



Thursday, 30 Jul 2009

report

July 30, 2009

Both Were Tortured to Death



While concerns over the conditions of prisoners, including torture, and the spread of infectious disease in prison, are rising, the body of another person killed in the post-June 12 election unrest was handed over to the family members of the deceased, while the identity of yet another dead person was announced.

Ramin Ghahremani, born in 1979, died in a hospital just two days after being released from prison. As reported by family members, he had been hanged in prison from his feet for a long time. According to news reports, during the demonstrations after the June 12 elections, agents used the closed circuit television of a bank to identify Ramin Ghahremani and went to his house. Not finding him there, they told his mother that Ramin needed to come to a specified location immediately.

Convinced that her son had not done anything wrong other than participate in a peaceful march, Ramin's mother accompanied him to the location and delivers her son to the officials. Fifteen days after voluntarily went to the authorities to show his innocence, Ramin was released from prison but his body showed the deep scars of torture.

He told his mother that he had been kept hanging from the ceiling up side down for days. A few days after his release, Ramin had to be hospitalized because of the blood clots in his chest. A few days after that, Ramin died in the hospital. Ramin's family members buried their son in the presence of many security agents, while they were categorically told not to communicate about their son to anyone.

Another 'Martyr'

The dead body of Amir Javadifar was handed over to his family on July 26th, 2009, and he was buried at Tehran's Behesht Zahra cemetery on Monday. Amir had been arrested during the protests that took place on July 9, 2009. On July 25th, the police contacted Amir's father and told him to pick up the body of his son from the coroners office in Kahrizak prison. The coroner had determined the cause of death to be respiratory yeast caused by bleeding in the lungs.

Amir was an Azad university student studying management in Qazvin and according to Sarmaye newspaper security agents had asked his family to announce that Amir had died because of a lung illness that he had prior to his detention. Agents also had forced the family members to sign papers pledging that they would hold a memorial for their son only in the presence of other family members and that there would be no chanting at the ceremony.

According to family members, Amir's body had been kept in the morgue for 10 days before it was handed over to them.

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