



Legal Status of Children in the Woman, Life, Freedom Movement: A Second Report by the Hengaw Legal Team

October, 2023

This is the second report in a series by Hengaw Organization for Human Rights that explores the legal situation of children who participate in the Woman, Life, Freedom Movement. The report gives an overview of the human rights violations and challenges that these children face, based on Hengaw's data and evidence. The report also points out the flaws and gaps in the current legal system that fail to protect and support these children.

Hengaw's legal team conducted the research for this report, which documented the cases of over 400 children who were kidnapped by security forces in various Kurdish cities since the Woman, Life, Freedom movement began in September 2022. The team verified the identities and details of 192 of these children, who were all held between September 16, 2022 and February 1, 2023.



Out of these 192 children, 33 were girls and 159 were boys. Some of the kidnapped children were only 10 to 12 years old, which is a serious violation of their rights and dignity.

Based on the research findings, the city of Javanrud had the highest number of reported child abduction cases, with 30 incidents. Following Javanrud, the cities of Sanandaj and Saqqez reported 21 and 14 cases of kidnapped children, respectively.

The abduction of children in different provinces of Iran is summarized as follows:

- Kurdistan province had the highest number of cases, with 77 incidents or 40% of the total.
- Kermanshah province followed with 27% of the cases.
- West Azarbaijan province had 22% of the cases.
- Ilam province had the lowest number of cases, with 10%.

The breakdown of abducted boys and girls by province is as follows:

- Ilam province: 4 girls and 16 boys
- Kermanshah province: 8 girls and 44 boys
- Kurdistan province: 15 girls and 62 boys
- West Azarbaijan province 4 girls and 38 boys
- Other regions of Iran: 1 girl

Hengaw's legal team persistently examines the situation of children who have been seized by security agencies. According to the latest investigation, a significant number of these children have been released after being detained for several days or weeks under dubious pretexts, such as being forced to give commitments or, in some cases, paying bail. However, these children are in a critical state, characterized by their reluctance to interact and severe isolation, which has caused significant mental distress. This situation has posed significant challenges for conducting interviews with these children and their families.



Children have the right to special protection within legal systems, regardless of whether they are accused of a crime or not. This protection includes various aspects, such as limiting the use of pretrial detention, ensuring immediate contact with their family, preventing any form of physical or psychological abuse, and providing suitable legal assistance and representation according to the child's situation.

However, Hengaw learned that most of the children who were abducted faced harsh interrogations, where most of their protection rights were violated. Moreover, these children were denied most of the basic standards of detention that adults are entitled to, such as **informing their family, getting medical check-ups, and accessing legal services.**

The Islamic Republic of Iran has ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which states that pretrial detention of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time. The national laws of the Islamic Republic also reflect this principle in **Article 287** of the Criminal Procedure Law, which allows for the release of a child or adolescent to a parent or guardian, unless there are exceptional reasons to detain them during the preliminary investigation.

However, we have observed that the fundamental rights of children are not respected throughout the judicial process. In particular, we are concerned that some children have been brought before the Revolutionary Court, which has jurisdiction over crimes against national security and other serious offences. According to Iranian criminal procedural law, children facing such charges should be tried in **Criminal Court 1, which operates as a Juvenile Court and provides legal protections and privileges for children.** Unfortunately, in most cases, this procedure has been violated and children have been subjected to the Revolutionary Court, which does not meet the minimum standards of a fair trial.

According to Hengaw statistics, a minimum of 196 children and teenagers in the Kurdistan region have been arrested by the security institutions of the Islamic Republic of Iran, with their identities being confirmed by Hengaw.

Among these cases, 17-year-old Kourosch Gravand from Sarableh received a 7-month prison sentence. 16-year-old Farhad Navayi from Mahabad was sentenced to 2 years in prison. Arshia Barzin from Javanrud received a 3-year prison sentence along with 74 lashes, and Kianoush Azami from Javanrud was sentenced to 10 months in prison along with 74 lashes.

It is important to note that in the Hengaw report, the term "child" refers to individuals under the age of 18, as recognized by international human rights standards. However, in the jurisprudential-legal system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, there is no precise criterion in line with international norms and the fundamental principle of prioritizing the best interests of the child for defining a child.

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Row	Name & Lastname	Gender	Age	From	Date of arrest	Detaining agency	place of detention
1	Parsa Zolikhapour	Male	16	Sanandaj	19.09.2022	Intelligence	Street
2	Media Rahimi	Male	17	Saqqez	17.09.2022	Unknown	Street
3	Ribaz Rezaei	Male	17	Saqqez	17.09.2022	Unknown	Street
4	Sina Naderi	Male	16	Paveh	21.09.2022	Intelligence	Home
5	Elaheh Momeni	Female	16	Ilam	21.09.2022	Intelligence	Street
6	Nilufar Ghazi	Female	17	Ilam	21.09.2022	Intelligence	Street
7	Sara Shirdel	Female	18	Ilam	21.09.2022	Intelligence	Street
8	Arya Majidpour	Male	18	Saqqez	17.09.2022	Unknown	Street
9	Ons Valdebigi	Female	17	Paveh	21.09.2022	Intelligence	Unknown
10	Kian Abdullahpour	Male	16	Naqadeh	21.09.2022	Intelligence	Unknown
11	Amin Khaleghi	Male	14	Oshnavieh	23.09.2022	Unknown	Street
12	Matin Mihan Khah	Male	14	Oshnavieh	23.09.2022	Unknown	Street
13	Nima Saedi	Male	17	Sanandaj	19.09.2022	Unknown	Street
14	Mahan Fathi	Male	17	Paveh	21.09.2022	Unknown	Street
15	Akar Salimi	Male	16	Paveh	21.09.2022	Intelligence	Unknown
16	Zaniar Nasiri	Male	16	Piranshahr	22.09.2022	Unknown	Street
17	Matin Asadi	Male	18	Sanandaj	23.09.2022	Intelligence	Home
18	Farhad Milani	Male	16	Naqadeh	22.09.2022	Intelligence	Home

Row	Name & Lastname	Gender	Age	From	Date of arrest	Detaining agency	place of detention
19	Aida Darvishi	Female	17	Paveh		Intelligence	Unknown
20	Atousa Hosseini	Female	18	Sanandaj	22.09.2022	Intelligence	Street
21	Hedieh mayhemi	Female	18	Sanandaj	22.09.2022	Intelligence	Street
22	Raheleh Jafari	Female	18	Sanandaj	22.09.2022	Intelligence	Street
23	Abdul Rahman Khzrpour	Male	17	Rabat	28.09.2022	Intelligence	Street
24	Soran Sulaimanpour	Male	17	Rabat		Intelligence	Street
25	Dilniya Khani	Female	17	Dehghan	1.10.2022	Intelligence	Unknown
26	Milad Elahi	Male	18	Piranshahr	8.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
27	Soran Mobaraki	Male	17	Dehghan	10.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
28	Milad Mirzaei	Male	18	Saqhez	12.10.2022	Intelligence	Work
29	Mahan Khodadoust	Male	17	Qorveh	10.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
30	Alan Hosseini	Male	16	Sanandaj	11.10.2022	Intelligence	Home
31	Horam Hosseini	Male	15	Sanandaj	11.10.2022	Intelligence	Home
32	Parva Hosseini	Female	17	Sarvabad	12.10.2022	IRGC Intel	School
33	Shnia Hosseini	Female	17	Sarvabad	12.10.2022	IRGC Intel	School
34	Ashkan Ebrahimi	Male	17	Sarvabad	13.10.2022	IRGC Intel	School
35	Aria Moradi	Male	17	Sarvabad	13.10.2022	IRGC Intel	School
36	Mobin Moradi	Male	17	Sarvabad	13.10.2022	IRGC Intel	School

Row	Name & Lastname	Gender	Age	From	Date of arrest	Detaining agency	place of detention
37	Mehdi Ghobadi	Male	15	Mahabad	25.09.2022	Unknown	Street
38	Kayhan Hashemi	Male	17	Saqquez	17.10.2022	Intelligence	School
39	Arian Abdullahzadeh	Male	17	Saqquez	8.10.2022	Unknown	Street
40	Barzan Mustafaei	Male	17	Javanrud	9.10.2022	Intelligence	Home
41	Saro Moradi	Male	17	Dehgolan	12.10.2022	Intelligence	Home
42	Soran Azizi	Male	16	Javanrud	12.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
43	Amanj Ghasemi	Male	16	Javanrud	12.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
44	Mohammad Mohammadzadeh	Male	16	Saqquez	17.10.2022	Intelligence	Home
45	Diyar Azmoudeh	Male	17	Saqquez	19.10.2022	Intelligence	Home
46	Kimia Alimoradi	Female	17	Javanrud	October	Intelligence	School
47	Sandus Yaghoubi	Female	17	Javanrud	October	Intelligence	School
48	Hiro Nouri	Female	17	Javanrud	October	Intelligence	School
49	Elina Ranjbar	Female	17	Javanrud	October	Intelligence	School
50	Raha Sabouri	Female	17	Javanrud	October	Intelligence	School
51	Sarah Kerami	Female	17	Javanrud	October	Intelligence	School
52	Mohammad Mohammadzadeh	Male	16	Javanrud	9.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
53	Hawar Haqparast	Male	15	Mahabad	October	Intelligence	Street
54	Farzad Asadi	Male	18	Darreh Shahr	19.10.2022	Intelligence	Street



Row	Name & Lastname	Gender	Age	From	Date of arrest	Detaining agency	place of detention
55	Zana Saberi	Male	17	Saqqez	20.10.2022	Intelligence	Home
56	Wahab Rasouli	Male	17	Oshnavieh	24.10.2022	Intelligence	Home
57	Kaviyan Piruti	Male	11	Piranshahr	29.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
58	Hanieh Azizi	Female	12	Bukan	29.10.2022	IRGC Intel	Street
59	Artin Mohammadnejad	Male	14	Mahabad	28.10.2022	Intelligence	Home
60	Karo Amini	Male	17	Saqqez	31.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
61	Mardin Pardak	Male	14	Sanandaj	1.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
62	Daniyar Qadri Azar	Male	16	Piranshahr	24.10.2022	Unknown	Street
63	Arman Paidar	Male	17	Piranshahr	24.10.2022	Unknown	Street
64	Zaniar Hosseini	Male	17	Piranshahr	24.10.2022	Unknown	Street
65	Helia Barkhi	Female	18	Eslamabad Gharb	September	Intelligence	Street
66	Yasin Saif Panahi	Male	18	Dehgolan	27.10.2022	Unknown	Street
67	Elias Soleimani	Male	17	Saqqez	October	Intelligence	Street
68	Shima Seyedeh	Female	16	Mahabad	31.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
69	Arin Rezaei	Male	17	Qasr-e Shirin	27.10.2022	Intelligence	Home
70	Saman Kamasi	Male	16	Sonqor			Unknown
71	Mohammad Bahrami	Male	15	Bukan	1.11.2022	Intelligence	Street

Row	Name & Lastname	Gender	Age	From	Date of arrest	Detaining agency	place of detention
72	Hossein Ahmadi	Male	17	Bijar	3.11.2022	Unknown	Street
73	Daniel Kaboudvand	Male	17	Bijar	3.11.2022	Unknown	Street
74	Mobin Seliminejad	Male	16	Kamyaran	4.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
75	Amir Mahmoudi	Male	17	Mahabad	17.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
76	Milad Karimi	Male	17	Shahin Dej	31.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
77	Mardin Ghorbani	Male	17	Marivan	2.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
78	Bitra Ghasemi	Female	18	Sanandaj	23.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
79	Osama Panahi	Male	18	Marivan	6.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
80	Shakhwan Khavari	Male	16	Marivan	7.11.2022	Unknown	Home
81	Raman Hamza	Male	17	Sanandaj	1.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
82	Amir Abbas Qomri	Male	16	Bijar	4.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
83	Pouya Mohammadzadeh	Male	17	Bukan	5.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
84	Farzad Rahimi	Male	17	Saqqez	12.11.2022	Intelligence	School
85	Sina Ghaderpour	Male	17	Saqqez	September	Intelligence	Street
86	Mobin Faizi	Male	17	Kamyaran	14.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
87	Farsad Ghaderi	Male	17	Javanrud	15.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
88	Amir Mohammad Gholami	Male	17	Ilam	16.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
89	Sonia Sharifi	Female	17	Abdanan	19.11.2022	Intelligence	Street

Row	Name & Lastname	Gender	Age	From	Date of arrest	Detaining agency	place of detention
90	Amir reza Mousavi	Male	16	Abdanan	20.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
91	Arash Azizi	Male	13	Javanrud	20.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
92	Kian Zinali	Male	16	Mahabad	19.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
93	Osama Azizi	Male	16	Javanrud	23.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
94	Matin Mohammadi	Male	16	Ravansar	21.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
95	Amir Mohammad Beypour	Male	17	Dehloran	22.11.1401	Intelligence	Street
96	Milad Azizi	Male	17	Baneh	22.11.1401	Intelligence	Street
97	Mobin Karimi	Male	16	Javanrud	22.11.1401	Intelligence	Home
98	Hazhir Saed Mucheshi	Male	17	Muchesh	10.11.2022	Police Station	Home
99	Matin Moradi	Male	18	Sanandaj	16.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
100	Mobin Patini	Male	18	Marivan	21.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
101	Karan Firouzi	Male	14	Piranshahr	22.11.1401	Intelligence	Home
102	Azadeh Poursamad	Female	16	Sanandaj	21.11.2022	IRGC Intel	Street
103	Bitra Asadi	Female	17	Dehgolan	October	Intelligence	Street
104	Kardo Mohammadi	Male	16	Javanrud	16.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
105	Mardin Ahmadi	Male	17	Naqadeh	22.11.1401	Intelligence	Street
106	Parsa Mohammadi	Male	17	Bolbanabad	18.11.1401	Intelligence	Street
107	Amir Hossein Mousavi	Male	16	Abdanan	19.11.2022	Intelligence	Home



Row	Name & Lastname	Gender	Age	From	Date of arrest	Detaining agency	place of detention
108	Mohammad Mehdi Mohammadi	Male	17	Abdanan	28.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
109	Mehdi Joshan	Male	17	Abdanan	28.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
110	Ashkan Ahmadi	Male	18	Abdanan	27.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
111	Kijan Karimi	Female	17	Dehgolan	16.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
112	Aida Lotfi	Female	17	Dehgolan	16.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
113	Shno Ahmadian	Female	16	Dehgolan	16.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
114	Ala Dasti	Female	15	Sanandaj	30.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
115	Mohammad Hossein Panahi	Male	17	Dehgolan	19.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
116	Karo Fathi	Male	17	Kalatrazan	23.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
117	Peshwa Fathi	Male	17	Kalatrazan	27.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
118	Ashkan Dusti	Male	17	Kalatrazan	28.11.2022	Intelligence	Work
119	Qani Lotfi	Male	17	Sanandaj	1.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
120	Karwan Mohammadi	Male	17	Sanandaj	1.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
121	Halwest Rezaei	Male	18	Kalatrazan	3.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
122	Milad Azizi	Male	18	Kalatrazan	3.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
123	Diako Niazi	Male	17	Sanandaj	4.12.2022	Intelligence	School
124	Hiwa Sheikh Ahmadi	Male	18	Oshnavieh	November	Intelligence	Home

Row	Name & Lastname	Gender	Age	From	Date of arrest	Detaining agency	place of detention
125	Mahan Nasaji	Male	18	Kalatrazan	3.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
126	Matin Rahmani	Male	16	Rabat	1.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
127	Armin Mulani	Male	18	Sardasht	October	Intelligence	Street
128	Peshwa Ahmadi	Male	16	Sardasht	October	Intelligence	Street
129	Ehsan Javaheri	Male	16	Kamyaran	6.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
130	Diako Asadi	Male	17	Kamyaran	6.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
131	Siavash Amini	Male	16	Sardasht	6.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
132	Soran Asadi	Male	16	Paveh	6.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
133	Mardin Ghadri	Male	16	Paveh	6.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
134	Mohammad Yusuf Mohammadzadeh	Male	16	Abdanan	6.12.2022	Intelligence	Street
135	Ashkan Nosratiyan	Male	15	Abdanan	6.12.2022	Intelligence	Street
136	Yazdan Hasali	Male	15	Abdanan	6.12.2022	Intelligence	Street
137	Zaniar Asadi	Male	16	Kamyaran	6.12.2022	Intelligence	Street
138	Bahman Moradi	Male	15	Ravansar	7.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
139	Shaho Godarzi	Male	15	Kermanshah	5.12.2022	Intelligence	Street
140	Sina Karami	Male	15	Kermanshah	5.12.2022	Intelligence	Street
141	Karo Nasiri	Male	17	Marivan	10.12.2022	Intelligence	Home

Row	Name & Lastname	Gender	Age	From	Date of arrest	Detaining agency	place of detention
142	Siamak Ahmadi	Male	15	Kamyaran	8.12.2022	Intelligence	Intelligence
143	Kianoush Ebrahimi	Male	17	Kamyaran	8.12.2022	Intelligence	Intelligence
144	Farzad Ahmadi	Male	17	Kamyaran	8.12.2022	Intelligence	Intelligence
145	Sirus Ebrahimi	Male	17	Kamyaran	8.12.2022	Intelligence	Intelligence
146	Nima Ebrahimi	Male	17	Kamyaran	8.12.2022	Intelligence	Intelligence
147	Kian Khorami	Male	17	Ravansar	8.12.2022	Intelligence	Street
148	Sasan Irani	Male	18	Marivan	8.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
149	Soroush Sharifi	Male	17	Ravansar	6.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
150	Arin Piri	Male	17	Ravansar	7.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
151	Poya Golmohammadi	Male	17	Javanrud	15.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
152	Matin Mohammadi	Male	17	Ravansar	16.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
153	Mohammad Naseri	Male	17	Bukan	13.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
154	Rosa Guilian	Female	18	Sanandaj	12.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
155	Zakaria Khizrpour	Male	15	Mahabad	17.11.2022	Intelligence	Street
156	Hedieh Sobhani	Female	16	Sanandaj	November	Intelligence	Street
157	Nazanin Jamalundi	Female	18	Kermanshah	26.11.1401		Home
158	Mohammad Amin Faridi	Male	18	DarrehSahr	24.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
159	Shahin Khodamoradi	Male	18	Javanrud	31.12.2022	Intelligence	Street



Row	Name & Lastname	Gender	Age	From	Date of arrest	Detaining agency	place of detention
160	Diyar Sheikha	Male	16	Bukan	27.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
161	Ahmad Asadi	Male	18	Sanandaj	31.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
162	Bardiya Azizi	Male	18	Javanrud	2.1.2022	IRGC Intel	Unknown
163	Hossam Mohammaditabar	Male	18	Javanrud	2.1.2022	IRGC Intel	Street
164	Ramsin Rahimi	Male	16	Javanrud	3.1.2023	IRGC Intel	Home
165	Navid Moradi	Male	18	Javanrud	3.1.2023	IRGC Intel	Home
166	Ribwar Najafian	Male	18	Sanandaj	2.1.2023	Intelligence	Home
167	Sahand Aghaei	Male	16	Javanrud	3.1.2023	Intelligence	Street
168	Zana Sahragard	Male	15	Javanrud	3.1.2023	Intelligence	Street
169	Alan Veisi	Male	16	Javanrud	4.1.2022	IRGC Intel	Home
170	Rozhan Kazemi	Female	18	Bukan	20.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
171	Hoyar Zahabi	Male	17	Mahabad	2.1.2023	Intelligence	Home
172	Mahan Babaei	Male	14	Javanrud	8.1.2023	IRGC Intel	Home
173	Mani Nuri	Male	17	Javanrud	8.1.2023	Intelligence	Street
174	Ehsan Mohammadi	Male	16	Oshnavieh	10.10.2022	IRGC Intel	Home
175	Moeid Hosseini	Male	17	Javanrud	10.1.2023	Intelligence	Street
176	Sohail Ghanbari	Male	17	Javanrud	5.1.2023	Intelligence	Home
177	Mohammad Valadbeigi	Male	16	Paveh	25.12.2022	Intelligence	Home



Row	Name & Lastname	Gender	Age	From	Date of arrest	Detaining agency	place of detention
178	Arin Mahmoudi	Male	16	Paveh	25.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
179	Hija Soleimani	Male	16	Paveh	25.12.2022	Intelligence	Home
180	Komar Shabui	Male	14	Oshnavieh	26.1.2023	Intelligence	Home
181	Kourosh Garavand	Male	17	Sarableh	24.11.2022	Intelligence	Home
182	Arshiya Barzin	Male	17	Javanrud	November	Intelligence	Street
183	Ali Barfi	Male	18	Abdanan	3.2.2023	Intelligence	Home
184	Mohammad Kamil Zandkhani	Male	16	Ilam	23.1.2023	Intelligence	Street
185	Samaneh Fathi	Female	15	Urmia	29.10.2022	Intelligence	Street
186	Shahin Mohammad Noor	Male	17	Javanrud	9.2.2023	Intelligence	Street
187	Kianoush Azami	Male	17	Javanrud	November	Intelligence	Street
188	Rebaz Tamami	Male	18	Bukan	February	Intelligence	Home
189	Mardin Daneh Zan	Male	17	Bukan	22.2.2023	Intelligence	Home
190	Sohail Karim Golan	Male	17	Bukan	2.3.2023	Intelligence	Street
191	Farhad Navai	Male	16	Mahabad	18.11.2023	Intelligence	Street
192	Arshak Qeysarbeygi	Male	14	Sarableh	November	Intelligence	Street