



KMMK-G Summary Report on Executions in Iran from January 1 to February 26, 2023

Iran: Kurdish Share of Executions in January & February 2023

Minority life matters!

The state-sponsored violence and the application of death sentences against Iranian ethnic groups and in particular the Kurdish and Baluchis are increasing dramatically and disproportionately. While the Kurdish population constitutes only 15% of the total 82 million population, the number of Kurdish executions for political and security-related charges is over 55%. Over one third of those executed so far in January and February 2023 are Kurdish. Iran has one of the highest execution rates globally. Kurdish prisoners face unfair trials and are often convicted in proceedings marked by a pattern of abuses including the use of confessions made under torture and denial of access to a lawyer.

According to the data collected by the Kurdistan Human Rights Association-Geneva (KMMK-G), from January 1 to February 26, 2023, one hundred-three (103) prisoners were executed in Iran.¹

Despite the secrecy surrounding executions, and the government's refusal to publish the names and ethnicity of the executed prisoners, the KMMK-G has been able to identify the names of 101 and the ethnicities of 51 of them: thirty-five (35) Kurdish, thirteen (13) Baluchi, one (1) Ahwazi-Arab and one (1) dual national. The ethnicities of the rest are unidentified.

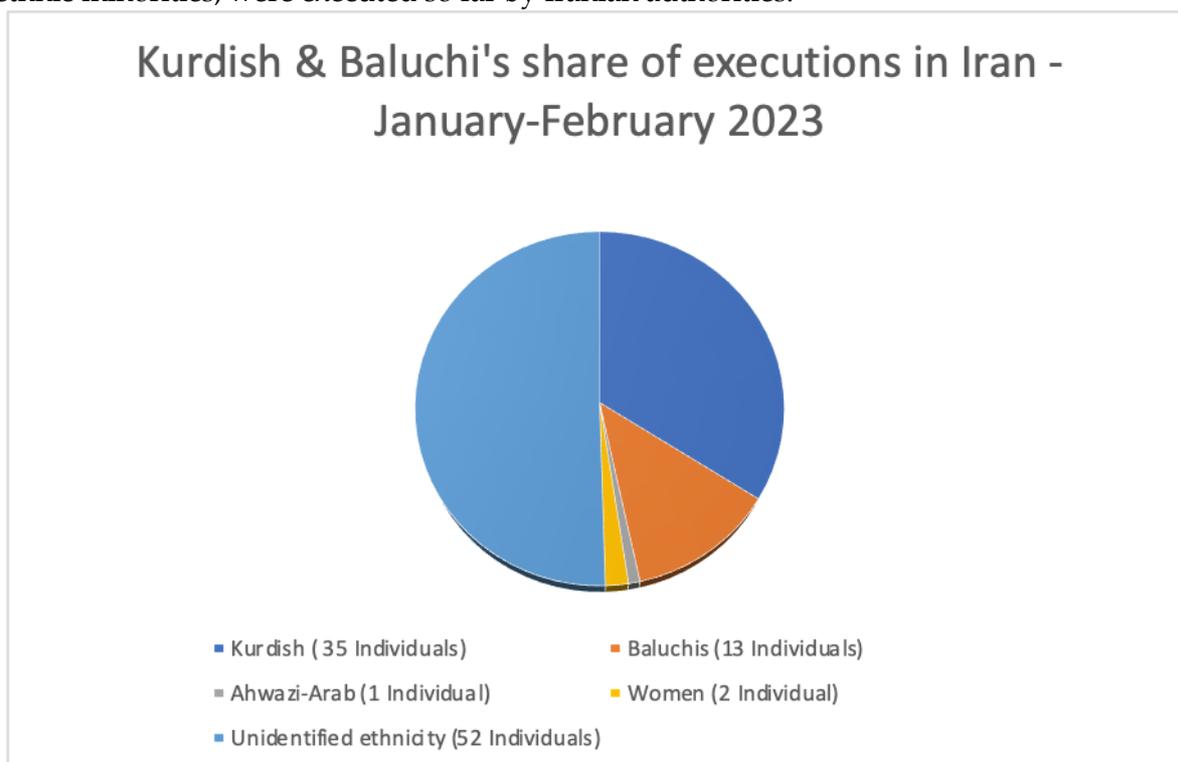
Half of those executed are Kurdish and Baluchis.

Among the executed, seven (7) were charged for political reasons, fifty-nine (59) were charged with drug-related offenses, thirty-one (31) were charged with murder, three (3) were charged with armed robbery, four (4) for participation in the protests and two (2) unidentified women were also reported executed in Berjand on 26 February for drug related offenses. Three of those executed for political reasons were Kurdish. On Wednesday 22nd February 2023, Mr Sarkawt (Aresh) Ahmadi, a Kurdish political prisoner from Ravansar, Kermanshah, Iranian Kurdistan, was executed secretly in Dizel Abad Prison in Kermanshah without prior notice to his family.

¹ Upon request, we are happy to provide the list in Farsi.

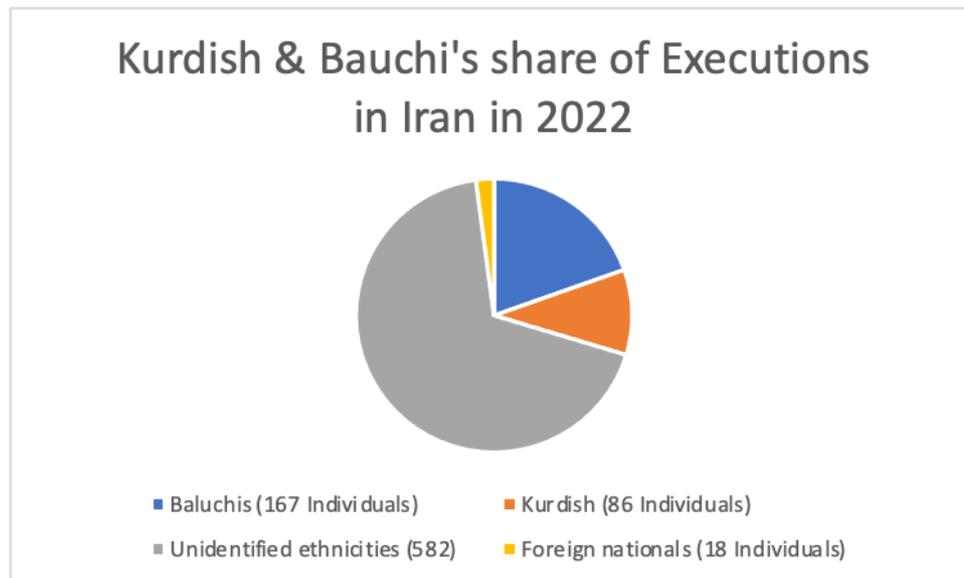
Mr Hajar Saeedi, a Kurdish protestor from Mahabad died in Mahabad detention center under torture on 1st January 2023 and Mr. Sadeeq Rasuli another Kurdish prisoner was also killed under torture in prison in Urumiyeh Central Prison on 14th January 2023. Mr Ibrahim Rigi, a Baluchi protestor from Zahedan was also reported killed under torture on 22nd February 2023 in Zahedan. In 2022, seventeen (17) Kurdish prisoners were killed under torture and ill treatment in Iranian detention centres. Eleven (11) others were also died in 2021. To lessen the political costs of executions, Iranian authorities has adopted, in the past years, a new pattern of elimination of Kurdish and other political prisoners by killing them in prisons without any due processes and trials. Currently, eleven (11) Kurdish protestors are facing death penalty charges.

In relation to the nationwide protests, a Kurd, an Arab, a Baluchi and a Gilaki, all from ethnic minorities, were executed so far by Iranian authorities.



In 2022, 853 prisoners were executed in Iran. 570 were men and 13 were women. Eighty-six (86) Kurdish and one hundred sixty-seven (167) Baluchi and eighteen (18) foreign national prisoners were executed. Close to half of those executed in 2022 were Kurdish and Baluchi.

Kurdish & Bauchi's share of Executions in Iran in 2022



A quick look at the above statistics shows the disproportionate use of the death penalty against Kurdish and Baluchi minorities.

While the world's focus is on the executions of protestors, the authorities is intensifying its repression against Kurdish and Baluchi minorities who are perceived by the regime as the instigator of the nationwide women, life and freedom protests. The regime is increasing its executions policy in Kurdistan and Baluchistan in an attempt to spread fear and control the population.

We call on the international community in particular the United Nations and the EU states to take urgent actions to stop the executions of Kurdish and Baluchis citizens. And to include a paragraph on the disproportionate use of death penalty against Kurdish and Baluchi citizens in all resolutions of United Nations, EU, USA and other stakeholder's documents on Iran.

Geneva, 28 February 2023

The Kurdistan Human Rights Association - Geneva (KMMK-G)



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*The Kurdistan Human Rights Association-Geneva (KMMK-G) aims to **promote democracy, respect for human rights and social development in and beyond Kurdistan of Iran.***

To that end, the Association commits itself to work against any form of discrimination towards ethnic and religious minorities within the region, to defend political prisoners, to work for the abolition of the death penalty, and to promote women's and children's rights.

*Established in Geneva in 2006, the KMMK-G constitutes **a bridge between the Kurdish civil society, the United Nations Agencies and NGOs.** The KMMK-G participates actively in all the sessions of the Human Rights Council, the ESCR, the CPR Committee, the UPR and the UN Forum on minority issues, and presents them with reports on the situation of human rights in Kurdistan of Iran (www.kmmk-ge.org). Moreover, the Association submits these reports to various United Nations organs, with which it is in frequent contact.*

*The KMMK-G is, therefore, a **recognized source of information.** Its reports are published on the website of the United Nations Human Rights Council and the High Commissioner of Human Rights. The Association also frequently publishes articles in Kurdish and Iranian media.*

*The KMMK-G is also active within the **EU Parliament and in EU capitals**, and regularly organizes **conferences** on the situation of ethnic and religious minorities in Iran.*

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