

Babak Talebi

Born: 11 December 1969, Tehran

Murdered in Karaj on 2nd September 1986

Babak Talebi was born into a Baha'i family. His family lived in Said-Abad, a suburb of Karaj where he attended school. His father, Davoud Talebi, was arrested and imprisoned for 3 months in 1981 and later passed away of a heart attack in 1985. Babak felt responsible for his family and left school to enter the workforce. He took several jobs and finally went to Shiraz in early 1986 to work at a shop of one of his relatives. In mid June 1986 he travelled to Tehran to visit his family and on 02 September 1986 they gathered at a relative's home in Zarnan, Karaj for a family reunion. In the afternoon Babak left on his bicycle for what was supposed to be a short visit to Said-Abad. When it became dark and there was still no sign of him his family left their house in search of him.

Babak's body was found a few days later with a rope around his neck by his bicycle in a small stream in an abandoned area near the village of Vardavard, on the outskirts of Karaj. His body showed clear evidence of brutal beatings. His family attended the coroner's office at the hospital the next day and found his body wrapped in a plastic cover left in a corner of the room, as opposed to proper storage in the cold room. The coroner's explanation was that the body was already rotten and decomposed and could not be examined. The coroner's report declared the cause of death as strangulation. His mother and a number of his relatives were subsequently arrested and imprisoned for a period of time on the allegations of killing Babak. Since burials in the Baha'i cemetery had been prohibited by the authorities, the family had to bury his body in a barren land recently purchased for a cemetery.

(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.)