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Iran: Zeinab Zaman sentenced to six months in prison and additional punishments

On 24 December 2024, woman human rights defender **Zeinab Zaman** was sentenced to six months in prison and additional punishments on the charge of “disturbing public opinion” by Branch 26 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court.

[Zeinab Zaman](#) is a woman human rights defender and feminist activist. She holds a masters degree in ‘Psychology of Exceptional Children’ and has been advocating for women’s rights in Iran for more than six years by writing extensively on social media.

On 24 December 2024, woman human rights defender Zeinab Zaman was handed down a six month prison sentence, suspended for five years, on the charge of “disturbing the public opinion” by Branch 26 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court. The Court has additionally sentenced Zeinab Zaman to a fine of 500 Million Iranian Rial and a five year ban from communicating with other political and social activists during the time of the suspended sentence.

On 8 December 2024, the woman human rights defender appeared before Branch 26 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court on the charge of “propaganda against state” based on her social media activities for women’s rights in Iran. The charge of “propaganda against state” was changed arbitrarily to “disturbing the public opinion” after the judge residing at Branch 26 of the Revolutionary Court admitted there was not enough evidence for the former charge.

Previously in March 2023, Zeinab Zaman was arrested in the context of the “woman, life, freedom” protests and held in solitary confinement for one week. The charges against the woman human rights defender were dropped based on the general amnesty issued by the Iranian Judiciary system starting from February 2023.

Front Line Defenders condemns the arbitrary sentencing of human rights defender Zeinab Zaman. Further, the organisation believes this sentence is in retaliation of her peaceful and legitimate work defending and promoting human rights and raising awareness about women’s rights in Iran.

Front Line Defenders urges Iranian authorities to:

1. Immediately and unconditionally overturn the convictions against woman human rights defender Zeinab Zaman;
2. Guarantee in all circumstances that all human rights defenders in Iran can carry out their legitimate and peaceful human rights activities without fear of reprisals and free from all restrictions, including judicial harassment.