Iran

Freedom for Iranian Pastors



Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani (* 1977) was sentenced to death by hanging on September 22nd, 2010 in Iran. The reason given was that he had become a Christian. An alleged departure from Islam was classified as worthy of death. The death sentence was only resumed after massive international protests. Pastor Nadarkhani has now been sentenced again, this time to 10 years Imprisonment and 2 years exile because he successfully continued his work as a pastor and other Iranians have become Christians.



Together with him the 3 pastors Mohammad Reza Omidi, Saheb Fadaei and Yasser Mossayebzadeh were sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment each, with an additional 80 lashes each for alleged participation in the Lord's Supper with bread and altar wine, as a result of which they would have consumed small amounts of alcohol. This is a direct attack on acts worship and those responsible in church.

The verdicts violate the human right to physical integrity and the human right to religious self-determination, as demanded in the UN Declaration of Human Rights and in Article 18 of the international treaty on civil and political rights is guaranteed, including Iran, which has signed a binding agreement under international law.

We, the undersigned, demand the observance of human rights and the signed contracts, no punishment for exercising the human right to religious self-determination, the lifting of the unjustified prison sentences against Pastor Nadarkhani and the other pastors as well as the renunciation of cruel punishments such as lashes.

Please send (also incomplete) to: International Society for Human Rights (ISHR), Edisonstraße 5, D-60388 Frankfurt am Main, Tel.: 069-420108-0, Fax: 069-420108-33, eMail: info@igfm.de, Internet: www.igfm.de



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