

[PROVISIONAL TRANSLATION FROM PERSIAN]

[Translator's notes appear in square brackets.]

[Personal information has been **redacted**.]

[The excerpt below is from the section of the article that pertains to the Baha'i Faith]

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Iranian Committee for the Defense of Freedom and Rights of Followers of Religions:

Propagation of Any Religion Must be Free

The Iranian Committee for the Defense of Freedom and Human Rights announced its existence by publishing its objective statement. The purpose of the statement is to:

Consider and uphold the principles contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and in particular the following principles:

“Everyone has the right to life, liberty and personal security.”

“Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, as well as freedom to express his thought and belief which includes religious teachings and the performance of religious rites, and everyone can enjoy these rights individually or collectively, privately or in public”.

“Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold beliefs without fear and anxiety and be free to acquire and disseminate information and thought through any media regardless of frontiers.”

The Committee for the Defense of Freedom and Rights of the Followers of Religion, while affirming the independence and freedom of the people of Iran and similar to the rights of the followers of the official religions of the country, declares its existence and requests the following initial demands:

1. Avoid the use of the word “minority” for religions and replace it with words such as “brothers”, “compatriots” or “Iranians” in laws and public media.
2. No religious discrimination in terms of social and political rights for followers of religions.
3. No religious discrimination in obtaining governmental, non-governmental, judicial and military jobs.
4. Freedom to use language and prose for followers of religions (in publications, gatherings, radio and television broadcasting programmes, etc.)

5. Complete freedom for the followers of religions in the type of dress and form of traditional ceremonies.
6. Complete freedom for the followers of religions in teaching, introducing and defending the principles of their religions, whether to form communities, or mention them in the press or by broadcasting on radio and television.
7. Respect for the performance of religious and traditional ceremonies and customs of any religion.
8. The broadcasting of religious and traditional ceremonies of any religion on the country's radio and television
9. If the sharia laws of a religion are the same as national laws, the religious and social laws of each religion must also be applicable to the followers of that religion.
10. The right to defend religious rites and to prosecute the slanderer of any accusation against the religious and traditional practices of the followers of any religion.
11. Respect for the ownership of all public facilities, educational and religious places of the followers of any religion.
12. Complete freedom in the way of managing, supervising and teaching religious education in educational centres belonging to the followers of each religion.
13. Public education and textbook materials should not be used to propagate or reject the principles of a religion.
14. Freedom in the supply and consumption of food and drink of any kind that is permissible and desirable for the followers of religions.

Iranian Society in Defence of the Freedom and Rights of Followers of Religions