



CASE SHEET: NARGES MOHAMMADI

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER

SUMMARY:

Narges Mohammadi, born 21 April 1972, is an Iranian human rights activist and spokesperson of the Centre for Human Rights Defenders. She has two young children, twins Ali and Kiana, and is married to fellow human rights activist Taghi Rahmani.

After previously receiving a travel ban and serving a six-year prison sentence, both in another city away from her home residence in Tehran and while suffering debilitating health conditions, Narges received a further 16-year sentence in 2016 after an unjust trial. She remains in Evin Prison; a prison that Fox News states is "hell on earth".

Centre for Human Rights Defenders (CHRD):

Founded in 2001, the CHRD is a Tehran based NGO co-founded by Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Shirin Ebadi, along with prominent human rights lawyers, Mohammad Ali Dadkhah, Mohammad Seyfzadeh, Mohammad Sharif and Abdolfattah Soltani.

The CHRD has three stated roles:

- To report on violation of human rights in Iran
- Provide pro-bono legal representation to political prisoners
- To support the families of prisoners.

WHAT ARE HER CHARGES?

Narges is currently completing a 16 year prison sentence based on the following charges:



1. Founding an illegal group

Narges was charged after founding the "Step by Step to Stop Death Penalty" group



2. Spreading propaganda against the system.

Narges attended media interviews and human right award ceremonies.

Her meeting with Catherine Ashton, former EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, in particular was a main cause for this charge.



3. Gathering and colluding to commit crimes against national security

Narges employs peaceful human rights activism, promoting gender equality and justice as well opposing the death penalty in Iran.

She also supports the families of prisoners on death row.



TIMELINE

NARGES MOHAMMADI

To find out more information follow this link:
<https://www.amnesty.org.au/what-we-do/act-offline/#Narges>

2009

Narges is banned in 2009 from leaving the country to attend a conference where she was to talk about "Role of Women and Democracy in Iran".

2010

Narges is first arrested in 2010 in her home in Tehran. Her whereabouts were unknown for a number of weeks before she was released on 1 July 2010.

2011

Narges is sentenced to 11 years' imprisonment for crimes against national security and propaganda against the state.

2012

In January, her 11 year sentence is reduced to six years on appeal.

In April, Narges is taken from her mother's house where she had been staying to commence serving her sentence.

In July Narges is granted temporary medical leave from prison to obtain medical treatment for an existing neurological disorder which was exacerbated by her imprisonment.

Narges is able to live quite freely and be involved in peaceful human rights activism until her arrest in 2015.

2015

In May, Narges faces trial on additional national security-related charges which came about while on medical leave.

Two days after the first court session she is arrested at her home and taken to Evin prison.

In October, Narges is taken to hospital after suffering a seizure and returned prison just over two weeks later against her doctor's advice

2016

In April, Narges receives a 16-year prison sentence.

In July she ends a 19-day hunger strike which she began in protest at the authorities' refusal to allow her to speak with her children, who live abroad with their father. She is allowed one phone call a week with them.

2017

Narges continues to carry out her 16 year sentence...

Rights Violated under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

Article 12: Freedom Of Movement

Article 19: Freedom of expression and opinion

Article 20: Freedom of Association

" I am not a criminal. I have not committed any sins for which to request a pardon."
Narges, March 2012

