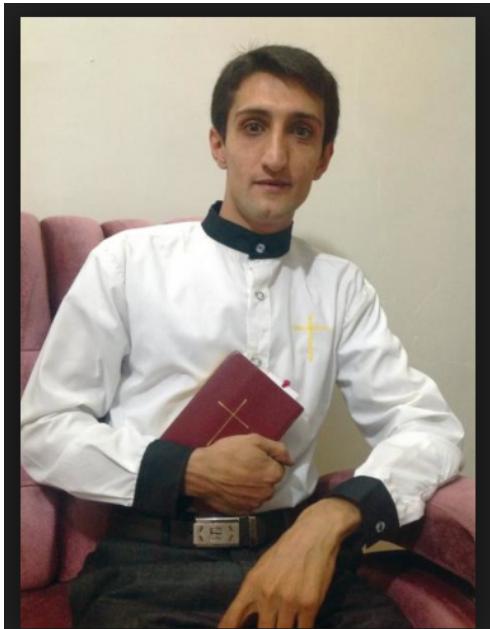


PRAYER & ACTION

IMPRISONED CHRISTIAN

Country: Iran

Arrested: July, 2013



Ebrahim Firuzi

Ebrahim Firuzi was arrested in July, 2013. He was sentenced on August 21, 2013, to one-year imprisonment and two years exile to a remote border town for “evangelism activities considered to be in opposition to the Republic Islamic of Iran regime” and “according to article 19 of the Islamic Penal Code article 23, condemned to two years in exile in Sarbaz in Sistan, Baluchestan province.”

Bibles and other evangelism materials were taken from him, including his personal computer “which were used to commit this ‘crime’ will be seized in favor of the government and destroyed.”

He was relocated from Evin Prison, Tehran to Rajai Shahr Prison, Karaj in a ward with dangerous criminals.

He was due to be released on January 13, 2015 but additional charges of "acting against national security, gathering, and collusion" were brought against him in a re-trial on March 5, 2015.

In April 2015, Firuzi was sentenced to 5 years in prison. An appeal was held on December 11, 2016 but the initial sentence of 5 years was upheld.

On July 17, 2017, Ebrahim Firuzi, went on a 10-day hunger strike in support of fellow Christian Amin Afshar Naderi who had gone on an indefinite hunger strike on July 6, and in protest of harsh and unjust prison sentences metered out to 11 Christians in the past few weeks.

Ebrahim Firuzi, wrote a letter to the Iranian authorities:

"Considering the unjust and cruel behavior of Judiciary Authorities towards Converted Christians and in denying Christians access to Christian literature as well as the issue of unfair and heavy sentences for Christian converts, I have decided to go on a hunger strike."

In his letter on July 16, 2017, to the Prosecutor General of Tehran he emphasized, "The government of Iran can not decide whether or not a person is Christian and this decision and authority is the Church's decision."

Firuzi also mentioned the heavy prison terms inflicted on several Christians in recent months and declared his support for their demands and rights to go on a hunger strike.

During his captivity, Firuzi's physical and mental health had been weakened due to the lack of medical leave. He also suffers anguish over the condition of his poor and sick mother who was diagnosed with cancer. Because of her weak health and heavy medical treatment for the cancer she has not been able to visit her son. Firuzi has been denied permission on compassionate grounds to visit his sick mother.

Firuzi is due to be released from prison in January 2020.