Doc Number: EU000332



Print | Close this window

Iran security forces detain student activists: report

Fri Oct 2, 2009 2:44pm EDT

TEHRAN (Reuters) - Iranian security forces arrested at least 15 student activists Friday after a meeting of key members of a pro-reform student movement in Tehran, a reformist website reported.

The report on Mowjcamp.com said the police had not told the detained students' families where they were being held.

It was not immediately possible to confirm the report, which came days after two large student gatherings in Tehran to protest against President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's re-election.

At least 1,000 people gathered at Tehran's Sharif University Tuesday after learning of a visit there by Science Minister Kamran Daneshjou, whose ministry is in charge of higher education.

Daneshjou ran the Interior Ministry's election headquarters during the disputed presidential poll in June. He was appointed science minister last month in Ahmadinejad's new government.

Monday almost the same number of students held a rally at Tehran University in a show of support for opposition leader Mirhossein Mousavi. Mowjcamp.now is a pro-Mousavi website.

The election, which was followed by huge opposition protests, plunged Iran into its deepest internal crisis since the 1979 Islamic revolution. The moderate opposition says it was rigged to secure Ahmadinejad's re-election. Officials deny it.

Thousands of people, including senior reformist figures, were detained after the election. Most have since been freed, but more than 100 remain in jail accused of orchestrating post-election street unrest.

The opposition says more than 70 people died during the unrest, more than double the official estimate.

(Writing by Reza Derakhshi; editing by Tim Pearce)

© Thomson Reuters 2009. All rights reserved. Users may download and print extracts of content from this website for their own personal and non-commercial use only. Republication or redistribution of Thomson Reuters content, including by framing or similar means, is expressly prohibited without the prior written consent of Thomson Reuters. Thomson Reuters and its logo are registered trademarks or trademarks of the Thomson Reuters group of companies around the world.

Thomson Reuters journalists are subject to an Editorial Handbook which requires fair presentation and disclosure of relevant interests.

1 of 1 11/2/2009 10:38 AM