

Subject: Trouble In Iran.

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Date: 15/10/2011, 06:47

Newsgroups: alt.conspiracy.area-51

Subject: Trouble In Iran.

Oct. 14, 2011.

Here is some information that was sent to me about Iran.

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Sent: 10/13/2011

Subj: +++++ URGENT P-AYER

NEEDED +++++ IRANIAN PASTOR FACES EXECUTION +++++

Iranian Pastor Yousef Nadarkhani faces execution at any moment for refusing to renounce his faith in C-rist.

This Pr-yer Chain is calling ALL Ch-istians and believers of r-ligious freedom and human rights into action NOW on behalf of this Iranian pastor, who faces execution!

Pastor Youcef Nadarkhani never practiced the Muslim faith and converted to Ch-istianity at age 19, becoming a pastor later. But the courts say that since his mother and father were practicing Muslims, he must recant his Ch-istian faith or d-e. So far, in three court appearances, he has refused to do so - RISKING EXECUTION AT ANY MOMENT. The Iranian Supreme Court often acts quickly in administering the de-th penalty.

According to a report, when asked by judges to "repent," Yousef replied: "Repent, What should I return to? To the blasphemy that I had before my faith in Ch-ist?"

The judges replied: "To the re-igion of your ancestors - I-lam." To which Youself replied: "I cannot."

It's time for the body of Chr-st to act, to pr-y, to plead for the life of our Brother before Chris- so that His servant may be spared.

This is what you are asked/called to do. As soon as you receive this email, PR-Y IMMEDIATELY. Then call your pastor, your deacons and the people of your Chu-ch so that they may all -ray too. Then forward this PR-YER REQUEST to every CHR-STIAN you know so that they may p-ay also.

The B-ble States, "If G-d is with us, who can stand against us."
W-ite House Condemns Possible Execution of Iranian Pastor
By Joshua Rhett M-ller

An undated photograph circulated by religious rights organizations shows Youcef Nadarkhani and his family.

The Wh-te House condemned the conviction and possible de-th sentence for an Iranian pastor who refuses to renounce his Chr-stian faith on Thursday, saying the execution would further demonstrate Iranian authorities "utter disregard" for relig-ous freedom.

Youcef Nadarkhani, 32, who maintains he has never been a Muslim as an adult, has Islamic ancestry and therefore must recant his faith in Jes-- Ch-ist, the 11th branch of Iran's Gilan Provincial Court has ruled. Iran's Supreme Court had ordered the trial court to determine whether Nadarkhani had been a Muslim prior to converting to Chr-stianity.

"Pastor Nadarkhani has done nothing more than maintain his devout faith, which is a universal right for all people," the statement released by the Whi-e House read. "That the Iranian authorities would try to force him to renounce that faith violates the religio-s values they claim to defend, crosses all bounds of decency, and breaches Iran's own international obligations. A decision to impose the dea-h penalty would further demonstrate the Iranian authorities' utter disregard for religi-us freedom, and highlight Iran's continuing violation of the universal rights of

its citizens. We call upon the Iranian authorities to release Pastor Nadarkhani, and demonstrate a commitment to basic, universal human rights, including freedom of religion."

Attorney Mohammad Ali Dadkhah told The Associated Press on Thursday that his client has appeared before the appeals court over the past four days and expects a ruling by the end of next week. Dadkhah said he believes there's a "95 percent chance" of acquittal for Nadarkhani.

Dadkhah said neither Iranian law nor clerics have ever stipulated the death penalty as punishment for converting from Islam to Christianity.

The judges in the case, according to the American Center for Law & Justice (ACLJ), demanded that Nadarkhani recant his Christian faith before submission of evidence. Though the judgment runs against current Iranian and international laws and is not codified in Iranian penal code, the judge stated that the court must uphold the decision of the 27th Branch of the Supreme Court in Qom.

When asked to repent, Nadarkhani stated: "Repent means to return. What should I return to? To the blasphemy that I had before my faith in Christ?"

"To the religion of your ancestors, Islam," the judge replied, according to the American Center for Law & Justice. "I cannot," Nadarkhani said.

An unnamed source close to Nadarkhani's attorney told the American Center for Law and Justice that a judge has agreed to overturn Nadarkhani's death sentence, but the report could not be independently confirmed.

Even if the sentence is overturned, Jordan Sekulow, the executive director of the ACLJ, said the message is that it would be unlikely that Nadarkhani would be set free.

Nadarkhani is the latest Christian cleric to be imprisoned in Iran for his religious beliefs. According to Elam Ministries, a U.S.-based Kingdom-based organization that serves Christians churches in Iran, there was a significant increase in the number of Christians arrested solely for practicing their faith between June 2010 and January 2011. A total of 202 arrests occurred during that six-month period, including 33 people who remained in prison as of January, Elam reported.

An Assyrian evangelical pastor, Rev. Wilson Issavi, was imprisoned for 54 days for allegedly converting Muslims prior to his release in March 2010, Elam officials told FoxNews.com.

Nadarkhani, a pastor in the 400-member church of Iran, has been held in that country's Gilan Province since October 2009, after he protested to local education authorities that his son was forced to read from the Koran at school. His wife, Fatemeh Pasandideh, was also arrested in June 2010 in an apparent attempt to pressure him to renounce his faith. She was released in October 2010, according to Amnesty International.

Nadarkhani was sentenced to death for apostasy last September based on religious writings by Iranian clerics, including Ayatollah Khomeini, the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, despite the fact that there is no offense of "apostasy" in the nation's penal code, Amnesty International reports.

In June, the Supreme Court of Iran ruled that a lower court should re-examine procedural flaws in the case, giving local judges the power to decide whether to release, execute or retry Nadarkhani.

The verdict, according to Amnesty International, includes a provision for the sentence to be overturned should Nadarkhani renounce his faith.

Elise Auerbach, an Iranian analyst for Amnesty International USA, told FoxNews.com that an execution for apostasy has not been carried out in Iran since 1990. Nadarkhani's sentence is a "clear violation of international law," she said.

"The key is to keep up the pressure and to publicize the story because it obviously outrages most people," Auerbach said.

"It's part of the pattern of persecution based on religion in Iran." Kiri Konkhwende, a spokeswoman for Christian Solidarity Worldwide, a human rights organization that specializes in religious freedom, told FoxNews.com

that Na-arkhani was asked for the fourth time to renounce his faith during a hearing early Wednesday and he denied that request.

"We're waiting to hear the final outcome," she told

FoxNews.com

. "We're still waiting to hear what they've decided."

Kankhwende said Nadarkhani could be executed Wednesday or Thursday. "Iran is unpredictable," she said. "We can't say when it might happen. It's a very real threat, but we can't say when exactly."

Officials at the U.S. State Department declined to comment when reached on Wednesday.

House Speaker John Boehner said Nadarkhani's case is "distressing for people of every country and creed," according to a statement released on Wednesday.

"While Iran's government claims to promote tolerance, it continues to imprison many of its people because of their faith," the statement read. "This goes beyond the law to an issue of fundamental respect for human dignity. I urge Iran's leaders to abandon this dark path, spare [Nadarkhani's] life, and grant him a full and unconditional release."

Father Jonathan Morris, a Catholic priest in the Archdiocese of New York and an analyst for Fox News Channel, said Nadarkhani's case is "unmistakable evidence" that Iran is executing Christians simply because they refuse to become Muslims.

Morris continued: "Will President Obama, and the free world, allow the United Nations to continue in its cowardly silence on this matter?"

Read more:

<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2011/09/28/iranian-pastor-faces-execution-for-refusing-to-recant-christian-faith/#ixzz1aiqT38B2>

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