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International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)

Islamic Republic of Iran

**Submission to the United Nations
Universal Periodic Review**

20th session of the UPR Working Group

of the Human Rights Council

(27 October-7 November 2014)

Executive summary

In this submission, the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) provides information under sections B, C as stipulated in the *General Guidelines for the Preparation of Information under the Universal Periodic Review*¹.

- Under section B, the International Federation for Human Rights is concerned with Iran's general reservation to the Convention of the Rights of the Child, discriminatory articles in the Iranian Constitution, the wide-ranging scope of the death penalty and articles in the Islamic Penal Code that stipulate that punishment for vaguely defined offences and that are used by authorities to implement a large number of executions, including the execution of persons who were under 18 at the time of the alleged crime, other legislation that is used to suppress freedom of expression and association, laws concerning women, and laws restricting freedom of expression, assembly and association as well as certain failures in due process and unfair trials.
- In Section C FIDH's concerns about a continuing pattern of serious human rights violations are highlighted, including the extensive use of the death penalty, cruel punishments; restrictions on the peaceful exercise of the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly, including against journalists, writers, human rights activists, women's rights activists, students, teachers and independent labour leaders.
- **"Death penalty in Iran - a State terror policy"** has been provided as an Annex at the end of this Submission.

¹ Human Rights Council Decision 17/119, in A Practical Guide for Civil Society available at: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Documents/PracticalGuideCivilSociety.pdf><http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Documents/PracticalGuideCivilSociety.pdf>

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**B. Normative and institutional framework of the state:
Failure to bring laws into line with international human
rights law**

1. The Islamic Republic of Iran is a party to four major United Nations human rights treaties. However, Iran has a practice of entering general reservations upon signing or ratifying the conventions, which has been cited by treaty bodies as a major factor impeding the enjoyment of some human rights protected under the conventions. One significant case in point is Iran's general reservation to the Convention of the Rights of the Child, which "potentially negates many of the Convention's provisions and raises concern as to its compatibility with the object and purpose of the Convention".² In spite of the promises to ratify CEDAW and CAT and the submission of bills with that aim to the Iranian parliament (*Majlis*), those key instruments have not been ratified yet by the Islamic Republic.

2. While over the past decade, Iran has formally submitted reports to the CRC, CERD, CCPR (2011 after 18 years) and CESCR (2013 after 20 years), in subsequent practice, the main body and major parts of the concluding observations of each of those bodies remain largely unimplemented. In addition, since 2005, special procedures have not been able to visit the country, in spite of their repeated requests. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran has not been allowed to visit the country since his appointment in 2011, despite his repeated requests including requests to the new administration of President Rouhani after the latter took office in August 2013. A number of

² CRC/C/15/Add.123, 28 June 2000

the high-ranking officials, including the head of the Judiciary and his brother, secretary-general of the High Council of Human Rights, have regularly insulted the Special Rapporteur.

3. Since the previous UPR in February 2010, Iran has not undertaken any measures to amend its discriminatory and restrictive laws, including its constitution. New laws concerning women's rights and the Islamic Penal Code have been enacted but they have not been brought into line with international human rights law. Furthermore, Iran has not taken any measures to specify the status of international human rights treaties in domestic law in the legal system.

The Constitution

4. The discriminatory and restrictive provisions have been enshrined in the constitutional provisions concerning freedom of the press and expression, freedom of assembly and association, women's rights, religious and ethnic rights and others, elections, courts, state structure etc., including, but not limited to, articles 4, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 24, 26, 27, 28, 110, 167, 168.

Laws concerning women

5. While the concerns expressed by Human Rights Committee in 2011 about domestic violence and LGBT people have not been addressed, the laws and regulations discriminating against women remain in force.³ The provisions of the Constitution and the Civil Code regarding marriage, divorce, custody of children, inheritance, and nationality remain discriminatory. The Islamic Penal Code (2013) has retained its discriminatory provisions on women's testimony, compensation in the case of injury or death and honour killing, among others.⁴

6. **The Family Protection Law** (April 2013), did not touch the provisions of the Civil Code in regard to marriage, divorce, polygamy and temporary marriage and stipulated the notarisation of the latter only in some exceptional cases, e.g. pregnancy (article 21). This law did not supersede the Family Protection Law of 1975, which effectively remains in force as well. The resulting occasional conflicts are likely to cause confusion and problems. One case in point is that the 1975 law allows men to have two wives. The Civil Code implicitly allows more 'wives.'

³ CCPR/C/IRN/CO/3, paras 9, 10 and 11

⁴ For more details, see "Iran: Suppression of freedom, prison, torture, execution... A state policy of repression", FIDH, December 2011, pp 8 and 11-13, at: http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/iran580anglaisversiondef_3_.pdf

7. **Laws and policies that reduce women's social participation** and employment remain in force.⁵ A bill of law titled "Reducing women's working hours" was also tabled with the Parliament in June 2013.

Laws restricting freedom of expression, assembly and association

8. **The Islamic Penal Code**⁶ (IPC) (2013) has determined punishments for vaguely worded offences such as "acting against the system", "domestic and external security" and "disseminating lies."⁷ Furthermore, the IPC of 2013 has not superseded certain vaguely worded 'offences' in the previous law, including provisions which provide for punishment for "joining or forming groups or associations", "spreading propaganda against the system", and "assembly and collusion," as well as "insulting the Supreme Leader", "insulting heads of three branches of the State, deputy presidents, ministers, MPs" as well as a number of other officials.⁸ Neither the 'offences' in the new law nor those in Book 5 have been defined anywhere in the law and they have been systematically used to close down newspapers, and impose long-term prison sentences or other severe punishments on lawyers, journalists, trade unionists, women's rights activists and others.

9. **The Press Code** (1985) contains restrictive and draconic provisions, among them Articles 2, 8 and 10 (requiring the press to function as ideological representatives and advocates of the State), Articles 6, 7, 8, 9, 25, 26, 27, and 30 (placing highly strict restrictions on the press). Specific punishments have been stipulated such as the closure of the publication, ban on journalistic activities as well as the punishments enshrined in the IPC. It is notable that the Press Code is the only law that has specifically referred to the 'offence' of apostasy and provided for the "punishment of apostasy."⁹

⁵These include: *Women's Employment Policy*, the Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution, available at: <http://rc.majlis.ir/fa/law/show/100171>. This Policy also bans women from certain jobs (Article 5); *the Law for Part-Time Services of Ladies*, at: <http://rc.majlis.ir/fa/law/show/90820>; and its subsequent amendments at: <http://rc.majlis.ir/fa/law/show/92837>; <http://rc.majlis.ir/fa/law/show/91056>; <http://rc.majlis.ir/fa/law/show/782104>; and "Remote work" policy rules of procedure of 2010, available at: <http://www.mcls.gov.ir/fa/kar/doorkari/aeenname>. For a review of these laws and policies, see: "Iran: Rising poverty, declining labour rights," FIDH, June 2013, pp 21-24, available at: http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/iran_report_e.pdf

⁶ The new Islamic Penal Code (IPC) came into force in June 2013 for a trial period of five years, Research Centre of Islamic Consultative Assembly, 29 May 2013, available at: <http://rc.majlis.ir/fa/news/show/845002>.

⁷ Articles 5, 47, 71, 109, and 286

⁸ Articles 498, 499, 500, and 610, Book 5 of the IPC (1996) annexed to the Islamic Penal Code of 1991; and article 609

⁹ Article 26. While the punishment for apostasy has not been enshrined in the Iranian laws, its punishment is death under the *sharia* provisions. Judges can invoke Article 167 of the Constitution to issue the death sentence for apostasy.

Death Penalty legislation¹⁰

10. A wide range of offences are punishable by death, many of which are not considered to be as the “most serious crimes” under international law. They include murder, rape, consensual sex between men, fornication and adultery, repeated consumption of alcohol, theft, *qadf*,¹¹ and pimping, cursing the prophets, *moharebeh*,¹² corruption on earth, rebellion, and drug trafficking.

11. The Islamic Penal Code (2013) has expanded the scope of the death penalty in certain cases, e.g. for repeat offenders convicted for of pimping,¹³ as well as in the case of ‘corruption on earth,’ the latter of which is the broad title of a long list different ‘offences.’¹⁴

12. **Stoning** - Although the Iranian authorities have not regarded it as a method of execution, in practice it ends in the cruel death of the victims in all cases, with statistically negligible exceptions. The IPC (2013) has retained the punishment of stoning for adultery, but has empowered the courts to impose the death sentence if “stoning is not possible”.¹⁵

13. **Death penalty for minors:** Contrary to some claims, the IPC (2013) has retained the death penalty for the execution of persons below the age of 18,¹⁶ if they “understand the nature of the offence committed or its prohibition” or if “their maturity or development of their reasoning” is not in doubt.¹⁷ It is at the discretion of judges to decide it without any obligation to seek expert opinion.¹⁸ It is common practice to imprison persons younger than 18 at the time of committing the offence and execute them after reaching the age of 18.¹⁹

¹⁰ For a rather detailed examination of the death penalty legislation see Annex: **Death penalty in Iran, a State terror policy**, FIDH report, published in October 2013

¹¹ false accusation of sodomy or fornication

¹² waging war on God

¹³ Under the previous IPC, men convicted for pimping were flogged and banished to other cities and women were flogged.

¹⁴ It includes, “crimes on an extensive level against the physical integrity of others, the domestic or external security, disseminating lies, disrupting the national economic system, undertaking arson and destruction, disseminating poisonous, microbiological and dangerous substances, establishing corruption and prostitution centres or assisting in them.” (Article 286)

¹⁵ Article 225

¹⁶ Following the Civil Code (article 1210), the IPC maintains the age of maturity (article 146) and consequently the age of criminal responsibility (article 147) as 9 lunar years for girls and 15 lunar years for boys. This effectively means a girl can be sentenced to death at the age of 8 years and 9 months and a boy at the age of just over 14 years and 7 months.

¹⁷ This stipulation has been formulated in reverse in Article 91

¹⁸ Note to Article 91

¹⁹ See specific cases below

Cruel and inhuman punishments: legislation

14. The punishment of amputation of hands and feet is imposed for theft,²⁰ and for *moharebeh*. Amputation of various limbs as retribution is also in force in numerous different cases; so is flogging.

Due process & unfair trials

15. Almost all political cases and absolutely all drug-related cases come to trial before the unconstitutional Islamic Revolution Courts, which are totally strange to standards of fair trial under the international law, and operate parallel to the formal system of justice. In the overwhelming majority of cases, political defendants - mostly charged with acting against national security or similar charges - are detained incommunicado for long periods and refused access to lawyer and due process before the completion of investigation. In the overwhelming majority of cases, they are held in informal detention centres, run by the Ministry of Intelligence or the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps or other non-judicial bodies, away from the supervision of the formal justice system, where they are tortured or otherwise ill treated and frequently forced to make false confessions.

16. **Arbitrary application of the law:** The Islamic Penal Code (2013) stipulates that judges must follow article 167 of the Constitution in cases of '*hodud*'²¹ offences for which the law has not provided.²² This effectively leads to precedence of other sources over the national law and arbitrary application of punishments provided by such sources and could cause chaos, as different religious authorities pronounce differing fatwa on a single issue.

Furthermore, the IPC provides for "knowledge of the judge" as one of the reasons to prove the commission of the offence in penal cases, which opens the way for arbitrary judgement.

17. Death-row inmates are often not informed when they are due to be executed until they are transferred to solitary confinement, in many cases, a day before. Their lawyers are not always informed of the execution in advance, as is required by Iranian law.

18. **Defendants denied right to appeal death sentence:** Drugs-related offences account for around or more than three quarters of executions in Iran. The Anti-Narcotics Law²³ has provided for the death sentence in a wide range of cases. Its most serious deficiency in comparison with international law is the denial of the right to appeal for defendants

²⁰ Article 278 and 282

²¹ These are fixed punishments as specified in the *sharia*, which cannot be mitigated. Under the *sharia*, they are applicable to such 'offences' as fornication and adultery, sodomy, sex not involving penetration, lesbianism, pimping, *moharebeh*, apostasy, theft, drinking alcohol, *qadf* (false accusation of sodomy or fornication). The law has provided punishment for all those 'offences' with the exception of apostasy and the punishment for apostasy is death under the *sharia*.

²² Article 220. The Constitution's article 167 empowers judges to rule on the basis of authoritative Islamic sources and authentic fatwa in the absence of codified law.

²³ The law of 1997 was amended extensively and enacted in July 2010.

sentenced to death. Article 32 of the law provides only for the president of the Supreme Court or the Prosecutor-General to appeal the death sentence. In practice, the prosecutor-general, i.e. the complainant in the case, authorises the implementation of such death sentences. Convicted defendants may only apply for pardon, which is refused in majority of cases.

19. **Exceptions to presumption of innocence:** The IPC (2013) specifically rejects the principle of presumption of innocence²⁴ in regard to several 'offences': *moharebeh* (waging war on God), corruption on earth, theft and false accusation of sodomy or fornication and retains a discriminatory approach against non-Muslims in favour of Muslims.

C. Promotion and protection of human rights on the ground

The death penalty

20. Thousands are reportedly on death row in Iran and several hundred are executed every year.²⁵ Reliable official figures are not available and a large number of executions take place secretly. The number of executions have spiked in the last few years. While credible information²⁶ indicated 388 executions in 2009, the numbers have jumped since then to 553 (2010), 634 (2011), 544 (2012). The OHCHR mentioned the figure of 625 for 2013, including 57 people executed in public, but other estimates exceed 700.²⁷

21. Iran is one of the three countries in the world known to execute persons under 18 or to imprison and execute them after they reach the age of 18. At least one such person was executed in 2010, seven were executed in 2011, and possibly one in 2012. In 2013, according to official reports, at least three persons aged under 18 at the time of the alleged crime had been executed by October.²⁸ Nevertheless, there were unofficial reports about the execution of several others in the same year. So far in 2014, execution of three persons for crimes committed when they were younger than 18 has been reported. One report quoted "certain sources" on execution of two persons in Vakilabad prison of Mashhad on 14 February.²⁹ On 25 February 2014, a young man was executed in the city of Jouybar in

²⁴Article 121

²⁵ The punishment is used disproportionately against dissidents from the ethnic communities and religious minorities. See below: Annex: **Death penalty in Iran**, October 2013; as well as <http://www.fidh.org/en/asia/iran/14178-iran-execution-of-16-baluchi-prisoners-highlights-the-ongoing-state-terror>; <http://www.fidh.org/en/asia/iran/Iran-must-immediately-revoke-the-12723>. For other discrimination against ethnic communities and religious minorities in Iran, see: "**The Hidden Side of Iran: Discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities**," FIDH report, October 2010, available at: <http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/IrandiscrimLDDH1545a.pdf>

²⁶ Amnesty International, annual reports

²⁷ Spokesperson for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights: Ravina Shamdasani, 21 February 2014.

²⁸ See below: Annex: **Death penalty in Iran**, October 2013

²⁹ It was not possible to verify this report from other sources.

northern Mazandaran province at the age of 21 after spending four years in prison on charge of murdering his cousin in a fight, when he was 17.³⁰

22. At least 10 men and women are facing the sentence of stoning, but there have not been any reports about implementation of the stoning sentence since 2009 that could be verified.

Cruel and inhuman punishments in practice

23. Implementation of the punishment of amputation for theft has also been on the rise in recent years. Although it is not possible to report exact figures of the pertaining sentences implemented, the following examples are provided of official reports: ‘amputation of hand and foot of a thief in Mahshahr’³¹, ‘one sentence of hand amputation implemented’ in Mashhad³², ‘hand and feet of two persons accused of theft amputated in Shiraz’³³, ‘fingers of two thieves from Yazd amputated in public’³⁴, ‘hands and feet of six persons amputated during the last year’³⁵, ‘one case of hand amputation in Sari’³⁶, ‘four fingers of a thief amputated in Mashhad.’³⁷ There are numerous other reports of amputations. The authorities occasionally carried out the amputations in public. For example, reports on 24 January 2013 included detailed horrendous pictures of amputation of “a thief’s hand in Shiraz” by a special machine.³⁸

24. Sentence of flogging is also regularly implemented either in public or at detention centres. Just to give a few examples, the following are some of the people who have been flogged in 2014: Peyman Nodinian, a member of the Teachers Association of Iran (member of board of directors of its local branch in Kurdistan province) in the city of Sanandaj on 2 March; Hossein Farzin, a TV director and former deputy mayor of Mashhad, on 13 March.³⁹

³⁰ See: <http://dana.ir/News/66580.html>

³¹ 15 April 2010, Daily Iran newspaper, available at:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/persian/iran/2010/04/100414_u04_amputation.shtml?s

³² 12 October 2010, Asr-Iran website, available at:

<http://www.asriran.com/fa/news/140267/%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%AF%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%A7%D9%86-%D9%85%D8%B4%D9%87%D8%AF-%D9%8A%D9%83-%D9%85%D9%88%D8%B1%D8%AF-%D8%AD%D9%83%D9%85-%D9%82%D8%B7%D8%B9-%D8%AF%D8%B3%D8%AA-%D8%A7%D8%AC%D8%B1%D8%A7-%D8%B4%D8%AF>

³³ 12 December 2010, Khorassan newspaper, available at:

http://www.radiofarda.com/content/f3_irannewspapers_monday_review/24419065.html

³⁴ 13 November 2012, Iranian Student’s News Agency, available at:

<http://news.gooya.com/politics/archives/2012/11/150309.php>

³⁵ 24 January 2013, Mehr and ISNA news agencies, available at:

<http://radiozameh.com/news/iran/2013/01/24/23915>

³⁶ 28 January 2013, Shomal News, available at: <http://radiozameh.com/news/iran/2013/01/28/24019>

³⁷ 17 May 2012, Khorassan newspaper, available at:

<http://www.asriran.com/fa/news/214884/%D8%A7%D8%AC%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%8A-%D8%AD%D8%A9%D9%85-%D9%82%D8%B7%D8%B9-4-%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%AF%D8%B4%D8%AA-%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D8%B3%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%82-%D8%AF%D8%B1-%D9%85%D8%B4%D9%87%D8%AF>

³⁸ Iranian Student’s News Agency, available at: <http://fars.isna.ir/Default.aspx?NSID=5&SSLID=46&NID=23776>

³⁹ For other examples, see op. cit. “Iran: Suppression of freedom, prison, torture, execution... a state policy of repression”, p 25

Restrictions on the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly

25. **Freedom of expression:** The authorities have consistently sought to suppress all critical voices. Journalists and bloggers, writers, human rights activists, women's rights activists, students, and independent trade unionists engaged in peaceful activities have suffered as a result.⁴⁰ Many of them have faced charges related to national security or other anti-state activities and have been sentenced and arbitrarily detained⁴¹ after facing unfair trials in Islamic Revolution Courts.⁴²

26. A large number of newspapers and journals were either banned, had their licences revoked or received warnings from the authorities in the period of 2009-2013. In total, 35 newspapers, weeklies, monthlies and quarterlies were banned, licences of 11 others and one news agency were revoked and the government issued 106 warnings to the news media in that period.⁴³

27. The new minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance reported that there had existed a black list of 50 publishers in the previous government and 400 books had been rejected only because those publishers had published them."⁴⁴ President Rouhani also revealed that there had been "banned writers."

28. **Freedom of association:** Independent associations have also faced heavy-handed suppression. The authorities have long been trying to deprive the Bar Association of its lawfully constituted independence by vetting and banning candidates for election to its board of directors. In February 2014, as in previous elections, 29 of the 58 candidates who

⁴⁰ In addition to arbitrary detentions, brutal treatment in detention and arbitrary sentences, many activists are deprived of adequate medical care in prison. See: <http://www.fidh.org/en/asia/iran/14863-iran-grave-concern-over-lack-of-access-to-medical-care-for-sick-prisoners>; and op. cit. "Iran: Suppression of freedom, prison, torture, execution... a state policy of repression", p 28

Special Rapporteur Ahmed Shaheed has regularly listed many such peaceful activists who have fallen victim to such charges and we shall not repeat them in this short submission.

⁴¹ UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detentions has issued a good number of rulings on arbitrary detentions in Iran during the past few years. Some of the prisoners concerned have been released. However, at least 13 others remain in detention. The pertaining rulings are: 34/2008 (7 Baha'i leaders), 58/2011 (Heshmatollah Tabarzadi), 30/2012 (Mir Hossein Mousavi, Mehdi Karoubi, Zahra Rahnavard) 48/2012 (Muhammad Kaboudvand), and 54/2012 (Abdolfattah Soltani).

⁴² For details on a number of imprisoned human rights defenders, see: "Iran: List of human rights defenders behind bars," FIDH, available at: <http://www.fidh.org/en/asia/iran/12235-iran-list-of-human-rights-defenders-behind-bars>.

⁴³ 46 publications banned by the 10th government, ISNA, 1 December 2013, available at: <http://www.irna.ir/fa/News/80930053/%D8%B3%DB%8C%D8%A7%D8%B3%DB%8C/%D8%AA%D9%88%D9%82%DB%8C%D9%81%46%D9%86%D8%B4%D8%B1%DB%8C%D9%87%D8%AF%D8%B1%DA%A9%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%86%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%87%D8%AF%D9%88%D9%84%D8%AA%D8%AF%D9%87%D9%85>

⁴⁴ "Black list" of publishers under previous government, 3 December 2013, <http://isna.ir/fa/news/92091208780/%D9%84%DB%8C%D8%B3%D8%AA-%D8%B3%DB%8C%D8%A7%D9%87-%D9%86%D8%A7%D8%B4%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%AF%D8%B1-%D8%AF%D9%88%D9%84%D8%AA-%D9%82%D8%A8%D9%84-%D8%A8%D9%87-%D8%B1%D9%88%D8%A7%DB%8C%D8%AA-%D8%AC%D9%86%D8%AA%DB%8C>

had registered for elections in March - many of them long-standing lawyers - were disqualified. In addition to a number of lawyers, who have served or are still serving prison, a large number of lawyers have been subjected to various forms of persecution.⁴⁵

29. Trade unions and associations of journalists, workers and students have been banned and their members harshly suppressed. Other than the journalists and students who have received much attention by various sources, the Teachers Association of Iran and its members have greatly suffered. Several members, including members of its Board, are currently serving long prison sentences, and some other Board members are also facing long prison sentences.⁴⁶

30. Several independent labour unions⁴⁷ have been formed in the past few years but they have all faced heavy crackdown, including arrests, prosecution and imprisonment of their members. A number of labour unionists are currently serving long-term prison sentences.⁴⁸

⁴⁵ For a list of 48 lawyers prosecuted or otherwise persecuted from 2009-2011, see op. cit. "Iran: Suppression of freedom, prison, torture, execution... a state policy of repression", p 38. Several others have been persecuted since then. A number of lawyers have been forced to take refuge abroad.

⁴⁶ Op. cit., "Iran: List of human rights defenders behind bars", FIDH, available at:

<http://www.fidh.org/en/asia/iran/12235-iran-list-of-human-rights-defenders-behind-bars>

⁴⁷ For details on these unions, see: "**Iran: Rising poverty, declining labour rights**," FIDH, June 2013, available at: http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/iran_report_e.pdf, pp 39-45

⁴⁸ Op. cit., "Iran: List of human rights defenders behind bars", FIDH, available at:

<http://www.fidh.org/en/asia/iran/12235-iran-list-of-human-rights-defenders-behind-bars>

Annex

fidh

LDDHI

جامعه دفاع از حقوق بشر در ایران

(عضو فدراسیون بین المللی جامعه های حقوق بشر)

League for the Defence of Human Rights in Iran
(FIDH Member)



Death penalty in Iran

A State terror policy

Special Update for 11th World Day against the Death Penalty

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Cover photo: Hanging in public, Kermanshah in western Iran, 5 January 2012; Mehr News Agency
All links have been accessed on 5 October 2013.

I. INTRODUCTION

The change of administration in the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRI) and taking of office by a new president on 3 August 2013 has not brought any change as far as the death penalty is concerned. Between the 14 June presidential election and 1st October, more than 200 people have been reportedly executed, including possibly four people who may have been younger than 18 at the time of the commission of the alleged crimes.⁴⁹

Against this backdrop, FIDH and its member organisation, LDDHI, have decided to publish the present report to analyse the new penal laws in force in Iran that are invoked consistently to violate the right to life in general and to execute child offenders. Coinciding with 10 October 2013, World Day against the Death Penalty, this report aims to serve as an update on the current state of application of the death penalty in the IRI.

FIDH published a 60-page comprehensive report on the death penalty in the IRI in April 2009, covering the various aspects of the topic: domestic laws, international legal framework, execution of juvenile offenders, religious and ethnic minorities, and methods of execution.⁵⁰ Unfortunately, the IRI has ever since continued to be out of step with the rising trend of abolition of the death penalty worldwide. While an increasing number of countries each year join the list of abolitionists, the IRI persistently ranks as the second biggest executioner next to China. However, Iran has long been and remains the biggest per capita executioner in the world.

As the IRI adamantly persists with capital punishment in violation of international human rights law, it is the task of the international community to press for the fulfilment of those obligations.

The present report has been compiled on the basis of documentary research, including data and reports published by various reliable sources, statements from senior officials, reports in domestic newspapers, media and news agencies, and by NGOs, as well as academic literature.

II. DEATH PENALTY LEGISLATION

After several years of postponing it, the Iranian parliament (*Majlis*) finally passed the new Islamic Penal Code (IPC) in April 2013. It was ratified by the Guardian Council - a body with the power of

⁴⁹ For details and other facts and figures, see below Section III: **Death Penalty in Practice**. These figures are the minimum collected from the media and other sources, but the real figures may be higher, because the Iranian authorities often carry out secret executions and decline to provide all figures of executions and death sentences imposed.

⁵⁰ *Iran: Death Penalty – A State terror policy*, FIDH, 2009. The report covers wide ground on different aspects.

veto over legislation - on 1 May 2013 and was communicated for enforcement to the government on 29 May 2013. It will be in force for a trial period of five years.⁵¹

The new IPC has retained the death penalty in almost all the instances that were punishable under the previous IPC and appears to have expanded its scope in some cases.

As in the previous IPC, the new IPC explicitly states (Article 220) that article 167 of the Constitution can be invoked in regard to '*hodud*'⁵² punishments that the law has not dealt with. Article 167 stipulates:

A judge is obliged to endeavour to judge each case on the basis of the codified law. In case of the absence of any such laws, he has to deliver his judgment on the basis of authoritative Islamic sources and authentic fatwa. He cannot refrain from examining cases and delivering his judgment on the pretext of the silence of or deficiency of law in the matter, or its brevity or contradictory nature. (Emphasis added).

This makes it quite clear that judges have extensive powers to impose the death sentence in many cases on the basis of the *sharia*, in addition to those that have been stipulated in the new IPC.

It is also notable that the new IPC specifically rejects the principle of presumption of innocence in regard to *moharebeh* (fighting God), corruption on earth, theft and false accusation of fornication or sodomy⁵³ (Article 121) and discriminates against non-Muslims in favour of Muslims as shall be demonstrated in numerous cases below.

1. New Islamic Penal Code & Offences punishable by death

a) Sexual Offences

Incest and fornication

Death sentence shall be imposed on the male party in cases of incest, fornication with stepmother, fornication of a non-Muslim man with a Muslim woman, and fornication by force or reluctance. The punishment for the female party shall be decided by other provisions concerning fornication (Article 224).

Adultery

Adultery between married parties is punishable by stoning (see below for more details).

⁵¹*Islamic Penal Code communicated for implementation*, Research Centre of Islamic Consultative Assembly, 29 May 2013, available at: <http://rc.majlis.ir/fa/news/show/845002>.

⁵²Also spelled *hodud*, *hudood*, *hadood*; they are fixed punishments specified in the *sharia*, which cannot be mitigated. Under the *sharia*, these include fornication and adultery, sodomy, *tafkhez*, lesbianism, pimping, *moharebeh*, apostasy, theft, drinking alcohol, *qadf* (accusation of sodomy or fornication).

⁵³*qadf*

Same sex relations

'Sodomy': Death sentence shall be imposed on the 'active party' only if he is married or has forced the sexual act, but the 'passive party' shall receive the death sentence regardless of being married or not. The non-Muslim 'active party' in a sexual act with a Muslim party shall also receive the death sentence (Article 234). The non-Muslim 'active party' in same-sex relations not involving penetration⁵⁴ shall also be sentenced to death.

Lesbianism shall be punished on the fourth occasion if 'offenders' are sentenced and receive the lashing punishment on the first three occasions. This has not been specifically stated in the law, but can be inferred from the provisions of Article 136 on Repeat Offenders (See below).

b) *Moharebeh*

Article 282 provides the death sentence in the case of the vague charge of *moharebeh* (fighting God). However, the judge has the option of imposing an alternative punishment of crucifixion, amputation of the right hand and left foot or internal banishment away from the defendant's home town.

Article 279 defines *mohareb* (a person who fights God) as somebody who takes up arms in specific cases. They include bandits, robbers and smugglers who take up arms (Article 281).

Under the previous IPC, which was in force until May 2013, the charge of *moharebeh* was frequently used against political dissidents, and even people who have relatives in opposition groups abroad, even if they had not used arms. The new penal code has provided for their punishment under the notion of "Corruption on earth and rebellion."

c) 'Corruption on Earth' & Rebellion

The new IPC has introduced the new concept of 'rebellion'⁵⁵ that did not exist in the previous Code.

This chapter has beyond doubt expanded the scope of the death penalty for all those who are convicted of 'corruption on earth'. Article 286 defines the 'corrupt on earth' as follows:

Anybody who commits a crime on an extensive level against the physical integrity of others, the domestic or external security, spreads lies, disrupts the national economic system, undertakes arson and destruction, disseminates poisonous, microbiological and dangerous substances, establishes corruption and prostitution centres or assists in them...

⁵⁴ *tafkhez*

⁵⁵ *Bagh'y* is an Arabic term which has different meanings. In this sense, it has been used in different chapters of the Quran, e.g. in Yunus: 23.

Article 286 has clearly failed to offer concrete definitions for the above-mentioned vague 'offences' and the scope of 'extensive'. Therefore, judges have been given a free hand to decide at their own will.

Article 287 defines as 'rebels' the members of any group that stages armed uprising against the Islamic Republic of Iran, and use weapons, and stipulates that they shall be sentenced to death.

d) Murder & Qesas

The *qesas*⁵⁶ death sentence has been retained for murder in the new IPC. Like the previous IPC, it exempts the following killers from *qesas*:

- Father and paternal grandfathers of the victim (Article 301);
- Killer of a person who had committed a '*hodud*' offence punishable by death (Article 302);
- Killer of a rapist (Article 302);
- A man who kills his wife and her lover in the act of adultery (Article 302);
- Muslims, followers of recognised religions,⁵⁷ and 'protected persons' who kill followers of non-recognised religions or 'non-protected persons' (Article 310).

Thus, the law authorises arbitrary killings by private individuals, ignores the right to life of some victims and massively discriminates against followers of 'non-recognised' religions.

The law also exempts from the death penalty Muslims who kill non-Muslims, even though its language is implicit:

Article 301: "*Qesas* shall be established... if the victim was sane and had the same religion as the culprit. (Emphasis added)

Note: If the victim is a Muslim, the non-Muslim status of the culprit shall not prevent *qesas*."

In plain language: A non-Muslim who kills a Muslim shall be sentenced to death. If a Muslim kills a non-Muslim, the killer shall not be sentenced to death, because they did not have the 'same religion.'

The above provisions clearly sanction the extrajudicial killing of atheists and non-Muslims such as followers of the Baha'i faith, and the three constitutionally recognised religions.

e) Other Religious 'Offences'

Article 262 stipulates the death sentence for cursing the Prophet of Islam, any of the other grand prophets or for accusing the infallible imams and Prophet Mohammad's daughter Fatima Zahra of sodomy or fornication.

⁵⁶ Retribution in kind

⁵⁷ *Zemmi* – infidels - i.e. followers of Christianity, Zoroastrianism and Judaism.

Apostasy, sorcery, witchcraft and other such issues have not been explicitly mentioned in the new IPC, although Apostasy has been specifically referred to in the Press Code (Article 26). Under the *sharia*, the punishment for apostasy is death, which a judge can impose by invoking Article 167 of the Constitution.

f) Repeat Offenders

Article 136 stipulates that repeat offenders who commit an offence punishable by *hodud*, and are punished every time, shall be sentenced to death on the fourth occasion. This article has failed to specify the *hodud* offences and has only mentioned the death sentence for the fourth-occasion theft in Article 278. Nevertheless, articles 220-288 have defined the *hodud* offences as follows: fornication and adultery, sodomy, lesbianism, pimping, cursing the prophets, theft, drinking alcohol, *qadf* (false accusation of sodomy or fornication), *moharebeh*, corruption on earth and rebellion.⁵⁸

g) Stoning

The IPC has specifically retained the punishment of stoning for male and female defendants charged with adultery while married (Article 225). Nevertheless, the courts have been provided with the alternative to impose the death sentence upon the approval of the Head of the Judiciary, “if it is not possible to perform stoning” (ibid.). This provision is apparently intended to avoid international outcry.

h) Juveniles & Death Penalty

The ambiguous language is noticeable in the new IPC in regard to the possibility of the death sentence for children and juveniles. At first glance, it may seem that the IPC has ruled out the execution of juveniles. Articles 89-95 concerning punishments and corrective measures regarding children and juveniles have provided a set of punishments for children between the ages of nine and 15 and another set of punishments for juveniles between the ages of 15 and 18 at the time of the commission of the crime. Neither of the two sets seems to provide for the death sentence. However, article 91 reveals a very important stipulation, albeit in hidden language.

Article 91: In offences punishable by *hodud* or *qesas*, mature persons younger than 18 shall be sentenced to the punishments stipulated in this chapter, if they do not understand the nature of the offence committed or its prohibition or if there are doubts about their maturity or development of their reasoning. (Emphasis added).

⁵⁸ Whereas the IPC has foreseen also punishments other than death for some cases of the three ‘offences’ of *moharebeh*, corruption on earth and rebellion, provisions of Article 136 mean that such repeat offenders shall also be sentenced to death on the fourth occasion.

The article quite clearly leaves it at the discretion of judges to decide if a juvenile offender had understood the nature of the offence and was mature at the time of committing the offence and thus impose the death sentence on them. The Note to Article 91 authorises, but does not oblige, the court to seek the opinion of Forensic Medicine Department or use any other means to reach a judgement.

Moreover, while article 146 provides that immature persons do not have criminal responsibility, article 147 has repeated the provisions of the previous law as well as the Civil Code regarding maturity and the age of criminal responsibility. Girls shall be mature at the age of nine lunar years and boys at the age of 15 lunar years. Hence, a girl older than 8.7 years and a boy older than 14 .6 years can be sentenced to death.

Former MP and deputy chairperson of the Laws Review Committee of Parliament, Mussa Qorbani, who was involved in drafting and editing the new IPC, confirmed that children and juveniles will continue to be sentenced to death under the new IPC:

"This law is based on implementation of the *qesas* and *hodud* except in cases that a juvenile does not know about the criminal nature of the action. On the other hand, if a juvenile commits murder with knowledge, they shall remain in corrective centres if they are younger than 18 and shall receive the *qesas* after reaching the legal age, as has been the procedure before."⁵⁹ (Emphasis added).

Thus, he also confirmed what the Iranian authorities had always denied: Persons younger than 18 at the time of committing the offence are kept in prisons and executed after reaching the age of 18.⁶⁰

2. Other legislation

Besides the IPC, a number of other laws also provide for the death penalty.⁶¹ The 'Audiovisual Offences Law' has also stipulated the death sentence. As a result, several web designers, who were sentenced under that law, are currently on death row.

The Anti-Narcotics Law lays down the death sentence for drug-related offences in several instances including planting poppies or coca, or cannabis with intention to produce drugs, on the fourth conviction; smuggling more than 5 kilograms of opium, cannabis or grass etc into Iran; buying, keeping, carrying or hiding more than 5 kilos of opium and the other aforementioned drugs, on the third conviction; smuggling into Iran, dealing, producing, distributing and exporting of more than 30 grams of heroin, morphine, cocaine or their derivatives.

⁵⁹ *Changes in Islamic Penal Code*, Iranian Students News Agency (ISNA), 20 February 2012, available at: <http://www.vekalatonline.ir/print.php?ToDo=ShowArticles&AID=5824>

⁶⁰ Op. cit., *Iran: Death Penalty – A State terror policy*, FIDH, 2009, p 28

⁶¹ Ibid., p 16

Denial of the right of appeal

The Anti-Narcotics Law clearly violates the right of appeal, as required under the international human rights law. Under its Article 32, death-row drugs-related offenders do not have the right of appeal. Only the prosecutor-general or the president of the Supreme Court can appeal the death sentence on such convicts. In practice, the Supreme Court president does not get involved and the prosecutor is certainly far from impartial as he is the party who demands the imposition of the death sentence on defendants.

III. DEATH PENALTY IN PRACTICE

Many prisoners on death row do not receive fair trials. They are sentenced on the basis of vague charges and “confessions” which are usually made under torture or other ill treatment during incommunicado pre-trial detention. Many are denied access to a lawyer.

Death-row inmates are often not informed when they are due to be executed until they are transferred to solitary confinement, in many cases, a day before. Their lawyers are not always informed of the execution in advance, as is required by Iranian law.⁶²

Strangulation (by hanging) is the most frequently used inhuman method of execution. Stoning, which is stipulated in the law, is a cruel method which in practice ends in a horrifying death in almost all cases.

1. Facts and Figures

Thousands of prisoners are on death row in Iran, but exact figures are not known, because the authorities do not publish figures of death sentences imposed and carried out. Furthermore, they do not consider *qesas* death sentence as part of this count. *Qesas* death sentences account for a sizeable but unknown number of executions.

The death-row population of Rajaishahr prison, near the city of Karaj (west of capital Tehran), is a telling example of the very large number of death-row prisoners nationwide. According to a report by Mr. Mehdi Mahmoudian, an investigative journalist who is serving a five-year prison sentence there, there were 1,117 death-row inmates, including 734 sentenced to *qesas*, in that prison alone in late October 2012.⁶³ It is notable that Rajaishahr prison does not even hold drug-related convicts, who account for around 80% of the death penalty victims. Other large prisons in provincial capitals and other cities are known to hold thousands of death-row prisoners. Evin

⁶² On violation of due process, see the op. cit. FIDH report on Death Penalty in Iran and *Suppression of freedom, prison, torture, execution... A state policy of repression* (On compliance with ICCPR), December 2011.

⁶³ *1117 death-row prisoners*, Mehdi Mahmoudian, 30 October 2012, available at: <http://www.rahesabz.net/story/61085/>

(Tehran), Qesel Hesar (Karaj), Vakilabad (Mashhad), Zahedan, Kerman, and Isfahan prisons are only a few examples.

Credible sources monitoring the implementation of death sentences in Iran have reported hundreds of executions every year and the numbers have been steadily rising.

The number of executions recorded in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 were at least 388, 553, 634 and 544, respectively.⁶⁴ For the current year of 2013, the figures stood at 481 as of 4 October.⁶⁵ At this rate, they are likely to exceed 600 at the end of the year. Every year, a relatively large number of executions take place secretly in prisons, which seem to be based on judicial sentences, but not reported perhaps because the authorities wish to keep the official figures of executions down. Most secret executions are drug related. A number of executions take place in public, including at least 56 in 2011 and 63 in 2012.

2. Execution of Juveniles

The aforementioned reports also indicated that a total of eight juveniles were executed in 2008, five in 2009, one in 2010, seven in 2011 and possibly one in March 2012. Recent reports indicate that five young persons may have been executed in 2013, for crimes allegedly committed before the age of 18.

- In January, 21-year-old Ali (aka Kianoush) Naderi, arrested at the age of 17, in Rajaishahr prison⁶⁶
- In July, Saeed Afshar (about 15 years old at the time of arrest) at the age of 25 also in Rajaishahr prison⁶⁷
- On 20 August, the 18-year-old Arman Mohammadi, who was 12 at the time of the alleged crime, in Dieselabad prison of Kermanshah in western Iran⁶⁸

⁶⁴ Amnesty International's respective annual reports on Iran. For minimum figures from 1979-2008, see op. cit FIDH report: *Iran: Death Penalty – A State terror policy*, p 9

⁶⁵ These included 281 officially acknowledged and 200 others reported by reliable sources according to Amnesty International, available at:
<http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/MDE13/040/2013/en/b4c760a7-9144-4baf-8abc-b87322a38c5b/mde130402013en.html>

⁶⁶ *UN human rights office condemns execution of Iranian juvenile*, 22 January 2013, available at:
<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=43980&#.UIHSFINjPcg>

⁶⁷ *One juvenile is among the group executed in Gohardasht prison of Karaj*, Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran, 4 July 2013, available at:
http://hrdai.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1283:1392-04-13-10-08-24&catid=5:2010-07-21-10-19-53

⁶⁸ *One 18-year-old executed in Dieselabad prison of Kermanshah*, Kurdpa news agency, 20 August 2013, available at: <http://www.kurdpa.com/index.php?id=11693&besh=dreje>

- On 14 September, “Erfan Q.” was executed in public in the northern city of Qaemshahr. He was 18 at the time of execution and had raped a school student last year.⁶⁹
- In late September, an unidentified prisoner, who was accused for a crime committed at the age of 14, was executed at the age of 18 in Kazeroon prison, in the southern Fars province.⁷⁰

3. Stoning

Two men were stoned to death in 2008 and one man in 2009, while at least 10 men and women were under the sentence of death by stoning at the time of writing in October 2013.⁷¹ Under the provisions of the new IPC, they may escape stoning, but they still face the risk of execution by hanging.

4. Ethnic communities, religious minorities & migrants

The Iranian ethnic communities, in particular the Arabs in Khuzestan province and the Baluch in the southeast, the Kurds, some religious minorities, in particular some Sunnis in Western Azerbaijan, Kurdistan and Baluchistan provinces as well as followers of the Muslim Ahl-e Haq sect in Western Azerbaijan province have been victims of executions.

a) Religious minorities

There are reportedly at least 26 death-row Sunni Muslims in Rajaishahr prison. Sunni leaders have called for their release. Six ‘Salafist’ Kurdish prisoners were executed in January 2013. Several followers of the Ahl-e Haq sect have also been under the death sentence for several years.

b) Ethnic communities

Arabs: Members of the Iranian Arab minority in south-western Khuzestan province have regularly been victims of politically-motivated executions. Eight or nine people were reportedly executed in May 2011 including one juvenile and four others - three of them brothers - in June 2012.⁷² The Supreme Court confirmed the death sentences against five others in January 2013 and against four others in February 2013.⁷³ A number of others have received death sentences in the court of first instance, which they are appealing.

⁶⁹ *A rapist executed in Qaemshahr*, Mehr News Agency, 14 September 2013, available here: <http://www.mehrnews.com/detail/News/2134993>

⁷⁰ *Details of armed crimes in Kazeroon*, Tabnak news website, 25 September 2013, available at: <http://bit.ly/17dEBn6>

⁷¹ Amnesty International annual reports on Iran

⁷² See joint FIDH-LDDHI statement at: <http://www.fidh.org/Iran-Death-penalty-for-every-case>

⁷³ LDDHI has a copy of the sentence issued by Branch 32 of the Supreme Court.

Baluch: Reports about execution of the Baluch are not widely publicised. Around 12 Baluch prisoners were reportedly executed in early 2013. In July and September 2013, several groups of prisoners were executed in Zahedan, the provincial capital of Sistan-Baluchistan, including some women and an unknown number of Baluchis.⁷⁴

Kurds: According to a March 2012 report of the UN Special Rapporteur for human rights in Iran, at least 15 Kurdish political prisoners were on death row. On the other hand, an Amnesty International report published in February 2012 had reported 16 death-row Kurdish political prisoners.⁷⁵ At the end of September 2013 the number of Kurdish political prisoners sentenced to death on charge of *moharebeh* was reported to be 22.⁷⁶

c) Afghan refugees

The poor Afghan migrants and refugees are frequently victims of execution on drug-related charges. An Afghan parliamentary delegation that visited the IRI in February 2010 was informed by the Iranian judicial authorities that out of more than 5,630 Afghan citizens in Iranian prisons at the time, about 3,000 were on death-row, mostly on drug-smuggling charges.⁷⁷ Another Afghan parliamentary delegation reported 2,000 Afghans on death row in Iran in March 2013. Dozens were executed in 2012 and 2013.⁷⁸

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A wide range of offences is punishable by death in Iran, including offences that do not fall under the category of “the most serious crimes” under international human rights law, in particular political, economic, drug-related and the so-called sexual offences. The new Islamic Penal Code has totally failed to reduce or change the range of such offences.

Iran is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as well as the Convention on the Rights of the Child, but it often ignores their provisions including the

⁷⁴ For example, see Human Rights and Democracy Activists in Iran, here:

http://hrdai.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1371:1392-06-30-13-46-13&catid=5:2010-07-21-10-19-53

⁷⁵ *We are ordered to crush you*, Amnesty International, February 2012,

<http://amnesty.org/en/library/asset/MDE13/002/2012/en/2b228705-dfba-4408-a04b-8ab887988881/mde130022012en.pdf>

⁷⁶ *Increasing number of death sentences against Kurdish activists*, Akhbar-Rooz news website, 2 October 2013, available at: <http://www.akhbar-rooz.com/article.jsp?essayId=55622>

⁷⁷ *Afghan MPs urge help for prisoners in Iran sentenced to death*, Noor TV (Afghanistan), 13 Mar 2010, at: https://www.cimicweb.org/cmo/Afghanistan/Crisis%20Documents/Justice_Reconciliation/Articles/Afghan%20MPs%20urge%20help%20for%20prisoners%20in%20Iran%20sentenced%20to%20death.pdf

⁷⁸ *Execution of Afghans in Iran*, Daily Outlook Afghanistan, 25 March 2013, available at: http://outlookafghanistan.net/topics.php?post_id=6932

provisions concerning the death penalty and the strict ban on the execution of juvenile offenders or executions in public.

Unfair trials and denial of due process are common.

Members of a number of ethnic communities in Iran (Arabs, Baluchis, Kurds) as well as followers of some religious minorities are often condemned to death and executed for political activities and offences related to the security of the State.

The law has retained stoning as the main punishment for adultery, while people condemned to death for other offences are hanged. A large number of executions occur in public.

Recommendations to the Iranian authorities:

- Adopt an immediate moratorium on executions in light of the serious shortcomings of the guarantees of due process and fair trial, with a view to abolish the death penalty;
- As a first step, restrict the number of offences carrying the death sentence to the most serious crimes only;
- Put an immediate end to the sentencing and execution of minors, and commute all death sentences pronounced against persons who were below 18 at the time of the alleged offence;
- Adopt a law prohibiting strictly the death penalty for juveniles;
- Adopt a law prohibiting death by stoning;
- Put an immediate end to public executions;
- Establish full transparency of data collection regarding the death penalty;
- Join the 2nd Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aiming to abolish the death penalty;
- Invite the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iran and the UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and facilitate the implementation of their respective mandates.

Recommendations to the international community

FIDH and LDDHI welcome the international condemnation of executions in Iran including the initiatives of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN Special Rapporteur for human rights in Iran, as well as the EU and the European Parliament and offer the following recommendations in view of the international community's responsibilities:

- Re-examine the United Nations' assistance to the Iranian authorities through the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) considering that the drug-related executions constitute 75-80% of all executions in Iran;
- Condition any assistance to fight drugs to a halt on drug-related executions;
- Ban supplies of any items to Iran used in the implementation of the death penalty;
- Discuss and encourage moves towards abolition of the death penalty in all bilateral talks.

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FIDH-LDDHI REPORTS ON IRAN:

- ***Death Penalty – A State terror policy, April 2009***
http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/Rapport_Iran_final.pdf
- ***Discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities in Iran, October 2010***
<http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/IrandiscrimLDDHI545a.pdf>
- ***Suppression of freedom, prison, torture, execution... A state policy of repression (On compliance with ICCPR), December 2011***
http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/iran580anglaisversiondef_3_.pdf
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http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/iran_report_en.pdf
- ***Iran: 25 years on, and still no justice:
1988 prison executions remain unpunished***
http://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/fidh_lddhi_report_25_years_on_and_still_no_justice_sept_2013.pdf

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