Second UA: 80/24 Index: MDE 13/9072/2025 Iran Date: 26 February 2025

URGENT ACTION

WOMEN'S RIGHTS DEFENDER RESENTENCED TO DEATH

Iranian human rights defender, Sharifeh Mohammadi, is at risk of execution after a Revolutionary Court sentenced her to death again in February 2025. She was convicted of "armed rebellion against the state" (baghi) solely for her peaceful human rights activities, including supporting women's and workers' rights. In October 2024, the Supreme Court had overturned her conviction and death sentence issued in June 2024 and ordered further proceedings in a lower court. A grossly unfair retrial took place in December 2024; her allegations of torture and other ill-treatment were never investigated.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter to the government official(s) listed. Use the sample letter below as a guide or use your own words.
- <u>Click here</u> to report your action(s) on **Second UA 80.24**. We share this number with the officials we are trying to persuade.

Head of judiciary, Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei, c/o Embassy of Iran to the United Nations in Geneva Chemin du Petit-Saconnex 28, 1209 Geneva, Switzerland Send a copy of your letter to the address listed below

c/o Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations 622 3rd Ave, 34th floor, New York, NY 10017

Email: iranunny@mfa.gov.ir

Dear Mr. Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei,

Human rights defender, **Sharifeh Mohammadi**, 45, is at risk of execution in Lakan prison, Rasht, Gilan province, after Branch Two of the Revolutionary Court of Rasht sentenced her to death for "armed rebellion against the state" (baghi) in a grossly unfair trial.

In 2023, Sharifeh Mohammadi was subjected to an arbitrary arrest by agents of the Ministry of intelligence who interrogated her about her human rights activism.

I urge you to immediately halt any plans to execute Sharifeh Mohammadi, quash her conviction and death sentence, and release her immediately and unconditionally, as she is held solely for her peaceful human rights activism. Pending her release, provide her with adequate healthcare and regular visits from family and lawyers; protect her from further torture and other ill-treatment; and order an independent, effective, and impartial investigation into her torture allegations, bringing anyone suspected of criminal responsibility to justice in fair trials and without resort to the death penalty.

Yours sincerely,



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Sharifeh Mohammadi's first trial, which took place on June 9, 2024 and consisted of one 30-minute session before Branch One of the Revolutionary Court of Rasht, was grossly unfair. Her lawyer was provided with only 10 minutes to present a defense. The verdict, issued on June 30, 2024 and reviewed by Amnesty International, lists peaceful human rights activities as "evidence" of Sharifeh Mohammadi's acts "against the foundations of the Islamic Republic of Iran". The verdict also purported that there is a connection between the Coordinating Committee to Help to Form Workers' Organizations, of which she was a member until 2011, and the Komala Party of Kurdistan; a claim repeatedly denied by the Committee. On February 19, 2025, in a media interview, Amir Raesian, one of Sharifeh Mohammadi's lawyers, noted several points on the flawed nature of the retrial.

On December 5, 2023, agents arbitrarily arrested Sharifeh Mohammadi from her home in Rasht and took her to a Ministry of Intelligence detention facility in Rasht. There, she was subjected to torture and ill-treatment, including repeated kicks to her legs during interrogations without access to a lawyer and denied contact with her family, while also blindfolded and repeatedly questioned. Interrogations revolved around her human rights activism, including reasons for her stance against the death penalty and support for prisoners held for politically motivated reasons. After several days, she was transferred to solitary confinement in Lakan prison, where interrogations about her activism continued. On December 28, 2023, after her sudden transfer to a Ministry of Intelligence detention center in Sanandaj, interrogations continued. Agents sought to compel her forced "confessions" that she had ties to Komala Party of Kurdistan, a banned Kurdish opposition group based in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, which she repeatedly denied. Until she was transferred to the general ward of Lakan prison in early March 2024, she was permitted only a few very brief phone calls to her family. Sirous Fattahi, Sharifeh Mohammadi's husband, has faced reprisals from the authorities, including arbitrary arrest, solely in relation to his advocacy for Sharifeh Mohammadi's release.

In the aftermath of the "Woman Life Freedom" uprising, Iranian authorities have intensified their use of the death penalty to instill fear among the population and tighten their grip on power. This escalation includes the use of the death penalty against women on politically motivated charges. At least two other woman, Kurdish dissident, Verisheh Moradi, and Kurdish humanitarian aid worker, Pakhshan Azizi, are also under sentence death after Revolutionary Courts convicted them of "armed rebellion against the state" (baghi) in separate cases. In 2024, the authorities continued their execution spree again executing hundreds of people, many arbitrarily after grossly unfair trials held before Revolutionary Courts. Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases without exception. The death penalty is a violation of the right to life as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the ultimate cruel, inhuman, and degrading punishment.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: Persian, English, or your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: June 30, 2025

NAME AND PREFFERED PRONOUN: Sharifeh Mohammadi (her/she).

LINK TO PREVIOUS UA: https://www.amnestyusa.org/urgent-actions/urgent-action-woman-rights-defender-at-risk-of-execution-iran-80-24/