

[PROVISIONAL TRANSLATION FROM PERSIAN]

[Translator's notes appear in square brackets]

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

[Adapted from website:] [Baha'i World News Service](#)

[Date:] 7 Bahman 1384 (27 January 2006)

The process of arresting and releasing Baha'is in Iran continues

New York, United States, (Baha'i World News Service)

The Baha'i International Community has been informed that Baha'is detained without charge in recent weeks in Shiraz and Hamadan have been released. A form of collateral deposit or bail has been the basis for the release of most of these individuals. The trial dates of some 130 Baha'is across Iran have not yet been announced.

Mrs. Bani Dugal, principal representative of the Baha'i International Community to the United Nations, said, "We are concerned that this growing pattern of arrest and release of Baha'is is a sign of another form of persecution against the Baha'i community in Iran. [Seizing] individuals' properties and assets as collateral, while no charges have been filed against them and no trial date has been set, is part of a broader strategy to intimidate the Baha'i community and deprive it of its rights and opportunities."

Meanwhile, on 18 June, three Baha'is were arrested in the city of Hamadan and released three days later. The arrests came after government officials searched their homes and confiscated computers, books and Baha'i documents.

Shortly before that, on 14 June, the three remaining members of the 54-member Baha'i group, most of them youth, who had been arrested on 19 May in Shiraz, were released. This was the largest number of Baha'is arrested simultaneously since the decade of the 1980s.

Although the judge initially set a bail of \$54,000, the three were released without payment and pledged to appear in court. No formal charges have been filed against any of the 54. However, in most cases, the precondition for the release of detainees was the provision of some kind of bail, such as properties and assets.

Two Baha'is detained in Tehran and Sanandaj are still in prison.