

URGENT ACTION

TORTURED BAHA'I COUSINS AT RISK OF DEATH PENALTY

Cousins **Peyvand Naimi** and **Borna Naimi** from Iran's persecuted Baha'i minority, may be at risk of the death penalty. Authorities are accusing them of capital offenses linked to the January 2026 protests. Agents subjected them to torture and other ill-treatment including beatings, mock executions, and electric shocks to force "confessions" and have denied them access to lawyers and medical care.

TAKE ACTION:

- Write a letter to the government official(s) listed. Use the sample letter below as a guide or use your own words.
- [Click here](#) to report your action(s) on **UA 40.26**. We share this number with the officials we are trying to persuade.

Head of judiciary, Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejei

Send a copy of your letter to the address below

Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei
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,

Cousins **Peyvand Naimi**, 30, and **Borna Naimi**, 29, from Iran's persecuted Baha'i religious minority, are at risk of the death penalty. Authorities are accusing them of involvement in the killing of state agents during nationwide protests on January 8, 2026, when security forces massacred thousands of protesters and bystanders across the country. Plain-clothes agents arrested Peyvand Naimi at his work on January 8, 2026 and subjected him to enforced disappearance for weeks. Agents arrested Borna Naimi on March 1, 2026 and subjected him to enforced disappearance for several days.

Peyvand Naimi was subjected to mock executions, beatings, suspension from hands and feet, prolonged solitary confinement, and denied food. Authorities are denying him healthcare for gastrointestinal and other medical conditions he developed in prison. Agents subjected Borna Naimi to beatings, mock executions and electric shocks, causing burns to his feet, and threatened to harm his wife and daughter if he refused to cooperate. He was forced under torture and threats to sign a pre-written "confession" implicating himself and Peyvand Naimi in the killing of Basij agents during the January 8, 2026, protests, which they have denied.

I urge you to release Peyvand Naimi and Borna Naimi whose detentions are arbitrary due to the gravity of the violations of their fair trial rights, including denial of access to a lawyer from the time of arrest, violation of the presumption of innocence, enforced disappearance, and torture and other ill-treatment to compel them to self-incriminate. If held solely on account of their Baha'i faith, they must be immediately released. Pending release, protect them from further torture and other ill-treatment and effectively investigate their torture allegations. I further urge you to remove Peyvand Naimi from solitary confinement and grant both access to their families, lawyers of their own choosing, and to adequate medical care. I call on you to immediately establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty.

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Following **Peyvand Naimi**'s arrest, his family sought information about his fate or whereabouts, but authorities repeatedly dismissed them and denied holding him. After three days, the family received a 30-second call from Peyvand Naimi during which he did not say where he was being held. He made another 30-second call 19 days after arrest during which he stated that he had not been charged but that he was being held by the Intelligence Organization of the IRGC without specifying the location. On February 1, 2026, authorities broadcast a propaganda [video](#) about arrests made in relation to a purported "Baha'i network" during the January 2026 protests in Kerman province featuring several people with blurred faces making "confessions" about alleged involvement in organized online groups and foreign-orchestrated acts of violence. Peyvand Naimi, identified by his voice, appeared briefly in the video to say that participants in his online group agreed to meet in the town square and to "stay among protesters".

Peyvand Naimi was later transferred from the IRGC detention facility to Kerman prison. However, on the first day of the Israeli-US attacks on Iran on February 28, 2026, agents removed him from the prison yard and returned him to the IRGC detention facility for 10 days. According to an informed source, during this period, agents subjected him to torture and other ill-treatment to compel him to make false "confessions" again. For the first two days, agents suspended him from his hands and feet, beat him repeatedly, and denied him food. Agents also subjected him twice to mock execution by simulating hanging. His health has deteriorated in detention with gastrointestinal problems and an involuntary eye twitch, both of which he developed in detention. He was returned to Kerman prison after 10 days and is now being held in solitary confinement in the prison. No written charges or other formal documentation have been provided to his family.

Following **Borna Naimi**'s arrest on March 1, 2026, he was held in a detention center controlled by the Intelligence Organization of the IRGC when, according to an informed source, agents subjected him to mock executions, electric shocks causing burns to his feet and legs, and repeated beatings including on his ribs and back. After days of torture and other ill-treatment, as well as threats to harm his wife and child, he was forced to sign a false "confession" pre-written by interrogators implicating both himself and Peyvand Naimi in killing members of Basij forces on January 8, 2026. According to information gathered by Amnesty International, authorities have not presented any evidence implicating the cousins in any internationally recognizable offenses. Borna Naimi was later transferred to Kerman prison where he is now held.

The Iranian authorities have intensified their persecution of the Baha'i religious minority in recent years. Since the 12-day war in June 2025, authorities have used the securitized climate to intensify this persecution, including through a coordinated state campaign of incitement to hostility, violence, discrimination, and disinformation falsely accusing Baha'is as spies and collaborators for Israel.

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

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: June 19, 2026

NAME AND PREFERRED PRONOUN: Peyvand Naimi, Borna Naimi (both he/him)