



Australian Government
Refugee Review Tribunal

Country Advice

Iran

Iran – IRN36407 – Overseas protests –
Sydney vigil – Post-election protests –
Internet monitoring – Social networking
websites – Returnees

15 April 2010

- 1. Please provide any reports about a vigil outside Sydney Town Hall on 28 June 2009, which was filmed on YouTube, to commemorate the death of Iranian protestors (eg. indicating approximate numbers of participants, the purpose of it, duration, details of speech-makers or placards).**

A candlelight vigil was held on 28 June 2009 at Sydney Town Hall steps from 4.30-6.30pm. Amnesty International (Australia), who promoted the event on its website, wrote that it was organised by an individual named 'Sara Haghoosti'. There is no information to indicate that 'Sara' is associated with a particular organisation. The Amnesty International website also notes that the purpose of the vigil was to 'remember those that have died fighting for freedom in Iran' referring to large demonstrations held in Iran following the 12 June 2009 election in which a number of protestors died during clashes with Iranian authorities.¹ The event was also promoted by the Facebook group 'Australian-Iranian Group Supporting Democracy'.²

There are several YouTube videos of the event. These videos reveal a large number of people holding candles, Iranian flags and placards. Some placards read 'Where is my Vote?', 'Mr Rudd, please don't give recognition make democracy your mission' and 'Re-election is my right'. Other placards were written in Farsi. One video reveals a number of tea light candles laid out on the ground spelling out the word 'Iran'.³ One YouTube Video description states that there were over 300 people at the event.⁴ Another video describes and shows a male Iranian musician making a speech in Farsi though it is does

¹ Amnesty International Australia (undated), 'Candlelight vigil for Iran at Sydney Town Hall' Facebook page for Amnesty International Australia <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=93434424522&index=1> Accessed 29 March 2010 – Attachment 1; Amnesty International Australia 2010, 'Iran Revolution: update' Amnesty International Australia website, 16 February <http://www.amnesty.org.au/nsw/comments/22567/> - Accessed 29 March 2010 – Attachment 2.

² Facebook page for 'Australian-Iranian Group Supporting Democracy' (undated) <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&ref=search&gid=46384089978> - Accessed 29 March 2010 – Attachment 3.

³ Posted by 'neginghezel' 2009, 'Candlelight vigil for Iran at Sydney Town Hall 28th June 2009- Ey Iran' YouTube.com website, 29 June <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4gwOjBUa4Y> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 4; Posted by 'neginghezel' 2009, 'Candlelight vigil for Iran at Sydney Town Hall 28th June 2009 overview' YouTube.com website, 29 June <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1hCOzg2d6PA&NR=1> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 5; Posted by 'Ayrandughters' 2009, '27June2009' YouTube.com website, 29 June <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BkBjb5gOaUo&feature=related> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 6; Posted by 'Irاندost100' 2009, '29 June 09-Sydney-Mourning for those killed in Iran' YouTube.com website, 29 June <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ayCIGf63opw&feature=related> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 7; Posted by 'shahabr1981' 2009, 'Ey Iran at Sydney Vigil infront of Townhall 28/06/09' Youtube.com website, 28 June <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrPijl2fR28&feature=related> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 8.

⁴ Posted by 'TheIranianFreedom' 2009, 'The Silent Screams of Iran - candle light vigil 28 June 2009, Town Hall Sydney Australia' YouTube.com website, 28 June <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yPyuddllrO8> - Accessed 29 March 2010 – Attachment 9.

not note his name.⁵ Another video of the vigil also shows a number of attendees singing in what is most likely Farsi.⁶

A week earlier, on 20 June 2009, 200 Iranian Australians protested in Martin Place, Sydney, calling on the Federal Government to delay recognising the presidency of Iran's Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.⁷ This protest and the candlelight vigil were held at a time when there was an organised campaign of global protest against claims of Iranian electoral fraud amongst overseas Iranian communities.⁸

2. Is there information that the Iranian authorities might be aware of this or similar events? How closely are they monitored, and how closely is YouTube and Facebook monitored?

It is likely that the Iranian authorities would be aware of protests against the Iranian regime by overseas Iranian communities. A number of sources claim that the Iranian authorities monitor the activities of overseas Iranians via social network sites such as Facebook and YouTube and by directly filming overseas protests.

Western media sources claim that social network sites such as YouTube, Twitter and Facebook were instrumental in promoting the large scale demonstrations that took place in Tehran after the results of the 12 June 2009 election which gave President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad victory. At times, these sites were the only source providing information on the widespread violent crackdown on protestors by the Iranian authorities.⁹ As a result, the Iranian government considered such sites as 'instruments of the opposition' and took a significant interest in them.¹⁰ In June 2009, it was reported that Iran's Revolutionary Guard warned that anyone using such sites for political purposes would be subject to retribution.¹¹ Media sources also reported that, after the election, the Iranian government announced the establishment of a new police unit devoted to monitoring websites for

⁵ Posted by 'TheIranianFreedom' 2009, 'Continued support for iranians, Australians all' YouTube.com website, 28 June <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poAvNA0GIPU&feature=related> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 10.

⁶ Posted by 'shaharbr1981' 2009, 'Sarzamineh Man 280609' YouTube.com website, 28 June <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kuu6yUvjalE&feature=related> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 11.

⁷ 'Iranian-Australians protest election result' 2009, *ABC news*, 20 June <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/06/20/2603808.htm> - Accessed 30 March 2010 – Attachment 12.

⁸ 'Worldwide Demonstrations In Solidarity With The Election Protestors In Iran' 2009, *Payvand News*, 22 June <http://payvand.com/news/09/jun/1232.html> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 13; 'Gallery: Iranians protest around world' 2009, *Cable News Network* (CNN), 14 June <http://edition.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/meast/06/14/iran.foreign.protests.gallery/index.html#cnnSTCText> - Accessed 30 March 2010 – Attachment 14; 'Protests Around the World Call for Iran to End Crackdown' 2009, *Fox News* website, source: *Associated Press*, 25 July <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,534834,00.html> - Accessed 30 March 2010 – Attachment 15.

⁹ 'Iran's Twitter revolution' 2009, *Washington Times*, 16 June <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2009/jun/16/irans-twitter-revolution/> - Accessed 30 March 2010 – Attachment 16; Stelter, B. & Stone, B. 2009, 'Web Pries Lid of Iranian Censorship' *New York Times*, 22 June http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/23/world/middleeast/23censor.html?_r=3&hp Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 17; West, D.M. 2009, 'The Two Faces of Twitter: Revolution in a Digital Age for Iran' The Brookings Institution website, source: *The Huffington Post*, 22 June http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0622_technology_west.aspx - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 18; Gross, D. 2009, 'Iran's online protest faces more savvy regime' *Cable News Network* (CNN), 30 December <http://www.cnn.com/2009/TECH/12/29/iran.social.media/> Accessed 29 March 2010 – Attachment 19.

¹⁰ Reporters without Borders (undated), 'Internet Enemies: Iran' <http://www.rsf.org/en-ennemi36684-Iran.html> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 20.

¹¹ Schleifer, Y. 2009, 'Why Iran's Twitter revolution is unique' *The Christian Science Monitor*, 19 June [http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Middle-East/2009/0619/p06s08-wome.html/\(page\)/2](http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Middle-East/2009/0619/p06s08-wome.html/(page)/2) - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 21.

political material in order to prosecute those deemed to be ‘spreading lies’.¹² Media sources also claim that the Iranian government had purchased sophisticated internet monitoring technology in 2008.¹³ The US Department of State 2009 Country Report on Human Rights Practices in Iran confirms that the government monitored internet communications via Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, with technology it purchased in 2008.¹⁴

A number of media sources confirm that through its monitoring of sites such as Facebook, YouTube and Twitter, the Iranian authorities are able to track the political activities of overseas Iranians. A 2010 article by *The Wall Street Journal* states that former Iranian lawmakers and former members of Iran’s elite security force claim that such monitoring enables the Iranian government to identify Iranians who attend overseas opposition protests.¹⁵ An earlier 2009 article by *The Wall Street Journal* reported that, in November 2009, the deputy commander of Iran's armed forces wrote an editorial in the conservative newspaper *Kayhan* that ‘protesters inside and outside Iran have been identified and will be dealt with at the right time.’¹⁶ No information, however, was found to indicate the extent or degree of success of monitoring by the Iranian authorities.

Western media sources also indicate that Iranian intelligence agents had video-recorded some overseas post-election protests. On 6 April 2010, *The Australian* reported that pro-democracy campaigners in Australia had accused the Iranian Embassy in Canberra of spying on Australian Iranian democracy activists. The article states the campaigners claim that ‘...the embassy monitors articles and protests by political activists and films and photographs those who attend anti-regime rallies and reports back on their activities’ and that ‘...the spies were students on Iranian government scholarships who disrupted pro-democracy meetings, tore down posters and threatened anti-government campaigners’.¹⁷ This follows a 2007 report also by *The Australian* which claimed that national security agents were closely monitoring Iranians at Australian universities on the basis of claims from the Iranian community that some of the students are doubling as spies and reporting

¹² ‘World Briefing/Iran: Police unit to monitor websites’ 2009, *Los Angeles Times*, 15 November <http://articles.latimes.com/2009/nov/15/world/fg-briefs15.S1> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 22; ‘Iran trolls Internet for opposition voices’ 2009, *United Press International*, 16 November http://www.upi.com/Top_News/Special/2009/11/16/Iran-trolls-Internet-for-opposition-voices/UPI-59481258402172/tab-listen/ - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 23; ‘Iran moves to silence opposition with internet crime unit’ 2009, *Guardian* (UK), 15 November – Attachment 24.

¹³ Stelter, B. & Stone, B. 2009, ‘Web Pries Lid of Iranian Censorship’ *New York Times*, 22 June http://www.nytimes.com/2009/06/23/world/middleeast/23censor.html?_r=3&hp Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 17; ‘Western technology may be helping Iran monitor political dissent’ 2009, *Deutsche Welle*, 23 June <http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,4418257,00.html> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 25; OpenNet Initiative 2009, *Internet filtering in Iran*, 16 June <http://opennet.net/research/profiles/iran> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 26; Lake, E. 2009, ‘Iran prepared to track dissent on social networks’ *The Washington Times*, 20 June <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2009/jun/20/iran-has-tech-to-track-tweets-texts/> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 27; ‘Iran moves to silence opposition with internet crime unit’ 2009, *Guardian* (UK), 15 November – Attachment 24.

¹⁴ US Department of State 2010, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2009 – Iran*, March, Section 2. – Attachment 28.

¹⁵ Rhoads, C., Cummins, C., Vascellaro, J.E. 2010, ‘Iran to suspend Google's email’ *Wall Street Journal*, 10 February – Attachment 29.

¹⁶ Fassihi, F. 2009 ‘Iranian Crackdown Goes Global’ *Wall Street Journal*, 3 December <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB125978649644673331.html> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 30.

¹⁷ Neighbour, S. 2010, ‘Iranian embassy in Canberra ‘spying on activist students’” *The Australian*, 6 April <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/iranian-embassy-in-canberra-spying-on-activist-students/story-e6frg6nf-1225850112423> - Accessed 7 April 2010 – Attachment 31.

to Tehran.¹⁸ A subsequent report by *The Australian*, on 8 April 2010, notes that the Iranian Embassy had rejected these allegations and considered them to be ‘politically motivated’.¹⁹

Nonetheless, a 2009 article in the British newspaper, *The Times*, similarly described how an unmanned video recorder on the rooftop of the Iranian Embassy in London appeared to record the faces of a large crowd of protestors who had gathered there.²⁰ The 2009 *Wall Street Journal* article also stated that German intelligence had identified ‘Iranian intelligence agents’ trying to intimidate protesters in Germany by videotaping them. It also noted that a German foreign-ministry official said Germany rejected requests from Iran to restrict anti-Iranian protests.²¹ A subsequent article in March 2010, also by *The Wall Street Journal*, described how a former Iranian diplomat based in the Iranian Embassy in Oslo was required to identify Iranian expatriates protesting in front of the embassy. The former diplomat (who has subsequently resigned and sought refugee status in Norway) also claims that Intelligence agents filmed the protesters and asked him to identify faces in the crowd.²²

3. Is there any evidence that people involved in such protests outside Iran have had problems on return to Iran?

Yes. A small number of western media sources claim that Iranians who had participated in protests outside Iran, or who had criticised the Iranian government on their Facebook pages, were harassed by Iranian authorities on return to Iran. They indicate that some returnees, on arrival at the airport, were asked to log in to their Facebook accounts to ascertain their political activities; were questioned; detained; threatened; had their passports confiscated; abused and had even disappeared. These sources also claim that relatives of such people still in Iran had been harassed by Iranian authorities on account of their overseas activities.

A highly cited news article by *The Wall Street Journal* in December 2009 states that the author conducted interviews with 90 Iranians living in various western countries which revealed ‘that people who criticize Iran's regime online or in public demonstrations are facing threats intended to silence them.’ The article notes that it could not independently verify the claims but the interviewees provided consistently similar descriptions of harassment:

Dozens of individuals in the U.S. and Europe who criticized Iran on Facebook or Twitter said their relatives back in Iran were questioned or temporarily detained because of their postings. About three dozen individuals interviewed said that, when traveling this summer back to Iran, they were questioned about whether they hold a foreign passport, whether they possess Facebook accounts and why they were visiting Iran. The questioning, they said, took place at passport control upon their arrival at Tehran's Imam Khomeini International Airport.

¹⁸ Kerbaj, R. 2007, ‘Students suspected of spying for Iran’ *The Australian*, 10 September <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/students-suspected-of-spying-for-iran/story-e6frg6nf-111114381714> - Accessed 7 April 2010 – Attachment 32.

¹⁹ Neighbour, S. 2010, ‘Iranian students living in Australia held on trips back to Iran’ *The Australian*, 8 April <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/iranian-students-living-in-australia-held-on-trips-back-to-iran/story-e6frg6nf-1225851117769> - Accessed 14 April 2010 – Attachment 33.

²⁰ Kerbaj, R. 2009, “2000 protest in heart of London over ‘rigged’ Iranian election” *The Times* (UK), 11 July <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article6684840.ece> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 34.

²¹ Fassihi, F. 2009 ‘Iranian Crackdown Goes Global’ *Wall Street Journal*, 3 December <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB125978649644673331.html> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 30.

²² Coker, M. 2010, ‘Inside Iran’s Crackdown’, *Wall Street Journal*, 19 March – Attachment 35.

Five interviewees who traveled to Iran in recent months said they were forced by police at Tehran's airport to log in to their Facebook accounts. Several reported having their passports confiscated because of harsh criticism they had posted online about the way the Iranian government had handled its controversial elections earlier this year.

... An Iranian engineer in his 30s who lives in a German-speaking area of Europe, and who attended protests there this year, described having his passport, cellphone and laptop confiscated when he later traveled to Tehran. He said he was called in for questioning several times, blindfolded, kicked and physically abused, and asked to hand over his email and Facebook passwords. Interrogators showed him images of himself participating in protests in Europe, he said, and pressed him to identify other people in the images. He said he was told he was guilty of charges including attending antiregime protests abroad, participating in online activities on Facebook and Twitter that harmed Iran's national security and leaving comments on opposition Web sites. He said he was given a choice: Face trial in Iran, or sign a document promising to act as an informant in Europe. He says he signed the paper, took his passport and left Iran after a month. He says he has received follow-up emails and phone calls but hasn't responded to them.²³

Other western media sources have reported similar accounts. The article by *The Australian* on 6 April 2010 reported that one activist from Monash University, who attended pro-democracy rallies in Australia and wrote online articles critical of the Ahmadinejad regime, claimed that Iranian authorities recently visited her father in Tehran to inform him that she would be banned from returning to Iran because of her political activities in Australia.²⁴ The subsequent article by *The Australian*, on 8 April 2010, further claimed that two Iranian Australians had been detained, interrogated and threatened with punishment during a visit to Iran because of their support for the Iranian pro-democracy movement in Australia:

In February an Iranian-born student who now has Australian citizenship was summoned for interrogation by the state security bureau in Tehran, after returning to Iran to visit her sick mother. "Fariba", who asked that her real name not be used for fear of reprisals, was told by her Iranian interrogator that the Iranian government had photographs of her and colleagues taking part in pro-democracy protests in Brisbane.

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In a second case last month, an Iranian-born man who lives in Queensland was detained at Tehran's international airport after arriving from Brisbane, and interrogated about his political activities in Australia. He was shown photographs of himself at rallies in Brisbane and was given a list of names of Iranian pro-democracy activists in Queensland and asked to identify them.

Mehran Rafiei, convenor of the group Queensland Supporters of Democracy for Iran, says the man was told by his interrogator that his political activities in Australia warranted the death penalty. "They say (to him) `We are the government

²³ Fassihi, F. 2009 'Iranian Crackdown Goes Global' *Wall Street Journal*, 3 December <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB125978649644673331.html> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 30.

²⁴ Neighbour, S. 2010, "Iranian embassy in Canberra 'spying on activist students'" *The Australian*, 6 April <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/iranian-embassy-in-canberra-spying-on-activist-students/story-e6frg6nf-1225850112423> - Accessed 7 April 2010 – Attachment 31.

of God, we are the deputies of God. It is quite clear you are against God, so you should be executed'.²⁵

A blog post by Evgeny Morozov on the American *Foreign Policy* Magazine website also described hearing an account of an Iranian-American who, on passing through the immigration control at the airport in Tehran, was asked by the officers if she had a Facebook account. When she said "no", the officers pulled up a laptop and searched for her name on Facebook. They found her account and noted down the names of her Facebook friends.²⁶ An article by the British newspaper, *The Times*, in July 2009, also notes that the Persian community in the United Kingdom have been investigating claims that, since the 2009 election, a number of British Iranians have 'disappeared' from the airport on return to Iran. It also states that a student from East London spent four days in a police cell in Tehran during a holiday to visit her family, though does not provide any explanation of the arrest.²⁷

The US Department of State 2009 Country Report on Human Rights Practices in Iran also noted: 'There were also reports that authorities threatened and arrested family members of expatriates who posted critical comments about the country on social networking Web sites such as Facebook.' It then refers to an incident reported in *The Wall Street Journal* article.²⁸ Therefore, *The Wall Street Journal* article was most likely the main source for this comment in US Department of State report.

A 2010 research report by the Research Directorate of the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada corroborates these media claims. The report states that the Directorate had received correspondence from the Director of the International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran (ICHRI), an organisation based in New York and Hamburg that supports Iranian human rights activists. The Director claimed that '...relatives of post-election protestors have been heavily targeted, [including] those of persons residing inside Iran, those who have left and are seeking asylum, and those who were already abroad and engaged in protests outside Iran'. The report also claims that a Professor of Political Science from York University, Toronto, also advised the Directorate that an Iranian senior security official announced that they would target those outside Iran who criticise the government. The report also refers to the article in *The Wall Street Journal*.²⁹

Most recently, a number of media reports in April 2010 claim that Iran's Justice Minister, Morteza Bakhtiari, announced the establishment of a special prosecutorial branch to 'deal with' Iranians abroad. The Minister did not specify the reasons for establishing the special branch or its mandate but some reports claim it is intended to prosecute Iranian nationals who take part in overseas anti-regime protests. It has also been reported that Interpol

²⁵ Neighbour, S. 2010, 'Iranian students living in Australia held on trips back to Iran' *The Australian*, 8 April <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/iranian-students-living-in-australia-held-on-trips-back-to-iran/story-e6fgr6nf-1225851117769> - Accessed 14 April 2010 – Attachment 33.

²⁶ Morozov, E. 2009, 'Are Iranian authorities more sophisticated than we think?' *Foreign Policy* Magazine website, 10 July <http://neteffect.foreignpolicy.com/blog/5386?page=12> - Accessed 31 March 2010 – Attachment 36.

²⁷ Kerbaj, R. 2009, "2000 protest in heart of London over 'rigged' Iranian election" *The Times* (UK), 11 July <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article6684840.ece> - Accessed 26 March 2010 – Attachment 34.

²⁸ US Department of State 2010, *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices for 2009 – Iran*, March, Section 1. – Attachment 28.

²⁹ Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 2010, *IRN103327.E – Iran: Treatment by Iranian authorities of relatives of persons who have left Iran and claimed refugee status, including former members of the Bureau of National Security and Intelligence (SAVAK), of a Fedayeen organization, or opposition protestors*, 4 January – Attachment 37.

turned down repeated requests by Iranian authorities to issue arrest warrants for political and civil activists residing outside Iran.³⁰

Though the above evidence is limited, it is notable that similar claims have been made from a variety of sources that purport to have received first-hand accounts of harassment of Iranians who had participated in protests outside Iran or who had criticised the Iranian government on the internet. The limited sources may be explained by the very recent nature of the reported harassment.

It is also of significance that in early 2010 there were continuous media reports of a sustained crackdown on local protestors in Iran including recent reports of the execution of local protestors.³¹ In January 2010, it was reported that Iran's Interior Minister, Mostafa Mohammad Najjar, warned opposition activists that they risk execution as 'enemies of God' if they continue anti-government demonstrations.³² In April 2010, Amnesty International claimed that the Iranian authorities continue to 'severely restrict freedom of expression in Iran, arresting journalists (of whom scores are believed to remain in detention), imposing restrictions on the use of the internet, including social networking sites, and shutting down newspapers....continuing to deny permission for anti-government demonstrations to take place, and have taken brutal measures to suppress such demonstrations.'³³ Therefore, the political situation in Iran remains very tense.

Given the above information and the current political climate in Iran, Iranians who participated in overseas protests against the Iranian government, or who have criticised the government on their Facebook pages, may be at risk of harassment, detention and even disappearance on return to Iran.

Attachments

1. Amnesty International Australia (undated), 'Candlelight vigil for Iran at Sydney Town Hall' Facebook page for Amnesty International Australia
<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=93434424522&index=1> - Accessed 29 March 2010.

³⁰ 'Special Court for Iranians Abroad: Established to Help or to Intimidate?' 2010, International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran website, 6 April <http://www.iranhumanrights.org/2010/04/special-court-for-iranians-abroad-established-to-help-or-to-intimidate/> - Accessed 14 April 2010 – Attachment 38; Neighbour, S. 2010, 'Court targets Iranian expats' *The Australian*, 9 April <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/nation/court-targets-iranian-expats/story-e6frg6nf-1225851589224> - Accessed 14 April 2010 – Attachment 39.

³¹ 'Iranian security forces, protesters clash on revolution anniversary' 2010, *Cable News Network* (CNN), 12 February – Attachment 40; 'Iran court upholds death for opposition activist' 2010, Iran Focus website, source: *Associated Press*, 3 March <http://www.iranfocus.com/en/human-rights/iran-court-upholds-death-for-opposition-activist-19837.html> - Accessed 8 April 2010 – Attachment 41; Dahl, F. 2010, 'Iran says makes arrests before revolution day rally' Iran Focus website, source: *Reuters*, 10 February <http://www.iranfocus.com/en/human-rights/iran-says-makes-arrests-before-revolution-day-rally-19692.html> - Accessed 8 April 2010 – Attachment 42; Karimi, N. 2010, 'Iran sentences another activist to death' Iran Focus website, source: *Associated Press*, 9 February <http://www.iranfocus.com/en/human-rights/iran-sentences-another-activist-to-death-19689.html> - Accessed 8 April 2010 – Attachment 43; Fletcher, M. 2010, 'Nine more facing execution in Iran as Shah anniversary demos loom' *The Times* (UK), 3 February http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/middle_east/article7012230.ece - Accessed 8 April 2010 – Attachment 44; Human Rights Watch 2010, *The Islamic Republic at 31: Post-election Abuses Show Serious Human Rights Crisis*, 11 February <http://www.hrw.org/node/88464> - Accessed 8 April 2010 – Attachment 45.

³² Mostafavi, R. & Kalantary, H. 2010, 'Iran renews execution threat against protesters' Iran Focus website, source: *Reuters*, 5 January <http://www.iranfocus.com/en/human-rights/iran-renews-execution-threat-against-protesters-19431.html> - Accessed 12 April 2010 – Attachment 46.

³³ Amnesty International 2010, 'Urgent Action: UA214/09: Two men due to be returned to prison in Iran' – Attachment 47.

2. Amnesty International Australia 2010, 'Iran Revolution: update' Amnesty International Australia website, 16 February <http://www.amnesty.org.au/nsw/comments/22567/> - Accessed 29 March 2010.
3. Facebook page for 'Australian-Iranian Group Supporting Democracy' (undated) <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&ref=search&gid=46384089978> - Accessed 29 March 2010.
4. Posted by 'neginhezel' 2009, 'Candlelight vigil for Iran at Sydney Town Hall 28th June 2009- Ey Iran' YouTube.com website, 29 June <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4gw0jBUa4Y> - Accessed 26 March 2010.
5. Posted by 'neginhezel' 2009, 'Candlelight vigil for Iran at Sydney Town Hall 28th June 2009 overview' YouTube.com website, 29 June <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1hCOzg2d6PA&NR=1> - Accessed 26 March 2010.
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9. Posted by 'TheIranianFreedom' 2009, 'The Silent Screams of Iran - candle light vigil 28 June 2009, Town Hall Sydney Australia' YouTube.com website, 28 June <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yPyuddllrO8> - Accessed 29 March 2010.
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13. 'Worldwide Demonstrations In Solidarity With The Election Protestors In Iran' 2009, *Payvand News*, 22 June <http://payvand.com/news/09/jun/1232.html> - Accessed 26 March 2010.
14. 'Gallery: Iranians protest around world' 2009, *Cable News Network (CNN)*, 14 June <http://edition.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/meast/06/14/iran.foreign.protests.gallery/index.html#cnmSTCText> - Accessed 30 March 2010.

15. 'Protests Around the World Call for Iran to End Crackdown' 2009, *Fox News* website, source: *Associated Press*, 25 July <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,534834,00.html> - Accessed 30 March 2010.
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