



JELVEH JAVAHERI

IRAN: WOMEN'S RIGHTS DEFENDERS DEFY REPRESSION

“Many of these women have landed in prison simply because they did not have the right to divorce.”

Jelveh Javaheri

THIS IS NOT THE FIRST TIME JELVEH JAVAHERI HAS FACED REPRESSION

Jelveh Javaheri, a journalist, is a founder member of the Campaign for Equality, which aims to collect a million signatures demanding an end to legal discrimination against women in Iran. As well as serving on the Campaign's education committee, Jelveh Javaheri has written several articles for its website (www.we4change.info/). She has also written extensively on women's issues for other websites. She was one of the co-founders of Hastia Andish Center, a leading women's NGO, which focuses on promoting women's rights through education.

Jelveh Javaheri was detained in Section 3 of Tehran's Evin Prison between 1 December 2007 and 2 January 2008. She was reportedly accused of “disturbing public opinion”, “propaganda against the system” and “publication of lies” in connection with

articles she posted on the Internet. She was released on bail, but may face prosecution in the future.

This is not the first time she has faced repression. She was among 33 women arrested on 4 March 2007 while protesting at the trial of five women's rights activists. She was released after four days and is facing trial.

She was also among 25 people arrested in Khorramabad, Lorestan province, in September 2007 during an educational workshop held by the Campaign for Equality. She was questioned about the Campaign's activities and released later the same day. Three fellow activists, Reza Dolatshah, Bahman Azadi and Khosrow Nasimpour, were beaten in custody before being released the following day.

ACT NOW

Write politely worded letters to the Head of the Judiciary.

- Call for all charges to be dropped against Jelveh Javaheri that are connected to her peaceful campaigning for equal rights for women in Iran.
- Urge him to review Iranian legislation with a view to ending all legalized discrimination against women in Iran.

WRITE TO:

Head of the Judiciary
Howzeh Riyasat-e Qoveh Qazaiyeh (Office of the Head of the Judiciary)
Pasteur St, Vali Asr Ave, south of Serah-e Jomhuri,
Tehran 1316814737, Islamic Republic of Iran
Email: info@dadgostary-tehran.ir (subject line: FAO Ayatollah Shahroudi)
Salutation: Your Excellency

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