

World Day Against the Death Penalty:

280 executions over the last one year

Statistics on Executions in Iran from October 2018 to October 2019

Prisoners' Rights League in Iran

October 2019

The Prisoners' Rights League in Iran (PRLI) is a non-governmental, independent organization whose activity is focused on the human rights of Iranian prisoners across the country. Its core members are located in Iran. Due to restrictions imposed by the Islamic Republic of Iran however, its website server and spokesperson are located outside the country.

The news and reports of the Iranian Prisoners' Rights League come from the reliable sources in and outside the country and are focused on violations of human rights in Iran.

The Prisoners' Rights League in Iran is an organization that is totally opposed to the death penalty in all instances regardless of the reason.

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Prisoners' Rights League in Iran

On the occasion of World Day Against the Death Penalty, the Prisoners' Rights League in Iran annually reports the number of executions carried out in Iran. All of the figures are gathered by the League's Statistics Center and other trusted human rights activists and institutions.

According to international statistics, in proportion to its population, Iran has the highest number of executions in the world. Putting pressure on the Iranian authorities to urge them to abolish the inhumane punishment of death penalty must become the priority for the world community and international institutions. In this regard, human rights activists in Iran are trying to publish more accurate statistics on the number of executions carried out throughout the country. The efforts of the Islamic Republic authorities are to keep the executions secret. Therefore, what is reported in the state media, is only a small part of the executions which in a daily basis are carried out in Iran. Human rights organizations, including Amnesty International, have repeatedly warned the Islamic Republic against secret executions and have called them to stop this inhumane punishment.

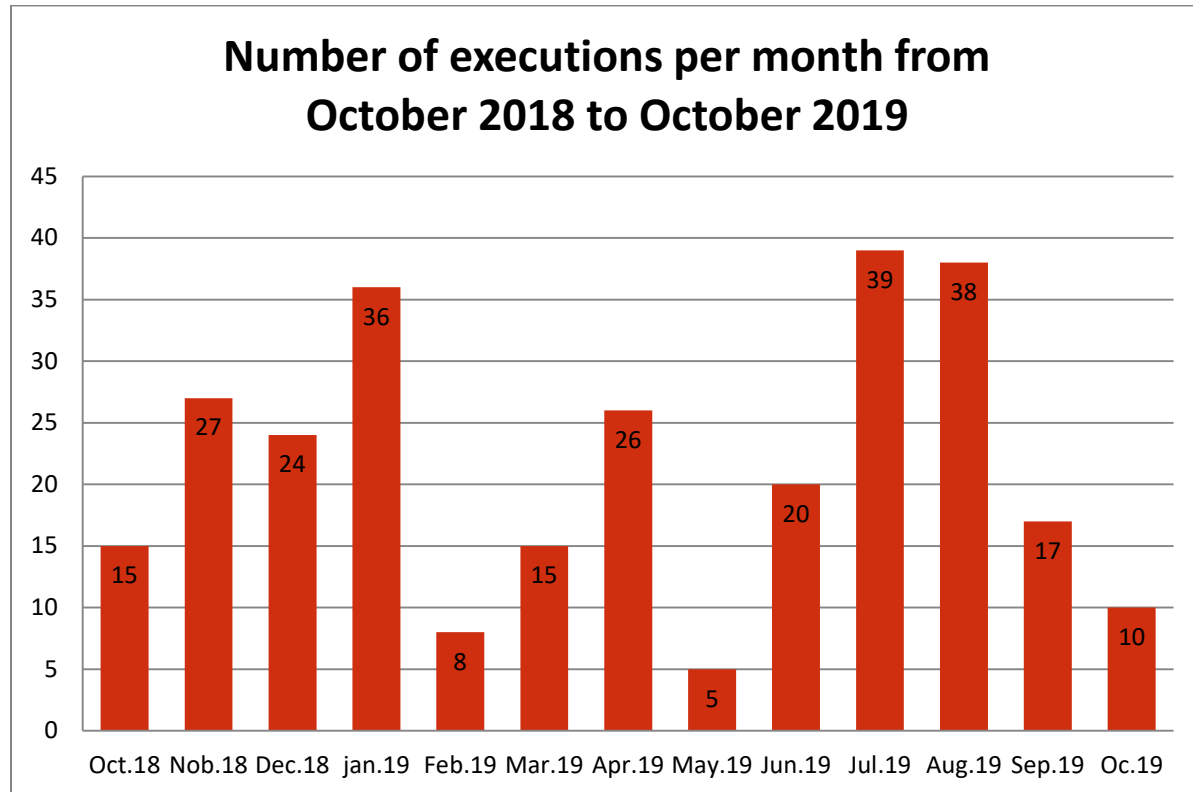
According to the Statistics Center of the Prisoners' Rights League, at least 280 prisoners have been executed in Iran over the last one year (October 2018- October 2019). Out of them, only 75 have been announced by the official sources. Two hundred and one however, have been reported by the reliable and approved sources of the human rights activists and the Prisoners' Rights League.

Over the last six months, since Ibrahim Raisi (a member of death committee in the mass executions of the political prisoners in summer 1988), has been appointed as the chief justice, the numbers of mass executions and secret hanging have risen. Concurrently the authorities' efforts to hide the executions have also intensified.

While during the same period in the last year (October 2017 - October 2018), 257 executions have been documented. These figures represent an increase in the implementation of death penalties by the Islamic Republic authorities.

Prisoners' Rights League in Iran

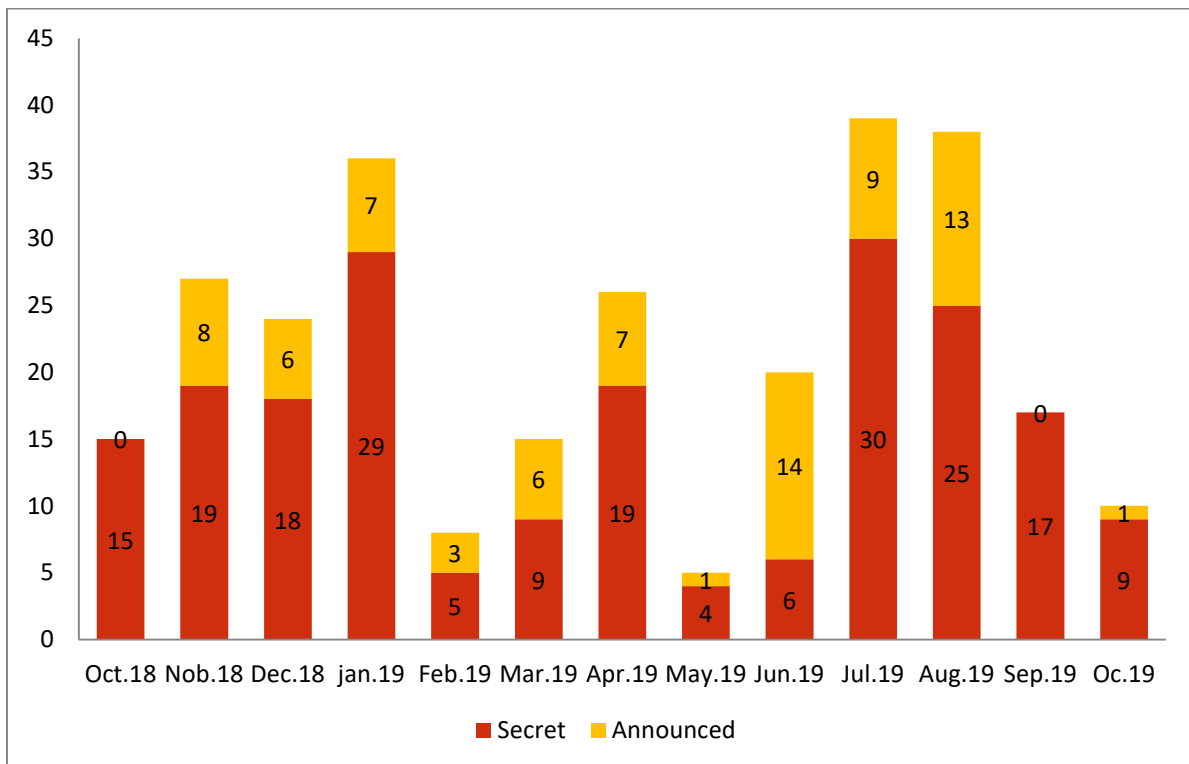
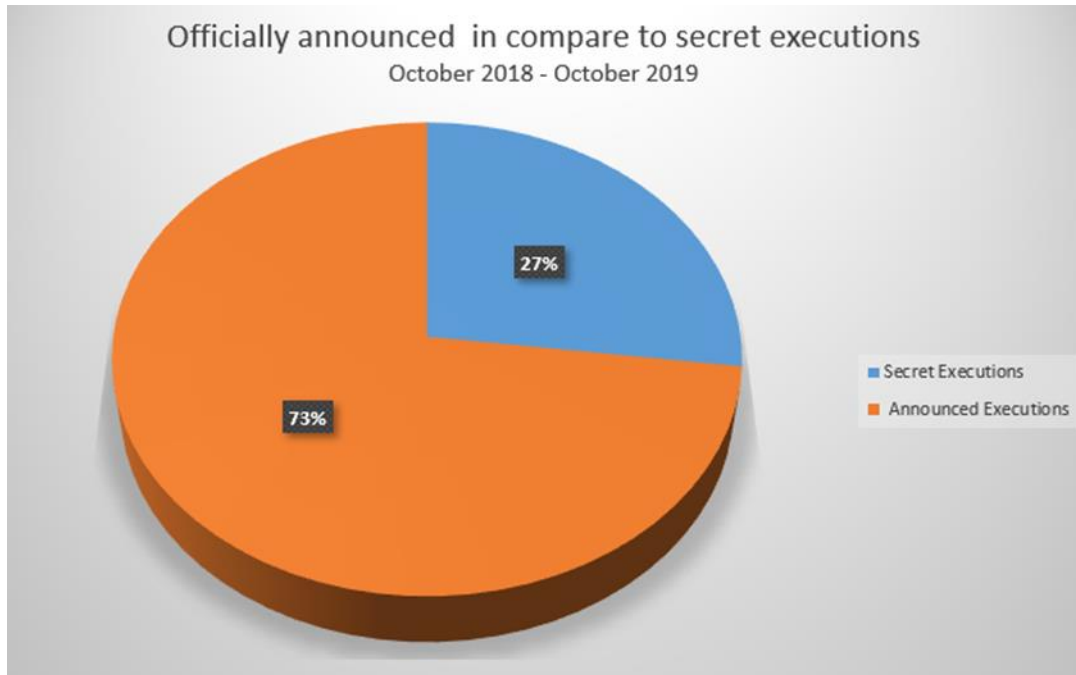
Below is a bar chart showing the number of executions in each month of the last year:



Prisoners' Rights League in Iran

In the last one year, only 17 percent of the executions were announced by the official media. Seventy three percent of them however, are reported by the local sources and family members of the executed prisoners. Given the restricted access to the human rights activists and criminalization of any contact with the independent human right institutions, witnesses lose the possibility to report relevant information. Therefore, the real numbers of the executions are undoubtedly higher. In addition, considering lack of notifying the public about rights of citizens, defendants and prisoners, many of the prisoners' families are unable to communicate with the independent bodies. As a result, many inmates are losing their lives without the human rights institutions even being aware of.

Prisoners' Rights League in Iran

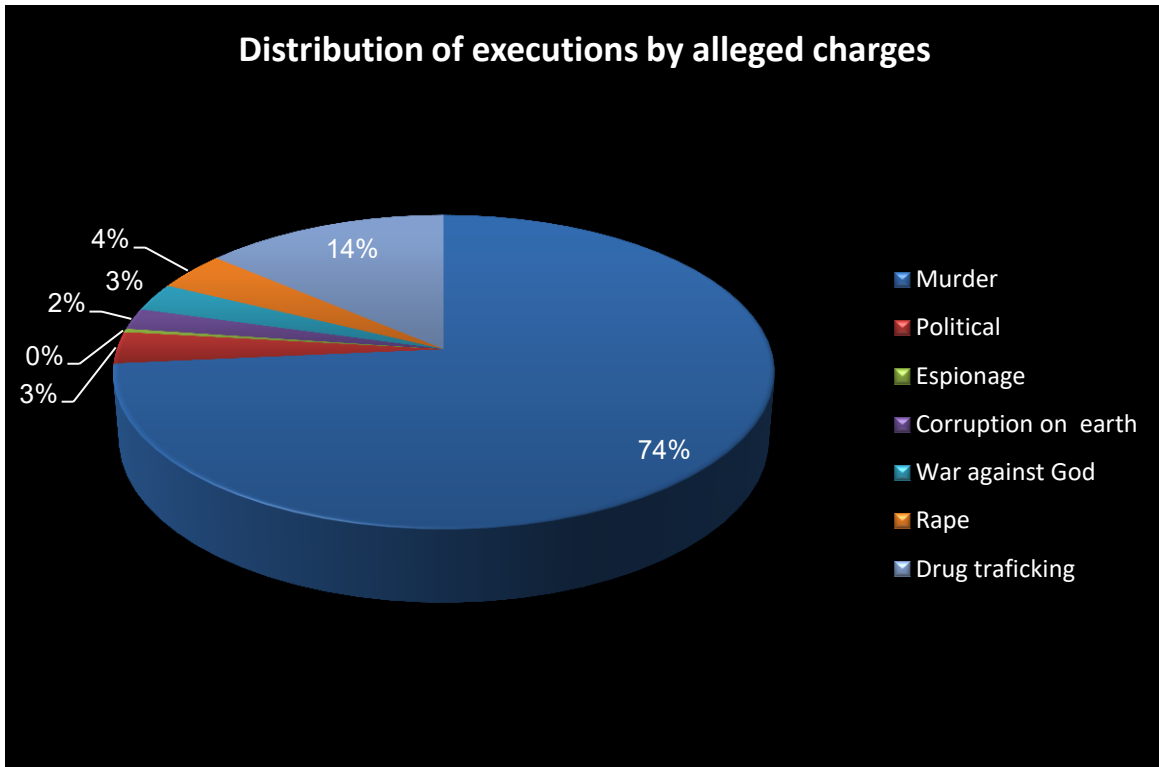


Announced vs secret execution by month of year: Prisoners' Rights League in Iran

Distribution of executions by alleged crimes

During this period, most of the executed prisoners (more than 205 or 74%) were accused of murder. In the Islamic republic penal code, most of the death penalties are carried out on the basis of "retribution" law.

In addition, despite the approval and enforcement of the abolition of death punishment for drug related criminals, over the last one year 38 prisoners, accused of drug dealing have been hanged. In another word, 14% of the executions have been carried out on drug trafficking charges.



Distribution of executions by alleged charges: Prisoners' Rights League in Iran

Prisoners' Rights League in Iran

According to the reports received by the Prisoners' Rights League in Iran, over the last one year, 7 Arab- Ahwazi citizens have been secretly executed in Ahvaz prison. It has been told that, the whole number of the executed inmates in Awaz were nearly 22. Prisoners' Rights League however, managed to identify only 7 of them.

Family members of the executed prisoners have seen the death certificates of their loved ones. The authorities however, have refused to return the bodies to their relatives. They as well, have obtained written commitments from the executed prisoners' families to avoid from holding a funeral or spreading any information about the executions. Below are names of these 7 prisoners, executed on November 8th 2018, whose identities were determined by the Prisoners' Rights League in Iran:

Mohammad Momeni (Silavi) and two of his children; Nassar Mohammad Momeni (Silavi) and Osama Mohammad Momeni (Silavi),

Ahmad Abboud Heydari

Hatam Savari

Ahmed Abdul Ali Sari and

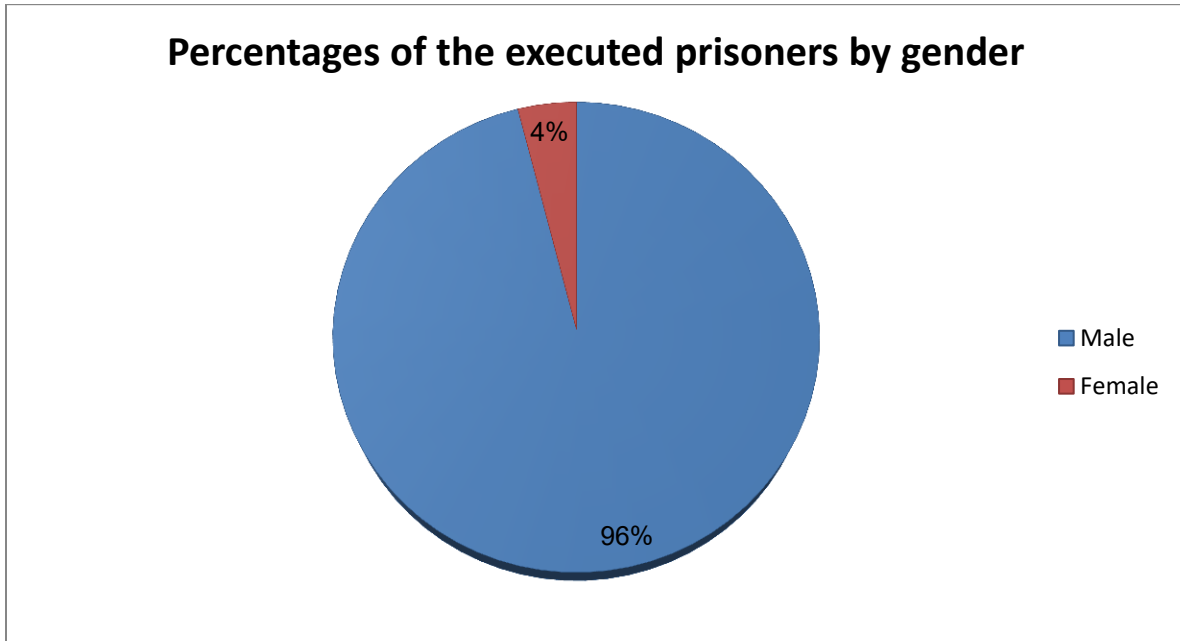
Ali Beit Sayyah.

Furthermore, two Arab citizens named Qasim Beit Abdullah and Abdullah Karamlachab, were executed at Dezful Prison on August 4th 2019.

In addition, on June 21, 2019 another prisoner named Seyyed Jamal Haji Zavareh was executed in a so called "safe house" of the Revolutionary Guards in Tehran, on charge of espionage for a hostile country.

Finally, among the executed prisoners, 3 were accused of "corruption on earth" via destabilizing the country's foreign exchange market.

Percentages of the executed prisoners by gender



Percentages of the executed prisoners by gender- October 2018 to October 2019; Prisoners' Rights League in Iran

Among those executed, 12 were female prisoners. Who were all arrested and tried on charge of murder.

Execution of children

According to the Statistics Center of the Prisoners' Rights League in Iran, at least 4 prisoners, below 18 at the time of the alleged crime, were executed over the last one year (from October 2018 to October 2019). Among them, two juveniles who were executed at Adel Abad Prison in Shiraz, were hanged without even being aware of their death sentences. Amnesty International released the news about these executions while condemning them and calling the Iranian authorities to stop the execution of children as a breach of the international conventions on children's rights.

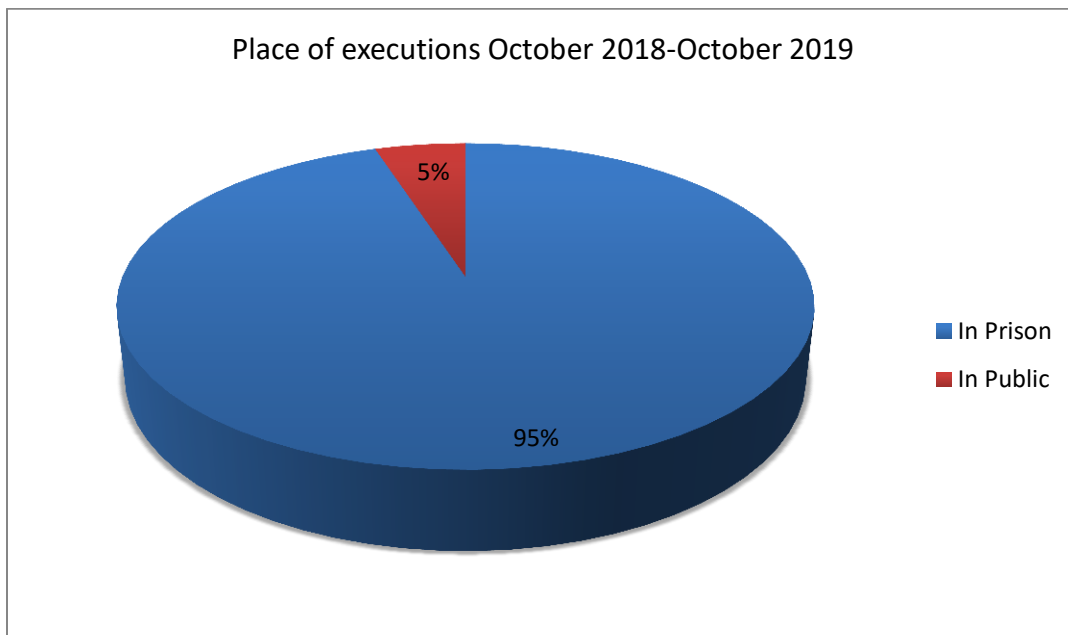
Prisoners' Rights League in Iran

Another juvenile, 16 years old at the time of the alleged crime, was executed in the city of Noor- Mazandaran province. A 15 years old teenager also was executed in Zanjan prison.

Execution in public

In addition to the jails, the Islamic Republic authorities have executed 14 prisoners in front of the eyes of the public.

In terms of the places of the executions, 95% were in prisons while 5% were carried out in public!

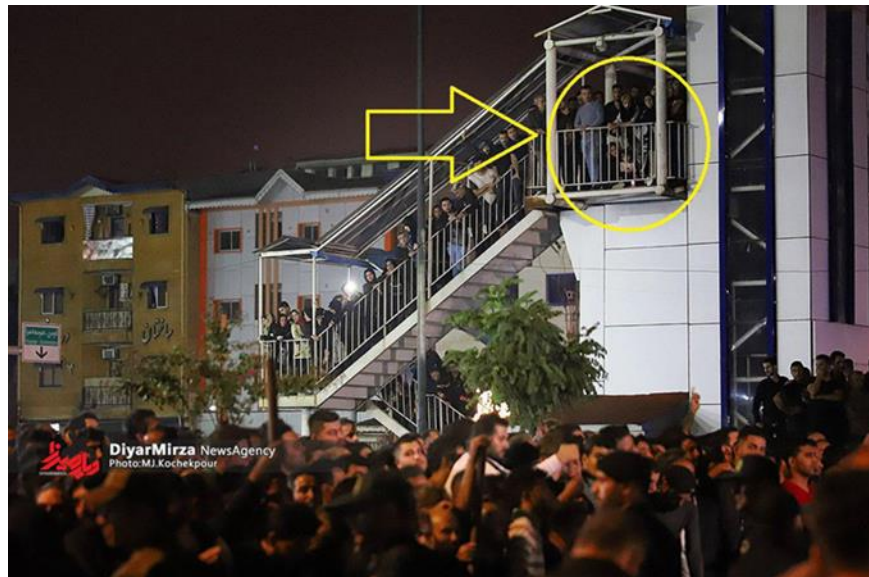


Place of executions October 2018-October 2019: Prisoners' Rights League in Iran



Majid Sarpanah was hanged on October 2, 2019 in Daneshjoo Park in Rasht: Prisoners' Rights League in Iran.

Iran is one of the few countries in the world where the death penalty is carried out in public. In the picture below, at least one child is watching the scene.



Presence of children at the scene of majidsarpanah's public execution in Rasht: diarmirza news

Geographical distribution of executions

In terms of geographic distribution, more than 28% of executions have been taken place in Alborz province. Kermanshah, West Azerbaijan and Kerman had also a high numbers of executions.

