

Behnam Pashaie

Born: 1940, Tehran

Executed in Tehran in November 1988

Behnam Pashaie's father was the only member in their extended family who had declared his faith in Baha'u'llah. Upon completion of grade 11 in high school, Behnam was able to find employment with the Ministry of Health. After few years, he was transferred to Semnan. He was a member of the Local Spiritual Assembly¹ of the Baha'is of Semnan. Throughout his life Behnam encountered terrible ordeals for being a Baha'i.

In 1978, his house was burnt down. He was forced to move to Sangsar where within a month he was arrested. At early stages of the Islamic Revolution regime he was dismissed from employment for being a Baha'i. On 16 December 1983, while at home he was arrested and imprisoned for 7 months in Semnan, a large portion of which was spent in solitary confinement. In 1984 Behnam was transferred to Evin. He was tortured severely while suffering greatly from poor functioning of his kidney. He was later transferred to Gohardasht prison and again to Evin. During his time in prison, he was banned from visitation for over a year. On 3 December 1988, after five years of imprisonment, his family were informed of his execution. Reports suggest that he had been executed sometime in November 1988. His body was not returned to his family; he was possibly buried by the authorities.

(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.)

¹ **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.