

The President of the Islamic Republic of Iran
His Excellency
Mr. Hassan Rouhani
via Botschaft der Islamischen Republik Iran
Podbielskiallee 67
14195 Berlin

Fax: 030-84353535

Your Excellency;

Since July 1, 2019, seven Christians have been held in the local offices of the Iranian Ministry of Intelligence in the city of Bushehr. An eighth Christian lady, who was initially also arrested, was released the same day. So far, it has not been made clear what exactly they are accused of.

Intelligence Ministry officials raided the home of 36-year-old Christian Sam Khosravi and his 35-year-old wife, Maryam Falahi, on July 1. The officers confiscated the couple's personal belongings, including laptops, cell phones, ID cards, and bank cards, as well as Bibles, crosses, devotional images, and religious literature. The officials arrested the couple, which has been held in custody ever since.

The same also happened to Sam's one-year younger brother Sasan as well as to his 33-year-old wife, Marjan Falahi. Three other Christians from Bushehr were also arrested on the same day. So far, these seven prisoners have not been allowed to consult a lawyer.

Please permit me, dear Mr. President, to remind you that the Islamic Republic of Iran has ratified "The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights" (ICCPR) - a covenant binding under international law - which also guarantees full freedom of religion.

I therefore take the liberty, Mr. President, to beseech you to advocate the immediate unconditional release of these prisoners.

Most respectfully,