Middle East

Iranian Officials Confirm 25 Dead in Protests

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The Iranian government acknowledged Sunday that 25 people had been killed during recent anti-government protests in cities throughout the country.

Judiciary spokesman Gholamhossein Mohseni Ejehi said that none of dead were killed by security forces, as the officers were ordered not to use their weapons. A number of security officers were also among the dead, Ejehi said Sunday. He didn't provide details on how the 25 people were killed.

Meanwhile, a Tehran prosecutor said that over 400 people detained during demonstrations were released, according to semi-official Fars news agency.

Last week, reformist member of parliament Mahmoud Sadeghi said that about 3,700 people had been arrested during the protests. Sadeghi also reported last week that a man had committed suicide while in detention.

The protests erupted nearly three weeks ago over economic issues, but grew into widespread unrest condemning the Islamic regime as a whole, with attacks on government and police buildings.

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Iran says 55 people are still being detained in the capital after hundreds were arrested during a wave of anti-government protests. The semi-official Fars news agency quoted judiciary spokesman Gholamhosein Mohseni Ejehi as saying there were around 400 protesters held across the country but that "some were released" Saturday and Sunday. Last week, an Iranian reformist lawmaker, Mahmoud Sadeghi, said some 3,700 people were arrested across the...

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A 22-year-old Iranian protester has died in custody, according to two Iranian lawmakers, intensifying fears of a repeat of the prisoner abuse that followed similar protests in 2009. A reformist member of parliament, Mahmoud Sadeghi, says he was told the detainee, identified as Sina Ghanbari, committed suicide. Another lawmaker, Tayyebe Siavashi, said the detainee had been arrested in Tehran. Details of the incident were not immediately clear, but it was thought to be the...

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