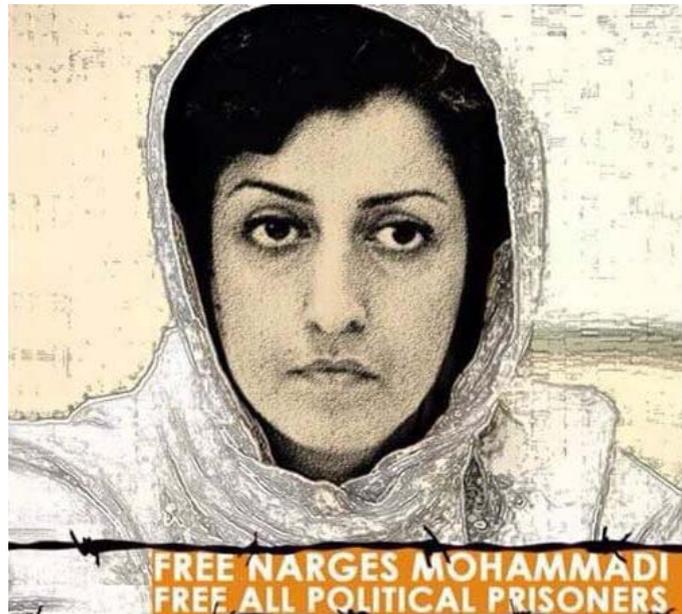


Narges Mohammadi

Prisoner of conscience



Narges Mohammadi was born in Zanjan, Iran. She has a degree in physics, and became a professional engineer. During her university career, she wrote articles supporting women's rights in the student newspaper and was arrested at two meetings of a political student group. She was also active in a mountain climbing group, but due to her political activities, was later banned from joining climbs.

In 2003, she joined the Defenders of Human Rights Centre, headed by Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Shirin Ebadi; she later became the organization's vice president.

In 1999, she married to Taghi Rahmani, who not long after was arrested for the first time. Rahmani moved to France in 2012 after serving a total of fourteen years of prison sentences, but Mohammadi remained to continue her human rights work. Mohammadi and Rahmani have twin children, Ali and Kiana.



Mohammadi was first arrested in 1998 for her criticisms of the Iranian government and spent a year in prison. In April 2010, she was summoned to the Islamic Revolutionary Court for her membership in the DHRC. She was briefly released on US\$50,000 bail but re-arrested several days later and detained at Evin prison. Mohammadi's health declined while in custody, and she developed an epilepsy-like disease causing her to periodically lose muscle control. After a month, she was released and allowed to go to the hospital.

In July 2011, Mohammadi was prosecuted again, and found guilty of "acting against the national security,

membership of the DHRC and propaganda against the regime". In September she was sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment. Mohammadi stated that she had learned of the verdict only through her lawyers and had been "given an unprecedented 23-page judgment issued by the court in which they repeatedly likened my human rights activities to attempts to topple the regime". In March 2012, the sentence was upheld by an appeals court, though it was reduced to six years. On 26 April, she was arrested to begin her sentence.

The sentence was protested by the British Foreign Office, which called it "another sad example of the Iranian authorities' attempts to silence brave human rights defenders". Amnesty International designated her "prisoner of conscience" and called for her immediate release. Reporters Without Borders issued an appeal on Mohammadi's behalf on the ninth anniversary of

photographer's Zahra Kazemi death in Evin prison, stating that Mohammadi was a prisoner whose life was "in particular danger". In July 2012, an international group of lawmakers called for her release, including US Senator Mark Kirk, former Canadian Attorney General Irwin Cotler, UK MP Denis MacShane, Australian MP Michael Danby, Italian MP Fiamma Nirenstein, and Lithuanian MP Emanuelis Zingeris.



On July 31, 2012, Mohammadi was released from prison. On 31 October 2014, Mohammadi made a moving speech at the gravesite of Sattar Beheshti, stating, "How is it that the Parliament Members are suggesting a Plan for the Promotion of Virtue and Prevention of Vice, but nobody spoke up two years ago, when an innocent human being by the name of Sattar Beheshti died under torture in the hands of his interrogator?" Despite the act of extreme violence against Beheshti, which was met with an international uproar back in 2012, his case still raises questions and Evin prison still witnesses torture and unfair arrests of human rights defenders today. The video of Mohammadi's 31 October speech quickly went viral on social media networks resulting in her being summoned to Evin Prison Court. "In the summons I received on 5 November 2014, it is stated that I must turn myself in 'for charges,' but there is no further explanation about these charges," she stated. On May 5, 2015, Ms. Mohammadi was again arrested on the basis of new charges.

In 2009, Mohammadi received the Alexander Langer Award, named for peace activist Alexander Langer. The award carried a 10,000 euro honorarium.

Source: Internet

Iran: People demonstrated outside the notorious Evin prison

05 May 2015



Mothers and families of Martyred political activists and political prisoners rallied outside the notorious Evin Prison demanding the release of female political activist and lawyer, Narges Mohammadi. This rally took place on Tuesday, May 5, 2015 as the infamous intelligence ministry agents arrested Ms. Mohammadi. The demonstrators condemned the arrest and imprisonment and demanded her immediate release.

Reports from Tehran indicate that Ms. Narges was with Sattar Beheshti's mother when she was arrested. Sattar Beheshti was an Iranian blogger and activists arrested two years ago and killed under torture, his torturer and interrogator confessed. The ministry agents first took both Narges and Ms. Gohar Eshghi, Sattar's mother toward Evin prison, but released Ms. Gohar along the way and only took Narges with them.



The report from Iran says that Ms. Gohar Eshghi, Sattar's mother started to shout slogans as she was released, demanding the release of Ms. Narges as well. But the lawyer and political activist was taken to the infamous Evin Prison, where the Iranian American bishop and another American citizen are being held.

Ms. Narges Mohammadi is charged with 'propaganda against the regime' and 'act against National security'; both are punishable by death by hanging. Ms. Narges was arrested in her private house in Tehran,

Narges Mohammadi Returned to the Prison without Proper Medical Treatment

05 August 2015



HRANA News Agency – Narges Mohammadi, imprisoned human rights activist, who was taken to the hospital following deterioration of physical health condition, was returned to prison without completing treatment and in a semiconscious state.

According to the report of Human Rights Activists News Agency in Iran (HRANA), Narges Mohammadi's family who went to Evin prison for a visit with her, on Sunday 2nd August, found that this imprisoned lawyer had been transferred to the prison from hospital, just 2 hours before the visit time.

According to the reports, Narges Mohammadi, after eight hours of suffering from muscle paralysis was transferred to Taleghani Hospital in Tehran, and placed under medical care but doctors, in Taleghani hospital, after the preliminary examinations said that Ms. Mohammadi should be under a specialist's medical supervision. Despite this advice and doctors emphasis on the need for a medical examination of this human rights activist by a specialist, the officials in the judiciary returned back Ms. Mohammadi to Evin prison, two hours before the weekly visit.



However, Narges Mohammadi was not well conscious to have a visit with the family.

It should be noted that the retrial of Narges Mohammadi was supposed to be on 6th July, but it was not held for some unknown reasons and also she was not sent to the court. Most recently, Taghi Rahmani, her husband, referring to the physical condition of this imprisoned civil activist, mentioned the authorities' responsibility for the consequences of holding her in prison.

Narges Mohammadi, a human rights activist, journalist, political prisoner and spokesperson for the Human Rights Association and the head of the Iran Peace Council's Executive Board, was arrested at her home by the security forces on the fifth of May this year after repeatedly being summoned and threatened by the security forces, and was sent to Evin prison to serve her 6 years imprisonment.

This human rights activist was summoned and arrested several times previously. She had served in prison from 10th June to 2nd 2010, being seriously ill in custody as a result of nervous shock. In September of the same year, she was sentenced to 11 years imprisonment by Branch 28 of Tehran's Revolutionary Court for "Gathering and collusion against national security, membership in the Human Rights Defenders and propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran". The sentence was reduced to 6 years in March 2011. Again on 21st April 2012, she was detained in Zanzan and was transferred to Evin prison, and then on 16th May, was transferred to the prison in Zanzan city. Narges Mohammadi, who was seriously ill, was transferred to Valiasr hospital in Zanzan city, on 9th July.

She benefited from medical leave and was release temporarily on a bail of 600 million Tomans, on 31st July, but still she was a victim of being summoned and threatened and harassment by the judicial authorities and security forces.

She was summoned and interrogated by the Prosecutor's Office based on Evin prison, on 1st June.

Investigators of the persecution informed her that she was banned from leaving the country. She had been summoned to Branch 15 of Tehran's Revolutionary Court, on 3rd May, for a trial on charges of "Acting against national security" and "Propaganda against the regime", activities after the release and participation in campaigns such as the "Abolition of death sentence" and the fight against impunity.

She is a supporter of imprisoned blogger Sattar Beheshti's mother, who was killed in FATA police custody (Cyber Police) on 3rd November 2012.

Narges Mohammadi's arrest led to widespread reactions. Some of her companions including Gohar Eshghi, mother of Sattar Beheshti, Mohammad Nourizad, journalist and former political prisoner, Mohammad Maleki, Iran's leading academic figure, staged a protest in front of Evin prison, just hours after her arrest.

Nobel Prize winner Shirin Ebadi, by an open letter has asked UN special rapporteurs, including the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights Council of the United Nations for the human rights situation in Iran, Ahmed Shaheed, to apply whatever they could for the freedom of Narges Mohammadi.

Amnesty International

“Tearing my heart to pieces” – a mother's story from prison in Iran

By Narges Mohammadi, Evin Prison, Iran, 4 August 2015, 14:37 UTC



Narges Mohammadi has been in and out of prison for more than a decade for her support of human rights in Iran. Three months since her most recent imprisonment, she writes this personal letter from jail on what it means to be apart from her children.

My twins were born on 28 November 2006

I was not allowed to hold my son Ali and my daughter Kiana when they were born because of my poor health. I was only able to see them through the door of the hospital room. It seems as if their fate was to be apart from me from birth. When I held them for the first time, all the scars

from the caesarean, the difficulties I had breathing, the fear of death and all the pain were forgotten. I had become a mother.

When Kiana and Ali were three years and six months old, my dear Kiana was ill and had just returned from hospital when officers from the Ministry of Intelligence came to arrest me. My dear Ali was crying. I placed him on my lap and sang him a lullaby until he fell asleep. Kiana was distressed. I held her. I kissed her. I asked her, “Kiana dear, why aren't you sleeping?” She said, “I'm not sleepy, I want to be in your arms.”

The officers told me that we have to go. I tried to separate Kiana from myself. She had used all her power and energy to hook her arms around my neck. She was crying loudly. I slowly went down the stairs. I heard her say: “Mother Narges, come and give me a kiss.” I returned and gave her a kiss. This happened three times. I was listening to the crying sound of my child who's dearer to me than my life. Separating myself from her tore my heart to pieces.

I was placed in solitary confinement in section 209 of Evin Prison, Tehran. It was a torture chamber for a mother separated from her ill child.

One night I was sleeping in my cell. It was near sunrise. My dear daughter, who would always give the loudest kisses, gave me a kiss on the cheek. I felt her warm body and her small lips on my cheeks. It was Kiana. I opened my arms to hold her close to me. I opened my eyes, it wasn't Kiana. I cried for so many hours. I cried to a point where I thought my tears would soon run out.

When Kiana and Ali were four years and two months old, the security forces broke the door and entered my house. Kiana was sitting on my lap with her little arms around my neck. She was scared and was holding on to me tightly. Ali was extremely excited. He was following the officers and was constantly warning them, “Do not touch my stuff”. He would call Kiana and say: “Kiana come and see, Mr. Cone-head is trying to steal our things.”

They took [my husband] Taghi down the stairs. They closed the door and Kiana's sweet and innocent face rested on the concrete step. She lay down and continued to cry.

When Kiana and Ali were five years and five months old, security forces came to take me to the Ministry of Intelligence. Ali was running around holding his yellow toy gun, saying he wanted to come with me. My dear Kiana held the corner of my dress and said, “Mother Narges don't go”. With difficulty, I separated myself from the children and left the house while hearing the sound of them cry. I then got in the car with the officers.

When Kiana and Ali were eight years and six months old, on 5 May 2015, my dear Kiana and Ali went to school at 7am. At 8:30am the security forces were waiting outside the apartment door.

They said: “Open the door; you have to come with us.” They took me to the general women’s ward of Evin Prison.

Ali and Kiana left Iran on 17 July 2015. During their last visit, Kiana said: “Mother, while you’re not around we’ll go and stay with Taghi until you join us.” Ali said: “Mother will you not get sad?”, and then looked at me to see my reaction. I tried to portray my happiness without any doubts, so they wouldn’t be worried about me.

I was drowning in my thoughts; my dear Kiana and Ali will soon leave and I will be away from them for a while. Dear God, I used to look forward to Sundays and visiting days. On Sunday mornings I would rush around the prison section. I would gain energy after hearing the sound of the children and feeling their loving presence.

In my head, I started to talk to my children: “Dear Ali and Kiana, you have every right to leave the country where its leader does not recognise your rights and your world. How many times will they hurt your small yet innocent hearts and watch you cry as you’re separated from your mother or father?”

My dear Kiana and Ali, the two of you have faced more suffering in your life than you could possibly imagine. “I don’t know, maybe you will feel more comfortable and at ease if you live in a society where the love and relationship between a mother and her children is valued and understood, even if I am not there beside you both. I know this separation will be difficult, but I cannot bear to see your tears, fears and insecurities.

“I would do whatever was in my powers to protect you from any hurt. Oh dearest of the dearest, please forgive me. The deprivations that the government aimed to impose on me were more so imposed on you. The two of you have faced more suffering in the first eight-and-a-half years of your life than you could possibly imagine.”

My chest is on fire. I’m looking at the clock now and Ali and Kiana’s flight has taken off. And I, a mother in pain who is tired of hurt and suffering, has stayed behind. My heart has been torn into hundreds of pieces. My hands – without even trying – face the sky.

Dear God, please take my hands and give me the patience I need. For a long time, I won’t be able to see their innocent faces. I won’t be able to hear their voices. I won’t be able to smell them while holding them in my arms. Oh God, my arms feels so cold and empty without the presence of my children. My hands move towards my chest which feels as if it’s on fire. My cheekbones burn from the tears that run down my face. The lava flowing from my eyes feels like fire from the depths of my heart.

This blog is taken from a letter from Narges Mohammadi to the Prosecutor General of Tehran in July 2015, in which she also demands better treatment of women in the prison. Since her children left the country, Narges has not been allowed to speak with them on the phone. Amnesty International is calling on Iran to release human rights defender Narges Mohammadi immediately and unconditionally as a prisoner of conscience.

Demand action

Tweet Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei and President Hassan Rouhani with the message below.

Source: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/campaigns/2015/08/narges-mohammadi-tearing-my-heart-to-pieces-iran/>

Narges Mohammadi Will Be Tried On January 9th

4th January, 2016



HRANA News Agency – The trial session of Narges Mohammadi, imprisoned human rights activist, is scheduled for January 9, in branch number 15 of the revolutionary court by chief judge Salavati. The trial session of this imprisoned civil rights activist who is kept in women’s ward of Evin prison, had been postponed two times before for different reasons.

Nages Mohammadi, the deputy director of Human Right Defenders of Iran, was arrested in her house by the

security forces on May 5th, 2015, without receiving any prior court order, and was transferred to Evin prison.

Amnesty International Called for Immediate Release of Narges Mohammadi

Posted on: 10th April, 2016



HRANA News Agency – Amnesty International announced in a statement, April 20th as the date for the trial of Narges Mohammadi, calling for immediate release and action for the case of the defender of human rights. Amnesty International, in a statement said that the human rights defender and prisoner of conscience Narges Mohammadi had been informed that her trial would be on April 20. It was more than 8 months that she had had no contact with her children and was severely ill.

The statement in two separate parts first investigated the legal status and the charges against her, and then

presented a report on the medical condition of Ms. Mohammadi.

At the end of the statement Amnesty International called on the Iranian authorities to immediately release Narges Mohammadi without any precondition and in addition provide suitable facilities for her treatment and allow her to meet with her lawyer and children.

Amnesty International

Iran: 16-year-sentence against critically ill human rights defender signals all-out repression

19 May 2016, 17:28 UTC



The shocking 16-year prison sentence against prominent human rights defender Narges Mohammadi, who has several serious, chronic illnesses, represents an all-out attack on human rights defenders in Iran, and demonstrates how Iran's abusive criminal justice system is used as a tool of repression, said Amnesty International.

Narges Mohammadi, a distinguished human rights defender, a supporter of the anti-death penalty campaign

Legam (Step by Step to Abolish the Death Penalty) and vice president of the Centre for Human Rights Defenders in Iran, was sentenced by a Revolutionary Court in Tehran which convicted her of several trumped-up national security related offences in connection with her human rights work. The verdict was communicated to her lawyer on 17 May.

“Narges Mohammadi’s sentence is yet another chilling example of Iran’s use of vaguely worded national security charges to crack down on peaceful freedom of expression. There is no doubt that she is being unjustly punished for her steadfast commitment to human rights. The authorities have made clear their ruthless determination to silence human rights defenders and instil fear in would-be critics of their policies,” said Philip Luther, Director of the Middle East and North Africa Programme at Amnesty International.

“It is shameful for the Iranian authorities to treat as a criminal a prominent human rights defender who has been lauded as a beacon of hope. It exposes their lip service to human rights as utterly meaningless and shows their deep disdain for the basic principles of justice. Narges Mohammadi is a prisoner of conscience and the Iranian authorities should immediately and unconditionally release her and quash her conviction.”

There is no doubt that she is being unjustly punished for her steadfast commitment to human rights.

Philip Luther, Middle East and North Africa Director at Amnesty International

Narges Mohammadi is already serving a separate six-year prison sentence in Tehran's Evin Prison in relation to her human rights work.

In the most recent case against her, the court sentenced her to 10 years' imprisonment on the charge of "founding an illegal group" for her involvement with Legam. She also received a five-year sentence for "gathering and colluding to commit crimes against national security", and one additional year for "spreading propaganda against the system". The court used as "evidence" interviews she gave to international media and her March 2014 meeting with the European Union's then High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton. If her conviction and sentence are upheld, she will have to serve at least 10 further years in prison on the most serious charge of "founding an illegal group". This is under provisions in Iran's 2013 Penal Code, which stipulate that those convicted of multiple charges serve the lengthiest single sentence.

"Narges Mohammadi's sentence [aims to] take revenge against a human rights activist who is opposed to the death penalty and seeks its gradual elimination... Indeed, sometimes the judgment of a judge is just a tool in the hand of the powerful," said Narges Mohammadi's husband Taghi Rahmani.

The harsh prison sentence against Narges Mohammadi comes after years of harassment punctuated by intermittent periods in detention, which have inflicted a devastating toll on her health and emotionally scarred her two young children. She is critically ill, suffering from a pulmonary embolism (a blood clot in her lungs) and a neurological disorder that has resulted in seizures and temporary partial paralysis. She requires ongoing specialized medical care, which she cannot receive in prison.

I am left wondering how to tell Ali and Kiana, who have only heard Narges's voice once over the past year, that their mother has got another 10 years in prison.

Taghi Rahmani, Narges Mohammadi's husband

The authorities have also denied Narges Mohammadi the right to have access to her children. Her nine-year-old twins had to move abroad to live with their father as there was no one to look after them in Iran. She has only been allowed to have one phone call with her children since last summer.

"I am left wondering how to tell Ali and Kiana, who have only heard Narges's voice once over the past year, that their mother has got another 10 years in prison. They are only nine and have been through hard days since they were three. But I have to prepare myself to tell them what has happened," Taghi Rahmani told Amnesty International.

Background

Narges Mohammadi's case was highlighted by Amnesty International in its annual Write for Rights campaign in 2012.

She is currently serving a six-year prison sentence for "gathering and colluding to commit crimes against national security" and "spreading propaganda against the system" through her human rights activism. She began serving this prison term in April 2012 but was released three months later, on medical grounds to receive treatment for a health condition that caused partial paralysis, which was exacerbated by her imprisonment.

She was arrested again in May 2015 and taken to Tehran's Evin Prison to resume serving her sentence. In October 2015, she suffered several seizures which eventually prompted the authorities to allow her to be hospitalized. Her treatment was, however, disrupted as she was returned to prison against her doctor's advice after 17 days.

She also faces another separate charge of "insulting officers while being transferred to a hospital" in a separate case after she complained about her inhumane treatment by prison guards.

Source: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2016/05/iran-16-year-sentence-against-critically-ill-human-rights-defender-signals-all-out-repression/>

UN condemns 16-year jail sentence for Iranian activist Narges Mohammadi



UN high commissioner for human rights joins chorus of international disapproval as Tehran revolutionary court finds ailing activist guilty of fresh charges
The international community has reacted with outrage after Narges Mohammadi, the ailing Iranian human rights activist already serving a six-year jail term, was given a further 16-year sentence by a revolutionary court in Tehran.

Mohammadi, 44, was found guilty of “establishing and running the illegal splinter group Legam”, a human rights movement that campaigns for the abolition of the death penalty. Should an upper court uphold the judgment, she will have to serve at least 10 years.

Mohammadi was arrested last May, despite concerns about her deteriorating health, to serve the remainder of a six-year sentence dating back to September 2011, when she was found guilty of acting against national security, membership of Iran’s Defenders of Human Rights Centre (DHRC), and propaganda against the state. She had originally been sentenced to 11 years’ imprisonment, but an appeals court reduced the term to six years in March 2012 and she subsequently served three months before being released on bail.



Writing from prison, Mohammadi said in a letter written to Pen International that she was in a section with 25 other female political prisoners, of whom 23 have been sentenced to a total of 177 years.

“We are all charged due to our political and religious tendency and none of us are terrorists,” she wrote. “The reason to write these lines is to tell you that the pain and suffering in the Evin prison is beyond tolerance. Opposite other prisons in Iran, there is no access to telephone in

Evin prison. Except for a weekly visit, we have no contact to the outside. All visits take place behind double glass and only connected through a phone. We are allowed to have a visit from our family members only once a month.”

The UN high commissioner for human rights, Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein, condemned Mohammadi’s treatment.

“We are appalled by the sentencing of a prominent Iranian anti-death penalty campaigner, Narges Mohammadi, to 16 years’ imprisonment in charges that stem from her courageous human rights work,” said Ravina Shamdasani, a spokeswoman for the high commissioner. “The human rights defender is believed to have serious medical conditions and has reportedly not been granted adequate access to the specialised medical care she needs. The UN human rights office and other human rights mechanisms have long urged the Iranian authorities to release Ms Mohammadi, but to no avail.

“Her sentencing is illustrative of an increasingly low tolerance for human rights advocacy in Iran. We urge the Iranian authorities to ensure the immediate release of Ms Mohammadi and all those detained for merely exercising their human rights.”

Mohammadi, a mother of two, won the 2009 Alexander Langer award for her human rights activities, especially her efforts to end the death penalty for juvenile offenders in Iran. This year, she received the City of Paris medal for her peaceful activism.

Mohammadi has fallen foul of the authorities partly because of her links to the Iranian Nobel peace laureate Shirin Ebadi, who has been forced into exile. As deputy head of the DHRC, Mohammadi was a close colleague of Ebadi, who presided over the organisation.

After a previous arrest, in 2010, Mohammadi was kept in solitary confinement in Tehran’s Evin prison, where she developed an undiagnosed disease that has been likened to epilepsy and causes her temporarily to lose control over her muscles.

Since May, Mohammadi has been allowed only one phone call with her nine-year-old twins, who have been forced to live abroad. “I am left wondering how to tell Ali and Kiana, who have only

heard Narges's voice once over the past year, that their mother has got another 10 years in prison," Mohammadi's husband, Taghi Rahmani, told Amnesty. "They are only nine and have been through hard days since they were three. But I have to prepare myself to tell them what has happened."

The Paris-based Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders condemned "the ongoing judicial harassment against the arbitrarily imprisoned human rights defender", and urged Iran to release her immediately.

Hadi Ghaemi, from the New York-based International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran, said: "Ten years in prison for a well-respected advocate for peaceful civil activities demonstrates the Islamic Republic's refusal to tolerate any peaceful dissent."

Ghaemi added: "[President Hassan] Rouhani's intelligence ministry is responsible for detaining and building the case for Mohammadi's prosecution by the judiciary, and now it is President Rouhani's responsibility to make every effort for her release and ensure Iran's citizens that ministries under his authority will not trample on their rights and freedoms."

Philip Luther, director of the Middle East and North Africa programme at Amnesty International, said Mohammadi's sentence was another example of Iran's use of "vaguely-worded national security charges" against peaceful activists.

"There's no doubt that she's being unjustly punished for her steadfast commitment to human rights," he said. "The authorities have made clear their ruthless determination to silence human rights defenders and instil fear in would-be critics of their policies. Narges Mohammadi is a prisoner of conscience and the Iranian authorities should immediately and unconditionally release her and quash her conviction."

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2016/may/24/narges-mohammadi-iranian-activist-un-condemns-10-year-jail-sentence>

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights is appalled at Ms. Mohammadi's sentence

21 May 2016



Ravina Shamdasani, the spokeswoman for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights responded to the Iranian regime judiciary sentencing Mrs. Narges Mohammadi, a prominent human rights activists, to 10 more years behind bars.

Ms. Shamdasani said: "We are appalled by the sentencing of a prominent Iranian anti-death penalty campaigner, Nargis Mohammadi, to 16 years' imprisonment in charges that stem from her courageous

human rights work. Ms. Mohammadi is already in Evin Prison in Tehran, serving out a prison sentence for breaching the country's sweeping national security laws. The human rights defender is believed to have serious medical conditions and has reportedly not been granted adequate access to the specialized medical care she needs.

"The UN Human Rights Office and other human rights mechanisms have long urged the Iranian authorities to release Ms. Mohammadi, but to no avail. Her sentencing is illustrative of an increasingly low tolerance for human rights advocacy in Iran. We urge the Iranian authorities to ensure the immediate release of Ms. Mohammadi and all those detained for merely exercising their human rights."

Women Nobel Peace Prize winners call for the freedom of Narges Mohammadi

31 May 2016



The women Nobel Peace Prize winners on Sunday called for the unfettered and unconditional freedom of Mrs. Narges Mohammadi.

In a statement posted on the Women Nobel Peace Prize Winners website, these noble women called on the Iranian regime to end judicial inquiry of human rights defenders and immediately and unconditionally release Mrs. Narges Mohammadi who has been sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for fighting to end execution.

Mrs. Mohammadi who has been sentenced to 10 years imprisonment in recent days for being an outspoken women fighting to stop execution in Iran, wrote a letter to the Pen Association describing the most inhumane ordeal she has gone through and the pressures that the political prisoners endures regime put on.

She wrote: "The pain and the torment beyond the agony of being incarcerated, is to endure the solitary confinements in the security sections. We are 25 women in the Women's Ward of the Evin Prison who have been sentenced to 150 months in solitary confinement in the security section which is much more difficult than to endure the normal prison term. Political prisoners when first arrive at the Evin have to endure long terms in such solitary conditions which are called "the preliminary investigative period."

Narges Mohammadi added that "One of the functions of such solitaries is to extract confessions, often coerced, against the accused through intimidations and threat of physical and sexual abuse. Then after the confession is taken, judges impose heavy sentences on the prisoners based on the same baseless and coerced confessions."

Mrs. Mohammadi finished her letter to the PEN Association calling on them to put pressure in the criminal regime of the mullahs to end torture and inhumane treatment of prisoners.

Amnesty International USA

Iran: Release Narges Mohammadi (UA 105/15)

URGENT ACTION

JUNE 1, 2016

Iranian human rights defender and prisoner of conscience Narges Mohammadi was sentenced to 16 years' imprisonment after her trial on 20 April. She suffers from serious illnesses and needs ongoing specialized medical care, which she cannot receive in prison. She continues to be denied the right to have access to her nine-year-old twins.

1) Please write immediately in Persian, English, Arabic, French, Spanish or your own language:

- Calling on the Iranian authorities to quash Narges Mohammadi's conviction and sentence and release her immediately and unconditionally, as she is a prisoner of conscience, held solely for the peaceful exercise of her rights to freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly;
- Urging them to ensure that Narges Mohammadi is immediately granted ongoing access to adequate specialized medical care outside prison and that she is protected from torture and other ill-treatment, which the denial of medical care can amount to;
- Urging them to allow her regular contact with a lawyer of her choosing and visits and phone calls from her family, including her children.

2) For the full Urgent Action, including appeal addresses and further information, please click on the Word or PDF version below.

3) Please let us know if you took action so that we can track our impact!

- **EITHER** send a short email to uan@aiusa.org with "UA 105/15" in the subject line, and include in the body of the email the number of letters and/or emails you sent,

- **OR** fill out this **short online form** to let us know how you took action.

Source: <http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/iran-release-narges-mohammadi-ua-10515>

Iran: Narges Mohammadi goes on hunger strike at Evin

29 June 2016



Political prisoner Narges Mohammadi who is currently detained in the women's ward of Evin Prison, started a hunger strike on June 27, 2016, in protest to being deprived of having telephone contact with her children. She has written several open letters to the highest judiciary officials about her treatment by prison authorities.

The Vice President of the League of Human Rights Advocates in Iran also wrote about her hunger strike: A year ago, in the same hot summer days, my two little

children left the country for France. It was their birthday and I asked to have a phone-call to congratulate them which they did not allow. Contrary to all other prisons, prisoners of the women's ward of Evin are deprived of calling their families. Making phone calls is prohibited.

I have had a strange experience over the past year in prison. Despite my recent 16-year prison-sentence, being imprisoned has not changed my mind but further strengthened my beliefs in defending human rights. At the same time, it has not reduced any of my suffering for being separated from my beloved children. Now, as it is written in my decree, I am behind bars in my country for being a human rights activist and a feminist and for opposing the death penalty. Not only they consider my defence of human rights as a crime, but bitterer is their denial of my being a woman and a mother.

So, despite my desires and my physical power, I have no choice but to cry out my "being a mother" by announcing that I am going on hunger strike. As women and mothers, our punishment is imprisonment, not being deprived of hearing the voice of our loved ones.

Iran: Narges Mohammadi continues hunger strike in prison despite ill health

By Staff Writer, Iran Probe

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Narges Mohammadi, the renowned ill human rights advocate held in the women's ward of Tehran's notorious Evin Prison, surpassed her 5th day on hunger strike on Saturday, July 2nd, protesting authorities not allowing her to make a phone call with her children, the Hrana news agency reported. Mohammadi is continuing her hunger strike at a time when she needs to take specific medication to control her illnesses, and to this day she has suffered severe hysteria on two cases. Mohammadi has been on hunger strike since June 27th.

"She is seeking to gain the attention of judiciary officials to the issue of phone call limitations imposed on women in Evin," said an informed source. "There are no phones in this section of Evin. This is a prisoner's basic rights and it has been violated. Only prisoners who have first kin relatives abroad can make phone calls once a month, lasting only 10 to 15 minutes, and only if they continuously make requests and if their requests are actually agreed to."

Tehran's deputy public prosecutor met Mohammadi in prison on June 30th, telling her that security officials are not permitting her phone calls.

This human rights advocate, recently described by the Reporters Without Borders as a champion of freedom of reporting, was sentenced to 16 years behind bars in a so-called court.

It is said that her participation in an anti-death penalty campaign was the main accusation raised against her by the regime's judge. Amnesty International recently issued a statement strongly condemning the sentencing delivered for Mohammadi, describing it as a comprehensive attack against all human rights advocates.