

## Heshmatollah Rowhani

Born: 1931, Najafabad, Isfahan

Abducted and missing in Tehran since 21<sup>st</sup> August 1980

Heshmatollah Rowhani was born into a Baha'i family. After completing his primary and high school education he obtained a medical degree from Tehran University. For many years he worked as the medical director of various government agencies in Karaj, Ray and Tehran. He was a member on several Local Spiritual Assemblies<sup>1</sup> including those Kashan and Karaj. He was later appointed as an Auxiliary Board member<sup>2</sup> and served in that capacity until the time of his arrest and abduction.

On 21 August 1980, the National Spiritual Assembly<sup>3</sup> had a joint meeting with two Auxiliary Board members, including himself and Yousef Abbasian Milani, to discuss the situation of the Baha'is imprisoned in Yazd and Hamadan. At approximately 4 pm, the meeting was raided by a number of Pasdars. The members of the National Spiritual Assembly, namely Houshang Mahmoudi, Abdol-Hosein Taslimi, Ebrahim Rahmani, Hosein Naji, Manouher Ghaem-Maghani, Ataollah Mogharrabi, Yousef Ghadimi, Bahiyyeh Naderi and Kambiz Sadeghzadeh, as well as himself and Yousef Abbasian Milani, were abducted. They were never seen or heard from again.

*(This brief biographical note is based on the best available information. If you find any inaccuracies, or any important facts omitted, please email us through the Contact page.)*

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<sup>1</sup> **Local Spiritual Assembly:** a nine-member administrative body elected annually by the Baha'is of a particular area, tasked with overseeing the affairs of the Baha'i community of that area.

<sup>2</sup> **Auxiliary Board Members:** group of individuals appointed by the Continental Board of Counselors for a five year term. Their responsibility is to encourage individuals and strengthen Baha'i communities in their area of service - usually smaller regions within a country. Auxiliary Board Members have a consultative role in relation to the Local Spiritual Assemblies.

<sup>3</sup> **National Spiritual Assembly:** a nine-member administrative body elected annually by the Baha'is of each country, tasked with overseeing the affairs of the Bahá'í community of that particular country.