



## IFIR Danish Branch files Grievance against Racist Party Leader

In accordance with criminal code B266, the International Federation of Iranian Refugees (IFIR) and the International Campaign in Defence of Women's Rights in Iran (ICDWRI) - Danish Branches have filed a grievance against Pia Kjaersgaard, leader of the far Right Danish People's Party, for his racist statements against immigrants. According to code B266, those who

ridicule, threaten, and humiliate people based on their race, ethnicity, etc. must be fined and or sentenced to up to two years imprisonment. Kjaersgaard's racist statement came in response to Swedish Integration Minister Mona Sahlin's criticism of Denmark's centre-right government's agreement with the far-Right party to support a bill restricting immigration. Kjaersgaard

said Sahlin needed to look at Sweden's own immigration problems, declaring Swedish cities had turned into 'Scandinavian Beirut's' courtesy of 'gang warfare, honour crimes and gang rapes.' Kjaersgaard accused Sweden of planting a knife in Denmark's back before the country assumes the European Union presidency on July 1.

The assault on immigrants and asylum seekers continues systematically with the

Danish government persistently establishing new anti-immigrant laws and policies. Even prior to the coming to power of this government, Danish asylum laws were one of the most draconian in Europe. An assault on refugee and immigrant rights has become one of the main pillars of the Right wing government in Denmark. IFIR, along with other progressive forces, will strive to put an end to this intolerable situation.

**Asylum is a Right  
not a Privilege!**

## IFIR Sweden holds demonstrations for Iraqi Kurd and Iranian Asylum Seekers

The Swedish government has recently decided to deport four thousand Iraqi Kurds back to unsafe Iraqi Kurdistan. Also, in the past four months, the Swedish Immigration Department has rejected hundreds of

Iranian asylum seekers, many with children, forcing them into clandestine lives and denying them welfare, medical and legal services.

In order to highlight their situation, the International

Federation of Iranian and Iraqi Refugees held several demonstrations across Sweden during 16 to 17 May. The demands of the demonstrations: recognition that Iran and Iraqi Kurdistan are unsafe, an end to

deportations of Iranian and Iraqi asylum seekers, a review of closed case files and the right to asylum of all who have fled Iran and Iraqi Kurdistan.

# Join Ongoing Protest against Swiss Government's Plan to 'Return' Iranian Asylum Seekers

A 6 May conference called for by the Red Cross to publicise the Swiss government's plan to 'return' Iranian asylum seekers ended in disgrace for the Red Cross and the Swiss government as a result of the resolute intervention of the International Federation of Iranian Refugees (IFIR), the Worker-communist Party of Iran, Iranian asylum seekers and other opponents of the

Islamic regime. The Red Cross representative facilitating the conference apologised several times and declared that the organisation would distance itself from this policy.

As a follow up to this defeat, the Swiss government is now holding another conference facilitated by its own personnel on 27 May at 3:00pm in Solutorn. The IFIR

Swiss Branch is organising a protest at this conference as well.

The IFIR reiterates its steadfast opposition to any attempts by the Islamic Republic and Western governments to legitimise the Iranian regime and play with the lives of those who have fled from it.

IFIR calls on all progressive forces to defend support this

campaign and write letters of protest to the Swiss government calling for an end to its 'Return to Iran' program. For information on the campaign, contact Mahmood Rahbari, IFIR-Swiss Branch director at Riedhofstr. 250, 8049 Zürich CH, Switzerland. Tel.+41 78 795 75 81. E-mail: m\_rahbary@hotmail.com.

**Join Protest against Swiss Government  
on 27 May at 3:00pm in Solutorn**

## Sample Letter of Protest to Swiss Government and Red Cross' 'Return to Iran Program'

Bundesamt für Flüchtlinge (BFF)  
Quellenweg 6  
3003 Bern-Wabern  
Fax: +41 31 325 93 79  
E-mail: info@bff.admin.ch

Sozial-, Rechts- und Rückkehrberatung  
Kronenstrasse 10  
8006 Zürich  
Fax: + 41 1 360 2851  
E-mail: info@srk-zuerich.ch

I/ My Organisation strongly condemn(s) the Swiss government's 'Return to Iran Program' for Iranian asylum seekers, supported by the International Red Cross. Iranian asylum seekers have fled a brutal and repressive regime, which grossly violates civil rights. They must be granted asylum and protection from deportation or programs intending to coerce return.

I/ We demand an immediate end to the 'Return to Iran Program'. Needless to say, I/ we hold the Swiss government and Red Cross responsible for the lives and security of Iranian asylum seekers.

Signed  
Name, E-mail, Date

cc: ifir@ukonline.co.uk

# Ferdous B. has been sentenced to Death by Stoning in Iran

According to Entekhab newspaper, a woman named Ferdous B. has been sentenced to death by stoning in Iran. This is the third such sentence in the past weeks, coming on top of the sentencing of Ameneh Laval in Nigeria and Zafaran Bibi in Pakistan. There is also the case of Sima, sentenced to stoning in Iran a while ago. These women were sentenced for having sexual relations outside of marriage. They are experiencing the nightmare of waiting to be stoned to death. This medieval and brutish

treatment is happening in front of our eyes and the Islamic government of Iran is one of the main supporters and promoters of this brutality, a crime against women.

To oppose and abolish stoning, send letters to the European Union protesting against their lack of action against this brutality. Put pressure on the media to report news of sentences to, and execution by, stoning around the world. We must put pressure on the governments



of Iran, Pakistan, Nigeria and the Sudan to stop and abolish the law of stoning.

Letters of Protest can be

sent to:

Romano Prodi, President  
European Commission

Fax: +32 22956336

Email: [civis@europarl.eu.int](mailto:civis@europarl.eu.int)

## Join an International Protest against Stoning

In the 21 century, stoning men and women to death is a hideous fact; stoning means burying men and women up to their waist or neck in the ground and killing them by gradual torture. Their crime, according to Islamic law, is having voluntary sexual relations outside of marriage.

Recently, Islamic governments in Islamic-stricken countries have practiced this brutal and medieval sentence more often. Men and women living under the rules of Islamic regimes and Islamic groups are always in danger of being stoned to death.

Right now, Ameneh Laval in Nigeria, Sima and Ferdous B. in Iran and Zafaran Bibi in Pakistan are in prison and

facing the nightmare of being stoned to death. Progressive and pro-freedom individuals and organisations must join forces to end this brutality.

In protest against this brutal treatment of women and men, the International Committee against Stoning is calling an international protest action against stoning. On May 31, we will be gathering in front of the embassies of Iran, Pakistan, Nigeria and the Sudan to express our outrage and protest against stoning. Also, there will be a rally in front of the European Union's office in Brussels. Representatives of the International Committee against Stoning will meet with EU officials to express its strong protest against stoning. Stoning and all cruel Islamic

punishments must end all over the world immediately. The European Union must break its silence regarding this brutality. They must condemn stoning and take serious action to abolish stoning.

The International Federation of Iranian Refugees (IFIR) is a member of the International Committee against Stoning. We call on progressive groups and individuals to participate in these demonstrations to stop stoning and to defend women's rights.

**Friday  
31 May 2002  
at 10:30am**

**Rue de la Loi  
Nr. 200,  
Brussels (In  
front of  
European  
Parliament)  
Metro: Station  
Schuman**

*For more information, contact: Mina Ahadi, Coordinator, E-mail: [minaahadi@aol.com](mailto:minaahadi@aol.com), Tel: +49 177 5692 413, Fax: 0049 2012 488 510 or Shiva Mahbobi, Public Relations, E-mail: [shiva\\_mahbobi@yahoo.com](mailto:shiva_mahbobi@yahoo.com), Tel: +44 07984445278.*

# Are Iran and other Middle Eastern Countries Safe for Asylum Seekers?

*IFIR - UK Branch Annual Conference on UK Asylum Policy*

**Speakers:** Maryam Namazie, Imran Khan, Suresh Grover, Bruce Burson, Chris Randall, Dashty Jamal, Saeed Arman, Mehrnoush Moosavi, Farshad Hussein, Nasrin Ramzanali and others

**Friday 24 May 2002**

5pm - 10pm

University of London Union (ULU)

Room: 3E, Mallet Street

London WC1E

In English

**Saturday 25 May 2002**

10am - 10pm (Music and Food  
from 6pm onwards)

The Peel Centre, Percy Circus

London W-C1X 9EY

Nearest Tube: King's Cross

In Persian

For more information, please contact:

Saeed Arman on: +44 (0)7931  
866985, Email: ifiruk@yahoo.com,  
www.hambastegi.org.

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actions and press  
releases:

[www.hambastegi.org](http://www.hambastegi.org)

**Join IFIR!  
Defend Asylum  
Rights!**

**Editor:** Maryam Namazie

**E-mail:** ifir@ukonline.co.uk

**Tel:** +44 7730 107 337; **Fax:** +358 631 542 53

P.O. Box 27236, London N11, England

[www.hambastegi.org](http://www.hambastegi.org)