



Women Arrested During National Protest in Iran

Second Report

Date: 19/02/2026



Introduction

More than forty days have passed since the Iranian authorities violently suppressed the January protests, a crackdown that, according to multiple credible reports, resulted in the killing of thousands of protesters (estimated to be between 7,000 and 30,000) and the arrest of tens of thousands more. Although visible street demonstrations have diminished,

the repression has not subsided. Rather, it has entered a new phase, marked by accelerated prosecutions, severe prison conditions, and sustained pressure on families and civil society.

Across the country, Revolutionary Courts are conducting protest-related trials at an alarming speed. Numerous defendants are facing grave charges, including offenses that carry the death penalty. At least two protesters — Saleh Mohammadi and Mohammad Amin Biglari — have reportedly received preliminary death sentences. These proceedings are taking place amid serious and well-documented violations of due process, raising urgent concerns about the risk of further executions following fundamentally unfair trials.

On February 11, the Publicity Office of the Qom Seminary briefly published a statistical report concerning 11,252 arrested protesters; the report was removed from its website shortly thereafter. According to the published data, 27 percent of those arrested were under the age of 18, 17 percent were students, and 12 percent were women. The inclusion of minors and students among those detained underscores the breadth of the crackdown and its impact on vulnerable populations. The swift removal of the report further highlights the sensitivity surrounding the scale and demographics of the arrests.

Conditions inside detention facilities are reported to be increasingly dire. Multiple sources indicate severe overcrowding in prisons holding protest detainees. In the women's political ward of Evin Prison, approximately 100 detainees are currently being held, the majority of whom were arrested in connection with the recent protests. Reports from Yazd Women's Prison describe inadequate detention conditions, including deprivation of basic hygiene facilities and essential welfare provisions. In Hamadan Women's Prison, a significant number of women arrested during the protests remain detained, some facing serious charges that may carry lengthy prison sentences.

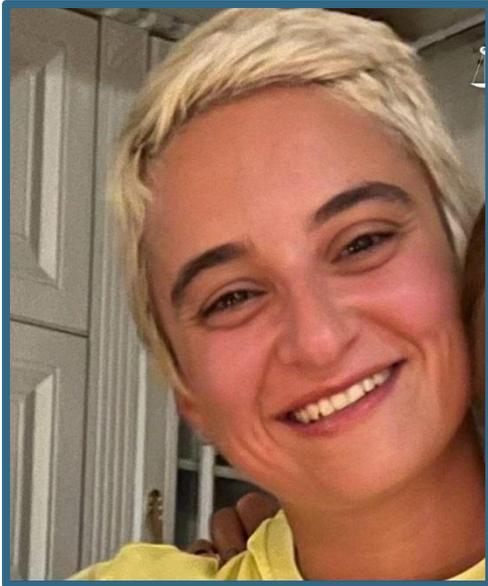
Serious violations of fair trial rights are also being widely reported. According to human rights lawyers inside Iran, detainees are routinely denied access to legal counsel during the interrogation and investigative phases. In many instances, even at trial, judges obstruct defendants' access to independent legal representation. Such practices contravene Iran's obligations under international human rights law, including the right to due process, the right to defense, and protection against arbitrary detention. These violations occur in parallel with broader pressure on independent and human rights lawyers, a pattern of systematic repression documented in a recent [Report published by Femena](#).

Repression has also extended beyond detention centers and courtrooms. As families mark the fortieth day memorials for loved ones killed during the protests, a significant observance in Iranian mourning traditions, security forces have reportedly pressured some families to cancel commemorative gatherings. Several families have publicly announced the cancellation of memorial ceremonies due to "security considerations," reflecting ongoing intimidation and interference with the right to peaceful assembly and the right to mourn.

In addition, there are credible reports of business closures, including cafés and restaurants, as well as the suspension or forced closure of social media accounts belonging to individuals who expressed solidarity with protesters. Following the mass arrests and the reported killing of more than 7,000 protesters, according to the latest figures from HRANA, the authorities appear to be systematically identifying and targeting those who demonstrated support for the protest movement in any form.

Since the outset of the protests, Femena has sought to document and amplify the cases of women detained in connection with the demonstrations. Femena's [first report](#) profiled twenty detained women; the present report highlights twenty additional women arrested during the crackdown. Femena is also compiling a comprehensive list of women detained in the context of the protests, which will be published in the coming weeks.

Taken together, developments over the past forty days demonstrate that the state's response has intensified rather than diminished. The repression has shifted from the streets to the courts, prisons, and private spheres of life, characterized by expedited trials, death sentences, denial of legal representation, intimidation of bereaved families, and retaliation against those expressing solidarity. These patterns point to ongoing, systemic violations of fundamental human rights.



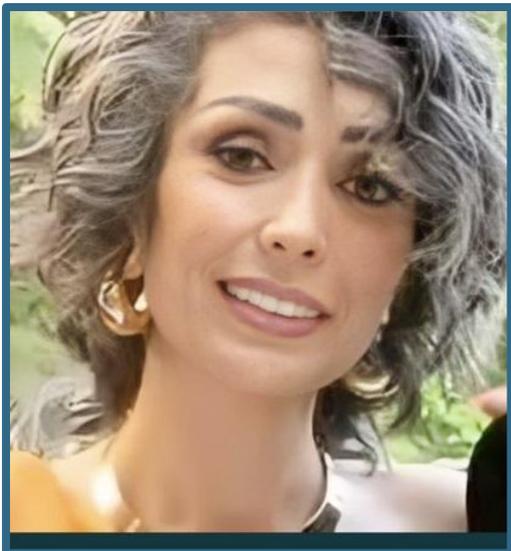
1. Sarvenaz Amiri

Released on bail

Dr. Sarvenaz Amiri, 31, was arrested in the early morning of January 11, 2026, at her residence in Tehran. Nearly one month after her arrest, there is still no information regarding her condition or whereabouts. She has had no contact with her family since her arrest, raising serious concerns about her safety and well-being.

Over the past month, amid nationwide protests across Iran, dozens of medical practitioners have reportedly been arrested without clear reasons or formal charges.

The denial of detainees' timely access to legal counsel and the obstruction of communication with their families constitute serious violations of fundamental human rights standards, including the right to due process, the right to legal defense, and protection against arbitrary detention. These practices point to broader, systemic concerns regarding violations of detainees' rights.



2. Mona Norouzi

Mona Norouzi, 45, a physiotherapist, was arrested at her residence in Tehran on January 18, 2026. Following her arrest, she was permitted to make only a brief phone call to her family, during which she was unable to disclose her whereabouts.

In the three weeks since her arrest, her family has received no information regarding her health or conditions of detention. She has also been denied access to legal counsel, raising serious concerns about violations of her fundamental rights including her right to due process, legal representation, and contact with her family.



3. Aida Koushki

Aida Koushki, a 23-year-old English language student and instructor from Shahabad (Islamabad-e Gharb), was arrested by security forces on Sunday, February 1, and transferred to an undisclosed location. Since her arrest, no official information has been provided regarding her condition or place of detention, and her family has been denied any contact or updates about her whereabouts.

Many families remain completely uninformed about the fate and location of their detained relatives. Despite repeated inquiries to judicial and security authorities, they have received no clear responses or clarifications. This lack of transparency regarding case status, coupled with families' limited access to information and detainees' lack of access to independent legal counsel, has severely undermined their right to a fair trial.



4. Mastoureh Narimani

A fourth-grade elementary school teacher in Ahvaz, was arrested on January 11, 2027, amid the Nationwide Protests, following a raid by Iranian security forces on her private residence. During the raid, agents searched her home, confiscated her mobile phone and electronic devices, and transferred her to an undisclosed location.

According to a close source, Mastoureh Narimani is facing a security-related case on the charge of "sending videos and footage to foreign media outlets." There are serious concerns that she may be subjected to a harsh sentence as a result of this case-building. Now 29 days after her arrest, there is still no verified information regarding her place of detention or her physical and psychological condition.



5. Delaram Kazemi

Delaram Kazemi, a Kurdish citizen from Gilan-e Gharb, in Kermanshah Province, has been detained by forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and transferred to the women’s ward of Kermanshah Central Prison, which state-affiliated media refer to as the “Correction and Rehabilitation Center.” During her arrest, she was subjected to physical violence and sustained fractures to her arms and legs and was transferred to prison without receiving proper medical treatment.

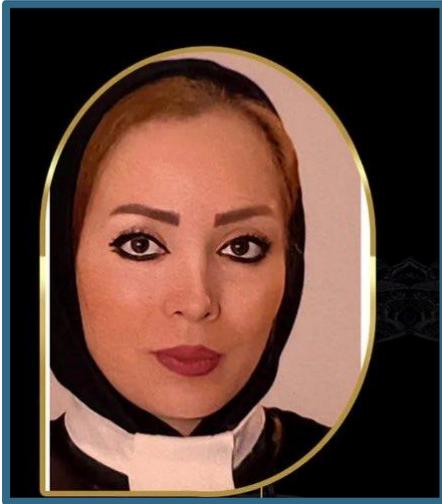
Delaram Kazemi, mother of two children, had previously been released after three days of detention but was rearrested on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, during public protests in Gilan-e Gharb, where security forces used violence and physical assault to detain her. She was beaten both at the time of her arrest and during her detention in custody. This situation has raised serious concerns about her access to adequate medical care and the protection of her health while in detention.



6. Sepideh Taheri

Sepideh Taheri, a lawyer and a member of the Hormozgan Bar Association, was arrested on Sunday, February 1, after being summoned to the Bandar Abbas Prosecutor’s Office. Since her arrest, no information has been released regarding her place of detention, legal status, or the charges against her. Efforts to obtain official clarification from the relevant authorities have so far been unsuccessful.

According to available information, her arrest is reportedly linked to posts she shared on her personal social media accounts in support of protesters’ rights.



7. Zohreh Javani

Zohreh Javani, a lawyer and a member of the Central Bar Association, has been arrested. Since her detention, no information has been made available regarding her place of transfer or the reasons for her arrest.



8. Kokab Badaghi

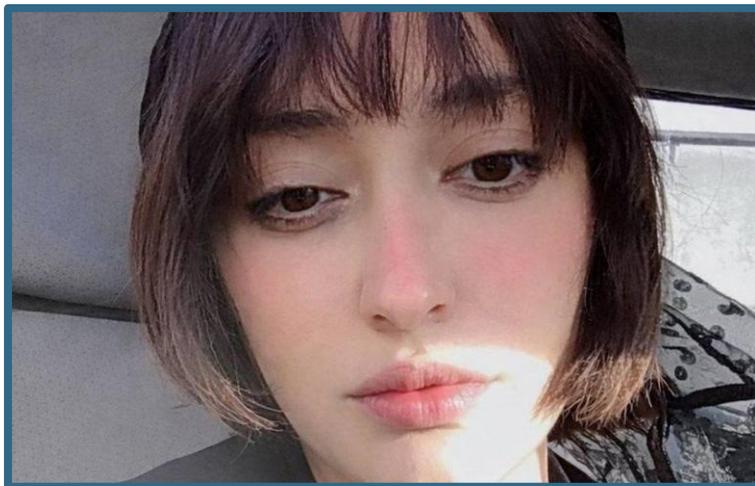
According to information obtained by IranWire, two weeks after security forces raided the home of Kokab Badaghi Pegah, a teacher and teachers' union activist in the city of Izeh, Khuzestan province, her whereabouts remain unknown.

On Monday, January 26, 2026, security forces stormed her home, conducted a search, confiscated her mobile phone, and handed her a summons in person before transferring her to the Izeh Intelligence Office. According to IranWire, the agents identified themselves as affiliated with the IRGC Intelligence Organization, yet entered the property illegally by climbing over a wall and without presenting any identification. During the raid, they also seized her laptop, national identification documents, and other personal belongings.

Based on information received by IranWire, Kokab Badaghi Pegah went to the Intelligence Office to "provide explanations regarding a case involving charges of propaganda against the state." Following this appearance, she disappeared, and no official information has since been made available regarding her detention status, place of custody, or physical condition.

She had been instructed to report to the Intelligence Office at 8:00 a.m. that same day to follow up on her case. She had previously been summoned on two similar occasions in

connection with her union activities and had returned home safely. However, after her most recent visit, she never returned. Amid the ongoing lack of information about her fate, her husband has formally approached judicial authorities and filed a missing person report, raising serious concerns about enforced disappearance and violations of her fundamental rights.



9. Homa Teimouri

Homa Teymouri, a graduate holding a master's degree in Political Thought from Tarbiat Modares University, was arrested following a raid by security forces on her residence in Tehran. The arrest was carried out without transparency, and no official information has been

provided regarding the legal basis for her detention.

At present, there is no publicly available information about her condition, place of detention, or access to legal counsel. The detaining authorities have not provided any information clarifying her status, raising serious concerns about the risk of enforced disappearance and violations of her fundamental rights, including her right to due process, legal representation, and contact with her family.

This lack of transparency and accountability regarding her detention constitutes a grave breach of international human rights standards and further reflects ongoing patterns of arbitrary arrest and incommunicado detention.



10. Ghazal Omid

Ghazal Omid, a physician residing in Abdanan, has been detained for more than three weeks, with no information released regarding her condition or place of detention. To date, no information is available concerning the legal grounds for her arrest or her current status.

On February 1, Amnesty International reported that the violent suppression of protests in Iran has included attacks by security forces on hospitals, obstruction of medical treatment, the arrest of injured protesters, and widespread human rights violations targeting medical personnel. Previously, officials from the Medical Council and the Nursing

Council had claimed that any arrests of doctors or nurses were unrelated to their professional activities. However, reports from healthcare workers in multiple cities indicate that during the deadly crackdown on protesters on Thursday, January 8, and Friday, January 9, security forces stormed hospitals and harassed medical staff.

In the days following these killings, reports emerged revealing the widespread detention of healthcare workers. These actions have raised serious concerns about systematic violations of medical neutrality and the deliberate targeting of healthcare professionals, in breach of international human rights and humanitarian standards.



11. Farzaneh Seydi

Farzaneh Seydi, a resident of Ilam and a former detainee of the “Woman, Life, Freedom” movement, was arrested on January 27, 2026, and transferred to an undisclosed location. As of the time of this report, no information has been made available regarding the conditions of her detention or her current whereabouts.

Farzaneh Seydi had previously been arrested in September 2022 during the “Woman, Life, Freedom” protests in Ilam and was temporarily released after one month upon posting bail in the amount of 3 billion tomans.

She was later sentenced by the Ilam Revolutionary Court and Criminal Court Branch Two on charges of “assembly and collusion with intent to commit crimes against internal and external security,” “propaganda against the state,” and “disruption of public order” to a total of four years and three months of imprisonment, a two-year travel ban, and the revocation of her passport.

Following an appeal, her sentence was reduced to two years and two months of suspended imprisonment, a fine of 25 million tomans, a two-year travel ban, and the revocation of her passport.



12. Mona and Niousha Nakhaei

Niousha Nakhaei, 25, and her sister Mona Nakhaei, 37, were arrested in the early hours of January 15, at their family residence in Tehran. Eight security agents entered the home without presenting a judicial warrant while the sisters were asleep. The agents reportedly confiscated their mobile phones, forced them to disclose their passwords, and took them into custody.

Family members have been told that the reason for Niousha and Mona Nakhai’s

arrest was the “presence of their private vehicle on the street on the night of January 8.” However, no formal charges or judicial orders have been issued against them, and they have been denied access to legal counsel.

The two sisters are being held at Evin Prison. They have so far been permitted to make four brief phone calls to their family, the most recent of which took place on Sunday, February 1. During these calls, they have only been able to confirm that they are in good health. No information has been provided regarding the progress of their case, the detaining authority, or the expected date of their release.



13. Nazanin Baradaran

Nazanin Baradaran is a human rights lawyer. Her arrest was first publicly reported on Wednesday, 16 January 2026, by the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) and official state media outlets. However, the exact date of her arrest remains unknown.

She was detained in Tehran by the Intelligence Organization of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). State-affiliated Fars News Agency further publicized her arrest in a video report, alleging that Ms. Baradaran was “part of a scenario

designed by foreign governments to elevate women figures within the protest movement.” The report also claimed that she had been involved in drafting a legal framework for a post-overthrow period.

The public dissemination of such serious accusations against Nazanin Baradaran by security-linked media, prior to any judicial process, has gravely undermined the presumption of innocence and significantly heightened concerns regarding the fairness and legality of proceedings against her. To date, no official information has been provided regarding her place of detention, legal status, or condition, raising serious concerns about arbitrary detention, due process violations, and her personal safety.



14. Faranak Hajjari-Zadeh

Frank Hajjari-Zadeh, 30, an environmental health specialist and German language instructor, was arrested on January 8 in Kashani Street, Tehran.

According to available information, she was transferred to Evin Prison following her arrest and is currently being held in Ward 209. Ward 209 is a detention facility in Tehran operated under the supervision of Iran’s Ministry of Intelligence.

Detainees in this ward are held in extremely small cells, either in solitary confinement or in overcrowded group conditions. During periods of mass arrests, prisoners are reportedly confined in spaces far exceeding the cells’ intended capacity and are kept under harsh and inhumane conditions.



15. **Sarina Rezaei**

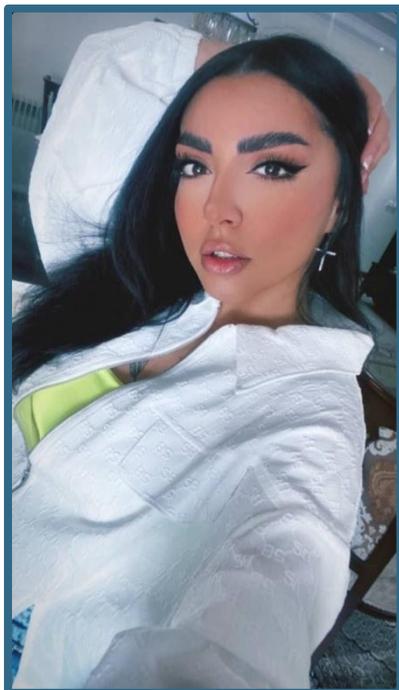
Sarina Rezaei, a 17-year-old eleventh-grade student from Qazvin, was arrested at her school while wearing her school uniform during the January 2026 protests. She is currently being held in Choubindar Prison in Qazvin.

According to received reports, she has been deprived of attending school and continuing her education for more than one month.

At the same time, Zahra Torkamani, Sarina Rezaei's mother, was also arrested in connection with the January events and is being held in detention at the same prison.

Sarina Rezaei's imprisonment highlights ongoing concerns regarding the arrest and detention of minors in the aftermath of public protests and stands in stark contrast to earlier claims by education authorities that no students were being held in prison

The detention of a minor and the disruption of her education raise serious concerns under international standards protecting the rights of the child, including the right to education and protection from arbitrary detention.



16. **Parastoo Rabiei**

Parastoo Rabiei, 22, was arrested in Tehran on January 13, 2026. She has since been transferred to the quarantine ward of Qarchak Prison. The charges brought against her include "assembly and collusion" and "propaganda against the state."

According to reports, Rabiei's arrest took place at 3:00 a.m. and was accompanied by violence. Security forces reportedly broke down the door of her home upon entry. She was subsequently transferred to Ward 209 of Evin Prison, which is operated under the supervision of the Ministry of Intelligence, where she was held and interrogated for three weeks.



17. Azar Mansouri

Released on bail

Azar Mansouri, head of the Reformists Front and Secretary-General of the Ettihad Mellat Party, was arrested on February 7 at her home in Qarchak, Varamin, by judicial officers affiliated with the IRGC Intelligence Organization.

Her arrest took place amid a broader wave of detentions targeting political activists associated with the reformist parties. In the days prior to her arrest, Mansouri had criticized the government's killing of protesters in posts shared on her social media accounts.

In this context, Fars News Agency, a media outlet close to Iran's security institutions, reported that "a network of radical elements who were inciting the country's socio-political atmosphere through accusations and the dissemination of false positions against the system, and undermining national stability and cohesion, were arrested in a joint operation by the IRGC Intelligence Organization and the Ministry of Intelligence."

Mansouri had previously been arrested and imprisoned during the protests that followed Iran's 2009 presidential election, commonly known as the Green Movement.



18. Samaneh Lal Pahlevan

Samaneh Lal Pahlevan and her husband, Ali Akbarinejad, were arrested by security forces on January 11, 2026. According to Radio Zamaneh, they remain in solitary confinement and have been denied telephone contact with their families.

Based on reports received by Zamaneh, after nearly one month without information about their condition, a phone call—reportedly from the "social services office of Mashhad Prison", informed their families that both individuals are being held in solitary confinement.

Security forces reportedly raided the home of Akbarinejad's father on January 11 and violently arrested Ali Akbarinejad, 46, and Samaneh Lal Pahlevan, 44. At the time of their arrest, security agents confiscated all of the couple's electronic devices and personal belongings.



19. Shakila Ghasemi

Shakila Ghasemi, a 26-year-old Baha'i citizen residing in Kerman, was arrested on January 23 by security forces and transferred to an undisclosed location. According to statements made by her family, approximately 12 security agents raided her home without presenting a judicial warrant and detained her.

During the raid, security forces conducted a thorough search of the residence. All electronic devices belonging to Ms. Ghasemi and her family members were confiscated without clear explanation or legal documentation. When Shakila's mother asked the agents what they were searching for, one of them reportedly responded that they were looking for weapons. Two female agents also subjected Shakila to a body search and made her in front of a camera. They demanded that she wear a headscarf; however, she refused to comply.

Since her arrest, Shakila Ghasemi's parents have made repeated inquiries with judicial and security authorities in Kerman in an effort to obtain information about their daughter's situation. To date, they have received no clear response regarding the charges against her, her place of detention. According to her sister, Shaghayegh Ghasemi, Shakila had previously been barred from pursuing higher education due to her religious beliefs. Nevertheless, she continued to independently pursue her educational and professional development, enrolling in artistic and vocational courses using her personal savings.

Shakila Ghasemi's arrest, particularly in the absence of due process and transparency, raises serious concerns about the ongoing persecution of members of the Baha'i community and violations of their fundamental rights, including freedom of religion, protection from arbitrary detention, and the right to legal representation. In recent days, the global Baha'i community has issued a statement expressing concern over the escalating pressure on Baha'is in Iran. The statement notes that during periods of protests, religious minorities face increased repression and are often portrayed in state-affiliated media as responsible for unrest.



20. Fatemeh Namanlouei

Fatemeh Namanlouei, an 18-year-old resident of Shirvan in North Khorasan Province, was arrested on January 8, 2026, in Bojnord. Since her arrest, no information has been made available regarding her health condition or current status.

According to her cellmates, she was last seen in the Bojnord detention facility with severe bruising and visible injuries across her body, indicating that she may have been subjected to physical violence while in custody.



About Femena

Femena promotes women's rights, and supports women human rights defenders (WHRDs), their organizations and feminist movements in the South-West Asia and North Africa SWANA region. Our work is particularly focused on contexts impacted by repression, fascism and conflict where civic space is closed or shrinking and there is a backlash against rights of women and other structurally excluded groups.