



Human Right Developments in Iran

Newsletter No.37



NOVEMBER 2022

ORGANIZATION FOR DEFENDING VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

www.odvv.org

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 human rights situation in Iran.

Contents

1- Refugees Rights	4
Iran to provide free literacy to refugees.....	4
12,000 newly arrived Afghan students enrolled in Khorasan Razavi Province	5
4,000,000,000 Rials spent on dialysis of foreign nationals in Sistan & Balouchestan.....	6
2-Women’s Rights	7
Highlighted development of women after the revolution in 7 areas.....	7
Good news for female heads of the household.....	12
3- Rights of Education	14
Lunching girls’ autism school in Tehran.....	14
Inauguration of 1017 school sports projects.....	15
4- Right to Health	17
Majlis' contribution of 300 thousand billion Rials to the health system.....	17
5-Rights of Persons with Disabilities	19
Equipping 7 centers with special equipment for the blind.....	19
6- Human Rights	21
Amnesty of 3,606 prisoners in the first half of the current year.....	21
Release and reduction of sentences for some of those arrested in recent incidents in the country.....	22
Details of amnesty and reduction of punishment for convicts on the occasion of the birth of the Prophet (PBUH) and Imam Jafar Sadiq (PBUH).....	23
7- Introducing of Human Rights Activists	25
National Network of NGOs for the Deaf in Iran.....	25



1- Refugees Rights

1-1 Iran to provide free literacy to refugees

Considering that a significant number of Afghan nationals who have come to Iran in the past year, are illiterate the Literacy Movement Organization decided to expand its activities for provision of literacy courses for this group independently and in some cases in the form of joint projects with other national and international organizations.

Over the past 40 years, more than 900,000 Afghan nationals and refugees in Iran have used literacy programs, which increased the literacy rate among Afghan nationals from 6% to more than 70%. But the arrival of new people from Afghanistan again caused the illiteracy rate to increase among this group in Iran.

For this reason, new programs for holding literacy classes were put on the agenda of this organization.

In this regard, the Head of the Literacy Movement Organization said that refugees and foreign nationals need education, and adult refugees can enjoy free education like the Iranians. He highlighted that the refugees and foreign nationals with identity documents like passports and educational support slips can register in the Literacy Movement Organization, adding that those who do not have any documents can also register temporarily with the LP.

1-2 12,000 newly arrived Afghan students enrolled in Khorasan Razavi Province

Based on the headcount of foreign nationals, conducted in the spring, 180,000 new Afghans settled only in Khorasan Razavi province which is located in the northeast of Iran and near Afghanistan. In addition to this number, total of 320,000 authorized and certified Afghan citizens reside in this province.

There are more than half a million documented Afghans in the province in which 98% this group lives in Mashhad metropolis with four million people. Also, some 82,000 Afghan students enrolled at the schools of the province for the current scholastic year and of which 12,000 are newly arrived Afghan students.

Based on the released information, six schools for refugees to be build this year in Mashhad, capital of Khorasan Razavi Province.

1-3 4,000,000,000 Rials spent on dialysis of foreign nationals in Sistan & Balouchestan

Based on the published news by the Medical Science University in the current Iranian year, more than 4,000,000,000 Rials are spent on dialysis of foreign nationals only in Sistan and Baluchistan Province.

According to the Deputy Zahedan Medical Science University, though foreign nationals go under dialysis with subsidized rate, it is very expensive and foreign nationals who are not supported by international organizations have problem covering the expenses.

In line with humanitarian policies and in order to help non-Iranian nationals, the heads of affiliated hospitals have been requested to collect only a part of the expenses from non-Iranian nationals.

It is worth to mentioning that Iranian government with support of the UN Refugee Agency has provided 120,000 vulnerable Afghan refugees (only documented Afghans) with the Universal Public Health Insurance. It is while, the number of vulnerable refugees as well as vulnerable Afghans are much more than the allocated quota.



2- Women's Rights

2-1 Highlighted development of women after the revolution in 7 areas

According to the reports published by the Presidential Vice President for Women and Family Affairs, considering the progress and achievements of many women after the revolution, the Presidential Vice President for Women and Family Affairs during a research report in 7 areas of "Education", "Health", "Employment and entrepreneurship", "Media", "Sports", "Presence in the field of power and decision-making", "Environment, climate and crises", these achievements have been compiled and published based on the available statistics until 20 March 2022. Brief parts of these developments are mentioned below.

After the victory of the Islamic Revolution until 20 March 2022, in the field of education, the share of women in the

academic faculty of universities has increased by 33.3% and in universities of medical sciences by 34%. Also, the number of female students in the universities has increased by 56%.

Also, after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the illiteracy of women and girls was eradicated with a ratio of 3.99% and the ratio of female to male students increased by 28%.

According to this report, after the Islamic Revolution, more than 9500 female authors and 840 female publishers were active in the country.

After the Islamic revolution in the field of health, more than 95% of births were performed by obstetricians and gynecologists.

For every 100,000 women in the country, there are 60 midwives and 2.8 obstetricians working in the country.

Also, the implementation of the universal health coverage network for 100% of urban residents and 99% of villagers and nomads, and ranking tenth in the world in terms of the lowest rate of death from the cervix, reducing the death rate of children under 5 years by 2.14% per 100,000 births. And reducing the infant mortality rate to 2.8% per 100,000 births is one of the achievements and advances of women after the Islamic Revolution until 20 March 2022.

In the field of employment and entrepreneurship, 4,200 rural women's microcredit funds have been operating with the allocation of 1,200 billion rials of government credit.

Also, 2390 women work as members of the board of directors of knowledge-based companies.

Social security insurance coverage for female heads of households, reducing the unemployment rate of women to 13.7%, female employers 1.2% of working women, sustainable business development, increasing women's access to natural resources and implementing the national employment empowerment plan with a focus on women. Villagers and nomads are other achievements of women after the revolution in the field of employment and entrepreneurship.

According to this report, there are 16,111 sports clubs for women in the country, and 3,302 medals have been won by female athletes in recent world events.

After the Islamic revolution, 70 women have been presidents of sports committees at the provincial level, and 51 women have been presidents and knights of sports federations. Also, 88,366 women referees have worked in national and international competitions, and Iranian women have worked in 97 international seats in world sports federations.

In the field of media, the participation rate of active women in the field of information technology has reached 5.31 percent, and 903 women filmmakers have worked in the field of cinema and 2000 women specialists have worked behind the scenes.

In addition, 114 national awards and 128 international awards have been won by female filmmakers in prominent festivals, and women have participated in 45 prominent international festivals as the head of the jury committee.

In the field of power and decision-making, 25.2% of the country's government managers at all levels of high, middle and basic executive management, the activity of 1121 female judges in the country, the growth of 227% of women volunteering to represent the parliament in the 11th term, the acquisition of 111 seats in the Islamic Council by women in 11 periods, increasing the participation rate of women in the parliament to 59.5 percent and the presence of women representatives of the Islamic Council by 5.16 times from the first round is one of the achievements of women after the victory of the Islamic revolution until 20 March 2022.

After the victory of the Islamic revolution, women have made significant progress in the field of environment, climate and crises. In this area, 4 tenures of the presidency of the environmental organization by women, the implementation of the national plan to promote and culturalized the production and consumption of standard products for rural and nomadic women, the creation of 20166 safe and suitable shelters for the temporary accommodation of women in critical areas during the 1400 earthquake, the allocation of a The fourth of the posts of macro environmental management, providing basic needs and creating 21014 safe and suitable

temporary shelters for women during the flood crisis of last year, providing basic needs for 117072 women in the areas involved in the flood crisis in the last Iranian solar year, is one of the effective measures after the victory of the Islamic Revolution. Also, 40% of the positions of the vice-presidents of the Environment Organization were for women.

Providing basic needs for 20,912 women in the earthquake affected areas in last solar year (ended 20 March 2022) and paying subsistence allowances to 299,120 women affected by climate crises are other important measures in the field of women after the victory of the Islamic Revolution.

The government cabinet notified the second resolution of the National Headquarters of Women and Family to the Ministry of Cooperation, Labor and Social Welfare with the cooperation of the Vice President for Women and Family Affairs.

According to this resolution, the establishment and operation of the micro-employment guarantee fund for women heads of households to issue guarantees to the 1st to 5th income deciles (vulnerable groups) up to one billion Rials without the need to introduce other guarantors to the operating banks and with a credit of 600 billion Rials from the funds of the fund and Refah Bank was announced.

It was also approved that the National Headquarters of Women and Family has the responsibility of dividing, coordinating, monitoring, and supervising the actions of

all relevant institutions. The aforementioned institutions are also obliged to submit all their actions, programs and reports in the implementation of this approval letter to the Secretariat of the National Headquarters of Women and Family every six months (Vice President for Women and Family Affairs).

2-2 Good news for female heads of the household

According to the published official reports, the resolution for the establishment and operation of the micro guarantee fund for women heads of the household was announced.

The Council of Ministers notified the second resolution of the National Headquarters of Women and Family to the Ministry of Cooperation, Labor and Social Welfare with the cooperation of the Vice President for Women and Family Affairs.

In this resolution, it was announced the establishment and operation of the micro-employment guarantee fund for women heads of households to issue guarantees to the 1st to 5th income deciles up to one billion Rials without the need to introduce other guarantors to the operating banks and with a credit of 600 billion Rials.

It was also approved that the National Headquarters of Women and Family has the responsibility of dividing,

coordinating, monitoring, and supervising the actions of all relevant institutions, and the aforementioned institutions are obliged to submit all their actions and programs in the implementation of this approval letter to the Secretariat of the National Headquarters of Women and Family every six months.



3- Rights to Education

3-1 Lunching girls' autism school in Tehran

With the beginning of the new academic year, the country's Autism School for Girls started its activity in Tehran.

According to published official reports, "Rad" autism school located in Tehran is the first girls' school for autistic children in all of Iran, which was built with the 3-way cooperation of exceptional education, charities and the Iranian Autism Association.

Iranian Autism Association has also tried to take steps to provide these students with the right to education by preparing 40 educational packs suitable for the needs of autistic girls.

In global statistics, the number of autistic girls is 1:4 to boys, which causes many important problems of autistic girls to be forgotten.

Also, "Tranem" Autism School (for both boys and girls) has started its activity in the city of Ray regarding the education of autistic children. All students at this school have been given a free education pack.

Autism Association of Iran has tried to take the first step to provide suitable educational environment and facilities by preparing 80 study packs for students on the autism spectrum and also by holding an educational session for their families, it can play an important role in informing the families of these children.

3-2 Inauguration of 1017 school sports projects

On 20th October, in an official ceremony total number of 1017 sports projects were inaugurated and the 40th intramural sports competition began.

According to published official reports, with the efforts of the Deputy Director of Physical Education and Health of the Ministry of Education, 2,100 sports spaces will be put into operation by the end of this year, half of which were opened in this ceremony. So, more than 50% new sports space will be added to the current sports space and facilities.

This action is very important especially for female students. Because while they can participate in professional sports, their mental health is also guaranteed.

On the sidelines of this meeting, the cooperation memorandum between the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Sports in the field of women's sports and public sports was signed by the two ministers. Through this memorandum, 1200 boarding schools for girls will be put into operation with the aim of creating universal sports and championships.



4- Right to Health

Majlis' contribution of 300 thousand billion Rials to the health system

In order to support the health system, the Islamic Parliament (Majlis) allocated more than 300 thousand billion Rials to this issue.

Based on all the indicators of Iran's health system, according to the World Health Organization, it ranks first in the region by a long distance from other region countries.

Health insurance, as one of the basic insurances, plays an important role in the insurance coverage of the society; so that this year, in addition to the people covered by health insurance, this organization covered more than 6 million people with free insurance. Among the people covered by insurance were special patients who were covered by

insurance for free. Also, health insurance has a drug delivery plan in its program, during which the medicine of special patients will be delivered to their homes.

It is expected that all special patients will be covered by free insurance by the end of next year. Also, in this regard, a support fund for special patients has been launched with the support of the Parliament and the order of the Minister of Health.

According to the official statistics, the most special patients with about 13 thousand and 500 special patients live in Tehran, all of whom will soon be fully supported through this Fund.



5-Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Equipping 7 centers with special equipment for the blind

Last year, the head of the Technical Vocational Training Organization (TVTO) promised to equip and set up 15 centers with special equipment for the blind in different provinces. This year, 7 centers have been equipped and other centers are being equipped. In addition to this service, the trainers of the centers have also received the necessary training for training the persons with disabilities.

It is expected that while increasing the standards for people with disabilities, especially the blind, 8 more centers will be equipped and launched in the next six months.

In addition to these initiatives, the TVTO continuously organizes special training courses for the persons with disabilities and provides the conditions for these people to join the labor market.

It should be noted that during the past years, with the cooperation of the Ministry of Science's Student Welfare Fund, a number of universities were equipped with "Braille tablets for the blind". According to the need, other measures are underway to purchase more equipment and tablets.

Also, the inclusive libraries of the Center for Intellectual Development of Children and Adolescents have taken very effective steps in the past years, which we hope will continue this year.

On the other hand, in order to facilitate the access of people with disabilities to banking systems, a number of bank branches have been opened, and the 10 largest banks of the country have plans to expand the equipment and provide banking services to people with disabilities across the country.



6- Human Rights

6-1 Amnesty of 3,606 prisoners in the first half of the current year

3 thousand 606 prisoners of non-intentional crimes with debts amounting to 20 thousand 855 billion Rials were released in the first half of the current year.

In the first six months of this year, 3 thousand 423 male prisoners and 183 female prisoners were released from the prisons of the country with support “Dieh Organization” and some other charity organizations and individuals.

Due to the fact that debtors are not defined as criminals and those who disturb the security of the society, this headquarters, with the help of some other popular organizations, has identified and assisted these prisoners. Therefore, all those prisoners who are eligible to receive

this assistance can refer to the centers and branches of this headquarters to enjoy these supports.

In addition to cash assistance to settle the debts of the prisoners, the lawyers of this headquarters also provide free legal services to the prisoners and also enter into negotiations with the plaintiffs.

Women, people with disabilities, young people and the elderly persons are the priority of this headquarters' assistance.

6-2 Release and reduction of sentences for some of those arrested in recent incidents in the country

Hojjatol-Islam Mohseni Ajei, head of the judiciary, referring to the issue of those arrested in the recent protests in the country, while instructing the judges to emphasize the distinction between the less guilty and the main perpetrators. In this regard, he stated that the people who are included in the category of less guilty elements are reconciled in several stages. In the first stage, with the planned arrangements, these people will be released until the court is held. In the second stage, if during the period of freedom and waiting for the trial, they regret their actions and prove this remorse and punishment in their actions, their verdict will be subject to reconciliation. In the next stage, after the verdict and conviction, if they show good behavior and it is ensured that they will not

commit the crime again, they will face the legal establishment.

6-3 Details of amnesty and reduction of punishment for convicts on the occasion of the birth of the Prophet (PBUH) and Imam Jafar Sadiq (PBUH)

In another comprehensive amnesty program, 1862 amnesty cases were reviewed in the Central Commission of Pardons, and after the approval of the head of the judiciary, the list was sent to the Leader, which was approved by him as well.

Out of a total of 1,862 people were granted amnesty and reduced punishment, 769 people were granted amnesty leading to freedom and 1,093 people were granted reduced or commuted punishment.

Among the people who were granted amnesty and reduced punishment at this stage, 1260 cases are related to justices and public courts and revolution, 450 cases are related to the government penal organization and 152 cases are related to the judicial organization of the armed forces.

Out of 1,260 cases of those who were pardoned by the judiciary and public and revolutionary courts, 13 were among those sentenced to death, whose punishment was

reduced by one degree, 10 cases are related to Article 20 of the amnesty statute, and 1,237 cases are other convicts.

Among the mentioned cases, 95 cases are women, and 123 cases are security convicts.



7-Introducing of Human Rights Activists

National Network of NGOs for the Deaf in Iran

In the age of communication and at a time when interaction and overlap between elements of society is the most important factor in strengthening and stabilizing the position of individuals and groups, societies are forced to resort to tools that can meet the needs of communication and extensive interactions.

Accordingly, the networking system and networking phenomenon have been greatly welcomed by different societies and with the advent of the virtual world, which has been facilitated and accelerated by networking, this phenomenon has established its place in societies.

The deaf community, as part of the international community, cannot stay away from this rapid

transformation and is forced to accompany this organizational revolution.

Accordingly, deaf institutions also behemoth to network and benefit from its various benefits.

Since the late 1980s, the discussion of networking in the deaf community of our country began, and the managers of deaf organizations, and at the head of them, the deaf centers of the country began networking, and during an uphill process and after passing legal proceedings, in July 2017, the National Network of Deaf NGOs of Iran was established.

Vision

Growth and quantitative and qualitative improvement of the target society in national, social, educational, cultural dimensions in order to be on the path of excellence and constructiveness through the cooperation of relevant institutions.

Although the establishment of the National Deaf Network in our country was delayed, but due to the sudden realization of the potential power and experience of its managers and leaders, this network has been able to focus on the opinions of its owners in a short period of time that membership in the World Federation for the Deaf (WFD) and the treble of its members in this short period of time indicate its general popularity.

In a short period of time, the National Network of Deaf NGOs in Iran has been able to have beneficial and fundamental impacts on the relevant institutions and organizations and cause unprecedented changes.

The hope and aspiration of our country's deaf community is that the development and excellence of the pillars and components of this network will continue to achieve a worthy place and enjoy the privileges of citizenship in line with international standards for deaf loved ones.

Hope for the hope of these loved ones.

Network goals

- Creating the necessary context and conditions for unity and cooperation between the real and legal personalities of the deaf to advance common goals.
- Creating an exchange mechanism with other networks, NGOs and international institutions in coordination with the Ministry of Interior.
- Facilitating the creation of cooperative relations between members, its publication, experiences and reports among network members.

- Participation in policy-making and decision-making related to network activities.
- Implementation of joint projects with financial facilities and support of network or members across the country after coordinating with the Ministry of Interior.
- To introduce the culture, capabilities and capabilities of the deaf to the society in order to create a communication cycle between them and ultimately benefit the audience from social and citizenship situations and facilities.

For further information on the Network and its activities visit: <https://www.nnidn.ir/>