



Human Right Developments in Iran

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The Human Rights Development of Iran Newsletter, stresses on the promotion of human rights through monitoring positive actions and developments that have occurred with regards to human rights and raising the awareness of the audience in this regard. This newsletter, compiles measures taken for the promotion and realisation of human rights for the transparency of the real human rights situation in Iran through benefiting from correct information and credible documents.

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1- Refugees Rights

1-1 Increase in the Number of Registrations of Refugees and Foreign Migrants' Children in Iranian State Schools

Like in previous years, this year the government of Iran with the cooperation of UNHCR commemorate the World Refugee Day in various provinces. This year's World Refugee Day theme in Iran was named "40 Years of Generous Hospitality for Refugees in Iran". In a conference in Tehran, the Iranian Interior Minister, Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli highlighting that despite sanctions and little international assistance, the Iranian government had provided good services to refugees over the last four months, and said: "To-date, not only the Islamic Republic of Iran has not prevented refugees from entering the country, but it has gone further than international commitments in accepting this refugee

population, and has provided services to refugees in accordance with humanitarian measures.” At the end of his speech he reminded that: “the Islamic Republic of Iran provides services to refugees without any discrimination, and in the 2018-19 school year approximately 480 thousand refugees children registered in state run schools.”

It must be said that following the Supreme Leader’s decree in 2015, foreign migrants’ children were allowed to register in Iranian state run schools and benefit from education services without consideration of their residency status.

Furthermore, refugees have also had access to medical and health services. According to UNHCR reports currently various medical services that include medical services for pregnant women, environmental health and individuals are available to refugees. Also from 2015 approximately 92 thousand vulnerable and sick refugees received medical services with the partnership of UNHCR.

With regards to livelihood, the Islamic Republic of Iran has also provided technical and vocational training courses for refugees towards their empowerment and promotion of their livelihood, and expanded business workshops for refugee women heads of household and issued temporary work permits for those that are eligible with Social Organization benefits.

1-2 Centre for the Development of the Mental Health of Migrants Launched

For the first time in the country Center for the Development of the Mental Health of Migrants was launched in Tehran as the first education-research center and psychological counselling for Afghan refugees in Iran with the cooperation of the Social and Cultural Deputy of Tehran Municipality, cultural research center of Alameh Tabatabaie University and Afghan Elites Centre.

To this aim, while utilizing the capacities of Afghan graduates for the benefit of the migrants' community, various services with the prevention of mental and social damages approach will be available in a fair way for migrants to counselling and psychological services to Afghan refugees and migrants.

Alameh Tabatabaie University too, will cooperate in scientific field backing and increase the scientific capacity of the center and supervise the center's activities quality and also the Afghan Elites' Centre, will set up an education-counselling team for the implementation of the objectives of the centre, provide psychological services, hold educational services in proportion with the needs of the target community.



2- Women's Rights

2-1 Women Prisoners Released to House Arrest with the Aid of Electronic Bracelets

Among the prisons population, women's problems always leave more negative effects on the family institution, because without woman's presence in the family, not only one individual but the whole of the family will suffer. Damages as a result of the mother not being home can be damaging to an extent, which can be irreversible for years. This problem is a matter which requires a special view of the authorities so that by changing the structure of time being served, women prisoners can spend their sentence in an alternative way, and be with their families. Electronic bracelets have come to the assistance of women prisoners who are mothers to solve this problem. In this regard the Women's Deputy of the Presidency signed a letter of understanding with the Prevention and Social Deputy of the Judiciary, and together they reached an agreement to provide a part of the cost to the Women's

Deputy and the rest be covered by the Judiciary. Currently this program is under way in 14 provinces.

2-2 The Guardian Council Approves the Equality of Diah (blood money) between Men and Women and Religious Minorities in Traffic Accidents

It was October last year that after a long judicial and legal and insurance back and forths, members of parliament voted for the equality of *Diah* for men and women and religious minorities in traffic accidents. Members of parliament with a 155 for, 3 against and 12 abstains from a total of 219 members present, adopted article 10 of the Mandatory Damages to Third Party Insurance due to Traffic Accidents Act. Now some months later, it is reported that the Guardian Council has also placed its seal of approval on this bill in order for this to become law.

Considering the Guardian Council not objecting to this regarding victims of traffic accidents, from now on there will be no difference to the amount of *Diah* between men and women in traffic accidents. According to article 10 of the Third Party Insurance Act, the insurer is mandated to fulfill the commitments within this Act and pay victims of traffic accidents equally without consideration of gender and religion. Judicial authorities are obliged to deem the amount of the *Diah* as accidents insurance.



3- Right to Education

3-1 Six-Thousand Prisoners in Iran became Literate

Literacy education is mandatory in the country's prisons and in line with this last year six-thousand prisoners became literate, which is deemed as good cultural actions within prisons. Training and literacy education in prisons is very important, because literate and aware individuals think about their own behaviors and this fact helps reduce the crime rates. The cultural activities of the Prisons Organization has resulted in this Organization for years to be introduced as the top body in the cultural field of the country.



بنیاد خیریه بین الملل امداد جهان
INTERNATIONAL WORLD
RELIEF FOUNDATION

4- Introduction of Human Rights Activists

4-1 International World Relief Foundation

The International World Relief Foundation (IWRF) is a non-governmental, non-profit, non-political organization which in 2000 was registered in the country under No. 11988 and began its activities with the intention of assisting vulnerable groups and human crises, and to-date through getting international and charitable individuals' donations and assistance, while providing education and employment opportunities it has also endeavored to strengthen work spirit and its own case files.

Other objectives of the formation of this Foundation is the prevention of increase in the vulnerability of Iranian children and juveniles and refugees, provide literacy opportunities for Afghan refugee women and children, empowerment, creation of self-belief, increase hope for the future, increase self-confidence, develop the social acceptance spirit of women and children sufferers and

refugees and also raise the physical and mental health levels of this group.

IWRF, with the cooperation of the Education and Training Department on the Ministry of Education, and also international support, has launched schools to give education support to deprived children and also Afghan, Iraqi and Pakistani refugees and migrants. With the assistance of UNHCR this Foundation also has helped launch small businesses for refugees so that while protecting their self-dignity to also improve the livelihood conditions of this group.