

An Open Letter to the Government of Iran:

We, as specialists in Iranian and Islamic studies, protest the hanging of 16 Bahá'ís, including seven women and three teen-age girls, by the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the city of Shiraz on June 16 and 18, 1983. The Iranian Bahá'ís have repeatedly expressed and demonstrated their loyalty to Iran. Nevertheless, they have been systematically persecuted for the mere fact that they adhere to a religion other than Islam. Such persecution and these cruel and unjust executions seem to us a contradiction of all that is best in the traditions of Islam and the Iranian people.

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