

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Press Center

Fact Sheet: New Executive Order Targeting Iranian Officials Responsible For Or Complicit In Serious Human Rights Abuses

9/29/2010

TG-877

Today, President Obama signed an Executive Order that imposes sanctions on Iranian officials determined to be responsible for or complicit in serious human rights abuses involving Iran. In signing today's Order, the President identified eight individuals for sanctions who share responsibility for the sustained and severe violation of human rights in Iran since the June 2009 disputed presidential election by listing them in the Annex to the Order.

The Iranian individuals identified today are: Mohammad Ali Jafari, Commander of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC); Sadeq Mahsouli, current Minister of Welfare and Social Security and former Minister of the Interior; Qolam-Hossein Mohseni-Ejei, current Prosecutor General of Iran and former Minister of Intelligence; Saeed Mortazavi, former Prosecutor-General of Tehran; Heydar Moslehi, Minister of Intelligence; Mostafa Mohammad Najjar, Minister of the Interior and Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces for Law Enforcement; Ahmad-Reza Radan, Deputy Chief of Iran's National Police; and Hossein Taeb, current Deputy IRGC Commander for Intelligence and former Commander of the IRGC's Basij Forces.

This Order provides the United States with new tools to target human rights abuses engaged in by officials of the Government of Iran. As a result of this action, any property in the United States or in the possession or control of U.S. persons in which the individuals listed in the Annex have an interest is blocked, and U.S. persons are prohibited from engaging in transactions with them. The individuals listed in the Annex to the Executive Order are also subject to visa sanctions.

President Obama identified the following individuals for sanctions by listing them in the Annex to the Order:

- **Mohammad Ali Jafari** is the Commander of the IRGC. As commander of the IRGC, Jafari controlled the Basij Forces during the June 2009 election. Forces under his command participated in beatings, murder, and arbitrary arrests and detentions of peaceful protestors.
- **Sadeq Mahsouli** is currently the Minister of Welfare and Social Security. He was Minister of the Interior at the time of the June 2009 election. As Minister of the Interior, Mahsouli had authority over all police forces and Interior Ministry security agents. His forces were responsible for attacks on the dormitories of Tehran University on June 15, 2009, during which students were severely beaten and detained. Detained students were tortured and ill-treated in the basement of the Interior Ministry building; other protestors were severely abused at the Kahrizak Detention Center, which was operated by police under Mahsouli's control.
- **Qolam-Hossein Mohseni-Ejei** is currently the Prosecutor General of Iran. As the Minister of Intelligence at the time of the June 2009 election, Mohseni-Ejei has confirmed that he authorized confrontations with protestors and their arrests during his tenure as Minister of Intelligence. As a result, protestors were detained without formal charges brought against them and during this detention detainees were subjected to beatings, solitary confinement, and a denial of due process rights at the hands of intelligence officers under the direction of Mohseni-Ejei. In addition, political figures were coerced into making false confessions under unbearable interrogations, which included torture, abuse, blackmail, and the threatening of family members.
- **Saeed Mortazavi** is the former Tehran Prosecutor-General. As Prosecutor-General, he issued a blanket order used for the detention of hundreds of activists, journalists, and students, and was responsible for sending detainees to the Kahrizak Detention Center, where they were tortured and abused, resulting in several deaths. He was suspended from office in August 2010 after an investigation by the Iranian judiciary of his role in the deaths of three men detained on his orders following the election.
- **Heydar Moslehi** has been the Minister of Intelligence since August 2009. Under his leadership, the Ministry of Intelligence has continued the practices of widespread arbitrary detention and persecution of protestors and dissidents. The Ministry of Intelligence continues to run Ward 209 of Evin Prison, where many activists are being held for their peaceful activities in opposition to the ruling government; interrogators from the Ministry of Intelligence have subjected prisoners in Ward 209 to beatings, mental abuse, and sexual abuse. In recent months, prisoners in Ward 209 have reported forced confessions and interference by the Ministry of Intelligence in the judicial process; one detainee from the ward was executed after a forced confession and another was executed when torture failed to yield a confession. As the Minister of Intelligence, Moslehi bears responsibility for the ongoing abuses.
- **Mostafa Mohammad Najjar** was appointed the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of Armed Forces in charge of Police Forces in order to "ensure order and security" in November 2009. He was in charge of the government response to protests on Ashura, one of the holiest days in Shia Islam, which in 2009 coincided with December 27, 2009. State media reported 37 dead and hundreds arrested. He is currently the Minister of Interior and, as such, has authority over all police forces, Interior Ministry security agents, and plainclothes agents.
- **Ahmad-Reza Radan** has been the Deputy Chief of Iran's National Police since 2008. As Deputy Chief of National Police, Radan was responsible for beatings, murder, and arbitrary arrests and detentions against protestors that were committed by the police forces. In addition, several detainees taken to Kahrizak Detention Center, the detention center where at least three protestors lost their lives after being subject to abuses, have alleged that Radan was present in Kahrizak and personally participated in the beatings and ill-treatment of detainees.
- **Hossein Taeb** is currently the Deputy IRGC Commander for Intelligence. As Commander of the paramilitary Basij Forces at the time of the June 2009 election, forces under Taeb's command participated in beatings, murder, and arbitrary arrests and detentions of peaceful protestors.

Identifying information

Individual: **Mohammad Ali Jafari**
 AKA: Ali Jafari
 AKA: Mohammad Ali Ja'fari
 AKA: Mohammad Ali Jafari-Najafabadi
 AKA: "Aziz Ja'fari"
 POB: Yazd, Iran
 DOB: 1 September 1957

Individual: **Sadeq Mahsouli**
 AKA: Sadeq Mahsuli
 POB: Orumieh, Iran
 DOB: 1959

Individual: **Qolam-Hossein Mohseni-Ejei**
 AKA: Gholam Hossein Mohseni Ejei

POB: Ejiyeh, Iran
DOB: c. 1956
Individual: **Saeed Mortazavi**
AKA: Sa'id Mortazavi
POB: Meibod, Yazd, Iran
DOB: 1967
Individual: **Heydar Moslehi**
AKA: Heidar Moslehi
POB: Isfahan, Iran
DOB: 1956
Individual: **Mostafa Mohammad Najjar**
POB: Tehran, Iran
DOB: 1956
Individual: **Ahmad-Reza Radan**
POB: Isfahan, Iran
DOB: 1963
Alt DOB: 1964
Individual: **Hossein Taeb**
AKA: Hosein Taeb
AKA: Hussayn Taeb
AKA: Hassan Taeb
POB: Tehran, Iran
DOB: 1963

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