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Iran: Sentenced to death for killing abusive husband

Fatemeh Haghighat-Pajouh has reportedly been sentenced to death for the murder of her husband, who allegedly tried to rape her then 15 year old daughter from a previous marriage. She is reportedly at risk of imminent execution.

According to a 6 October report in the Iranian newspaper *E'temad*, Fatemeh Haghighat-Pajouh murdered her husband in 1997. At her trial she alleged that her husband, identified as a 30 year old man named Bahman, was a drug addict, who had been overtly interested in her 15-year-old daughter. She also told the trial judge that Bahman had said he had lost the girl in a gambling match. When she later discovered that he had tried to rape the girl, she killed him.

It is not known when Fatemeh Haghighat-Pajouh was arrested. According to the report in *E'temad*, the sentence has been upheld by the Supreme Court, although it is not known when. In Iran, all death sentences have to be approved by the Supreme Court before they can be implemented. The *E'temad* report states that her execution is expected to take place in the next few days.