me a few minutes before the incident. Shortly after that last call, Neda's music teacher called and said Neda had been shot in the foot and they had rushed her to Shariati Hospital. We got there very quickly and saw her teacher, whose clothes were drenched in blood. They told us that Neda had been hit in the upper shoulder and eventually they told us that she had been killed. The hospital authorities asked for a bone marrow transplant, to which we agreed. The news of Neda's death spread quickly around the world. We, however, remained silent as we wished to bury her body in peace and the pressure was too much for us to bear. On Sunday morning, a day after Neda was shot, the coroner released her body for delivery to the cemetery for the funeral."

After the funeral, the Martyrs' Federation visited Neda's family and suggested that Neda's name be put on the list of martyrs and so her

family could benefit from the financial support lent by the Foundation. By doing so, the Iranian officials wanted to tell the world that the government had nothing to do with Neda's murder and so show their sympathy with her family for the loss of their daughter.

In an interview with the VOA, Neda's mother said, "Neda went on the streets for her country. She did not participate in street protests to generate a monthly income for us. She added, if the Islamic Republic of Iran believes she was a martyr, why are they seizing every opportunity they get us to remove the term 'martyr' from her tombstone?"

In another interview with Radio Farda, Neda's mother said: "Neda and I participated in all the protests during those days. For Neda, all this was new and interesting. That Saturday, Neda asked me to go with her as usual, but owing to my illness I couldn't go. I asked her not to go because of Khamenei's threatening speech during the Friday Prayers. But she did not heed my words. She asked me what would happen, if everyone else thought the same way and no one went out on the streets. She told me that she had to go and so she went.

As for the depiction of the last minutes of Neda's life, which spread across the globe, her mother in an interview with Radio Farda told the reporter



that she couldn't imagine watching a film of the final minutes of her daughter's life. She mentioned that every time Neda's brother watched the clip, he burst into tears. She added that one day when she was alone at home, she had taken a look at the clip; it had been a devastating experience that beggared all description. The look in Neda's eyes in the very last second, when she was looking wide-eyed directly into the camera, would always remain in her memory.

Neda's mother has repeatedly told various media, the international community and human rights organizations, that she wants to find her daughter's murderer.

Date of birth: 23 January 1983

Date of death: 20 June 2009

23. Masoud Khosravi Doost Mohammad

Masoud Khosravi Doost Mohammad, 45 years old, was a married man with a 17-year old son. He was shot on 20 June 2009 during the street demonstrations.

A year later Masoud's wife broke her silence in an interview with Masih Alinejad. She said: "My husband was usually home in the evening after work, but on that day he was very late. As time passed we became worried".

At that time, she said, the authorities had disconnected his mobile phone so the family could not contact him. "We searched for him everywhere and could find no trace of him. Like many other families, we returned home empty-handed. We spent a dreadful and sleepless night. We continued our search the following day, visiting all the hospitals in Tehran. One of the hospitals informed us that they had his body and sent us to the coroner's office. My 17-year old son was with

me on that day. He wanted to be by my side and take care of me".

Masoud's wife then continued: "We went to the coroner's to look at the pictures, but my son didn't permit me to go inside to see the pictures alone. My brother-in-law recognised him from the photos and informed us. My son wanted to see his father's body with his own eyes. He could not be stopped, so he went in to see him. Sadly, he discovered that his father had been shot full in the face."

Masoud's wife then added that on the advice of their lawyer, they did not grant any interviews. "We thought by so doing, we could get some justice. Unfortunately, despite all our efforts in the pursuit of justice, we have not received any response from the judiciary regarding his death."

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 20 June 2009





24. Kaveh Sabzali Pour

Kaveh Sabzali Pour was only 24 years old when he was gunned down on 20 June 2009. His father said: “In the medical certificate provided to us, it was mentioned that Kaveh had been shot and killed. On 20 June 2009 they called us from Loghman Hospital at 10:30 p.m and told us that our son had been injured. We went to the hospital and looked for him everywhere, but we couldn’t find him. They informed us that they had taken his body to a refrigerated room. It was then that we realised what had happened”.

Kaveh’s father went on to say: “They had shot him in the eye; his mother and I saw his shattered face in the cold room where his body was kept.”

The pro-government Fars News Agency and other media quoted Kaveh Sabzalipour’s father as having filed a lawsuit against two candidates, Mr Mousavi and Mr Karoubi, as he believed they were responsible for the death of Kaveh. Kaveh’s father denied such a story. He mentioned that the prosecutor had called them and tried to persuade them to file charges. The family asked the prosecutor, “Why should we make such accusations? We don’t know who killed our son, and we are not the only family to have lost their loved ones. So many people have been killed. We want the Iranian authorities to take responsibility and find our son’s killer.”



Kaveh’s father said that their follow-up with the justice department had yielded no results. Kaveh’s mother and his sisters had had to endure hard times as the family was never been told who had killed their son.

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 20 June 2009

25. Masoud Hashemzadeh

Masoud Hashemzadeh, a high school graduate, was only 27 years old when he was shot on Shadman Street in Tehran on 20 June 2009. According to his brother, he was a musician

and a designer. He had studied the santoor for nine years.





Masoud's body was transported from Ziba Kenar to Vali Abad in his father's private car. They were not permitted the use of an official hearse or ambulance. On the first day, they were not allowed to bury the body in the cemetery at Vali Abad and his brother was arrested for 48 hours. The family had to sign a document confirming that they would not hold a ceremony after the burial. Then the authorities allowed them to bury the body in the cemetery at Vali Abad. The brother was released after the funeral.

A video clip posted on a website shows Masoud's mother, Mrs Fatemeh Mohseni, at her son's grave lamenting Masoud's words about how fed up he was with the election debates. She mentioned that Masoud could not cope with all the lies.

Masoud's mother said: "My son had a deep admiration for the country, the poor, and all those who have been deprived of their natural rights, the freedom of speech and expression. When the election results were announced, he and other protesters went out on to the streets

to convey that message to the authorities, but they killed him."

She mentioned that, "After the 2009 elections and what happened to us, I realized that there are many silent mourning mothers who have lost their beloved children as a result of government brutality, but never speak up owing to the pressure brought to bear upon them".

She said: "They offered us compensation for our dead children, but we refused to accept their offers. We told the officials, we only wanted to know who killed our son. We just want to see his killer, look into his eyes and ask him for what crime and based on whose instructions did he kill our son?"

The family have enjoyed no success in their pursuit of justice although according to eye-witnesses the killer has been identified. They wrote letters to the International Human Rights bodies and have been interviewed by several media organisations. They have also sought help from the United Nations in an endeavour to find those responsible for their son's murder.

Date of birth: 8 February 1982

Date of death: 20 June 2009

26. Abbas Disnad

Abbas Disnad, 48 years old, died on 23th June 2009 due to head injuries suffered as a result of being battered with a truncheon. A month after the elections and during the clashes, a





weblog entitled “Sokhan Moalem” arranged an interview with his family. After that interview, several photos of him were leaked to the media.

In the course of that interview, Maryam Khani, Abbas’s wife, told members of the teachers’ union that her husband was a war veteran. He had bits of shrapnel, grenade fragments, in his body that would sometimes cause him severe back pain. However, when Abbas returned from the war, he didn’t report his injuries to the veteran centre and ignored the benefits.

On 20th June 2009 she said: “My husband was unaware of the demonstrations. My daughter called him at 5 p.m but there was no reply. He had been beaten from behind with truncheon blows to the head while standing on the corner of the street near his store where his store was located. He suffered injuries to the brain. They took him to the Shahriar Hospital. He was in a coma for three days and ultimately died on Wednesday 23th June 2009. They kept his body at the mortuary for a day and buried him in the Behesht Zahra cemetery in Tehran that Friday.

She pointed out that according to the doctor, if Abbas had been brought to hospital sooner that day, they might have been able to save his life. His wife also mentioned that according to the bystanders at the scene of the incident, government officials did not allow people to get close to the body nor allow them to help transfer her husband to hospital. He was left lying on the ground for a long period. Later on, they



announced that the cause of death had been a heart attack and his police file was closed.

Disnad’s wife said: “In the hospital, each family had to pay 15 million tomans to secure the release of their relatives’ bodies for the burial, further to which the hospital charged them approximately 3 million tomans for costs incurred.”

With ever-increasing pressure being applied by the Iranian authorities, Disnad’s family chose to stay silent.

Date of birth: 20 Dec 1961

Date of death: 23 June 2009

27. Yaghoub Barvayeh

Yaghoub Barvayeh was a student at the School of Art and Architecture at the University of Tehran. He was shot in the aftermath of the 2009 elections and died in Loghman Hospital in Tehran on 30 June 2009.

In an interview with Rooz online, Yaghoub’s mother said: “He and his friends took the usual route home after finishing their classes and tried

to avoid the crowds. Suddenly, they found themselves in the middle of a crowd. The security forces and militia were terrorizing the people in an attempt to disperse them. At first the people had resisted until they started firing





at the crowd. My son suffered injuries just in front of the Lolagar mosque. According to his friends, the shots came from the militia who were posted on the roof of the mosque that day. My son's condition is not good at all (at the time of interview he was still alive, albeit in a coma). I hope nothing bad will happen to him. As Yaghoub's mother, I will never forgive those who are responsible for this act."

According to his mother and duly confirmed by his father, Yaghoub opened his eyes only once as he laid comatose. All he said was: "I shall die for freedom."

Yaghoub Barvayeh died in hospital ten days after being shot.

In an article published in the Etemad Meli newspaper, Mohammad Rahmaniai, theatre director and Yaghoub's professor, spoke of the death of his student (Yaghoub Barvayeh) and

asked, "What drama led to your death in the final act?" This very sentence was read out at his memorial service.

His family were forced into silence.

Date of birth: July 1982

Date of death: 30 June 2009



28. Ali Fathalian

Ali Fathalian, 20 years old, was shot in front of the Lolagar mosque in Tehran.

The security forces exerted massive pressure on the family to ensure they kept silent. Finally, they broke their silence two years later.



On 20 June 2009, two years after his son's death, Amir Ali Fathalian, Ali's father said: "They killed my son. I don't know exactly where he was killed, but we heard that he has been shot in front of the Lolagar mosque in Tehran."

Ali's father went on to say: "At that time my son was studying for his exams. So he was normally at home studying. On that day, however, he went out and when it got late and he had not come back, we started to get worried. We began looking for him everywhere, in places where we thought we might find him. I thought he had gone to his grandfather's house. The next day the authorities called us, asking us to bring our IDs as proof so that we could collect my son's dead body."

Ali's father said that the judicial system had promised to follow up on the case. He emphasised that like many other parents, they had made every effort to take care of him whe-

never he fell sick and throughout childhood. We wanted to see him living a normal life and growing up. What should I say now about this loss? His death for me is the loss of everything in my life.”

At a later juncture, Ali’s family mentioned, “The judicial system has left us in dark and we have already lost hope of ever getting any information through the justice system. We have decided to live with his memories in our hearts.”

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 20 June 2009

29. Behzad Mohajer

Behzad Mohajer, aged 47, was shot dead in a peaceful demonstration on 15 June 2009.

Up until the time they delivered Behzad Mohajer’s body to his family, his relatives had not had any idea where he was and where to look for him for 50 days. Throughout that period, his name did not appear in the lists maintained by the Revolutionary Court, prisons and health centres and hospitals, not even in the list of those who had been killed during the demonstrations. His family went through difficult days as they tried to locate him - and finally after fifty days, his body was handed over to them.

Nima Namdari, Behzad’s niece, who is a well-known Iranian Journalist, wrote in her weblog that: “When we got Behzad’s body after 50 days, it was as hard as a stone. It seems that he had been kept the whole time in a prison morgue.

In an interview with Radio Farda, Nima said: “Prior to the day they gave us his body, we went to the coroner’s office. At first, they said they could not show us any photos and then they eventually showed us some, but my uncle was not among them. We opened a file for him in the criminal court, declaring him as a missing person. Then we went back again and re-checked the photos, but we could not find any trace of my uncle. However, after they gave back the body, we realized from the date on the letter that his body had in fact been there when

we first went to ask about my uncle. A forensic medical report stated that his corpse had been delivered to them on 31 June, but they never showed us his photo.”

He said: “My uncle’s body had a cruciform cut across the chest, probably because they had



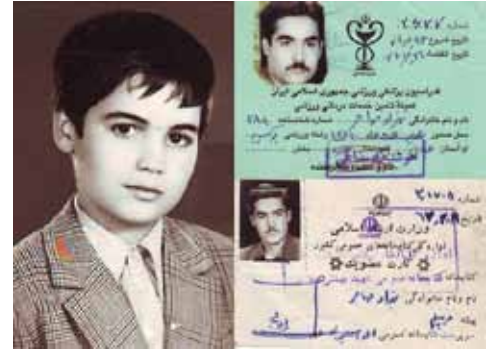


performed an autopsy. However, you could see where a bullet had entered the left side of his chest near his heart. His body was also covered with bruises and injuries, but since his body had been moved, it was impossible to judge whether the injuries had been inflicted before or after death.” According to the forensic report, he had been shot with an assault weapon and the calibre was also mentioned. He had been shot in the heart and lungs at close range (3 - 15 metres); he died from a massive haemorrhage and asphyxiation within minutes of being shot.

The judiciary system has not replied in any way regarding his murderer and Behzad’s family, like others, are still waiting for a response.

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 15 June 2009



30. Mohammad Javad Parandakh

Mohammad Javad Parandakh, a 25 year-old man, studied chemical engineering at the Isfahan University of Technology. He had been interrogated several times after the 2009 elections for taking part in the protests at the university. The day after he went to the Islamic

Republic Intelligence Service Office in Isfahan, his dead body was found under a bridge in town.

The Human Rights Organization of Iranian Kurdistan has released more details on the manner in which the young student met his death. The group has reported that the security forces identified him as a participant in anti-government demonstrations and arrested him. Later

on, he was released on bail after paying a bond of over 30 million toman.

IRNA, the Islamic Republic official news agency, said that Mohammad Javad Parandakh was one of the ‘rioters’ who had been arrested during a demonstration and had later committed suicide.

His brother broke his silence a year later. He told the Roozonline Website that his brother had not killed himself. He said his family had sued both the officer and the judge associated with his brother’s case, but had got nowhere. They had seen no signs of justice and fairness.

According to Mohammad’s brother, his brother was interrogated several times from morning to night. Mohammad Javad was under pressure and had been warned that his interrogator would eventually kill him. His brother also told their father that sooner or later they would do away with him. He said they had fabricated ‘thousands of charges’ in his case.





On the third morning, his brother went off for his interrogation session, but the intelligence office called and asked him to come in at around 10 a.m. My father said that Mohammad had already left home, and then went out to look for his son. After a long search, he found him dead under a bridge. According to the father's description, a number of suspicious people were standing around the body. The entire forensic examination of the corpse was swiftly performed – in less than half an hour. The officials said the cause of death had been a blow to the head with a blunt instrument. The brother went on to say, "For us, the speed with which they reached that conclusion was unacceptable. The

same judge warned my father and told him that it would be better if he went and killed himself as well".

Date of birth:
unknown

Date of death: 27
August 2009



31. Mostafa Kiarostami

Former President Hashemi Rafsanjani's speech at the Friday Prayers ceremony on July 17 at the University of Tehran provided an opportunity for another major rally in protest against the election results. Eyewitnesses reported that security forces attacked numerous protesters. Mostafa Kiarostami, aged 24, was one of them.

His mother, a housewife, said, "Everyone who knew Mostafa asked me to lodge a formal complaint regarding his death, and pursue the matter through the legal system. But it is far beyond my ability to do so. I just wasn't able to do it."

According to eyewitness accounts, Mostafa was beaten with a truncheon in front of the Tehran University. Later that day, he called his mother and told her that he did not feel well.

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 17 July 2009

Mostafa's mother was interviewed by Masih Ali-nejad about her son's death. She said, "I don't know what happened to Mostafa on the street that day, but he called me and said he didn't feel well at all, and wanted to come home. We were at the doctor's that night until midnight. Finally he fell asleep, but never woke up again."

His mother added, "He was not a political activist. Although he had his own views and beliefs, he was not involved in politics. But he stood up for what he believed in."

Hospital authorities attributed his death to a stroke.





32. Fatemeh Semsarpour



Fatemeh Semsarpour and her son, Kaveh Mirasadolahi, were shot in front of their home on 20 June 2009 during the post-election protests. Fatemeh was killed, but her son survived after two major surgical operations.

Parcham, a website linked to Iran's security agency, listed Fatemeh's name among 36 people killed during the

couple of men with revolvers chasing a protester from the main road into our narrow street. A man from the next building raised his hand and told them not to shoot as they were near the supply line running from the gas mains. None the less, they shot him in the leg and then shot Fatemeh and Kaveh, both of whom were standing beside him.

They shot Fatemeh in the heart and my son Kaveh was hit in the abdomen. My other son, Koosha, witnessed everything from the window and was deeply shocked by what happened."

Fatemeh's death was attributed to a shooting. The court's final response to her death was that they were unable to identify the assailant, whereupon they offered compensation.

protests.

In an interview with Roozonline.com, her husband Hassan Mirasadolahi said that the military prosecutor offered him financial compensation, but he had not accepted the money.

He explained what happened on the day his wife was killed. "It was about a quarter to seven in the evening when we heard an explosion in our street. Fatemeh and Kaveh rushed to the door to see what was going on. Other neighbours also came out on to the street. They saw a

Date of birth:
unknown

Date of death:
20 June 2009



33. Hamid Hossein Beik Araghi

State-run media Keyhan and Fars News Agency described Hamid Hossein Beik Araghi as a member of the Basij militia. His mother, Fatemeh Sarpariyan, however refuted the allegation when interviewed by the Iranian journalist Masih Alinejad.

On the anniversary of his death, his mother said, "The day after the interview, I contacted the lady from Fars News Agency, who had interviewed us, and asked her why she had said that my son was a member of the Basij, when he was one of the ordinary people. She told me the Basij had recognized us as being one of the oppressed, so they had listed my son's

name as a Basij member to prove the point. I told the Fars reporter, ‘You have the media to talk and write about the Basij members. Why should my innocent son, who has been killed, be used by you?’”

They were shown photographs to identify his body. “His face was full of blood, his front teeth were broken and one side of his face was bruised; he had been shot in the chest and all the pictures were full of blood. For me, his mother, his photos were unbearable to look at and I fainted.”

During the same interview, Hamid’s father, Majid Hossein Beik Araghi, revealed how his son had been killed. “At first, while pursuing his case in the Criminal Court, I was told that the gun fired had been a pistol. In fact, the military police and related organisations do not dispose of such a weapon. Later, I got a report drafted by the expert examiner, in which it was said that (a) the weapon used had been a Kalashnikov and (b) my son had been shot at close range, a distance of less than fifteen metres.

They killed my only son, and I want to ask those responsible for such brutality how they convinced themselves that they had do it. I do not think any human being can do the sort of thing they have done.”



Hamid’s parents did not get a response to the legal proceedings they had initiated on their son’s behalf; his killer has never been found.

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 15 June 2009

34. Hossein Gholam Kabiri

According to the Keyhan newspaper, 18-year old Hossein Gholam Kabiri was hit by a car on 15 June 2009 in the Saadat Abad area and died in hospital a few hours later. According to the report, the cause of death was internal bleeding.

State-run media identified Hossein as an active member of the Basij militia in Rey City, 355 Imam Hassan Mojtaba district. His family was prepared to give interviews - but only to state-run media.

According to those media, the case was taken to court. He was the sole victim of the 2009 Iranian election protests whose case was actually taken to court.

Seyed Rezaie, spokesperson of the Tehran Prosecutor, said, “Based on the forensic pathology report, the criminal complaint by the victim’s family, the testimony of witnesses, and the police reports, Hossein’s family requested Qesas for his killer, eye-for-an-eye retribution”.



Keyhan newspaper quoted Hossein's mother, "Islam and our revolution called for sacrifices, if it was to stay alive. Hossein was kind, good-natured and polite. When I think of his character, he deserved martyrdom. The heads of this movement must respond to their dead."

Date of birth: 31 October 1991

Date of death: 15 June 2009

35. Seyed Ali Mousavi Habibi



Seyed Ali Mousavi Habibi, 43 years old, the nephew of a presidential candidate, Mir Hossein Mousavi, was killed on 27 December 2009 during the Ashura protests in Shademan Street. He was shot in the chest by regime forces in a black patrol vehicle.

He died in Avecina hospital located on Sadeghiyeh 2nd Square in Tehran.

She told Masih Alinejad, "Ali had two children who were so attached to their father. Since the day of that hideous incident, everything has changed for them. We all lost such a precious person in our family and we are all very heartbroken."

His mother explained that all attempts to identify the killer had failed. She said her family was in the same situation as many others who had been granted no justice. "They don't know who killed their beloved; no one listens to their voices and takes responsibility."

Mousavi's family had difficulties in retrieving his body so that they could bury him. Following unrelenting pressure from the family, his body was eventually released, but his funeral was carried out under severe pressure from the security forces.

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 27 December 2009

Khadijeh Mousavi Khameneh, sister of Mir Hossein Mousavi, is Ali Mousavi's mother. Interviewed by Masih Alinejad, she said, "Ali had received threatening phone calls prior to that day." She explained how her son had been close to Mir Hossein Mousavi, and spoke of her memories of him. During the Iran-Iraq war, when he was only 16, he had gone to war to serve his country. She said she was a firm believer; she was sure that in the end those who had inflicted so much damage on the country and killed innocent people would be punished.

She lost her other son during the Iran-Iraq war when he was just 19.





36. Mostafa Karim Beigi

Mostafa Karim Beigi, born on 11 May 1983, was shot in the forehead on the Day of Ashura, 27 December 2009. After frantically searching for him for 15 days, his father discovered his corpse in the morgue at the notorious Kahrizak detention and torture centre. Two days later his family was forced to bury his body in the middle of the night.

In an interview with VOA television, Mostafa Karim Beigi's father said, "On 27 December I was not in Tehran. My daughter called me and said Mostafa had not returned home. That same evening, I went to the police station, but I could not obtain any news of him. The next morning I went to Evin prison, but his name was not on their list. For two weeks we received no word of him. I wrote a complaint to the police and the criminal court. Then I went to Kahrizak where I identified my son's body. I found out that he had been shot and killed on Ashura, the day he went missing. After we buried his body, no one took responsibility for his death. Three weeks later they summoned me to the Ministry of Security and Information and asked me about Mostafa's friends. I told them he had no friends. They told me, "A father like you who answers our questions in that manner is himself responsible for the loss of his son."

Mostafa's mother told the interviewer Masih Alinejad, "I want you to make our voices heard amongst the international human rights community. I am not a political activist, but the world has to hear our voices and know what has happened to our children. They just wanted peace and they have been killed. We are not looking for revenge, but no one takes responsibility for those killings. I want the Human Rights Declaration to be more than just words; it should be able to do something for those innocent people who have been slaughtered. International human rights groups must send their representatives to Iran."

Mostafa's mother explained how they had received a call at 8:30 p.m., ordering them to bury Mostafa's body without further ado that very night; the authorities wanted to wrap things up as quickly as possible. "The government wanted to pay compensation and shut us up, but that was impossible."

Mostafa's mother told Masih Alinejad, "Pass on my message to everyone. I am appealing to all peace activists around the world. I want them to heed the voices of mourning mothers in Iran. We are seeking to identify the killers of our children. We want to get answers to our questions about why they have killed our children and who the killers are. Many of us are not seeking revenge and do not wish to continue the cycle of violence in Iran. We want to identify the killers. I refuse to accept any compensation other than the freedom of all political prisoners in Iran."

Date of birth: 11 May 1983

Date of died: 27 December 2009





37. Shabnam Sohrabi

Shabnam Sohrabi, aged 34, was killed on the Day of Ashura, 27 December 2009, when a black vehicle ran her down. She died in hospital.

Her mother feared speaking up about her daughter's death. She finally broke her silence and talked to the Where Is My Vote website. "My daughter could not have imagined what would happen to her that day. Shabnam had a strong body; I cannot imagine her being crushed under the wheels of a police vehicle."

She explained the process of collecting her daughter's body. "I looked everywhere, including all the hospitals. I finally discovered that she had been taken to Rasoul-e Akram hospital in Tehran, but there were no signs of her there and nobody explained why. After 20 days, we received a phone call saying that we could

collect her body from the Kahrizak morgue and bury her."

In an interview with Masih Alinejad, Shabnam Sohrabi's mother said, "There are two videos clips filmed by people present from the moment she was run over by the car. The clips are available for all to see, but officials in the Supreme Court told me to bring the films to them. Those films are so sad. Shabnam is moaning in the middle of the crowd; moaning with pain, she stretches her hands out to the crowd."

Shabnam's mother described to Masih Alinejad the process of taking her complaints to the Supreme Court. "They told me that I must bring eye-witnesses in order to proceed with the complaint. But I have heard that some of the Ashura witnesses, those who had seen the brutality first hand, were sent to prison. So if

witnesses dare to step forward, they will suffer the consequences. This is why I say we are alone. People are afraid to help. I don't think we can do anything about our loss."

Shabnam has a seven-year old daughter, Negin, who suffered severe depression following the death of her mother and keeps asking her to come back.

Shabnam's mother hopes that the international human rights community will heed her voice

and do something about all this. She refused to accept the financial compensation offered by the government.

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 27 December 2009

38. Shahram Farajzadeh

Shahram Farajzadeh was 35 years old when a car ran him down on the Day of Ashura, 27 December 2009.

His death was captured on video and subsequently broadcast over the internet and news media; the Iranian police (NAJA), however, declared that the video clip was bogus. Ahmad Reza Radan, Tehran's police chief, confirmed that citizens has been run over by a police car, but claimed that the car had been stolen and was not in police hands at the time of the incident.

He promised that the police would try to identify and track down whoever had stolen the police car. To date, however, no trace of any results has been announced.

Leila Tavassoli was the first person to grant an interview to the BBC as an eyewitness to Shahram's death. Branch 28 of the Revolutionary Court consequently sentenced her to two years and imprisoned her two weeks after she had got married.

In an interview with Masih Alinejad, Shahram Farajzadeh's sister said, "They were concerned whether we wanted to make a complaint. At first, we didn't want to accept any money as compensation because we believed that they were involved in our loss. But then we thought, if we accept the compensation, it means that

they accept that they are involved in killing. If they were not involved, why did they agree to pay compensation? But they never accepted anything. Their behaviour was so rude; they never accepted any responsibility. We have been disappointed for a long time and we have given up following up on his case."

Shahram Farajzadeh had a very young daughter, Ava. She now lives with her mother and, like Shabnam Sohrabi's daughter; she lapsed into a state of deep depression after the incident.

Shahram's wife was briefly arrested by the security forces. After that, Shahram's family was forced to remain silent.

Date of birth: 23 August 1974

Date of death: 27 December 2009



39. Mehdi Farhadi Rad (Balai)



Mehdi Farhadi Rad, aged 38, was killed by the security forces on the Day of Ashura, 27 December 2009. He died after being shot 25 times in the face and chest.

A video clip showing his death was posted on the Internet. In the clip, Mehdi can be seen in the middle of clashes with security forces before falling down with blood streaming down his face.

The security forces have denied all responsibility for this incident.

pelled by the security forces to keep silent and bury his body.

She said that when Mehdi's brother found him in a hospital, he realized that the authorities had had all Mehdi's contact information, yet they had not called the family nor let them know what had happened to Mehdi. They delayed handing over his body for the funeral.

He added, "There were traces of 24 pellets in Mehdi's face. The Iranian state newspaper reported that Mehdi's body had been lacerated during the autopsy. That was utter nonsense as many people had seen how he was killed and the reason for his death was clear. People had been demonstrating in peace and, for the most part, in silence on account of Ashura. They [the authorities] could not stand it and they killed innocent people."

In the Mehdi's case, his family received no response from the authorities and no one has been identified as the killer.

Mehdi had lost his mother. At first, his father and the rest of his family were fearful about speaking out about what had happened to Mehdi. After a while, however, one of his relatives broke the silence and, in an interview with Masih Alinejad, talked about Mehdi and what happened both at the time he was killed and during his funeral.

She explained to Masih that in the immediate aftermath, state-run television twisted the truth and misrepresented the Ashura incident. Mehdi's brother and sisters were com-

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 27 December 2009

40. Sane Jaleh

Born on 23 July 1984, Sane Jaleh, an arts student at the University of Tehran, was 26 years old and a Sunni Muslim Kurd. He was killed on 20 February 2011 after being hit by gunshot.

Like so many others in Tehran, he attended the demonstrations on 20 February 2011 to express

solidarity with the Egyptian people and the fall of the Mubarak regime in Egypt. The peaceful march ended in violence. Sane was one of two citizens who were fatally shot that day.

At first, the Fars News Agency and some websites linked to the government announced that

Sane Jaleh had been a member of the Basij militia: they published a fake membership card as evidence. They also claimed that Sane had been killed by the People's Mujahedin of Iran (PMOI) during illegal demonstrations in Tehran.

Other art students at the University of Tehran, including Hatef Soltani, refuted those claims. Speaking to Masih Alinejad, they identified Sane as one of the protesters along with other ordinary people and they rejected the claim that Sane had anything to do with the Basij. Hatef Soltani, Sane Jaleh's classmate and roommate, had himself been arrested and held prisoner in Kahrizak.

Ghaneh Jaleh, Sane's brother, also rejected all the government's claims in an interview with VOA. "On February 20th, before I knew that my brother had been killed, a cousin of mine asked me for a picture of my brother. Because he was my relative, I did not suspect that there was anything wrong with his request. Later I discovered that the photo had been used to reproduce the fake Basij membership card." His brother

added, "Sane's aim in life was to be like Bahman Gobadi, a director of many Kurdish movies."

In a video clip on the Sorkh-Sabz website, his mother and father also denied that Sane was a member of the Basij. They said, "They killed our son and now assert that he was a member of the Basij; that is an outright lie!"

The Iranian authorities have never identified his killer.



Date of birth: 23 July 1985

Date of death: 20 February 2011

41. Mohammad Mokhtari

Mohammad Mokhtari, a student of mining engineering at Tehran University was only 22, when he was killed on 20 February 2011.

He joined the demonstrations that day to express solidarity with the Egyptian people and to celebrate the fall of the Mubarak regime in Egypt. But like Sane, a bullet ended his life.

The government claimed that he, too, was a Basij member killed by the Mojahedin. But Mohammad's own words on his Facebook page prove that was a lie. Before he left home to join the demonstration on the day of his death, he posted a statement declaring that he was a supporter of the Green Movement: "God let me die with pride because I am tired of living in degradation."

His brother, Majid Mokhtari, told Masih Alinejad that the Fars News Agency released information on Mohammad's funeral, implying that he was a member of the Basij. "My brother's coffin was seized by strange, weird-looking people we did not know." He noted that whoever they were, they were clearly linked to the government; he added, "The government knows who the murderer is and they are trying to twist the truth."





Mohammad's father said: "Mohammad loved freedom. He complained about the circumstances in Iran and, like many others, attended the demonstration to prove the point. He loved his country. But they killed him and they did not let us mourn him freely. They came to our house that night and told us to acknowledge him as a member of the Basij. They intruded on his funeral."

According to Mohammad's family, he was killed by a direct gunshot wound to the forehead. His family filed a legal complaint about his death in order to find his killer. The authorities, however, never replied to them, and did not grant Mohammad's family permission to hold any ceremony in his memory.

Date of birth: 8 September 1989

Date of death: 20 February 2011



42. Behnoud Ramezani

Behnoud Ramezani was 19 years old and in his first year of mechanical engineering at Babol University of Technology on the day he died. He was killed on 15 March 2011 in Narmak Square in Tehran during a "Chahars-hanbe Souri" event (a traditional evening celebration on the last Wednesday of the Iranian calendar year).



Iranians used the celebrations as an opportunity to raise their voices in the street, but the gathering was accompanied by violence and conflict. According to eyewitnesses, Behnoud clashed with plain-clothes militia-men who beat him severely.

The official news agencies of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that his death was due to fireworks he was holding having gone off in his hands. In an interview with Masih Alinejad five days later, however, his father said, "What they said in the news about my son was incorrect and I reject out of hand all claims made by the news agencies."

Behnoud's father added, "I told them that having worked in a laboratory for 25 years, I knew it was impossible for his injuries to have been caused by fireworks exploding in his hands. His injuries were not attributable to burns. My son's legs and hands were both broken and bruised. When I saw my son's head, I asked them why they claimed that he had died from burns. Forensic experts also cited physical traumata in their report and refuted the government's claims. Based on this report, police station No.147 asked us to track down the criminals because they believe that my son's case is a criminal case."

The authorities have failed to respond to the Behnoud's family complaint.

Date of birth: 19 September 1992

Date of death: 15 March 2011



43. Shahrokh Rahmani

Shahrokh Rahmani was 25 years old when he died on the Day of Ashura, 27 December 2009, after being hit by a police car.

A few days after his death, Shahrokh's brother was interviewed by the VOA. He told the reporter: "It was 2:30 pm when a couple of Shakrokh's friends came to our house and said he had been involved in an accident. The registration plate on the car that we chased was a police number. When we went to the coroner to ascertain the cause of death, they asked us how and why he had died! We were shocked by the question and replied: 'Why are you asking us? It is your job to tell us what happened.' They recorded that he had died in an accident."

Shahrokh's brother added, "We told everyone that he had had an accident, though we saw the terrible injuries to his body. However, we did not want them disturbing us and disrupting the funeral."

Sekineh Norouzi, Shahrokh's mother, broke her silence two years later. In an interview with the Sobh-Emrooz website, she recalled, „When they said that he had had an accident, I submitted a legal complaint and opened legal proceedings in his name because I knew that my son had been killed on Ashura. But I received a threatening warning from the authorities, who told us that his funeral had to be carried out in a quiet manner. 'If not', they said: 'your other child-

ren will be killed and disappear in the same way that Shahrokh did.'

I was scared and remained silent. I didn't reply to phone calls or requests for interviews; I ignored them all. But I have always wanted justice for my son. My son was innocent, but they killed him and never accepted any responsibility. The police have always denied responsibility for the involvement of their vehicle, claim it had been stolen."

Date of birth: 15 August 1984

Date of death: 27 December 2009





44. Amir Yousefzadeh

Amir Yousefzadeh was 19 years old and a student of electronic engineering at the University of Tehran when he was killed in the clash on 15 July 2009. His grave is close to those of Ashkan Sohrabi and Sohrab Arabi.

Fearing for the safety of his other children and his family, Amir's father remained silent for a long time and was subjected to enormous pressure throughout. But Sohrab Arabi's mother mentioned Amir many times in her interviews; she said that Amir's family did not feel it safe to talk about his case.

Two years after his son's death, Amir's father broke his silence in an interview with the Sorkh-Sabz website. He explained, "My son was a student in his first year of electronic engineering at the University of Tehran. He was only 19 years old and we lost him. We have suffered so much from his loss. I hope the same thing happens to those who killed him."

Amir's father said, "That day he went to the university. He didn't return, and we knew that there had been a demonstration. We received a call that he was in hospital. We went there, but they told us that he had died and his body had been sent to the morgue. They did not allow us to see his body."

Amir's father described his son as a very reliable member of the family. He went on, "We complained to the judiciary, but they never agreed to open legal proceedings in his case. As long as I live, I shall continue to seek justice. Amir was innocent. He had gone to a peaceful demonstration like so many others, but they killed him."

Date of birth:
unknown

Date of death:
15 July 2009



45. Amir Arshad Tajmir



Amir Arshad Tajmir, aged 25, was one of the youngest protesters killed during the Ashura protests on 27 December 2009.

Amir's mother, Shahin Mahinfar, who has worked for Iranian state television for many years, broke her silence two years after her son died. "Amir Arshad was the young person who

went to the aid of two girls, but in so doing he met his death."

She explained that one day after her son had died, a girl came up to her at the graveside and told her what had happened to him. She said, "That day, they were beating us and people were screaming and booing at them, but Amir shouted from the crowd, 'our booing won't do any good; we have to rescue them'. He came up to us and tried to pull us free from the guards, who started to beat him brutally. Then a police car came up from behind and drove straight

into him. He dropped to the ground and another police car ran to and fro over his body three times.”

Amir Arshad’s mother said, “My son chose his own path. He went to all the demonstrations. My head is held high and I am proud of him. I am proud that I raised such a loving and caring son for this country. If I have not been a responsible person for my people, he was. He made me proud, but my heart is broken over his loss.

People ask me, ‘Why did you not open up legal proceedings?’ But to whom should I complain? Who is going to answer me? All those people who have lodged complaints have got nowhere. I’m a mother, and like so many mothers I feel so sad, dismayed at this injustice, and heart-broken. I’m not scared of anything. I don’t feel alive anymore; I am like a dead person right now. He was everything to me and now that

I have lost him, I have lost everything. I kept silent because I did not want another person to lose his life like my son nor another mother to lose her child.”

Date of birth: 05 December 1984

Date of death: 27 December 2009



46. Bahman Jenabi

Nineteen-year old Bahman Jenabi was shot and killed in Tehran on 20 June 2009.

His brother, Houman Jenabi told: “I have documentation proving that a gun was used to kill Bahman. The document also states, ‘anyone who wants to follow up on his case can obtain this information’. This document has been included in the legal proceedings relating to his case.”

His brother said, “When Bahman went missing, I was a soldier, a non-commissioned officer. I tried so hard to find my brother through my connections. We were unable to locate him for three days. We made no secret of our allegations; they knew what was going on.”

Houman described his brother as a truthful person who hoped for justice and freedom and who lost his life along the way. He also believes that some of the authorities acknowledge

that what happened to people such as Bahman was not fair.

In the interview, Houman said that his family had suffered terribly following Bahman’s loss. Their father had worked very hard to raise the family; Bahman’s death had destroyed him.





He said that the attempt to initiate legal proceedings in respect of Bahman's case failed to get anywhere; no one accepted responsibility for his death.

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 20 June 2009

47. Alireza Eftekhari

Alireza Eftekhari, 29 years old, was a journalist working for the Abrar Eghtesadi newspaper on 15 June 2009. He left home to participate in a peaceful demonstration; 27 days later, his family finally found his body at the coroner's office in Kahrizak.

In July 2009, Reporters without Borders released a statement announcing the death of a 29-year old newspaper reporter. They said the man had died from a cerebral haemorrhage on 15 June 2009 induced by truncheon blows to his head; his body, however, was not handed over to his family until 15 July.

Two years after Alireza's death, his mother told www.Roozonline.com, "Alireza died on 15 June but they only returned his corpse 27 days later. They said he had suffered a cerebral haemorrhage. We complained, but achieved nothing. Our lawyer said we would not get a response where his case was concerned; we had to withdraw our complaint."

Mrs. Eftekhari said: "The authorities warned me not to talk about him. What is the benefit

of saying anything? My son has died and no one can bring him back."

One of his relatives told Roozonline "The lawyer working on Alireza's case exerted enormous pressure on the family to withdraw the case; that seemed very strange." Eventually the case was dropped.

The same relative said, "The blows to his head were the cause of the brain haemorrhage, but we do not know whether Ali was killed after being beaten on the street or whether he was killed later in detention. We do not know exactly what happened to him. All we know is that during the demonstrations, he was been severely beaten with a truncheon and 27 days later they handed over his corpse to his family."

Date of birth: 24 May 1980

Date of death: 15 June 2009

48. Ramin Aghazadeh Ghahramani

Ramin Aghazadeh Ghahramani, 30 years old, was the fourth victim to die in the Kahrizak detention and torture centre, although the authorities have not recognised him as such. Just a few days after being released from the

detention centre, he died from the effects of the severe beatings he had suffered there.

Iranian judicial authorities have officially confirmed that three others were tortured and



killed in the Kahrizak detention centre, but they have not acknowledged Ramin Aghazadeh Ghahramani's death. The father of Mohsen Rouholamini, another protester who died in Kahrizak, named Ramin Aghazadeh as the fourth person to have been killed in Kahrizak.

Ramin's brother broke his silence two years later in an interview with Masih Alinejad. He said, "The day all this took place, we gave the media a report of what happened, but requested that they publish the details without mentioning our name. Our circumstances were so bad that we could not give any interviews, so we did not give any. When Ramin died, we did not know the circumstances under which he had died or how to pursue the matter until the Kahrizak case went public. First Mr. Kamrani and then Mr. Rouholamini (members of other families who had lost their sons in Kahrizak) contacted us. It was just after the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran had accepted responsibility for what had happened in Kahrizak."

In an interview with a Sorkh Sabz reporter, Ramin Aghazadeh Ghahremani's mother discussed the details of what her son suffered. "They sent a letter to my son ordering him to go to a security office as he had participated in the protests after the election. I took him to their office. I feel so guilty for having handed him over myself. I asked my son, 'What you have done?' He replied that he had not committed an offence of any kind. I thought they would ask him a couple of questions and then he would return home, but that evening he did not come back.

We went to the police station, but they told us it was nothing important and he would return later that evening. Instead, they sent him to Kahrizak and then to Evin prison in Tehran."

She said, "My son died four days after he was released. When they let him go and I saw his battered body, I simply wept. His body was covered in injuries."

As for pursuing a legal case, she said, "What difference will it make even if they bring four people to court and blame them for what happened to our children? I lost my son. Two years have passed and I am still waiting for him to open the door. I can't believe that he has gone forever. And I always ask myself why did this happen to him? Why did they kill him?"



Date of birth: 1979

Date of death: 18 July 2009

49. Saeed Abbasi

Saeed Abbasi, 24 years old, was shot dead near his workplace in Roodaki Street in Tehran on 20 June 2009. He lies buried in Tehran's Behesht Zahra cemetery alongside other martyrs of the days after the election.

Saeed's father confirmed that his son had died in the post-election clashes, but on account of

the inordinate pressure brought to bear on his family, he preferred to remain silent and hope for justice. He said that many families felt it was not safe to speak out about what happened to them because they are worried about possible repercussions on their other children and relatives.



According to the wife of Ali Hassanpour, another Green movement martyr, a group of people went to Saeed's house to extend their sympathies to his family. The family were so upset that they were unable to speak with them about what had happened.

In an interview with Masih Alinejad, one of Saeed's relatives explained, "He was working in his father's shop that day. The crowd passed close by so he left the shop, went to the demonstration and was shot in the head. His father ran up to him, and he died in his father's arms. Saeed's family couldn't raise their voices like others."

After Saeed was killed, his father didn't re-open his shop. He said that he had lost all hope and the will to carry on after Saeed died.

He told Masih Alinejad, "They didn't let us hold a public memorial ceremony for him. When we held a private ceremony for him in our home, the security forces raided our house, tore up all the photographs we had of him and arrested me in a horrible manner."

Fearing for their own safety, Saeed's family did not open proceedings with the Iranian judiciary.

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 20 June 2009

50. Mohammad Ali Rasekhi Nia



Mohammad Ali Rasekhi Nia was a 40 year-old teacher who was killed on the Day of Ashura, 27 December 2009. The video clip of his death on the street was one of the shocking clips that found their way onto the Internet and surfaced

in the international media, where they were seen worldwide.

The clip shows a man whose face is covered in blood, with people standing around him. Some



are shouting that he is still alive, but Mohammad did not survive. Two days later the authorities told his family to come and collect his corpse.

Interviewed by Masih Alinejad two years later, Mohammad's wife Mrs. Dabiri, broke her silence, saying, "My husband was shot in the face and killed. We were forced to bury him at night. I kept silent to ensure my family's safety; I could not bear the pressure any more.

The day he was shot, someone simply took his mobile phone and called his home number, telling us what had happened. The authorities told us we must bury him at night. I didn't want my children to see their father's face in that horrifying condition. Some of the authorities passed

on messages of condolence to us. It seems to me that they accepted the fact that my husband had been wrongly killed in all innocence.

The officials told us that the Mojahedin (an opposition group) had killed my husband, but we never pursued the matter in the courts."

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 27 December 2009

51. Seyed Elyas Mirjafari

Seyed Elyas Mirjafari, a 30-year old man from the city of Masal in northern Iran, disappeared in Tehran during the demonstrations following the elections in 2009. Ultimately, his family found his corpse in a morgue.

Contacted by a reporter for Roozonline.com, Elyas' brother Omid responded, "My brother was killed and is gone forever. We have suffered pain and trouble enough; we do not want anymore."

According to Roozonline.com, Fatemeh Mohsen, the mother of the martyr Masoud Hasemzadeh, said, "In Rasht everyone knows the family and what happened to their son. But unfortunately, because of all the pressure imposed by the security forces, they are unwilling to speak out."

One of Elyas' relatives told Roozonline.com, "His family lives in Rasht, but he was working in the bazaar in Tehran. He was about 30 years old. He disappeared after a demonstration. His family searched everywhere for him. Every day they stood in front of the Evin gaol in the hope that the authorities would read out

his name [as one of those imprisoned there]. At first they were told that he had been arrested and would be released very soon. Then one day the authorities listed him among those who had died and told the family to go to Kahrizak to retrieve his body."

He explained that his brother saw the corpse. Elyas' body bore so many horrible injuries and was in such a bad state that he did not allow his parents to see the corpse. Elyas' body was extensively bruised; his testicles had been squeezed to bursting point and one of his eyes had been knocked out of the socket. After dealing with the paper work, his family buried his body in Masal. The authorities, however, forbade any form of ceremony for the deceased and his family kept silent.

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 2009



52. Abdolreza Soudbakhsh



Dr. Abdolreza Soudbakhsh was a physician specialising in infectious diseases and a professor of medicine at Tehran University. He was gunned down outside his private clinic in Tehran on 21 September 2010 just hours before he was due to go abroad to visit his sons. Iran's top security chief, Commander Esmail Ahmadi Moghadam, went out of his way to

deny any link between the shooting and Dr Soudbakhsh's detailed knowledge of the torture inflicted upon detainees in the Kahrizak detention centre in the aftermath of the 2009 presidential election.

Reports of rape and death under torture at Kahrizak erupted into a major scandal for the regime when it transpired that one of the victims, Mohsen Rouholamini, was the son of a senior figure linked to the Revolutionary Guard.

The Iranian authorities had demanded that Abdolreza issue a statement declaring that prisoners who had died at Kahrizak had died of meningitis. He was given access to the bodies and, having established that the deaths were the result of torture, he refused to comply with the demand. He also had treated a number of former Kahrizak detainees, who had sought his help for treatment of genital infections and injuries they had sustained during rape and torture at the centre.

Abdolreza mentioned the rape cases in an interview with a German media outlet shortly before his death. His son, Behrang Soudbakhsh, told Roozonline.com that the authorities had feared his father "was going to the United States to reveal his information in greater detail... My father was one of the few experts in Iran who had precise information on the issue."

Eyewitnesses told Behrang that the assassins were two men on a motorbike who acted with such impunity that they didn't even bother to cover their faces. Their gun was equipped with a silencer; they seemed to be aware of the fact that Abdolreza was wearing a bullet-proof vest as he was shot from the side where the vest offered no protection. A taxi stopped at the end of the road, effectively blocking it for about 10 minutes, and the authorities claimed that two separate CCTV cameras were not working at the time.

The authorities claim the shooting was not politically motivated; they have not identified the murderers.

Date of birth: 1949

Date of death: 21 September 2010

53. Amir Hossein Toufanpour

Amir Hossein Toufanpour, 32 years old, was shot and killed on 21 June 2009.

Following his death, his family remained silent for fear of their own safety. Amir's friends, how-

ever, told journalists that he had been buried in Behesht Zahra Cemetery in Tehran.

In a subsequent interview with Roozonline.com, Amir's mother recalled, "Someone called us that night, 21 June, from Amir's mobile phone and informed us that he had been shot. We searched for him for four days until we found his body at the Kahrizak morgue."

"Bullet holes were to be seen on his body," she said: "but we don't know what happened to him after he was shot. We launched a legal case on his behalf, but we didn't get anywhere. They told us that he had been shot dead by a bullet, but they didn't tell us why he had been killed or who had fired the shot."

She said that the court did nothing to identify the killers, merely offering the family financial compensation in lieu of justice.

Date of birth: 27 December 1977

Date of death: 21 June 2009



54. Naser Amirnejad

Naser Amirnejad, a 24-year old university student, was shot dead during the protests after the election in 2009.

Following his death, the Islamic Republic News Agency claimed he had been a member of the Basij militia. Fars News Agency reported that Naser's father had wanted to take reformist presidential candidates Mousavi and Karroubi to court over his son's death and had sued them as leaders of the demonstration during which his son was killed.

In an interview with Roozonline.com, however, Naser's father, Rashid Amirnejad, described those reports and allegations as lies. "The killer of my son is the same killer who murdered all the others who died at the time. Whoever has done this, his heart certainly is not beating for his country; one day he will have to answer to the nation."

He said he is proud of his son because he laid down his life for his country. "All the family has gone through a terribly hard time", he continued, "and all suffer from depression over his loss."

Some of Naser's friends created a weblog named NeginTaj in his memory, where they talk about him and how he was killed during a peaceful demonstration.

Date of birth: 19 November 1983

Date of death: 15 June 2009





55. Maryam Soudbar Atbatan

Maryam Soudbar Atbatan was a 21-year old university student from Karaj. She died at home after being beaten on the head with a truncheon during a demonstration in Tehran on 20 June 2009. Her family were coerced into silence.

Three years after his daughter's death, Maryam's father broke his silence in an interview with Masih Alinejad. "We were worried for our other children's safety. That is why we kept her case in our heart, but did not talk about her. Maryam went to university as usual on 20 June 2009. She was in good health and had no medical complaints. She returned home and died in her room that very night."

He also said, "I don't have any idea why they beat my daughter. After she died, her friends told us Maryam been based on the head with a truncheon and did not feel well. Her friends had helped her to her feet and she had felt better. When she returned home, she did not tell us what had happened. During the night she died in her room. Her mother went to wake her up the following morning and found her unconscious in bed. She called me on the phone. I rushed home, but Maryam had died in the meantime."

Her father also added, "Forensic examinations confirmed that she had died as the result of a blow to the head with a blunt object. But we were told that if they certified the true cause of her death, the authorities would not permit us to bury her. So we agreed and they didn't

mention it in the papers they issued. After her funeral, some of the authorities came to our house and made us promise that we would not discuss her case with anyone."

Given this pressure and fearing for the safety of the rest of the family, Maryam's family did not take any legal action.



Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 20 June 2009

56. Alireza Sabouri

Alireza Sabouri, aged 22, was shot in the head during a post-election demonstration. His family didn't feel it safe to continue his treatment in Iran, so they sent him abroad. Alireza died in Boston, USA, on 17 November 2011.

Two years after her brother was shot, Alireza's sister, Naz Afarin, was interviewed by Masih Alinejad. "He was fighting for freedom. After he was shot, we couldn't track him down for a month. He had lain comatose in a hospital.



At first, he could not remember anything; he was completely immobile and unable to speak. For six months, he remained more or less in that condition while we kept him at home. My family ended up moving house and rented another one; they invested all their efforts in ensuring his survival.

“We were scared to say what had happened to him. We were worried that if they figured out what had happened, they would cause him still more trouble. He had been shot in the forehead and we were so concerned about his health. We wanted to do everything necessary to save him.”

Alireza’s sister continued, “Like many others, my brother was not happy with the situation in

Iran. He had gone out on to the street to raise his voice, but they shot him in the head. After two years of pain and sickness, he died.”

Alireza’s family wrote to Ahmad Shahid, the UN Special Rapporteur, explaining his case and asked him to pursue the case and seek justice.

Date of birth: unknown

Date of death: 17 November 2011