

URGENT ACTION

IRANIAN WOMEN'S RIGHTS DEFENDER RELEASED

Women's rights defender Mahdieh Golrou was released from Tehran's Evin Prison after three months detained for peaceful demonstrations. She was a prisoner of conscience.

Mahdieh Golrou (also known as Mahdieh Golru), was released from section 2A of Evin Prison on 27 January 2015 on bail of seven billion Rials (US\$241,000). She had been held without charge for three months, for taking part in a peaceful protest against violence against women in Iran.

Mahdieh Golrou had been arrested at her home in Tehran on 26 October 2014, when her mobile and computer were confiscated. She spent two months in solitary confinement in Section 2A of Evin Prison, under the control of the Revolutionary Guards, and was then moved to a cell shared with another person in the same section. Mahdieh Golrou's case was transferred to Branch 15 of the Revolutionary Court of Tehran on 12 January, though Amnesty International understands her trial has not yet taken place.

Mahdieh Golrou had taken part in a peaceful protest outside parliament in Tehran on 22 October 2014, to condemn violence against women and a series of acid attacks against women which had taken place earlier that month in the central city of Esfahan. Her arrest may have been an attempt to quash peaceful protest and stifle the voices of women who speak out about women's rights issues. Mahdieh Golrou had been arrested in December 2009 and sentenced to over two years in prison. She was sentenced after she was charged with "spreading propaganda against the system" and "gathering and colluding against national security".

No further action is requested from the UA network. Many thanks to all who sent appeals.

This is the first update of UA 11/15. Further information: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/mde13/002/2015/en/>

Name: Mahdieh Golrou

Gender m/f: f

Further information on UA: 11/15 Index: MDE 13/1836/2015 Issue Date: 10 June 2015

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