

## NCRI Human Rights Center Weekly Bulletin July 16, 2018

### Systematic violations of the right to life

Executions, arbitrary killings, deaths in custody, and death sentences

#### Execution

##### **A group of 8 people were executed**

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/fa/news/1397/04/16/1769885>

Eight people were executed in Tehran. Tehran's Prosecutor announced that eight people were executed on charges of membership in ISIS and attacking the parliament. The names of these people are as the follow: Solaiman Mozafari, Ismail Sufi, Rahman Behrouz, Seyed Majid Mortezaei, Sirous Azizi, Ayoub Esmaili, Khosro Ramezani Mirahmadi, and Osman Behrouz. (Tansim state-run News Agency- July 7, 2018)

##### **Prisoner executed in Zahedan Central Prison**

<https://www.hra-news.org/2018/hranews/a-16030/>

On Saturday, July 07, 2018, a prisoner was executed in Zahedan Central Prison. The prisoner was identified as a 48 year old, named, Naeem Mandozehi, who was married and had 9 children. He was from Afghanistan and was sentenced to death for murder. (Herana- July 7, 2018)

##### **Execution in Sistan and Baluchistan province**

<http://www.khorasannews.com/newspaper/page/19860/13/619003/0>

On Saturday morning. July 7, 2018, a man was executed in Mirjaveh City on charges of murder. The prosecutor of the capital of Sistan and Baluchistan province declared his identity as N.M. (Khorasan state-run Newspaper- July 8, 2018)

##### **Prisoner executed in Qaemshahr Prison**

<https://www.yjc.ir/fa/news/6587967>

<https://www.ilnanews.com/%D8%A8%D8%AE%D8%B4-%D8%B3%DB%8C%D8%A7%D8%B3%DB%8C-3/641153-%D8%A7%D8%AC%D8%B1%D8%A7%DB%8C-%D8%AD%DA%A9%D9%85-%D9%82%D8%B5%D8%A7%D8%B5-%D8%AF%D8%B1-%D8%B2%D9%86%D8%AF%D8%A7%D9%86-%D9%82%D8%A7%D8%A6%D9%85%D8%B4%D9%87%D8%B1>

The General and Revolutionary Prosecutor of Mazandaran Province stated that a prisoner, charged with murder was executed at the front yard of Qaemshahr Prison. Younes Hosseini Alami said that the convicted person, identified as L.M., was sentenced to death for murder, and was executed in the front yard of Ghaemshahr

Prison with the presence of his parents. (Reporters Club state-run Website, ILNA state-run Website - July 05, 2018)

### **Two prisoners executed in Gorgan Prison**

<https://iranhr.net/fa/articles/3388/>

On Saturday morning, June 30, two prisoners were executed in Gorgan Prison. The two detainees were sentenced to death on charges of first degree murder. One of them was identified as Vahid, who was convicted of street murder. The executions of the two detainees has not been announced by the media inside Iran until the moment of setting this report. (Iran's Human Rights Organization-July 11, 2018)

### **Death sentence**

#### **Execution and 20 years imprisonment given to 3 prisoners after 9 years**

<https://www.hra-news.org/2018/hranews/a-16047/>



On Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, the sentences of three Sunni religious prisoners in Urmia Prison, which had been in doubt since December 2009, were announced. Anwar Khezri and Khosrow Besharat were each sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for participating in a crime scene and Kameran Shikheh was sentenced to death. These prisoners, along with four other Sunni prisoners, have been in prison since December 7, 2009. They did not have the opportunity and the right to defend themselves in the court as they weren't allowed to elect and choose their own lawyers. (Herana- July 8, 2018)

### **Inhumane treatment and cruel punishments Amputation, flogging, torture and humiliation**

#### **Journalist student sentenced to imprisonment and lashes**

<https://ir.voanews.com/a/iran-prison-journalist/4470476.html>



Sadeh Ghaisari, a journalist student of Beheshti University who was arrested in February by the Revolutionary Guards during the suppression of the dervishes at 7th Golestan Street, was sentenced by the Tehran Revolutionary Court to 7 years imprisonment, 74 lashes, 2 years of ban on activities

in the press and leaving the country. He informed his family in a telephone call about the verdict issued by Judge Salavati.

Mr. Qaisari, who during the hearing did not have the opportunity to introduce a lawyer to defend himself, said he is not a dervish, and only went to the Pasdaran Street to prepare a report. He also informed one of his close relatives that he does not have a good physical condition due to the beatings made during his arrest and has been suffering several nerve attacks in his sleeps. (Voice of America- July 5, 2018)

### **Verdict of 80 lashes implemented in public**

<https://www.yjc.ir/fa/news/6593155>

Kashmar Prosecutor mentioned that 80 lashes was executed in public at Shahid Niazmand Square.

Gholamreza Tale'i added that the verdict of the convicted person which was executed in public today, was for drinking alcohol. He was identified as M.R. and was born in 1991. His sentence was carried out publicly under the order of a judge.

Kashmar Prosecutor also stated that the judiciary will take decisive and serious action with those who particularly drink at weddings. (Reporters Club state-run Website- July 10, 2018)

## **Prison**

### **Prison conditions**

#### **Elham Ahmadi was returned to Qarchak Prison**

<https://www.majzooban.org/fa/index.php/2016-01-06-22-22-54/17880-2018-07-05-17-54-20>



Elham Ahmadi, a female dervish prisoner, was transferred from Qarchak Prison to an unknown location on July 4, and was returned to prison the next day. Mohammadi, the head of the prison, because two months ago, in a telephone call with a friend, Elham had explained about the horrific events such as humiliation, insult, and violation of the rights of detainees, complained to the security prosecutor to transfer her to the prosecutor's office and filed a new case for her on the charges of publicizing lies. (Majzooban Noor- July 5, 2018)

**Mustafa Daneshjou was transferred to Ward 209 in Evin Prison**

<https://www.hra-news.org/2018/hranews/a-16054/>



Mostafa Daneshjou, the director of Majzooban Noor Website and the lawyer of the Gonabadi dervishes, was arrested on Saturday, July 7, at his mother's house in Tehran and transferred to Ward 209 of Evin Prison. Seven armed agents stormed into and broke the entrance door of Mostafa's house and arrested him in the presence of his family members by threatening them with guns. Due to the attack, the elderly mother, the wife and the young daughter of Mr. Daneshjou were transferred to the emergency room of the hospital. (Herana- July 9, 2018)

**Shokoufeh Yadollahi affected by a pulmonary disorder**

<https://www.majzooban.org/fa/index.php/2016-01-06-22-22-54/17886-2018-07-06-09-32-06>

Shokoufeh Yadollahi, a female dervish prisoner in Qarchak Prison, was transferred several times to the prison's clinic for suffering a pulmonary disorder and breathe shortness due to the excessive use of tobacco in the general ward by other prisoners.

On June 12, the dervish women were beaten in jail by the prison's guards and unlike the Prisons Organization's regulations, were ordered to be separated and transferred to general wards . (Majzooban Noor- July 6, 2018)

**Political prisoner deprived from essential medical treatment**

<https://www.hra-news.org/2018/hranews/a-16089/>

Saeed Shirzad, a political prisoner detained in Rajai Shahr prison in Karaj, who is suffering from lumbar disc disease and severe spastic inflammation in the lower back of the lumbar area, and is able to walk with a walker only, has been deprived of receiving any health care, even though the prison's doctors have emphasized for him to be transferred to medical centers outside the prison. During the past month, despite the issuance of a permit by the prosecutor's office, and despite the fact that he has given personal expense to receive

treatment, still the prison authorities prevent him from receiving any treatments and seeing a doctor.

Saeed Shirzad, a political activist, was arrested at work in Tabriz refinery on June 02, 2014. He was first transferred to Evin Prison, and after a time, he was exiled to Raja'i Shahr prison in Karaj. (Herana- July 11, 2018)

### **Political prisoner prevented from being released**

<https://www.hra-news.org/2018/hranews/a-16105/>



The sentence of the ill and political prisoner, Ali Moezi, at the Great Tehran Prison ended at the beginning of June, this year. But, his release is still being prevented even though one month has passed from the day his sentence was ended.

A close source has mentioned that despite the family's follow-up and Mr. Moezi's lawyer, there is still no release of the prisoner.

He continued that even though there has been no new charges given to him, and since he is in a very severe physical condition suffering from intestine, bladder, kidneys, and prostate diseases, he is still prisoned in the Great Tehran Prison. (Herana- July 12, 2018)

### **Prison sentences**

#### **Shaparak Shajarizadeh sentenced to imprisonment**

<https://ir.voanews.com/a/iran-women-rights/4473827.html>



Shaparak Shajarizadeh, one of the girls who had protested against the law of veil at the Revolution Street, has been sentenced to 20 years imprisonment.

In January, a number of girls and women went out on their way to protest the mandatory veil on the Revolutionary Street of Tehran, by standing on an electric platform and taking off their veil and, hanging it from a stick.

This symbolic move went on to other parts of Tehran and several other cities, but since they started on the Revolution Street, these protesters got known as the Girls of the Revolutionary Street. (Voice of America- July 8, 2018)



## Arbitrary arrests

### Social arrests

#### **Lawyer of political prisoner was summoned**

<https://ir.voanews.com/a/iran-human-rights-justice/4471897.html>



The lawyer of Ramin Hossein Panahi, a Kurdish political prisoner, was summoned to Branch 4 of the General Public Prosecutor's Office in Sanandaj.

Hossein Ahmadi Niaz said on Friday about his summons on July 6 that this is most likely to be related to his client's case.

Mr. Ahmadi Niaz, in the recent months, had done many efforts, including interviews with the media, to stop the execution of his client, Ramin Hossein Panahi and to provide a fair trial for him. (Voice of America- July 8, 2018)

#### **About 80 people detained in the gathering of Ghale Babak**

<https://www.hra-news.org/2018/hranews/a-16042/>

On Sunday, at the same time of the Ghale Babak (Babak Castle) annual gathering, more than 80 Turkish (Azeri) activists in different cities of East and West Azerbaijan and Ardebil provinces, were arrested by the intelligence agents and transferred to an unknown location. Below are the identities of the activists who were beaten and injured:

Ayat Kheyrjoo, bleeding in the head and ear

Raheem Nowroozi, a crack on the head and bruises on the hands and feet

Morteza Parvin, seriously wounded from the waist

Mohammad Julani, seriously injured in the head, eyes, and elbows

Maysam Julani

Sadullah Sassani

Milad Akbari

Tohid Amiramini

Javad Ahmad Yekanli

Mohammad Mardi

Ali Roohbakhsh

Mohsen Esmaili

Yousef Kari

Mohammad Azadi, bruising on different parts of the body

Ghale Babak (Babak Castle) or Babak Fort was made during the Sasanian times, but it was named after Babak Khorramdin, the Khurramites (Iranian religious movement) in Azerbaijan who fought the Islamic caliphate of Abbassids. The Iranian Azerbaijanis gather at Babak Castle during the first week of July for the annual commemoration of Babak Khorramdin. In the recent years, during the gathering, the Turkish activists (Azeri) present their demands and requirements. (Herana- July 8, 2018)

### The number of detained students reached to 150

<https://www.ilnnews.com/%D8%A8%D8%AE%D8%B4%D8%B3%DB%8C%D8%A7%D8%B3%DB%8C-3/642475-%D8%AF%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%B4%D8%AC%D9%88%D9%87%D9%86%D9%88%D8%B2%D8%AF%D8%B1%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%B2%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%B4%D8%AA%D9%87%D8%B3%D8%AA%D9%86%D8%AF%D8%A8%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%7C%D9%86%D9%81%D8%B1%D8%AD%DA%A9%D9%85%D8%B5%D8%A7%D8%AF%D8%B1%D8%B4%D8%AF%D9%87%D8%B3%D8%AA%D9%86%D8%AA%D8%A2%D9%85%D8%A7%D8%B1%D8%AF%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%B4%D8%AC%D9%88%D8%B3%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%B2%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%B4%D8%AA%DB%8C%D8%AF%D8%B1%D9%88%D9%87%D8%A7%DB%8C%D8%B9%D8%AF%DB%8C%D9%85%D8%A7%D9%87%D8%A8%DB%8C%D8%B4%D8%A7%D8%B2%D9%86%D9%81%D8%B1%D8%A8%D9%88%D8%AF>

Parvaneh Salahshouri, the chairman of the women's parliament fraction, by pointing to the issuance of heavy sentences on those who participated in the recent unrests, assumed that the number of students arrested after the January nationwide protests has reached to 150. She added that the identifications of some of those students has been published in a list in which they have been sentenced by the court in January to imprisonments, lashes, cash penalties, and prohibited from some social rights and leaving the country.

She continued that with this account, the statistics of students who have been convicted by high court judgments during this period are more than the statistics that the Minister of Science has announced. (ILNA state-run News Agency- July 10, 2018)

### Kurdish civilian activist arrested in Karaj

<http://www.kurdpa.net/farsi/idame/73625>



On Thursday, July 05, Maryam Faraji, a Kurdish civilian activist residing in Karaj, was arrested after leaving her home. Her family's follow ups for the fate of their child was in vain. The Kurdish civilian activist who was arrested by the intelligence forces is waiting for the court of appeals to set the time for the hearing.

Maryam Faraji was arrested in January, at the same time of the protests occurring in Tehran. She was interrogated for 10 days in Ward 209 at Evin Information Center. Maryam, 33, is a senior student in international management and a financial manager of a company in Shahriar, Tehran. (Kurdpa- July 10, 2018)

## Basic freedom and rights abused

### The people of Bushehr are deprived from basic facilities

<https://www.ilnnews.com/%D8%A8%D8%A9%D8%B4%D8%A7%D8%B1%D8%AA%D8%A7%D9%86%D9%87%D8%A715/641658%D8%AF%D8%B1%D8%B5%D8%AF%D8%AC%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%A9%D9%88%D8%B4%D9%87%D8%B1%D8%A9%D8%8C%D8%A9%D8%A7%D8%B1%D9%86%D8%AF%D8%B1%D9%85%D8%B1%D8%AF%D9%85%D9%86%D8%B7%D8%87%D8%A7%D8%B2%D8%A4%D8%B4%D8%BA%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AF%D8%B1%D9%85%D8%A7%D8%A8%D9%88%D8%8C%D9%85%D8%AA%D8%B9%D9%81%D9%86%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%B2%D8%A4%D9%88%D8%A7%D8%A3%D8%A7%D9%86%D8%A7%D8%A3%D8%A9%D8%B1%D9%87%D8%B1%D9%88%D8%B2%D8%8C%D8%A9%D8%A5%D8%A7%D8%B1>

A member of the High Council of Bushehr Province said that 70 percent of the youth in the province suffer from unemployment. Ali Akbar Fatemi stated that the city of Kakai with a population of over 11 thousand people does not have a judiciary system. He added that a 2-year recruitment test has been carried out, and a construction is planned for this purpose. About the water crisis, he indicated that in total, the water of Dashtestan and other districts of the Bushehr province is facing a lot of problems, for example, some villages are watered every three days, and some every other 10 days with a tanker. (ILNA state-run News Agency- July 7, 2018)

### Parliament Representative: Telegram should be completely blocked

<https://www.farsnews.com/news/13970417001153>



A member of the Cultural Commission of the Parliament said that the Telegram should be completely blocked.

Nasrullah Pejmanfar stated that according to the Supreme National Security Council's decision, the operation of the Telegram should be prevented, but according to the judicial order, activities on the Telegram weren't prevented correctly. He emphasized that by the order of the judicial authority, the contents in the Telegram should be filtered and blocked in a way in that no one can have access to, even by breaking the filtering. (Fars state-run News Agency- July 9, 2018)

### Website director arrested in Paveh

<http://kurdistanhumanrights.net/fa/?p=5779>



Muzaffar Waldbighi, the director of a news website called, Nuryav, was arrested by the security forces and transferred to the detention center of Paveh.

The arrest warrant was issued due to a news report that was published on the website stating the annoyance and bothers of some plainclothes agents bullying and



threatening a family. The Nuryav Website and the Dengi Nuryav Telegraph channel covers news in Paveh City. (Kurdistan Human Rights Network- July 8, 2018)

### Telegram Channel Administrators summoned

<http://www.asriran.com/fa/news/619667>



Payam Derafshan, a lawyer, stated that a number of telegram channel administrators have been summoned to the judiciary in the city of Isfahan.

He pointed out by referring to a message which was sent to the Telegram administrators a few months ago, that one day the security agencies send messages on the Telegram mentioning that any activities done in the channel will be considered as a crime and will be dealt with.

Then they call and summoned the administrators to the judiciary of Isfahan City.

Derafshan said about his client that they contacted her last Wednesday and summoned the woman to the judiciary of Isfahan City. He added that in the follow ups, they found out that other women have also been summoned for showing video clips of baking sweets and cakes, and women arts.

He continued that my client is not affiliated with many people, and only 9 of the women who have the same content on their channel are like her, but it has been said that on Tuesday, they were also summoned. (Asr Iran state-run Website- July 9, 2018)

### After 21 days, still no news from Shah Baloch, a rap singer

<http://www.balochcampaign.info/21-%d8%b1%d9%88%d8%b2-%d8%a8%db%8c-%d8%ae%d8%a8%d8%b1%db%8c-%d8%a7%d8%b2-%d8%b4%d8%a7%d9%87-%d8%a8%d9%84%d9%88%da%86-%d8%ae%d9%88%d8%a7%d9%86%d9%86%d8%af%d9%87-%d8%b1%d9%be/>



Twenty-one days after the arrest of the rap singer, Shah Baloch, still his family has no news of his location and where he is held.

The reason for his arrest is unknown. Shah Baloch is a national activist and rapper, who sings songs about the national and social issues of the Baloch people.

(Baloch Activists Campaign- July 10, 2018)

### The people of Zabol sleep in graves due to poverty

<http://nodud.com/other/social/1531034490.552497>

The Nodud state-run Website published a photo on the internet of grave dwellers in Zabol. In the Twitter post, it has written:

Grave dwellers in Zabol, an example of destitute people living in the graves of Zabol Cemetery.

Zabol is one of the cities in Sistan and Baluchistan Province in southern Iran. (Nodud state-run Website- July 8, 2018)



### Religious and ethnic minorities

#### Three Dervishes arrested

<https://www.hra-news.org/2018/hranews/a-16085/>

Three Gonabadi dervishes residing in Quar City, were arrested by the security forces for the execution of their sentences.

On June 2014, the three were sentenced to prison in the first branch of the Quar General Court, with the charges of disturbing public order.

Following the confirmation of the prison sentence by the court of appeals in Fars, they were arrested on July 11 by the security forces for the implementation of their verdicts. The three dervish detainees are identified as Zibahallah Gerdpour, Mehrdad Keshavars, and Abdolreza Arayesh. (Herana- July 11, 2018)

### **Suppressive maneuvers**

#### **Prison guards onslaught the political prisoners in Ardebil Prison**

[https://zandaniran.blogspot.com/2018/07/blog-post\\_55.html](https://zandaniran.blogspot.com/2018/07/blog-post_55.html)

On the morning of July 8th, prison guards attacked Band 7 - the political prisoners' section in the central prison of Ardebil. They interrogated and searched all of the prisoners' belongings and also ruined a part of the ward's wall.

After the destruction and inspection of the ward, the guards took away some of the clothes and belongings of the prisoners. Afterwards, the prison authorities deprived the prisoners from any phone calls with their families. (No to prison, No to execution- July 8, 2018)

#### **Prison guards attacked prisoners in Gohardasht Prison**

[https://zandaniran.blogspot.com/2018/07/blog-post\\_9.html](https://zandaniran.blogspot.com/2018/07/blog-post_9.html)

On Saturday mid night, July 7, 2018, prison guards attacked the prisoners in Ward 2 of Gohardasht Prison. The same attack was repeated at 10 pm on Sunday night, July 8th. But this time the guards attacked Ward 2 of the prison.

According to the reports, similar attacks were also carried out in the recent nights in Wards 3 and 6 of the prison. During the night raids, the prison guards seized and took away the prisoners' belongings. (No to prison, No to execution- July 9, 2018)

### **Violence against women**

#### **Poverty, the main cause of girls' marriage in Sistan and Baluchistan**

<http://aftabnews.ir/fa/news/532821>

Aziz Sarani, a representative of Sistan and Baluchistan in the Supreme Council of the Provinces, said that in the villages most of the girls continue to study until the

sixth grade and afterwards, they will stay at home. Since there are not enough facilities and because of religious prejudices, girls are given to a husband between the ages of 14 and 15, and in some villages we also witness the marriage of 9-year-old girls. (Aftab state-run News Agency- July 5, 2018)

### **Police act with women wearing inappropriate Hijab**

<https://www.farsnews.com/news/13970417000600>

In a message to the 12th of July, which coincides with the day of the veil (Hijab) in Iran, the police force announced that there will be no merci for those who violate the law of veil (Hijab). The official statement of the police said that the Islamic Republic's law enforcement force commemorates the 12th of July, the day of chastity and hijab. He declared that in practice, the inherent duties of the law are increasing and will show no merci for those who violate or break the standard laws. (Fars state-run News Agency- July 8, 2018)

### **In Iran the production and sale of front opened gowns has been forbidden**

<https://www.radiozamaneh.com/402827>

<http://jamejamonline.ir/online/3359396923603607264>

Abu al-Qasim Shirazi, the head of the Clothing and Apparel Trade Union, announced that the production and sale of front opened gowns in Iran has been banned.

According to this official, in Tehran every day, 30 patrols of three, will be supervising the clothing production and supply departments.

In the website of the Garment Producers and Dealers Union, a catalog of 200 stores selling totally Islamic clothing has been published. (Jamejam Online state-run Website, Zamaneh Radio- July 11, 2018)

## **Appendix**

### **The government will deal with internet activists**

The head of Great Tehran's FATA Police (Iranian cyber police), mentioned that more than 30 percent of the files related to the Instagram headquarters announced by the cyber police, are related to Great Tehran. He assumed that so far one-third of

these cases have come to fruition and have been summoned to FATA in which necessary measures has been taken.

Toraj Kazemi also said that once the administrators of the Instagram pages in the provinces are identified by the cyber polices, that province in coordination with the judicial authorities and obtaining permission from them will take necessary actions. Those cases that are not in the scope of FATA's work, will be investigated and dealt with the use and cooperation of the Ethical Security Polices. (Donya Eqtesad state-run Newspaper- July 7, 2018)

<https://donya-e-qtasad.com/%D8%A8%D8%AE%D8%B4%D8%B3%D8%A7%DB%8C%D8%AA-%D8%AE%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%86-62/3410448-%D8%A7%D8%AD%D8%B6%D8%A7%D8%B1-%D8%B4%D8%A7%D8%AE-%D9%87%D8%A7%DB%8C-%D8%A7%DB%8C%D9%86%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%A7%DA%AF%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%85-%D8%A8%D9%87-%D9%BE%D9%84%DB%8C%D8%B3-%D9%81%D8%AA%D8%A7>

First Deputy of the Attorney General said that the Instagram social network filtering is on the agenda of the Attorney General.

Mohammad Mossadegh assumed that Attorney General of the country has entered the matter as a prosecutor. (Fars state-run News Agency- July 7, 2018)

<https://www.farsnews.com/news/13970412001091>

In the recent days, some Instagram pages have been blocked for presenting dance concepts. Maedeh Hejbari, a dancer, is one of the youngsters whose confession was broadcasted on Iran's televisions.

Video link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qF9Eua-AQ00>

Maedeh is a young girl whose dance videos were the most viewed on Instagram and she has been released from jail on bail. It should be noted that several years ago, a number of people who were acting as models and model photographers on Instagram were also arrested. (Zamaneh Radio- July 7, 2018)

<https://www.radiozamaneh.com/402348>





## Appendix

### People of Borazjan demand for drinking water

On Sunday evening, July 8th, a large number of residents in Borazjan, the capital city of Dashtestan in the Bushehr province, held a protest rally against the lack of drinking water in the city for the second night. This is while on Saturday evening, July 7th, the residents had gathered in the 17 Shahrivar Square to protest the state of water and disruptions in water distribution .



More than 90% of the drinking water of Bushehr province is provided by the dam in Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad Province and Kazerun City in Fars province. The failure in groundwater has worsened the water supply crisis in the Bushehr province.

Mohammad Bagher Saadat, Dashtestan's representative in the parliament assumed that it has been almost 55 days in the Bushehr province, especially in Dashtestan including Borazjan with its surrounding towns that the people are suffering severely in the lack of drinking water. He added by referring to the recent protests in Bushehr about the water problem, that there is no water resources in this province, this year there has been less rainfalls, and there was a need to forecast the condition

of the province, but it was delayed and no action was taken on this issue. (Khabar Online state-run Website- July 7, 2018)

<https://www.khabaronline.ir/detail/788439/Politics/parliament>

In another reaction, IRNA news agency said that on Sunday for the second night, a number of people in a protest, gathered in Borazjan, Dashtestan city center, calling for authorities to take action on water scarcity.

The protest gathering of 350 Borazjani citizens began at 20 o'clock in front of the 17 Shahrivar Square and the hospital which lasted until twelve mid- night.

Jawad Loghmanzadeh the political, security, and social affairs deputy of Dashtestan's governor, mentioned that from the beginning of June, the water entering Kazerun's treatment plant has decreased by 30,000 cubic meters, which has caused water distribution problems in Dashtestan, especially in the cities of Borazjan, Vahdatieh, Abpakhsh, and Shabankareh. (IRNA state-run News Agency- July 9, 2018)

<http://www.irna.ir/fa/News/82965869>

Tansim state-run News Agency wrote that the water crisis in different regions of Bushehr province, especially in Dashtestan, has created problems for the people in such a way that the cities and villages are suffering severely from the lack of water.

Kighbad Yakideh, Bushehr's managing director of the Water and Wastewater Company said, that according to the agreements, 80,000 cubic meters of water needs to be transferred from Kazerun to Bushehr province daily which at the moment it has declined to less than 50 percent. (Tansim state-run News Agency- July 9, 2018)

<https://www.tasnimnews.com/fa/news/1397/04/17/1770779>

## Appendix

### **The people of Abadan deprived of drinking water**

On Wednesday morning, July 11, a crowd of angry people in Abadan gathered in protest to the lack of drinking water in front of the city's water administration and the governor's office. Environmental activists say that the IRGC has been exporting

Karun's water to Basra to consolidate Iran's regional influence in the Middle Eastern countries.

In many regions of Iran, the people use drinking water with a salinity of 450 to 500 micrometers. But, although 30 percent of Iran's current and flowing waters pass through Khuzestan province, water salinity in the province's cities is three times the water standard in other regions of Iran. (Zamaneh Radio- July 13, 2018)

<https://www.radiozamaneh.com/402914>



According to Mehr state-run News Agency, in the current year, the Karun River is facing 65% of the drought. The sharp decrease in the water volume of the river has led to the influx of the sea into the river. This has increased the water salinity in the cities of Khorramshahr and Abadan in which the people are protesting today.

Khuzestan's General Director of Environmental Protection assumed that 6 billion cubic meters of Karun's plots has been harvested for agricultural and industrial development projects in the upstream provinces. It is planned that in case of their implementation no water will reach Khuzestan.

Ahmad Reza Lahijanzadeh added that by reducing the discharge of the Karun River due to the high harvesting, as well as the discharge of industrial, agricultural, and municipal sewage sludge, the quality and quantity of this river has been jeopardized. (IRNA state-run News Agency- July 10, 2018)

<http://www.irna.ir/khuzestan/fa/News/82967087>

In 2001, the proposal to sell Karun's water to Iraq and Kuwait was introduced. Today, the protesters say that the government is exporting Abadan and Khorramshahr's drinking waters to Iraq and Kuwait, which is why the people are facing lack of water.

Yousef Farhadi Babadi, an environmental activist, emphasized and claimed that the follow ups have shown the sale of water to Iraq has actually happened in different periods and seems to be still ongoing. In response to why Iran, in the face of a water crisis, has to sell water to a country like Iraq, he mentioned that there are important issues, such as regional influence, in which the government officials should be honest about and let the people know. He added, that even though, we are confident that Iran has entered into a crude oil trade with Iraq, officials are constantly denying it. He concluded that the farmers and urban people like Izeh City, who live along the dam and have no share of water behind these dams for drinking, have the right to protest to these discriminations. (Salamat News state-run Website- July 10, 2018)

<http://www.salamatnews.com/news/247902>