

## CRACKDOWN ON DISSENT

# Rap music in Iran: 'Crossing the red line into politics makes you a target'

Dozens of rappers have been arrested in Iran since the rise of hip-hop in the country in the early 2000s. But the death sentence pronounced on April 24 against the rapper Toomaj Salehi marks a turning point in the Iranian regime's intolerance of artists with a political message. Exiled rap artists Justina and Ghogha told FRANCE 24 of their admiration for Salehi, "who scares the powers that be".

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6 min



Iranian rappers Toomaj Salehi and Justina collaborated on a track in July 2022. © Youtube screengrab @ToomajSalehi @justinaofficialll

By: Bahar MAKOOI

### ADVERTISING

The last time Justina spoke to [Toomaj Salehi](#) was in November 2023. The dissident rapper had just been released on bail after spending more than a year in prison.

"It was brief, I just wanted to check on him, but I didn't want him to get into trouble for having been in contact with me. So we didn't talk much," recalled Iranian rap artist Justina, who lives in exile in [Sweden](#).

Less than two weeks later, after making a video where he denounced his detention conditions, Salehi was arrested again. In the footage, the emaciated but determined rapper directly faced the camera and recounted how his hands and legs were broken. "They hit me in the face. I tried to protect myself with my hands, but they broke my fingers," he said of his torturers.

"No one, no authority should be above the law. It is the people who decide the laws," he continued, before passing on a message of hope to his fans: "I hope that better days will come. I think we can build a beautiful [Iran](#) together."

But on April 24, the verdict was pronounced: Salehi was sentenced to death by a revolutionary court in the southern Iranian city of Isfahan, despite an international campaign calling for his release.

The authorities accused him of "[corruption](#) on earth" for his support of the protest movement unleashed after the September 2022 death in police custody of [Mahsa Amini](#), 22, who was detained for allegedly breaking Iran's strict hijab rules.

"I'm still deeply shocked," said Justina in a trembling voice. Normally resolute, she was shaken by the judgement. "I hope they don't carry out their sentence. It's psychological [torture](#). First and foremost for Toomaj and for all those who support him. Many fans love him because he is the voice of ordinary people and he promised them that he would stand up for them."

## 'He will never give up, that's what scares the powers that be'

Known for her committed feminist lyrics, Justina first collaborated with Toomaj on the track "Pichak", released in July 2022. The track was produced between Isfahan and Sweden with lyrics that are a cry of freedom from Iranian youth: "We are Phoenixes who will rise from the ashes. We are the fire that will rise from the ice. We are as infinite as the earth."

### [Read more](#) **Iran sentences rapper Toomaj Salehi to death: Who is he?**

Toomaj had had previous run-ins with the authorities, including an arrest in 2021 when he was charged with [propaganda](#) against the regime.

"He had already been arrested before Mahsa Amini's death," Justina noted, "but he never gave up."

"And that's why he's still in prison today. He will never give up, and that's what scares the authorities. They're afraid of him because they know he won't shut up and he'll never leave Iran," she explained.

Other rappers have chosen exile after coming under pressure from the regime. Justina was one of them. "Six years ago, my house was raided, all my belongings were searched and I was questioned for three days. They told me I was a woman and that I had no right to sing," she recalled.

The rapper, who found herself accused of "encouraging corruption of morals and depravity", decided to flee to [Georgia](#) and then Sweden.

"I thought it was ridiculous that I was prevented from singing."

"She sings, she raps, she's a feminist and she filmed herself without the veil. Her very existence is considered illegal. If you rap and you're a girl in Iran, it's twice as bad," said Ghogha, an Iranian hip-hop singer who found refuge in Sweden in 2010.

In Iran, the authorities banned solo female singers from recording tracks of their voices or performing alone in public.

For Ghogha, who was one of the first young girls to rap in the 2000s, it was a struggle. "A lot of studios didn't let me record my tracks at the time, because they were taking on an extra risk with me. And that's what happened in 2010 when they raided one of these underground rap studios. They found my voice on the hard drives and people were arrested because of me."

"I was 20 years old," she continues. "I loved music and poetry more than anything else, and I thought it was ridiculous that I was prevented from singing."

[Read more](#) **Toomaj: 'Voice of whole country' silenced by Iran regime; battle to free 'symbol of the revolution'**

They are not the only ones to have had to flee. Soroush Lashkari, nicknamed Hichkas (Nobody) was one of the pioneers of Iranian rap in the early 2000s. He became famous, in particular, by challenging God in a song, "Ekhtelaf", in which he denounced the poverty, inequality and corruption in his country.

A year after the protests that followed the disputed election of Iranian president [Mahmoud Ahmadinejad](#) in 2009, he released another highly political song entitled "A Good Day Will Come". This was the last song he recorded underground in Iran, before leaving the country for Turkey and then England.

## Pro-regime rappers

As Iranian rap gained popularity, the authorities first tried to discredit the genre, describing rappers as "satanists" in a documentary broadcast on state television. A fatwa was even issued in May 2012 against rapper Shahin Najafi, who has lived in Germany since 2005, for his song "Naghi". In this track, the artist attacks one of the twelve imams of [Shiite Islam](#). Najafi was accused of apostasy and a cleric offered a \$100,000 reward to anyone who killed him.

"The Islamic Republic tried various methods to get rid of rap, but they didn't succeed, so they ended up using it to spread their ideology and trying to influence young people," explained Ghogha.

"Today, there are even rappers who work for them, like Sohrab MJ, who poses in photos and shakes hands with ultraconservatives close to the Supreme Leader and the Revolutionary Guards."

Some rappers have also sung pro-government songs, such as Amir Tataloo and his track "Energy Hastei" ("Nuclear Energy"), in support of Iran's nuclear enrichment programme. The artist, who is tattooed from head to toe, even supported the current conservative president Ebrahim Raisi during his 2017 campaign before changing his mind and ending up in exile in [Turkey](#). He was deported to Iran in July 2023 and sent to prison. Accused of producing and publishing "obscene" works, his trial is ongoing.

## Male and commercial rap encouraged

"As long as rap is about partying, drugs and hooking up, you get the impression that the regime has no problem with it. On the contrary, they advocate depoliticised male rap, which suits them. But the minute you cross the political red line, you become a target," commented Justina.

"Rap is very popular in Iran, as it is everywhere else in the world," says a musician who knows the Iranian hip-hop scene well, and who prefers to remain anonymous. "There's not a car on the street that doesn't play some kind of music. But you have to admit that the dominant rap music is mainly commercial.

"With the development of streaming, some artists are making a lot of money, up to \$10,000 a month. They give concerts abroad and come back to Iran without being hassled because their music doesn't bother anyone. It's not political," added the musician, who is based outside of Iran.

Toomaj's political rap, on the other hand, is rooted in the growing resentment of Iranian society towards its rulers, following the repression of the protests of 2017, 2019 and 2022 – the latter sparked by the death of Amini.

Toomaj is not the only rapper in prison today. Saman Yasin, a 26-year-old Kurd who was arrested during the 2022 demonstrations, is also in prison. In October 2022 he was sentenced to death. Two months later he tried to take his own life because of the harsh conditions in Rajaei-Shahr prison in Karaj, where he was tortured.

According to The [Kurdistan](#) Human Rights Network, the young man was placed in solitary confinement in a room known as "The Mortuary" and was thrown several times from a height. His sentence has just been commuted to five years' imprisonment. And now Salehi's supporters can only hope that he will benefit from a similar decision.

*This article has been translated from [the original in French](#).*

[https://www.wpsdlocal6.com/news/iranian-rapper-toomaj-salehi-sentenced-to-death-for-protesting/article\\_b7e0daaa-0a55-11ef-8203-072443ca10e5.html](https://www.wpsdlocal6.com/news/iranian-rapper-toomaj-salehi-sentenced-to-death-for-protesting/article_b7e0daaa-0a55-11ef-8203-072443ca10e5.html)

## Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi sentenced to death for protesting

CNN

May 4, 2024



Protesters in support of Toomaj Salehi in The Hague, the Netherlands.

Charles M. Vella/SOPA Images/LightRocket/Getty Images via CNN Newsource

(CNN) — Dissident rapper Toomaj Salehi has been given a death sentence for his involvement in the widespread protests that swept Iran in 2022, according to his lawyer.

“An order for the execution of Toomaj Salehi has been issued,” Salehi’s lawyer Amir Raesian tweeted Wednesday.

The rapper has been detained, held in solitary confinement and was allegedly tortured following his arrest.

In an unprecedented move, a court in Isfahan reversed the higher Supreme Court's decision on Salehi's case on Tuesday, upholding the original verdict of "corruption on earth" and issued the maximum punishment of death, according to Iranian pro-reform outlets Shargh and Entekhab.

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State media said Salehi's sentence is subject for reduction by a pardoning committee if he appeals again.

Salehi, 32, who has been critical of the Iranian regime and outspoken against the government in rap lyrics and on social media, was briefly released from prison last year before police violently rearrested him and sent him to prison in Isfahan, witnesses said at the time.

He was rearrested after appearing in a video where he revealed that he was tortured and placed in solitary confinement for 252 days following his arrest in October 2022, UN experts said in a statement published by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

Another artist, Kurdish-Iranian rapper Saman Yasin, who was also arrested at the height of 2022's protests in Iran, was transferred to a psychiatric hospital two times in less than a year, according to pro-reform news outlet IranWire.

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A court in Tehran sentenced Yasin to five years in prison, according to group focused on Kurdish human rights, Hengaw.

Demonstrations swept the country after the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, which occurred under suspicious circumstances while in police custody. A brutal crackdown on the protests by Iranian authorities targeted the weeks-long protests.

“We strongly condemn Toomaj Salehi’s death sentence and the five-year sentence for Kurdish-Iranian rapper Saman Yasin. We call for their immediate release,” the United States’ Office of the Special Envoy for Iran tweeted. “These are the latest examples of the regime’s brutal abuse of its own citizens, disregard for human rights, and fear of the democratic change the Iranian people seek.”

UN experts also demanded Salehi’s release and urged Iranian authorities to reverse the death sentence.


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“We are alarmed by the imposition of the death sentence and the alleged ill-treatment of Mr. Salehi which appears to be related solely to the exercise of his right to freedom of artistic expression and creativity,” the experts said.

Salehi’s political sponsor in Europe, German Member of Parliament Ye-One Rhie, called the death sentence against Salehi “absurd and inhumane.”

“It is still completely unclear how this verdict came about,” she tweeted Wednesday. “It is unbelievable how irresponsibly and arbitrarily the Iranian regime treats defendants. It is impossible to recognize the rule of law in the chaos of the courts in charge.”



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# IL FOGLIO

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IN IRAN

## La Repubblica islamica applica un di più di sadismo al rapper-operaio condannato a morte

DI CECILIA SALA / 01 MAG 2024

“Toomaj ci rappresenta. Liberiamo lui e l’Iran”, è il nuovo slogan della protesta contro il cappio politico. Operai e maestre in sciopero mentre i dirigenti del carcere proibiscono le telefonate tra il rapper nel braccio della morte e i suoi genitori

**D**a due settimane la repressione iraniana ha accelerato e i manifestanti come Sadira, che non segue le regole e ha un profilo Instagram pieno di foto al parco con i capelli liberi e foto alle feste con un tubino che lascia scoperte le



gambe, non potendo parlare di “svolta autoritaria” per la Repubblica islamica, dicono che è in corso una “escalation autoritaria”. L’esempio più visibile, non l’unico, è la condanna a morte del metalmeccanico e rapper trentenne Toomaj Salehi. Lunedì i dirigenti della prigione Dastgerd di Isfahan hanno annunciato alla famiglia Salehi un divieto perverso e hanno detto: da questo momento le telefonate a vostro figlio sono proibite. Il braccio della morte è il settore di un carcere dove i guardiani sono più generosi di telefonate ai parenti – non per Toomaj, che è il simbolo di tutto quello che gli ayatollah vogliono cancellare. Poche ore dopo, nella prigione di Dastgerd è stato diramato un comunicato che dice: tutti i detenuti che incontrando Salehi dovessero rivolgergli la parola, “affronteranno punizioni severe”.

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*Reza Rasaei facing imminent execution in Iran*

## **Last Minute Calls To Save Two Political Prisoners In Iran From Hanging**

Saturday, 04/27/2024

### **Iran International Newsroom**

The families of two political prisoners in Iran are fighting to save them from looming execution amid Iran's killing spree which last year alone saw over 800 people hanged.

Reza Rasaei and Habib Deris are the latest to face imminent execution, a trend which has peaked since the 2022 uprising, sparked by the death in morality police custody of Mahsa Amini, detained for not wearing her hijab according to Iran's strict dress code.

**Reza Rasaei was sentenced to death in 2022** amid the protests. He was accused of the murder of Nader Beirami, a senior intelligence officer of the IRGC, with his conviction being upheld by the Supreme Court in early December.

**Amnesty International earlier voiced** its concern, urging Iranian authorities to halt the execution, citing a lack of clear evidence and fair trial standards. "I urge you to immediately grant Reza Rasaei access to his family, independently chosen lawyer, and adequate medical care," read part of Amnesty's letter of appeal.

Simultaneously, reports have emerged about Habib Deris being moved to solitary confinement, often a sign of a looming execution. A source close to the family of Deris told HRANA, a news agency of human rights activists in Iran, "He was transferred to solitary confinement without any clear reason provided."

Deris is among six men sentenced to death by the Revolutionary Court in Ahvaz, accused of affiliation with the **Harakat al-Nidal group** and involvement in operations that resulted in the deaths of security personnel.

Also known as the Arab Struggle Movement for the Liberation of Ahwaz (ASMLA), the group is classified by Tehran as a 'terrorist' organization responsible for acts of terror including an attack on a military parade in Ahvaz on September 22, 2018, which killed 25 military and civilians.

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World / Middle East

## Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi sentenced to death for protesting

By [Artemis Moshtaghian](#), CNN

🕒 3 minute read · Updated 4:00 PM EDT, Sat May 4, 2024



Protesters in support of Toomaj Salehi in The Hague, the Netherlands. Charles M. Vella/SOPA Images/LightRocket/Getty Images

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for Human Rights (OHCHR).

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Iranian dissident rapper Toomaj Salehi rearrested less than two weeks after release from prison

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CNN's Mostafa Salem contributed reporting.

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World

## Court sentences Iranian dissident rapper Toomaj Salehi to death, lawyer says

He was first arrested in 2022 after making public statements in support of the nationwide protests

Thomson Reuters · Posted: Apr 24, 2024 2:04 PM EDT | Last Updated: April 24



Prominent dissident rapper Toomaj Salehi is shown in an undisclosed location in Iran in this undated image. (Submitted by Negin Niknaam)

An Iranian revolutionary court has sentenced well-known Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi to death for charges linked to Iran's 2022-23 unrest, his lawyer told Iranian newspaper Sharq on Wednesday.

Salehi in his songs supported months of protests in Iran in 2022 sparked by the death in police custody of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish Iranian woman arrested for allegedly wearing an "improper" hijab.

Salehi was initially arrested in October 2022 after making public statements in support of the nationwide protests. In late 2023, just two weeks after [being released on bail](#), Salehi was arrested again.

He was sentenced to six years and three months in prison but avoided a death sentence due to a Supreme Court ruling.

- [Meet Iran's dissident rapper helping youth circumvent regime internet crackdown](#)
- [Iranian dissident rapper reportedly remains defiant under torture by regime](#)

"Branch One of the Revolutionary Court of [the central city of] Isfahan in an unprecedented move, did not enforce the Supreme Court's ruling ... and sentenced Salehi to the harshest punishment," his lawyer Amir Raisian told Sharq.

Iranian judiciary has not confirmed the sentence yet. Salehi has 20 days to appeal the ruling.

### ***WATCH | Social campaign to free Iranian rapper:***



#### **Social campaign launched on behalf of jailed Iranian rapper Toomaj**

▶ 1 year ago 1:28

Supporters of jailed dissident Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi have launched this campaign on social media to bring attention to his case, saying he's at risk of execution.

## **Allegations of torture**

The outspoken critic of the Iranian regime [previously spent](#) a year and 21 days in detention, including 252 days in solitary confinement, in Isfahan Central Prison in Iran.

Activists and [advocates](#) maintain Toomaj was detained again because of a recent video message he filmed for Iranians and his fans. The [video](#), viewed more than half a million times, was Toomaj's first public address since he was freed on bail on Nov. 18.

- [Prominent Iranian rapper Toomaj freed on bail after over a year of arbitrary detention](#)
- [Prominent Iranian rapper Toomaj arrested again by regime forces, his whereabouts unknown](#)

For almost 15 minutes, he spoke bluntly and in detail about the torture — physical and mental — he says he endured at the hands of regime authorities since his arrest in 2022.

"I was tortured severely at the time of the arrest. They broke my hands and legs. They beat me a lot in my face and head. I tried to stop the punches with my hands, so my fingers broke ... and it was over a very lengthy period," Toomaj said.

### ***WATCH | Movement will only grow, rapper says:***



### **Iran's protest movement will only grow, says Toomaj**

► 2 years ago 2:32

Iranian dissident rapper Toomaj Salehi talks to CBC News about what's happening in his country.

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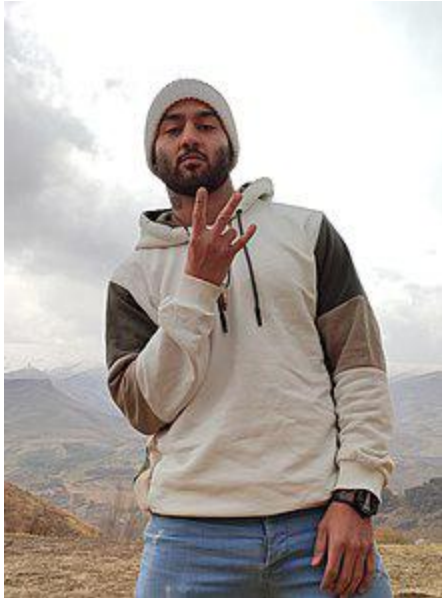
*With files from CBC News*

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## Tomaj Salehi



### Background information

Azar 1369 12 (33 years [1] old) Gardbisheh , Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari , Iran	<b>born</b>
Persian rap	<b>genre</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Singer</li> <li>songwriter</li> <li>the rapper</li> </ul>	<b>profession</b>
singing	<b>instrument(s)</b>
now-1396	<b>Years of activity</b>
Bachelor of Solid	<b>education</b>

**Tomaj Salehi** (born on 12 December 1369) is an Iranian singer , rapper and songwriter . He is famous for his protest works about the problems of Iranian society and protests against the policies and repressions of the Islamic Republic of Iran [3] [4][5] and because of his protest songs he was arrested and tortured many times [6] and in Dastgerd prison in Isfahan. is a prisoner [7] His songs have received the attention of the media inside and outside of Iran. [8][9] In 2023, he received the "Heretic" award of the Global Music Awards organization for the song "Fal" [10] in the [11].protest- activist song section

Tomaj Salehi was sentenced to death by the Revolutionary Court [12].of the Islamic Republic in May 1403

## Life and career

Tomaj Salehi started learning music at the age of 7 by learning tonbak and organ . He said that he has been reading poetry since childhood and his favorite poet is Khayyam . He always has an empty bullet hole on his neck. Among the various meanings of the name "Tomaj", he likes the Turkmen meaning of "brave rider" the [13]. most. His daily sport is boxing

Salehi spent his childhood in Isfahan and Shahinshahr and has two turning degrees . Like his father, he studied mechanical engineering with a focus on designing and manufacturing medical industrial parts. His father has been a political prisoner for eight years. According to Tomaj Salehi, none of his family members have government jobs. [13] Salehi said that he works in a metal [15][14]. workshop

Tomaj Salehi heard and enjoyed rap music for the first time through his older brother. He started rapping seriously in 2016. He was once arrested for wearing a t-shirt with a picture of US [13].dollars while reading

Tomaj had to sell his motorcycle and household items to produce his music; Because of the political content of his songs, the Isfahan studios were not ready to record them, and he had to go

Mechanics [2]	
Protest song	<b>The cause of fame</b>
The "Innovator" Award of the "Music Awards of Nations" organization is the annual freedom of expression award in the art department	<b>(Awards)</b>

[13] .to far away places like the north of Iran , which cost him more

Tomaj Salehi considers his duty to inject courage and hope to people and says: "What am I afraid of? I am afraid of being a coward, of being afraid myself. Until now, I always went in the heart of fear. He also said that if I give a concert one day, the first .row will be working children and the second row will be cartoons [16]

## Arrest and prison

### Arrest 1400

Tomaj Salehi was arrested by 12 members of the security forces in a house in Isfahan on 21 Shahrivar 1400 and was taken to [9] [19] [18] [17] .Dastgerd Prison and released some time later

### Charge

According to his lawyer Tomaj Salehi, he was arrested on 21 Shahrivar at 1400 at 9 pm and accused of "propaganda against the regime" and "insulting the leader of the Islamic Republic ". [20] [21] He is a resident of Shahinshahr and his case was registered in the court of this city. He was in prison, banned from [22] .visiting and has not had any contact with his family

On 30th of Shahrivar 1400, Harana announced the release of Tomaj by filing a bail bond . [23] This news agency announced on 3 Bahman 1400 that Shahinshahr Revolutionary Court sentenced him to 6 months [24] .in prison and a fine, and the execution of this sentence was suspended for one year

### reactions

The Iranian government has not provided an explanation about the reason for Tomaj's arrest. [25] In a message on Twitter , Amnesty International requested his immediate and unconditional release. [26] The Center for Human Rights in Iran wrote in a tweet: "Freedom of expression and opinion is not 'criminalized' in the laws of the Islamic Republic of Iran, but critics and protestors are constantly arrested for criticizing and protesting." "Tomaj Salehi was arrested only for singing critical songs and has been in ".an unknown condition and location since Monday, 22 Shahrivar

Reza Pahlavi wrote in a tweet: "The works of Tomaj Salehi and Shidaya Hamdani are the artistic crystallization of nationwide protests, and their popularity is a sign of the spread of subversive discourse." [25] Kylie Moore-Gilbert, who was arrested in 2018 and exchanged with three Iranian

prisoners after about two years, also demanded the release of Tomaj Salehi. Also, a large number of social media users demanded his release. <sup>[25]</sup> After his arrest, his Instagram account was disabled <sup>[25]</sup> <sup>[27]</sup> .and his Twitter account was closed by Twitter officials

## Arrest 1401

### companionship

With the beginning of the revolutionary uprising of 1401 in Iran, Tomaj Salehi published a picture of himself in street protests in early November 1401. <sup>[28]</sup> He also saw in the song Fortune *in* a Cup of Coffee that all the beads and all the heads were captured. While participating in the protests, he was worried that some protesters might be disappointed and upset if they were arrested: "We don't need to be sad now. I should not cry if my loved ones are killed. I have to seek trial." He then turned to a secret life and during this time he recorded videos and talked about the necessity of standing against the Islamic Republic. In an interview with CBC television, he said that he is very hopeful about the future of the protests and believes that there will be a revolution in six months. He also said: "Protest music can create a big change and is very effective in society. This music gives hope to society and instills courage because in societies where people are under so much pressure from the government, they become <sup>[13]</sup> .disillusioned and passive

### arrest

According to the report of Student News Agency , on November 8, 1401, Salehi, who lived and worked secretly during the 1401 Iranian uprising, was arrested in Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari province . <sup>[29]</sup><sup>[30]</sup> Hours before his arrest, Tomaj Salehi said in a message on social networks that he and his friends noticed suspicious changes outside the house. He was injured while being detained and his face was bloody. <sup>[13]</sup> Fars News Agency , affiliated to the Revolutionary Guards , introduced him as one of the "leaders of riots promoting violence", which was not very correct and had a one-sided view. <sup>[31]</sup> This state media also announced that Salehi was arrested at a border crossing; The manager of social networks Salehi denied this claim and announced that he was arrested in Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari province and not in a border province. <sup>[31]</sup> For some time, his condition was unclear and no information <sup>[32]</sup> .was available about his whereabouts

The government -sponsored Young Journalists' Club released a video of a blindfolded man claiming to be Tomaj, apparently under pressure to admit that he had "committed a mistake." <sup>[6]</sup><sup>[33]</sup> According to his family, the Iranian authorities subjected Salehi to many and inhumane tortures just to force him to <sup>[34]</sup> .confess

### conviction

He has been accused of campaigning against the regime, cooperating with hostile governments and forming an illegal group with the intention of disrupting the country's security. <sup>[35][36]</sup> The charges against most of the protesters. Also, by the verdict of the Revolutionary Court , he has been accused of warring and corrupting the land and is facing the risk of execution .<sup>[37]</sup> On November 26, 2022, Tomaj's <sup>[38]</sup> family said that his life was in danger

## reactions

Mizan news agency , affiliated to the judiciary, quoted Isfahan prosecutor Seyyed Mohammad Mousavian, confirmed the news of Tomaj Salehi's arrest and claimed that he " played a role in creating disturbances and inviting and encouraging the recent disturbances and disturbances in Isfahan province, <sup>[39]</sup> ."especially in Shahinshahr city. has a key

On November 22, a group of artists, writers, media activists and civil activists published a statement in support of Tomaj Salehi and demanded his immediate release. <sup>[40]</sup> Part of the text of this statement is as <sup>[41]</sup> follows

Tomaj is the voice of the people and the call of the nation will not be silenced. Let us now be his voice, who, if he were free, would rage against the tortures and death sentences of the protestors and demand their release. They have targeted Tomaj's body and soul, in revenge for the fact that he was the voice of the people. Torture and punishment of Tomaj is our red line.  
Tomaj must be released

## A group of artists, poets, writers, civil and cultural activists -

Mehdi Yarahi , a protest singer, responded to the news of Tomaj Salehi's arrest in a series of tweets and wrote: "The responsibility for his life lies with the Islamic Republic and the Revolutionary Guards, and <sup>[42]</sup> ".basically the institution that locked up this zealous young man should be questioned and tried

Yeh-Won Ree , a member of the SPD party from Aachen in the German parliament , has assumed the political sponsorship of Tomaj. With this work, he dedicated a part of his influence and parliamentary <sup>[45] [44] [43]</sup> activities to Tomaj and helped the efforts for his release

Omid Nouripour , the head of the German Green Party and a member of the parliament ( Bundestag ) .also announced by publishing a video that he has taken over the political sponsorship of Tomaj Salehi <sup>[46]</sup>

## Forced confession

In the forced confession that was aired on the Islamic Republic of Iran TV after the arrest of Tomaj Salehi, a scene similar to Fal's music video was shown, in which Tomaj and Fard Tasbih switched hands, and Tomaj Salehi expressed his regret for promoting violence through a song.<sup>[13]</sup> While he never promoted violence, he always used his music and social networks to encourage people to be peaceful and care for each other.

## torture

The manager of Tomaj Salehi's Twitter page announced on 16 January 1401 that there is a possibility that Tomaj may lose his sight due to the blows inflicted by the officers of the Islamic Republic. Stating that about 70 days have passed since Tomaj's imprisonment in solitary confinement, he said: "If he loses<sup>[47]</sup> ".his sight, this negligence will be brought to the attention of the authorities

In April 1402, Salehi's family announced that the severity of Tomaj's physical torture was such that he was in an unconscious and physically dangerous state for several days. The Human Rights Campaign in Iran called on the international community and international music and art institutions, as well as freedom of speech organizations, to call for the immediate and unconditional release of Tomaj Salehi<sup>[48]</sup>

## Sentence

On July 19, 1402, Tomaj Salehi's social media account, which is managed by his relatives, announced the issuance of a 6-year and 3-month prison sentence for Tomaj Salehi and his transfer to public prison.<sup>[49]</sup> He had spent 252 days in solitary confinement before the sentencing. Later, one of Tomaj Salehi's lawyers announced that Tomaj has been sentenced to 6 years and 3 months in prison on charges of corruption. His lawyer also announced about additional punishments against Tomaj: "He will be banned from leaving and his passport will be revoked for 2 years from the date of finality of the verdict. He has also been banned from any activity, preparation and production of music and singing works for 2 years. Tomaj has also been required to attend behavior management and knowledge skills courses for 2 years organized by Isfahan Public Prosecutor's Office for Social Affairs and Crime Prevention. According to the court decision, Tomaj Salehi must submit the certificate of completion of these classes to the Criminal Sentence Enforcement Unit. The second and last hearing on Tomaj Salehi's accusations was held in private on July 11. According to Amir Raisian, the other lawyer of Tomaj Salehi, in this meeting, "the presence of third parties, journalists, civil society representatives, and the client's family was not allowed in the court." His trial was held while, according to the lawyer Tomaj Salehi's statement, his client only had the opportunity to meet with his lawyers for half an hour during the last eight months that he was in<sup>[51][50]</sup> .custody

## temporary release

On November 27, 1402, he was released from Dastgerd Prison in Isfahan on bail after enduring more than a year of imprisonment, 252 days of which were in solitary confinement . After 12 days of freedom, Salehi was arrested again in Babylon on December 9, 1402, by some armed officers in plainclothes without presenting any court order, identification card, and severely beaten, and was taken to an <sup>[52]</sup> .unknown place

## awards

In 2023, Tomaj Salehi received the "Heretic" or "heretical" award of the "Global Music Awards" <sup>[54]</sup> <sup>[53]</sup> .organization for the song "Fall" in the protest-activist music section

He also won the "Culture of Resistance" award due to his support of human rights , freedom of speech <sup>[55]</sup> .and promotion of peace through his art and poems

In 2023, Salehi was nominated by the "Index on Censorship" organization as the winner of the annual <sup>[57]</sup> <sup>[56]</sup> .freedom of expression award in the art department

## Donate 2500 pounds to the flood victims

Tomaj Salehi's Instagram page wrote in March 2024 that he had received the annual freedom of expression award in the art branch from the "Censorship Index" organization, an organization defending freedom of expression, and donated his award worth 2,500 pounds to help the flood victims of Sistan <sup>[58]</sup> .and Baluchistan

## The first sentence of death

On May 5, 1403, the Isfahan Revolutionary Court , ignoring the Supreme Court's decision, sentenced Tomaj Salehi to death on charges of corruption . In an interview with Sharq , lawyer Tomaj Salehi said <sup>[12]</sup> .that this sentence has clear legal conflicts and we will certainly protest against it

## reactions

### People

Mehdi Yarahi , in response to the death sentence issued by the Revolutionary Court for Tomaj Salehi, <sup>[59]</sup> .said that this sentence is a black comedy due to its baselessness

Athena Daemi , a human rights activist, said in response to this sentence: "In the opinion of J. <sup>[59]</sup> "sentence for popular artist Tomaj Salehi means declaring war on the people

Mohsen Burhani, while calling the action of Branch 1 of the Isfahan Revolutionary Court in issuing a death sentence against this protesting singer as costly, expressed hope that the sentence will be <sup>[59]</sup> . overturned in the Supreme Court

- Bundestag representative and Tomaj Salehi's political sponsor , Yeh-Wen Rey , called this sentence [60] .absurd and inhumane
- Shirin Ebadi, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, wrote in condemning the decision of the Revolutionary Court against Toomaj Salehi: "The Republic of Murder and Crime has closed its waist to the murder of the son of Iran, Toomaj Salehi, a committed and popular artist. The Supreme Court of the Islamic Republic of Iran intends to kill someone who considers it his mission to stand on the [61] ".side of the people and echo their protest
- Hamed Esmailiyoun considered execution, killing and violence to be the last tool of the Islamic Republic. In response to this sentence, he wrote: "Dear Tomaj is a symbol of the heroic struggle of [62] ".the Iranian people." He is not alone and the Islamic government will also surrender to him
- In response to this verdict, Masih Alinejad said that the Iranian government wants to execute Tomaj [63] .Salehi for the crime that the voice of the people is silent
- Faraj Sarkohi called this verdict "another blatant display of the authoritarian system's fear of [61] ".people's uprising
- Hossein Ronagi considered the issuance of this verdict as a sign of the collapse of the government [61]
- The Iranian Human Rights Organization called for a global reaction in condemning this sentence [64]
- In response to this ruling, Haniye Tusli wrote: "My whole body is shaking, Tomaj Salehi is a protesting young singer." Protest is not a crime. Being young and a singer is not a crime. Do you [65] ?think that the conditions in which we live are not objectionable
- Reza Pahlavi called for the efforts of the international community to immediately cancel this "shameful" verdict. He said, "The Islamic Republic has been at war with artists since the beginning, [66] ".especially artists who have used their talent to defend Iran's freedom
- Kayhan Kalhor wrote in response to this verdict: "Tomaj Salehi must be released." Our silence means [67] .supporting oppression and oppressors
- Narges Mohammadi, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, said in a message from the women's ward of Evin prison: "The tyrannical religious government should be aware, by issuing cruel and vengeful sentences against the proud children of Iran, such as Tomaj Salehi, and the war against women, it [68] « ".will see an outburst of anger and anti-tyranny of the Iranian people
- Nasrin Sotoudeh wrote in response to this verdict: "Tomaj Salehi is in danger, because art is in danger, because freedom is in danger, and because women and lives are in danger." The heavy chain of tyranny descends on women in the street, and in the courts, protesters and artists are [69] .subjected to the violence of unfair sentences

## Countries and organizations

- Volker Turk , the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in a statement asked the  authorities of the Islamic Republic to cancel the verdict against Tomaj Salehi and demanded his [71] [70] .immediate and unconditional release
- Vedant Patel, the Deputy Spokesman of the US State Department , considered this sentence as  an example of a terrible and widespread violation of human rights by the Iranian regime. Abram Pili, the US deputy special representative for Iran affairs, also condemned the sentences issued against [72] .Tomaj Salehi and Saman Yassin and demanded their immediate release
- Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani condemned the death sentence against Tomaj Salehi and  said that the Italian government is against the death penalty in any place and under any [73] .circumstances
- While condemning the death sentence for Tomaj Salehi, Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly  wrote: "Many others, like Tomaj, fell victim to human rights violations and the IRGC's clear disregard for human life in the effort for democratic change. "Using the death penalty to suppress human [74] ".rights and freedoms is unjustified
- [76] [75] .The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs called this sentence unacceptable 
- In a statement, Human Rights Watch called the legal process of this case a gross violation of [77] .fundamental freedoms and the right to a fair trial



Amnesty International demanded the cancellation of the death sentence and the immediate release ▪  
[78] .of Tomaj Salehi

## Effects

Music Video	Date of Release	Description	Composer	Words and performance	song name <sup>[79]</sup>
-	March 17, <sup>[80]</sup> 1402	Protest against government rappers	border	Tumaj	typhus
-	Mehr 13, <sup>[81]</sup> 1402	-	-	Tumaj	Shane
<sup>[10]</sup> has	November 2, <sup>[10]</sup> 1401	-	-	Tumaj	Omen
<sup>[82]</sup> has	Mehr 1401 14 <sup>[82]</sup>	-	-	Tumaj	You know war
-	September 15 <sup>[83]</sup> 1401	-	-	Tumaj	grape
<sup>[84]</sup> has	Amradad 20 <sup>[84]</sup> 1401	-	-	Tumaj	gapon
<sup>[85]</sup> has	Amradad 7 <sup>[85]</sup> 1401	Criticism of addiction	Behzad	Tumaj	charm
<sup>[86]</sup> has	July 27, 1401 <sup>[86]</sup>	-	Behzad	Tumaj	Sorry
-	July 20, 1401 <sup>[87]</sup>	Song by Tehrang, sound recording: Jamin	Behzad	Tomaj and <u>Justina</u>	the whip
<sup>[88]</sup> has	July 16, 1401 <sup>[88]</sup>	Song by Tehrang, sound recording: Jamin	Behzad	Tomaj and <u>Justina</u>	ivy
has it	June 14, 1401	In protest of the problems of the <sup>[89]</sup> people of Khuzestan	Behzad	Tumaj	Caron
-	May 8, 1401	-	Behzad	Tumaj	Hiroshima
has it	March 26 1400	Reaction to the hacking of Evin <u>prison cameras</u>	Marzi and Behzad	Tumaj	blind spot
has it	February 21 1400	Addressed to Ali Khamenei	-	Tumaj	You did not see 2

has it	January 22 1400	-	-	Tumaj and untitled	Corded
-	January 9 1400	-	-	Tomaj and Afrasiab	Garlic to onion
has it	November 24 1400	In memory of <u>Aban 98</u>	Behzad	Tomaj and Afrasiab	Survivor
-	November 15 1400	Farewell to his half brother	-	Tumaj	Farshid
has it	September 4 1400	-	-	Tumaj	Dice
has it	September 1 1400	Objection to the <u>25-year joint program with China</u>	-	Tumaj	Turkmanchai
has it	Amradad 6 1400	Image from Afrasiab	Behzad	Tumaj	<u>mouse hole</u>
-	July 10, 1400	Cover by Soroush	Behzad	Tomaj, nameless and afrasiab	Pomegranate
has it	June 26, 1400	-	-	Tumaj	normal
-	March 21, 2019	Cover by Soroush	-	Tumaj	ruby
-	March 14, 2019	-	-	Tumaj	Tanto
-	December 11, 2019	-	-	Tumaj	the mouse
-	December 12, 2019	-	-	Tumaj	the pain
-	November 22 1399	-	-	Tumaj	What
-	Mehr 1399 27	In response to the suicide of Mohammad Mousavizadeh, an 11-year-old boy from Bushehri	Bitcoin	Tumaj	you didn't see
-	-	Diss to <u>Mehran Moderi</u>	Ahmad leave	Tumaj	paraffin
-	-	-	Julian Markle	Tumaj	I also had an earthquake

-	-	-	-	Tumaj	rap war
-	-	-	-	Tumaj	At
-	-	-	Shah Rukh	Tumaj	period

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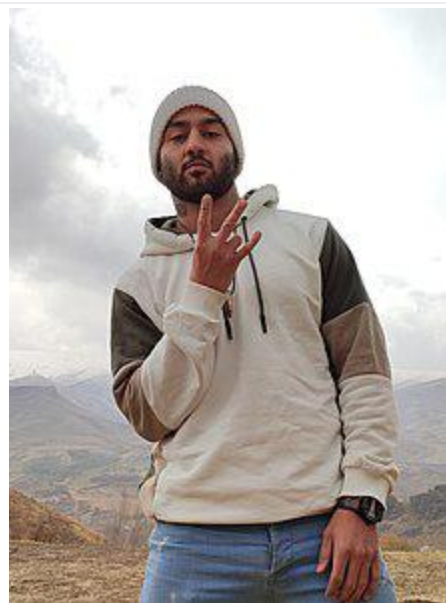
## External link

- Tomaj Salehi (<https://www.instagram.com/toomajofficial/>) on Instagram
- Tomaj Salehi (<https://open.spotify.com/artist/5mBmrpiMC2IzIWCG0MDOYx>) on Spotify
- Tomaj Salehi (<https://soundcloud.com/toomajsalehi>) in Soundcloud
- Tomaj Salehi (<https://www.youtube.com/@ToomajSalehi/videos>) on YouTube
- Tomaj Salehi (<https://twitter.com/ToomajSalehiRap>) on Twitter

برگرفته از «[https://fa.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=توماج\\_صالحی&oldid=39456402](https://fa.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=توماج_صالحی&oldid=39456402)»



## توماج صالحی



**توماج صالحی** (زادهٔ ۱۲ آذر ۱۳۶۹) خواننده، رپر و ترانه‌نویس ایرانی است. او برای آثار اعتراضی خود دربارهٔ مشکلات جامعهٔ ایران و اعتراض به سیاست‌ها و سرکوب‌های حکومت جمهوری اسلامی شهرت دارد.<sup>[۳]</sup><sup>[۴]</sup><sup>[۵]</sup> و به علت ترانه‌های اعتراضی‌اش بارها بازداشت شده و تحت شکنجه قرار گرفته<sup>[۶]</sup> و در زندان دستگرد اصفهان زندانی است.<sup>[۷]</sup> ترانه‌های او مورد توجه رسانه‌های داخل و خارج از ایران قرار گرفته‌اند.<sup>[۸]</sup><sup>[۹]</sup> وی در سال ۲۰۲۳، جایزه «هرتیک» (بدعت‌گذار) سازمان گلوبال میوزیک اواردز را به خاطر آهنگ «فال»<sup>[۱۰]</sup> در بخش ترانه اعتراضی-کنشگری دریافت کرد.<sup>[۱۱]</sup>

توماج صالحی در اردیبهشت ۱۴۰۳ از سوی دادگاه انقلاب جمهوری اسلامی به اعدام محکوم شد.<sup>[۱۲]</sup>

## زندگی و حرفه

توماج صالحی در ۷ سالگی آموختن موسیقی را با یادگیری تنبک و ارگ آغاز کرد. او گفته از بچگی شعر می‌خواند و شاعر محبوبش خیام است. او همیشه یک پوکه خالی گلوله بر گردن دارد. او از معانی مختلف نام «توماج» معنی ترکمن آن را که «سوارکار شجاع» است بیش از همه دوست دارد. ورزش روزانه او بوکس است.<sup>[۱۳]</sup>

صالحی کودکی خود را در اصفهان و شاهین‌شهر گذرانده و دو مدرک تراشکاری دارد. او مانند پدرش دانش‌آموخته مهندسی مکانیک با گرایش طراحی و تولید قطعات صنعتی پزشکی است. پدر او هشت سال زندانی سیاسی بوده است. به گفته توماج صالحی، هیچ‌یک از اعضای خانواده‌اش شغل دولتی ندارند.<sup>[۱۳]</sup> صالحی گفته است که در یک کارگاه فلزکاری کار می‌کند.<sup>[۱۴]</sup><sup>[۱۵]</sup>

توماج صالحی موسیقی رپ را نخستین‌بار از طریق برادر بزرگترش شنیده و از آن لذت برده است. او خوانندگی رپ را در سال ۱۳۹۵ به‌طور جدی آغاز کرده است. او یک بار هنگام خواندن به خاطر پوشیدن تی‌شرتی با عکس دلار آمریکا بازداشت شد.<sup>[۱۳]</sup>

توماج برای تولید موسیقی خود مجبور شده موتورسیکلت و وسایل خانه‌اش را بفروشد؛ زیرا به دلیل درونمایه سیاسی ترانه‌های او استودیوهای اصفهان حاضر به ضبط نبودند و مجبور شده به جاهای دورتر مثل شمال ایران برود که هزینه‌های بیشتری برای او داشته است.<sup>[۱۳]</sup>

### اطلاعات پس‌زمینه

<b>زاده</b>	۱۲ آذر ۱۳۶۹ (۳۳ سال) <sup>[۱]</sup> گردبیشه، چهارمحال و بختیاری، ایران
<b>ژانر</b>	رپ فارسی
<b>پیشه</b>	خواننده ▪ ترانه‌نویس ▪ رپر
<b>ساز(ها)</b>	آواز
<b>سال‌های فعالیت</b>	۱۳۹۶–اکنون
<b>تحصیلات</b>	لیسانس مکانیک جامدات <sup>[۲]</sup>
<b>علت سرشناسی</b>	ترانه اعتراضی
<b>جایزه(ها)</b>	جایزه «بدعت‌گذار» سازمان «جوایز

موسیقی ملل»  
جایزه سالانه آزادی  
بیان در بخش هنر

توماج صالحی وظیفه خود را تزریق شجاعت و امید به مردم می‌داند و می‌گوید: «از چه می‌ترسم؟ از ترسو بودن می‌ترسم، اینکه خودم بترسم. تا حالا همیشه رفتم در دل ترس.» او همچنین گفته بود اگر روزی کنسرت بگذارم، ردیف اول کودکان کار و ردیف دوم کارتن‌خواب‌ها هستند.<sup>[۱۶]</sup>

## بازداشت و زندان

### بازداشت ۱۴۰۰

توماج صالحی در ۲۱ شهریور ۱۴۰۰ توسط ۱۲ نفر از نیروهای امنیتی در خانه‌ای در اصفهان بازداشت و به زندان دستگرد منتقل و مدتی بعد آزاد شد.<sup>[۱۷][۱۸][۱۹][۹]</sup>

### اتهام

به‌گفتهٔ وکیل توماج صالحی او در ۲۱ شهریور ۱۴۰۰ ساعت ۹ شب، بازداشت و به «تبلیغ علیه نظام» و «توهین به رهبر جمهوری اسلامی» متهم شده بود.<sup>[۲۰][۲۱]</sup> او ساکن شاهین‌شهر هست و پرونده او در دادسرای همین شهر ثبت شد. او در زندان، ممنوع‌الملاقات بود و هیچ گونه تماسی با خانواده خود نداشته است.<sup>[۲۲]</sup>

هرانا در ۳۰ شهریور ۱۴۰۰ از آزادی توماج با تودیع قرار کفالت خبر داد.<sup>[۲۳]</sup> این خبرگزاری در ۳ بهمن ۱۴۰۰ اعلام کرد دادگاه انقلاب شاهین‌شهر او را به ۶ ماه زندان و جزای نقدی محکوم کرده و اجرای این حکم به مدت یکسال به حالت تعلیق درآمده است.<sup>[۲۴]</sup>

### واکنش‌ها

حکومت ایران توضیحی دربارهٔ علت بازداشت توماج ارائه نکرده است.<sup>[۲۵]</sup> سازمان عفو بین‌الملل در رشته پیامی در توئیتر، خواهان آزادی فوری و بدون قید و شرط وی شد.<sup>[۲۶]</sup> مرکز حقوق بشر در ایران در توئیتی نوشت: «آزادی بیان و عقیده در قوانین جمهوری اسلامی ایران 'جرم‌انگاری' نشده، اما پیوسته منتقدان و معترضان به علت نقد و اعتراض بازداشت می‌شوند. توماج صالحی فقط برای خواندن ترانه‌های انتقادی بازداشت شده و از دوشنبه ۲۲ شهریور در شرایط و مکان نامعلومی به سر می‌برد.»

رضا پهلوی در توئیتی نوشت: «آثار توماج صالحی و شیدای همدانی، تبلور هنری اعتراضات سراسری است، و محبوبیت‌شان، نشانه فراگیری گفتمان براندازی.»<sup>[۲۵]</sup> کایلی مور-گیلبرت که در سال ۲۰۱۸ دستگیر و پس از حدود دو سال با سه زندانی ایرانی مبادله شد نیز خواستار آزادی توماج صالحی شد. همچنین شمار زیادی از کاربران شبکه‌های اجتماعی خواهان آزادی او شدند.<sup>[۲۵]</sup> پس از دستگیری وی حساب اینستاگرام او از دسترس خارج<sup>[۲۵]</sup> و حساب توئیترش توسط مسئولان توئیتر بسته شد.<sup>[۲۷]</sup>

### بازداشت ۱۴۰۱

#### همراهی

با آغاز خیزش انقلابی ۱۴۰۱ ایران توماج صالحی در اوایل آبان ۱۴۰۱ تصویری از خود در اعتراضات خیابانی منتشر کرد.<sup>[۲۸]</sup> او همچنین در ترانه‌ای به نام *فال* در یک فنجان قهوه دید که همه مهره‌های ریز و همه سران دستگیر شده‌اند. او در هنگام شرکت در اعتراضات نگران این بوده که در صورت دستگیری ممکن است بعضی معترضان ناامید و ناراحت شوند: «الان نیاز به غصه نداریم. اگر عزیزان من کشته شوند نباید گریه کنم. باید دنبال محاکمه باشم.» او سپس به زندگی مخفیانه روی آورد و در این مدت با ضبط ویدئوهایی از ضرورت ایستادگی در برابر جمهوری اسلامی سخن می‌گفت. در مصاحبه‌ای با شبکه سی‌بی‌سی تله‌ویژن گفته بود به

آینده اعتراضات بسیار امیدوار است و ایمان دارد که تا شش ماه دیگر انقلاب می‌شود. همچنین گفت: «موسیقی اعتراضی می‌تواند تحولی بزرگ ایجاد کند و بسیار در جامعه مؤثر است. این موسیقی به جامعه امید می‌دهد و شجاعت را تزریق می‌کند چون در جوامعی که مردم اینقدر تحت فشار حکومت هستند سرخورده و منفعل می‌شوند.»<sup>[۱۳]</sup>

## بازداشت

بر پایه گزارش خبرگزاری دانشجویان در ۸ آبان ۱۴۰۱ صالحی که در جریان خیزش ۱۴۰۱ ایران مدتی به صورت مخفیانه زندگی و فعالیت می‌کرد در استان چهارمحال و بختیاری دستگیر شد.<sup>[۲۹][۳۰]</sup> ساعاتی پیش از بازداشت، توماج صالحی در پیامی در شبکه‌های اجتماعی گفته بود که او و دوستانش بیرون خانه متوجه تغییراتی مشکوک شده‌اند. او هنگام بازداشت مجروح شده و صورتش خونی بود.<sup>[۱۳]</sup> خبرگزاری فارس، وابسته به سپاه پاسداران وی را یکی از «رهبران اغتشاشات در ترویج خشونت» معرفی کرد که چندان صحیح نبود و دید یکطرفه داشت.<sup>[۳۱]</sup> این رسانهٔ دولتی همچنین اعلام کرد که صالحی در یک گذرگاه مرزی دستگیر شده است؛ که مدیر شبکه‌های اجتماعی صالحی این ادعا را تکذیب کرد و اعلام نمود که وی در استان چهارمحال و بختیاری و نه در یک استان مرزی دستگیر شده است.<sup>[۳۱]</sup> برای مدتی، وضعیت او نامشخص بوده و از محل نگهداری او اطلاعاتی در دسترس نبود.<sup>[۳۲]</sup>

باشگاه خبرنگاران جوان —تحت حمایت دولت— ویدئویی از مردی با چشم‌بند منتشر کرد که ادعا می‌کرد توماج است و ظاهراً تحت فشار اعتراف می‌کند که «مرتکب اشتباه» شده است.<sup>[۳۳][۶]</sup> به گفته خانوادهٔ وی، مقامات ایرانی صالحی را شکنجه‌های بسیار و غیرانسانی صرفاً برای اعترافات اجباری کرده‌اند.<sup>[۳۴]</sup>

## محکومیت

وی به فعالیت تبلیغی علیه نظام، همکاری با دولت‌های متخاصم و تشکیل گروه غیرقانونی به قصد برهم زدن امنیت کشور متهم شده است.<sup>[۳۵][۳۶]</sup> اتهاماتی که به بیشتر معترضان وارد شده است. همچنین با حکم دادگاه انقلاب به محاربه و افساد فی‌الارض، متهم شده و با خطر اعدام روبه‌روست.<sup>[۳۷]</sup> در ۲۶ نوامبر ۲۰۲۲، خانواده توماج گفتند که زندگی او در خطر است.<sup>[۳۸]</sup>

## واکنش‌ها

خبرگزاری میزان، وابسته به قوه قضاییه، به نقل از سید محمد موسویان دادستان اصفهان، خبر بازداشت توماج صالحی را تأیید کرد و مدعی شد که او «در ایجاد اغتشاشات و دعوت و تشویق به اغتشاش و آشوب‌های اخیر در استان اصفهان و مخصوصاً در شهرستان شاهین‌شهر نقش کلیدی داشته است.»<sup>[۳۹]</sup>

در ۲۲ آبان جمعی از هنرمندان، نویسندگان، فعالان رسانه‌ای و کنشگران مدنی در حمایت از توماج صالحی بیانیه‌ای را منتشر کرده و خواستار آزادی فوری او شدند.<sup>[۴۰]</sup> بخشی از متن این بیانیه چنین است:<sup>[۴۱]</sup>

توماج صدای مردم است و ندای ملت خاموش نمی‌شود. اکنون صدای او باشیم، که اگر آزاد بود بر شکنجه‌ها و احکام اعدام معترضان می‌خروشید و رهایی‌شان را طلب می‌کرد. جسم و جان توماج را نشانه رفته‌اند، به انتقام این که بانگِ رسای مردم بوده است. شکنجه و مجازات توماج، خط قرمز ماست. توماج باید آزاد شود.

— جمعی از هنرمندان، شاعران، نویسندگان، فعالان مدنی و فرهنگی

مهدی یراحی، خواننده معترض در واکنش به انتشار خبر دستگیری توماج صالحی در رشته توئییتی نوشته است: «مسئولیت جان او با جمهوری اسلامی و سپاه پاسداران است و اساساً نهادی که این جوان غیور را در بند کرده باید بازخواست و محاکمه گردد.»<sup>[۴۲]</sup>

یه‌ون ری، یکی از اعضای حزب اسپ‌پی‌دی از شهر آخن در پارلمان آلمان، کفالت سیاسی توماج را بر عهده گرفته است. با این کار او بخشی از نفوذ و فعالیت‌های پارلمانی خود را به توماج اختصاص داده و به تلاش‌ها برای آزادی وی کمک می‌کند.<sup>[۴۳][۴۴][۴۵]</sup>

امید نوری‌پور رئیس حزب سبزه‌های آلمان و نماینده پارلمان این کشور (بوندستاگ) نیز با انتشار ویدیویی اعلام کرد که کفالت سیاسی توماج صالحی را بر عهده گرفته است.<sup>[۴۶]</sup>

## اعتراف اجباری

در اعتراف اجباری که پس از بازداشت توماج صالحی از سیمای جمهوری اسلامی ایران پخش شد صحنه‌ای همانند موزیک‌ویدیوی فال‌نشان داده شده که در آن جای توماج و فرد تسبیح به دست عوض شده و توماج صالحی از ترویج خشونت از طریق ترانه ابراز پشیمانی می‌کند.<sup>[۱۳]</sup> درحالی که او هیچگاه مرتکب ترویج خشونت نشده است، بلکه همواره با استفاده از موزیک‌ها و شبکه‌های اجتماعی خود، مردم را به صلح و اهمیت دادن به همدیگر تشویق می‌کرد.

## شکنجه

گردانندهٔ صفحه توئیتر توماج صالحی، در ۱۶ دی ۱۴۰۱ اعلام کرد که احتمال از دست رفتن بینایی توماج در اثر ضربات وارد توسط مأموران جمهوری اسلامی وجود دارد. او با بیان اینکه حدود ۷۰ روز از حبس توماج در سلول انفرادی می‌گذرد، گفت: «در صورت از دست رفتن بینایی او این قصور متوجه مسئولان خواهد بود.»<sup>[۴۷]</sup>

در فروردین ۱۴۰۲ خانواده صالحی اعلام کردند که شدت شکنجه‌های جسمی توماج به حدی بوده که او چند روزی را در حالت بیهوش و خطرناک جسمی قرار داشته است. کمپین حقوق بشر در ایران از جامعه جهانی و نهادهای بین‌المللی موسیقی و هنری و همچنین سازمان‌های مدافع آزادی بیان خواست یک صدا و قاطعانه خواهان آزادی فوری و بدون قید و شرط توماج صالحی شوند.<sup>[۴۸]</sup>

## حکم

در ۱۹ تیر ۱۴۰۲ حساب توماج صالحی در شبکه‌های اجتماعی که توسط نزدیکان او اداره می‌شود با انتشار پیامی از صدور حکم ۶ سال و ۳ ماه زندان برای توماج صالحی و انتقال او به بند عمومی خبر داد.<sup>[۴۹]</sup> او تا پیش از ابلاغ حکم ۲۵۲ روز را در حبس انفرادی گذرانده بود. در ادامه، یکی از وکلای توماج صالحی اعلام کرد که توماج، به اتهام فساد فی‌الارض به ۶ سال و ۳ ماه زندان محکوم شده است. وکیل او همچنین دربارهٔ مجازات‌های تکمیلی علیه توماج اعلام کرد: «از تاریخ قطعیت حکم به مدت ۲ سال، ممنوع‌الخروج شده و پاسپورتش ابطال خواهد شد. او همچنین از هرگونه فعالیت، تهیه و تولید آثار موسیقی و خوانندگی به مدت ۲ سال محروم شده است. توماج همچنین به مدت ۲ سال به حضور در دوره‌های مدیریت رفتار و مهارت دانش که توسط معاونت اجتماعی و پیشگیری از جرم دادستانی اصفهان برگزار می‌شود، ملزم شده است. براساس رای دادگاه، توماج صالحی باید گواهی پایان دوره این کلاس‌ها را به واحد اجرای احکام کیفری ارائه کند.» دومین و آخرین جلسه رسیدگی به اتهامات توماج صالحی روز ۱۱ تیر به صورت غیر علنی برگزار شده بود. به گفته امیر رئیسیان، دیگر وکیل توماج صالحی، در این جلسه، «اجازه حضور اشخاص ثالث، خبرنگاران، نمایندگان جامعه مدنی و همین‌طور خانواده موکل در دادگاه داده نشد.» دادگاه او در حالی برگزار شد که بنا بر اظهارات وکیل توماج صالحی، موکلش طی هشت ماه گذشته که در بازداشت بوده، تنها امکان نیم ساعت ملاقات با وکلای خود را داشته است.<sup>[۵۰]</sup><sup>[۵۱]</sup>

## آزادی موقت

او در ۲۷ آبان ۱۴۰۲، پس از تحمل بیش از یک سال حبس که ۲۵۲ روز آن انفرادی بوده با قید وثیقه از زندان دستگرد اصفهان آزاد شد. صالحی پس از ۱۲ روز آزادی در ۹ آذر ۱۴۰۲ توسط عده‌ای مأمور لباس شخصی مسلح و بدون ارائه هرگونه حکم قضایی، کارت شناسایی و با ضرب و شتم شدید در بابل مجدد بازداشت شد و به مکانی نامعلوم منتقل شد.<sup>[۵۲]</sup>

## جوایز

توماج صالحی، در سال ۲۰۲۳، جایزه «هرتیک» یا «بدعت‌گذار» سازمان «گلوبال میوزیک اواردرز» را به خاطر آهنگ «فال» در بخش موسیقی اعتراضی - کنشگری دریافت کرد.<sup>[۵۳]</sup><sup>[۵۴]</sup>

همچنین به دلیل حمایت از حقوق بشر، آزادی بیان و ترویج صلح توسط هنر و اشعارش برنده جایزه «فرهنگ مقاومت» شد.<sup>[۵۵]</sup>

صالحی در سال ۲۰۲۳ از سوی سازمان «ایندکس آن سنسورشپ» به عنوان برنده جایزه سالانه آزادی بیان در بخش هنر معرفی شد.<sup>[۵۶]</sup><sup>[۵۷]</sup>

## اهدای ۲۵۰۰ پوند به سیل‌زدگان

صفحه اینستاگرام توماج صالحی در مارس ۲۰۲۴ نوشت او که جایزه سالانه آزادی بیان در شاخه هنر را از سازمان «شاخص سانسور»، نهاد مدافع آزادی بیان، دریافت کرده بود، جایزه خود به ارزش ۲۵۰۰ پوند را برای کمک به سیل‌زدگان سیستان و بلوچستان اهدا کرد.<sup>[۵۸]</sup>

## حکم بدوی اعدام

در تاریخ پنجم اردیبهشت ۱۴۰۳ دادگاه انقلاب اصفهان با نادیده‌گرفتن رأی دیوان عالی کشور، توماج صالحی را به اتهام افساد فی الارض به اعدام محکوم کرد. وکیل توماج صالحی در مصاحبه با شرق گفت این حکم دارای تعارضات حقوقی عیان است و حتماً به آن اعتراض خواهیم کرد.<sup>[۱۲]</sup>






## واکنش‌ها

### اشخاص

- مهدی یراحی در واکنش به صدور حکم اعدام از سوی دادگاه انقلاب برای توماج صالحی گفت این حکم از فرط بی‌بنیادی به کمدی سیاه می‌ماند.<sup>[۵۹]</sup>
- آتنا دائمی، فعال حقوق بشر در واکنش به این حکم گفت: «از نظر ج. اسلامی حمایت از همه اقشار جامعه یعنی افساد فی الارض و صدور حکم اعدام برای توماج صالحی هنرمند مردمی یعنی اعلان جنگ به مردم»<sup>[۵۹]</sup>
- محسن برهانی ضمن هزینه‌زا خواندن اقدام شعبه یک دادگاه انقلاب اصفهان در صدور حکم اعدام علیه این خواننده معترض، ابراز امیدواری کرد که حکم در دیوان عالی کشور نقض خواهد شد.<sup>[۵۹]</sup>
- یه‌ون ری، نماینده بوندستاگ و کفیل سیاسی توماج صالحی، این حکم را پوچ و غیرانسانی خواند.<sup>[۶۰]</sup>
- شیرین عبادی برنده جایزه صلح نوبل در محکومیت رأی دادگاه انقلاب علیه توماج صالحی نوشت: «جمهوری قتل و جنایت کمر به قتل فرزند ایران، توماج صالحی، هنرمند متعهد و مردمی بسته است. بیدادگاه جمهوری اسلامی قصد دارد کسی که ایستادن در سمت مردم و انعکاس صدای اعتراض آن‌ها را رسالت خود می‌داند به قتل برساند.»<sup>[۶۱]</sup>
- حامد اسماعیلیون اعدام و کشتار و خشونت را آخرین ابزار جمهوری اسلامی دانست در واکنش به این حکم نوشت: «توماج عزیز نمادی از مبارزه قهرمانانه مردم ایران است. او تنها نیست و حکومت اسلامی در مقابل او نیز تسلیم خواهد شد.»<sup>[۶۲]</sup>
- مسیح علی‌نژاد در واکنش به این حکم گفت حکومت ایران می‌خواهد توماج صالحی را به جرم اینکه صدای مردم بی‌صداست اعدام کند.<sup>[۶۳]</sup>
- فرج سرکوهی این حکم را «نمایش بی‌پرده دیگری از هراس نظام استبدادی از قیام مردم» خواند.<sup>[۶۱]</sup>
- حسین رونقی صدور این حکم را نشانه فروریختن شاکله حکومت دانست.<sup>[۶۱]</sup>
- سازمان حقوق بشر ایران خواستار واکنش جهانی در محکوم‌کردن به این حکم شد.<sup>[۶۴]</sup>

- هانیه توسلی در واکنش به این حکم نوشت: «تمام بدنم می‌لرزد، توماج صالحی یک جوان خواننده معترض است. اعتراض جرم نیست. جوان و خواننده بودن جرم نیست. فکر می‌کنید شرایطی که در آن زندگی می‌کنیم جای اعتراض ندارد؟»<sup>[۶۵]</sup>
- رضا پهلوی خواستار تلاش جامعه جهانی برای لغو فوری این حکم «شرم‌آور» شد. او گفت «جمهوری اسلامی از آغاز با هنرمندان، به‌ویژه هنرمندانی که از استعداد خود برای دفاع از آزادی ایران استفاده کرده‌اند، در ستیز بوده است.»<sup>[۶۶]</sup>
- کیهان کلهر در واکنش به صدور این حکم نوشت: «توماج صالحی باید آزاد شود. سکوت ما یعنی حمایت از ظلم و ظالم.»<sup>[۶۷]</sup>
- نرگس محمدی برنده جایزه صلح نوبل در پیامی از بند زنان زندان اوین گفت: «حکومت دینی استبدادی آگاه باشد، با صدور احکام ظالمانه و انتقام‌جویانه علیه فرزندان سربلند ایران چون توماج صالحی و جنگ با زنان، طغیان خشم و ظلم‌ستیزی مردم ایران را خواهد دید.»<sup>[۶۸]</sup>
- نسرین ستوده در واکنش به صدور این حکم نوشت: «توماج صالحی در خطر است، چون هنر در خطر است، چون آزادی در خطر است و چون زن و زندگی در خطرند. زنجیر سنگین استبداد در خیابان بر سر زن‌ها فرود می‌آید و در صحن دادگاه‌ها، معترضان و هنرمندان آماج خشونت احکام ناعادلانه قرار می‌گیرند.»<sup>[۶۹]</sup>

## کشورها و سازمان‌ها

-  فولکر تورک، کمیسر عالی حقوق بشر سازمان ملل متحد در بیانیه‌ای از مقامات جمهوری اسلامی خواست این حکم علیه توماج صالحی را لغو کند و خواستار آزادی فوری و بدون قید و شرط او شد.<sup>[۷۰][۷۱]</sup>
-  ودانت پاتل، معاون سخنگوی وزارت خارجه آمریکا، این حکم را مصداق نقض هولناک و فراگیر حقوق بشر توسط رژیم ایران دانست. آبرام پیلی، معاون نماینده ویژه آمریکا در امور ایران نیز احکام صادره علیه توماج صالحی و سامان یاسین را محکوم کرد و خواستار آزادی فوری آنها شد.<sup>[۷۲]</sup>
-  آنتونیو تاجانی، وزیر امور خارجه ایتالیا صدور حکم اعدام علیه توماج صالحی را محکوم کرد و گفت دولت ایتالیا با مجازات اعدام در هر مکان و هر شرایطی مخالف است.<sup>[۷۳]</sup>
-  ملانی جولی وزیر خارجه کانادا ضمن محکومیت صدور حکم اعدام برای توماج صالحی نوشت: «بسیاری دیگر مانند توماج در تلاش برای تغییر دموکراتیک قربانی نقض حقوق بشر و بی‌توجهی آشکار سپاه پاسداران به زندگی انسانی شدند. استفاده از مجازات اعدام برای سرکوب حقوق و آزادی‌های بشر غیرقابل توجیه است.»<sup>[۷۴]</sup>
-  وزارت امور خارجه فرانسه این حکم را غیرقابل قبول خواند.<sup>[۷۵][۷۶]</sup>
- دیده‌بان حقوق بشر در بیانیه‌ای، روند حقوقی این پرونده را نقض فاحش آزادی‌های بنیادین و حق دادرسی عادلانه خواند.<sup>[۷۷]</sup>



■ عفو بین‌الملل خواستار لغو حکم اعدام و آزادی فوری توماج صالحی شد.<sup>[۷۸]</sup>

## آثار

نام ترانه <sup>[۷۹]</sup>	کلام و اجرا	آهنگساز	توضیحات	تاریخ انتشار	موزیک ویدیو
تیفوس	توماج	مرزی	اعتراض به ربرهای حکومتی	۱۷ اسفند ۱۴۰۲ <sup>[۸۰]</sup>	-
شین	توماج	-	-	۱۳ مهر ۱۴۰۲ <sup>[۸۱]</sup>	-
فال	توماج	-	-	۲ آبان ۱۴۰۱ <sup>[۱۰]</sup>	دارد <sup>[۱۰]</sup>
میدون جنگ	توماج	-	-	۱۴ مهر ۱۴۰۱ <sup>[۸۲]</sup>	دارد <sup>[۸۲]</sup>
حبه انگور	توماج	-	-	۱۵ شهریور ۱۴۰۱ <sup>[۸۳]</sup>	-
گاپون	توماج	-	-	۲۰ آرمرداد ۱۴۰۱ <sup>[۸۴]</sup>	دارد <sup>[۸۴]</sup>
افسون	توماج	بهزاد	انتقاد از اعتیاد	۷ آرمرداد ۱۴۰۱ <sup>[۸۵]</sup>	دارد <sup>[۸۵]</sup>
ببخشید	توماج	بهزاد	-	۲۷ تیر ۱۴۰۱ <sup>[۸۶]</sup>	دارد <sup>[۸۶]</sup>
شلاق	توماج و جاستینا	بهزاد	آهنگ از تهران، صدابردار: جامین	۲۰ تیر ۱۴۰۱ <sup>[۸۷]</sup>	-
پیچک	توماج و جاستینا	بهزاد	آهنگ از تهران، صدابردار: جامین	۱۶ تیر ۱۴۰۱ <sup>[۸۸]</sup>	دارد <sup>[۸۸]</sup>
کارون	توماج	بهزاد	در اعتراض به مشکلات مردم خوزستان <sup>[۸۹]</sup>	۱۴ خرداد ۱۴۰۱	دارد
هیروشیما	توماج	بهزاد	-	۸ اردیبهشت ۱۴۰۱	
نقطه کور	توماج	مرزی و بهزاد	واکنش به <u>هک دوربین‌های زندان اوین</u>	۲۶ اسفند ۱۴۰۰	دارد
ندیدی ۲	توماج	-	خطاب به <u>علی خامنه‌ای</u>	۲۱ بهمن ۱۴۰۰	دارد
طناب دار	توماج و بی‌لقب	-	-	۲۲ دی ۱۴۰۰	دارد
سیر تا پیاز	توماج و افراسیاب	-	-	۹ دی ۱۴۰۰	-
بازمانده	توماج و افراسیاب	بهزاد	به‌یاد <u>آبان ۹۸</u>	۲۴ آبان ۱۴۰۰	دارد
فرشید	توماج	-	وداع با برادر ناتنی‌اش	۱۵ آبان ۱۴۰۰	-
تاس	توماج	-	-	۴ شهریور ۱۴۰۰	دارد
ترکمانچای	توماج	-	اعتراض به برنامه ۲۵ ساله مشترک با چین	۱ شهریور ۱۴۰۰	دارد

سوراخ موش	توماج	بهزاد	تصویر از افراسیاب	۶ آموداد ۱۴۰۰	دارد
انار	توماج، بی‌لقب و افراسیاب	بهزاد	کاور از سروش	۱۰ تیر ۱۴۰۰	-
نرمال	توماج	-	-	۲۶ خرداد ۱۴۰۰	دارد
یاقوت	توماج	-	کاور از سروش	۲۱ اسفند ۱۳۹۹	-
تانتو	توماج	-	-	۱۴ اسفند ۱۳۹۹	-
موش	توماج	-	-	۱۱ دی ۱۳۹۹	-
درد	توماج	-	-	۱۲ آذر ۱۳۹۹	-
چه	توماج	-	-	۲۲ آبان ۱۳۹۹	-
ندیدی	توماج	بیتکوری	در واکنش به خودکشی محمد موسوی‌زاده کودک ۱۱ ساله بوشهری	۲۷ مهر ۱۳۹۹	-
پارافین	توماج	احمد ترکاشوند	دیس به <u>مهران مدیری</u>	-	-
منم یه زلزله زدم	توماج	جولین مارکل	-	-	-
جنگ رپ	توماج	-	-	-	-
ڈر	توماج	-	-	-	-
برهه	توماج	شاهرخ	-	-	-

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## پیوند به بیرون

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- توماج صالحی (<https://twitter.com/ToomajSalehiRap>) در توییتر

برگرفته از «[https://fa.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=توماج\\_صالحی&oldid=39456402](https://fa.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=توماج_صالحی&oldid=39456402)»

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Middle East

## Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi arrested again

Reuters

November 30, 2023 3:10 PM GMT+1 · Updated 2 days ago



DUBAI, Nov 30 (Reuters) - Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi, who had been previously detained for showing support to anti-government protests and was released on bail earlier this month, was arrested again, Iran's state media reported on Thursday.

"Salehi has been arrested for publishing false information and disturbing public opinion, after being released upon an order by Iran's supreme court to revise his case", the judiciary news agency said.

Following the death in custody of 22-year-old Iranian-Kurdish woman Mahsa Amini in September 2022, Iran has seen months of nationwide protests that represented one of the fiercest challenges to the Islamic Republic since its establishment in 1979.

Salehi, who wrote songs about the protests, was initially sentenced to six years in prison on multiple charges, including "corruption on earth", a ruling that was then rejected by Iran's supreme court.

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The 33-year-old rapper spent one year and 21 days in prison, including 252 days in solitary confinement, during which he sustained physical injuries, according to his official page on the social media website X, formerly known as Twitter.

Reporting by Elwely Elwelly Editing by Bernadette Baum

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Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi

## Iranian Rapper Beaten, Kidnapped, Two Weeks After Prison Release

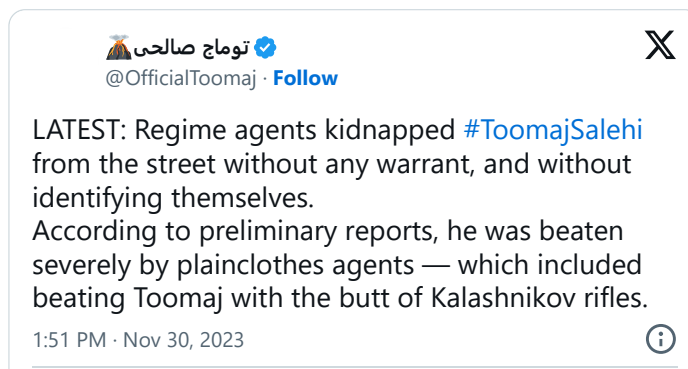
Thursday, 11/30/2023



Human Rights - Women's Rights Iran Protests

Toomaj Salehi, the Iranian rapper who was recently released from prison, has been rearrested, according to his page on X.


"The regime's armed plainclothes agents abducted and detained" Salehi in the northern city of Babol in Mazandaran province, an update read, the page run by an appointed manager.

The 33-year-old rapper has been taken to an undisclosed location in the city.



 توماج صالحی   
@OfficialToomaj · Follow

LATEST: Regime agents kidnapped #ToomajSalehi from the street without any warrant, and without identifying themselves. According to preliminary reports, he was beaten severely by plainclothes agents — which included beating Toomaj with the butt of Kalashnikov rifles.

1:51 PM · Nov 30, 2023 



2.1K



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According to the report, the regime agents refused to show any warrant and arrested Salehi without identifying themselves.

“He was beaten severely by plainclothes agents – which included beating Toomaj with the butt of Kalashnikov rifles,” the post said.

It also stressed that “the Islamic Republic bears the responsibility for his life.”

Less than two weeks ago, the popular figure was **released from prison after over a year of imprisonment**, including 252 days in solitary confinement, upon posting bail.

During his incarceration, he sustained injuries from torture, including severe swelling and bleeding in his eyes, a fractured tooth, and injured fingers.

In July, the rapper dodged a death sentence and was instead sentenced to over six years in prison. He was convicted of offenses related to “corruption on earth,” which includes violations of religious morality.

Salehi was arrested in November amid uprisings against the regime, during which he used his social media platforms to support popular protests.

Throughout his career, he has addressed critical issues such as corruption in the Islamic Republic, workers’ strikes, and the execution and imprisonment of regime opponents through his musical works.

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# "Ho subito torture", il rapper Toomaj Salehi torna in carcere dopo un video di denuncia

*Il rapper iraniano più amato è stato nuovamente arrestato con l'accusa di "diffusione di menzogne e violazione dell'opinione pubblica" e per il suo sostegno alle proteste anti-velo seguite alla morte di Mahsa Amini oltre un anno fa*

30/11/2023 Antonella Alba



Toomaj Salehi

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**Iran, la protesta del velo**  
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Il rapper curdo Saman Yasin condannato a morte per aver sostenuto Mahsa Amini (/articoli/2022/11/il-rapper-curdo-saman-yasin-condannato-a-morte-per-aver-sostenuto-mahsa-amini-e1de72d7-eee6-43b2-8f64-ea2ecb8c9d8f.html)

**E**ra uscito su cauzione 12 giorni fa, dopo più di un anno di carcere. Oggi Toomaj Salehi è stato nuovamente arrestato.

La nuova accusa della magistratura: "Disturbo della quiete pubblica e diffusione di commenti falsi e non documentati su Internet". "Il mio cliente è stato arrestato di nuovo ma non conosciamo i dettagli", ha detto il suo avvocato.

Dopo la scarcerazione il rapper ha pubblicato un video su Internet con **accuse alla magistratura iraniana**, ha affermato di aver subito **torture in carcere** e di aver denunciato tutto alle autorità carcerarie. Il musicista è noto per aver spesso denunciato, con le sue canzoni, ingiustizie sociali e politiche. Lo scorso anno tramite i social aveva espresso solidarietà ai manifestanti che partecipavano alle proteste antigovernative. Salehi era stato arrestato anche nel 2021 per poi essere rilasciato su cauzione.

Fu arrestato a ottobre scorso, e rilasciato il **18 novembre** (<https://www.rainews.it/articoli/2023/11/iran-libero-su-cauzione-il-noto-rapper-toomaj-salehi-b2c20eed-6238-4185-89df-65b86cfce17c.html>). Il 32 enne è stato poi condannato a 6 anni e 3 mesi di carcere per **efsad-e fel-arz** in farsi "**corruzione sulla terra**" - reato tra i più gravi in Iran che potrebbe condurre perfino alla **pena di morte**. I suoi fan non hanno fatto in tempo a gioire per la sua liberazione, ora tornano a lanciare appelli per la sua liberazione attraverso i social media. E' lui stesso a scrivere sui sui account social di come sia stato brutalmente colpito e poi "rapito" per strada dalle "forze del regime", senza mandato d'arresto.

Il musicista aveva sostenuto, attraverso le sue canzoni e sui social network, il movimento di protesta innescato dopo la morte, il 16 settembre del 2022, di **Mahsa Amini** (<https://www.rainews.it/archivio/storie/iranlaprotestadelvelo>), una studentessa curda iraniana detenuta dalla polizia morale, che la accusava di aver violato il rigido codice di abbigliamento sull'uso dell'hijab - il velo islamico - obbligatorio. L'autorità giudiziaria ha poi accusato il cantante di "propaganda contro il sistema", per aver "turbato la sicurezza", di aver "cooperato con paesi ostili alla Repubblica islamica" e di "incitamento alla violenza".



توماج صالحی @OfficialToomaj · 4h

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LATEST: Regime agents kidnapped #ToomajSalehi from the street without any warrant, and without identifying themselves. According to preliminary reports, he was beaten severely by plainclothes agents — which included beating Toomaj with the butt of Kalashnikov rifles.

63 769 1.333 43.709



توماج صالحی @OfficialToomaj · 4h

تکمیلی: ربایش #توماج\_صالحی در خیابان و بدون ارائه هرگونه حکم قضایی، کارت شناسایی و با ضرب و شتم شدید همراه بوده است. براساس اطلاعات تایید نشده ماموران لباس شخصی با قنداق تفنگ های کلاشینکف و کلت کمتری توماج را ضرب و شتم کرده و به او آسیب زده اند.



توماج صالحی @OfficialToomaj · 5h

امروز پنجشنبه ۹ آذر ۱۴۰۲ عده ای مامور لباس شخصی مسلح #توماج\_صالحی را در خیابانی در بابل با برخوردی خشونت آمیز همراه با ضرب و شتم بازداشت کرده و به کاشان نامعلوم منتقل کردند. مسئولیت جان و سلامت او با جمهوری اسلامی است.

Gli agenti del regime hanno rapito #ToomajSalehi dalla strada senza alcun mandato e senza identificarsi

La Corte Suprema aveva riscontrato "difetti nella sentenza iniziale". Le accuse contro Salehi in quel caso includevano la diffusione di "menzogne su Internet" e "propaganda contro lo Stato", nonché l'incitamento alla violenza. È stato anche accusato di "aver formato e gestito gruppi illegali con l'obiettivo di disturbare la sicurezza in collaborazione con un governo ostile" all'Iran.

I funzionari iraniani hanno etichettato le proteste dello scorso anno come "rivolte" e hanno accusato i nemici stranieri di Teheran di fomentare disordini. Mesi di disordini successivi alla morte di Amini hanno causato quasi 600 vittime, tra cui dozzine di membri del personale di sicurezza, e migliaia di persone sono state arrestate. Otto uomini sono stati giustiziati in casi legati alle manifestazioni.



Vignetta su Toomaj Salehi

Tag rapper (/tag?rapper%7CTag-1c8d19fc-809c-498b-ad91-65a7eac39726)

Iran (/tag?Iran%7CTag-a8ed79bc-2f9d-4e2e-8308-99d3d7387f8a)

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Secondo un rapporto confidenziale dell'AIEA l'Iran ha aumentato le sue scorte di uranio

نگار

## Iran's protests; Rapper Tomaj Salehi was released on bail



The photo published by Tomaj Salehi's official account of his release |

November 1402 - 18 November 2023 27

**The family of Tomaj Salehi, a rapper critical of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who was arrested at the height of the protests last year and sentenced to several years in prison,**

**.says that he has been released from Isfahan's Dastgerd prison on heavy bail**

Tomaj's official account on X social network (former Twitter), which is managed by his relatives abroad, also wrote: "Tomaj Salehi, son of Iran, after enduring 252 days of solitary confinement and a total of one year and 21 days of unjust imprisonment, finally today 27 Aban was released from ".prison on bail and returned to his big family

While expressing joy and happiness over the end of this cruel captivity, we will follow the process" of treating the physical injuries inflicted on him. Hoping for the complete and unconditional ".freedom of dear Tomaj

Amir Raisian, the lawyer of Tomaj, told "Sharq" newspaper about his case: "Following the appeal made in the case of Tomaj Salehi, this case was heard in the 39th branch of the Supreme Court of the country, and finally, due to the many objections raised in the document Initially, some of these objections were accepted by the Supreme Court of the country, and after the ruling was violated, .this case was returned to Branch 1 of Isfahan Revolutionary Court

آگهی

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He added: "Also, the Supreme Court of the country considered Tomaj Salehi as other people who ".were subject to the amnesty circular and announced that he can also use the amnesty

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**Tomaj Salehi in his account from prison: "They were taken to death, but we will not be satisfied with fever"**



**Ibrahim Rigi; A Balochi protester who was jailed by helping the injured and was killed in the police station after being saved from execution**



**The victims of Iran's protests; Azad Hosseinpouri said to his mother, "I am going to bring you freedom"**



Mr. Raisian also said: "Although Tomaj Salehi includes a decree of amnesty and the case should have been closed without bail, but considering that the objections brought by the 39th branch of the Supreme Court should be resolved, the 1st branch of the Isfahan Revolutionary Court, "He decided to turn the appointment of Tomaj Salehi into bail for the time being, and as a result, he was released from Isfahan prison today"

Tomaj Salehi, 32 years old, said that he was tortured and deprived of medical facilities during his detention and interrogation.

He was arrested on November 8 last year in Gardbisheh village of Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari province and on July 19, 1402 he was sentenced to 6 years and three months in prison on charges of "corruption of the land".

In his songs, he openly criticized the government of Iran and talked about poverty and social problems. During the protests, he published videos of his presence on the street.

The news of his release has met with many reactions on social networks.

Another protest rapper and one of Tomaj's friends, Amir Belikub wrote in a tweet on X channel: "Tomaj Salehi was released on bail. This was against our wish, which is unconditional freedom... The same pressure from inside and outside must continue for the rest of the prisoners, captives, captives, don't do anything, according to his opinion".

In this tweet, he has hashtagged Fateme Sepehari and Saman Yasin, other political prisoners.

Journalist and women's rights activist Masih Alinejad wrote: "Tomaj Salehi, the voice of the women's revolution, life, freedom has been set free. The government tried everything to silence his voice and take him away from the people, but Tomaj became more popular in the hearts of his".



people. Our voice will not be silenced and our ideals for freedom and equality will not go anywhere.  
 .Every day we sprout and flourish and the government withers and disgraces

Soran Mansoorinia, whose brother Burhan was killed during the protests of November 2018, published a piece of poetry from a Tomaj song: "From the survivors of Aban, my poem, Saddam, my  
 "...eternal, I am one of my thousands, the sweet end of my story

Hossein Ronagi, an Internet freedom activist who was himself arrested during the 1401 protests,  
 .has reflected the message of the official account of Tomaj

The trial of this well-known rap singer was held in two sessions on June 28 and July 11 in the  
 .Islamic Revolution Court of Isfahan

Roza Etemad Ansari, who was Mr. Salehi's lawyer at the time, said his client would be banned from  
 .traveling for two years and his passport would be revoked



Since his arrest, Tomaj Salehi has enjoyed wide support inside and outside of Iran |

He was also banned from any activity, preparation and production of music and singing works for 2  
 .years

Before the sentencing of Tomaj Salehi, the Tasnim news agency close to the IRGC wrote that based  
 .on "hearsay", the initial sentence of this protester was death, which was reduced to imprisonment

After Tomaj's arrest, his family and friends said that he was injured during the arrest. Later, Iranian  
 TV aired Tomaj's "forced confessions" in which he expressed remorse. Iran's state television has

been accused many times by human rights organizations and activists of cooperating with security agencies

Recently, in mid-October, in a letter from prison, Tomaj wrote about his situation: "After 6 months of reporting a toothache, after weeks of sleeplessness, fever, shivering and sweating due to the lack of availability of any kind of tools such as wire mask and salt And the immense pain, I pulled the .nerve of my own tooth

And three days later, the officials of Lutzad put a manti on us and brought a doctor to fill the same" .tooth

He reported on "mental torture" and "ten-to-twelve-hour" interrogations and wrote: "They took us ".to death, but we will not be satisfied with fever

If the prison provides all the services of a seven-star hotel, even if it is impossible, it is still a prison," ".and I don't think I have the right to be imprisoned even for one day

Tomaj was arrested for the first time in Shahrivar, 1400 after singing the song "Buy a Mosh Hole" .and was released on bail after 10 days

Since the arrest of Mr. Salehi, there has been widespread support for the release of this singer .inside and outside of Iran

The members of the city council of Florence, Italy, recently elected Tomaj Salehi as an honorary .citizen of this Italian city

.He also won awards during this time

In late October, the leading censorship organization found the singer's artistic efforts in support of the protests after the killing of Mahsa Gina Amini in the custody of the Irshad Patrol to be inspiring .and awarded him its annual award in the art category

The "Global Music Awards" institute this summer also awarded Mr. Salehi with the "Heretic" award, ."which is given in the protest/activist music section, for the song "Fall

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# Iran rapper jailed for backing protests reportedly freed on bail after appeal

Court finds 'flaw' in initial 6-year sentence given to Toomaj Salehi after he expressed support for demonstrations triggered by 2022 death of woman in dress code violation case

By [AFP](#)

Today, 11:10 am



File: Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi (Screenshot/YouTube; used in accordance with Clause 27a of the Copyright Law)

TEHRAN, Iran — Iranian authorities have released on bail a popular rapper jailed for more than a year over supporting nationwide protests sparked by Mahsa Amini's death in custody, local media have reported.

Toomaj Salehi, 32, was arrested in October 2022 after publicly backing the wave of demonstrations which erupted a month earlier, triggered by the death of 22-year-old Amini, an Iranian Kurd, who had been taken into custody over an alleged breach of strict dress rules for women.

In July, Salehi was [sentenced to six years in prison](#) on charges of "corruption on earth" — one of Iran's most serious offenses which carries a maximum penalty of death.

AD 1/2



The musician's lawyer, Amir Raisian, told Iran's reformist newspaper Shargh late Saturday that upon appeal, the Supreme Court had found "flaws in the initial sentence" and ordered that Salehi be "released from prison today on bail."

An image posted overnight on Salehi's official Instagram account shows him out of jail, holding a bouquet of white flowers.

The accusations against Salehi included spreading "lies on the internet" and "propaganda against the state" as well as inciting people to violence and "having formed and managed illegal groups with the aim of disrupting security in cooperation with a government hostile" to Iran.

Iranian officials have labelled last year's protests foreign-instigated "riots."

Months of unrest following Amini's death on September 16, 2022 saw hundreds of people killed including dozens of security personnel, and thousands more arrested.

Seven men have been [executed in protest-related cases](#) involving killing and other violence against security forces.

On Monday, Iran's Supreme Court upheld a death sentence over the killing a Revolutionary Guards officer during the protests, according to the judiciary which did not identify the condemned man.

agi livi

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## Liberato il rapper dissidente iraniano Toomaj

Musicista dissidente e molto amato dalle nuove generazioni, aveva appoggiato le proteste contro il regime scattate per la morte di Mahsa Amini

tempo di lettura: 2 min

[IRAN](#) [PROTESTE](#) [TOOMAJ SALEHI](#)aggiornato alle **08:17** 19 novembre 2023

rapper iraniano Toomaj

AGI - È uno dei più celebri rapper iraniani, **Toomaj Salehi**, un musicista dissidente molto noto e amato dalle giovani generazioni iraniane, che era stato arrestato alla fine di ottobre dello scorso anno dopo aver espresso il suo sostegno alle proteste contro il regime scattate per la morte di Mahsa Amini: il giovane è tornato in libertà su cauzione dopo che la Corte suprema aveva bocciato la condanna a sei anni e tre mesi di carcere.

# CHANEL



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موزیک ویدیو ترکمانچای از توماج



"Tomaj Salehi è finalmente tornato dalla sua famiglia su cauzione dopo un anno e 21 giorni di ingiusta prigionia e 252 giorni di isolamento", si legge nell'account ufficiale del musicista. Insieme al messaggio è stata pubblicata una fotografia del 32enne con un mazzo di fiori appena uscito dal carcere ieri nella tarda serata.

Il popolare rapper aveva utilizzato le sue canzoni e i suoi social network per sostenere i movimenti di protesta contro il regime. L'Autorità giudiziaria ha poi accusato il cantante di "propaganda contro il sistema", "disturbo della sicurezza" del Paese, "cooperazione con gli Stati ostili alla Repubblica islamica" e "incitamento alla violenza". Molti erano stati **gli artisti stranieri che si erano esposti per sostenerlo**, temendo che venisse condannato a morte.

Diverse centinaia di persone, tra cui membri delle forze di sicurezza, sono state uccise e migliaia arrestate durante le manifestazioni che hanno avuto luogo nell'ottobre e nel novembre 2022 in Iran, prima di placarsi. Sette uomini sono stati giustiziati per il loro coinvolgimento diretto.

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## Jailed Iranian Rapper Toomaj Salehi's Health Deteriorates

Wednesday, 09/20/2023

Human Rights - Women's Rights Iran Protests

Toomaj Salehi, the Iranian rapper jailed for his protest music, is facing deteriorating health conditions and is in urgent need of medical attention.

Salehi's official account reported on Tuesday that he has sustained injuries from torture during his time in detention, including severe swelling and bleeding in his eyes, a fractured tooth, and injured fingers.

The message further stated, "Now that his legal trial has concluded, he finds himself unjustly incarcerated, enduring days behind bars under intense pressure and control without basic prisoner rights. It is crucial to take swift action to secure his medical release and transfer to a hospital to address his urgent medical needs. Delays in addressing this critical matter must be avoided."

In July, [Salehi dodged a death sentence](#) and was instead sentenced to over six years in prison. He was convicted of offenses related to "corruption on earth," which includes violations of religious morality.

Following the tragic death of Mahsa Amini in police custody in September, Salehi was among the young Iranians who took to the streets to protest.

The security forces' crackdown on the protest movement led to the loss of almost 600 lives and the unlawful detention of nearly 20,000 individuals, according to activists. After sham trials, the judiciary imposed harsh sentences on protesters, including the death penalty.

Salehi, 33, is primarily known for his protest songs addressing social issues and government injustices in Iran. He was arrested on October 30th as part of a broader crackdown on opposition figures in response to mass uprisings across the country.

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# Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi jailed over anti-government protests

🕒 2 days ago

**2022 Iran protests**



TWITTER/@OFFICIALTOOMAJ

**By Graeme Baker**

BBC News

**An Iranian rapper who backed anti-government protesters last year has been jailed for six years and three months, his lawyer and supporters say.**

Toomaj Salehi, 32, was found guilty of "corruption on Earth" but spared execution, his lawyer Roza Etemad-Ansari told the Sharq newspaper.

He was arrested after protests erupted over the death in custody of Mahsa Amini, a woman who was arrested for allegedly wearing an "improper" hijab.

Iranian authorities have not commented.

Ms Etemad-Ansari said her client had been cleared of "insulting the Supreme Leader", Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, and "communicating with hostile governments".

The charge of "corruption on Earth", however, is one of the country's most serious offences and carries a possible death sentence. It is one of the main charges that the Islamic Republic has historically used against dissidents.

Saleh's sentencing comes after months spent in solitary confinement in Dastgerd prison, in central Iran. He was subjected to a series of closed court sessions that were criticised by rights groups.

His lawyer said her client was transferred to the general section of the prison following his sentencing - news that was confirmed by supporters running Salehi's Instagram page.

The rapper was among the **tens of thousands thousands of mostly young Iranians who protested against the clerical establishment after the death of Mahsa Amini in September**. He also shared clips of his songs supporting the movement.

Human rights activists say hundreds of demonstrators have been killed and thousands arrested in a violent crackdown by security forces, which have portrayed the unrest as "riots" fomented by foreign agents.

Seven protesters have also been executed following what a UN expert has called "arbitrary, summary and sham trials marred by torture allegations". Dozens more have reportedly been sentenced to death or charged with capital offences.

In an interview with CBC News days before his arrest, Salehi said posting videos critical of the regime was "hard, because you are making yourself a target for the regime forces".

He said that those in power were a "mafia that is ready to kill the entire nation... in order to keep its power, money and weapons".

The rapper was first arrested in September 2021, after his songs about corruption, poverty, executions and violence against protesters went viral. He was released on bail after a week, amid widespread condemnation of his arrest.

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## Iran sentences rapper Toomaj to prison over protests

The 33-year-old rapper was among thousands who protested against the gov'm't after Mahsa Amin died in police custody.



A woman holds a poster of rapper Toomaj Salehi, who was sentenced to six years and three months in prison over his participation in the Mahsa Amini protests [File: Robert Deyrail/Gamma-Rapho via Getty Images]

10 Jul 2023



Iran has sentenced popular rapper Toomaj Salehi to six years and three months in prison over his [participation in protests](#) that rocked the country last year.

A Twitter account run by his supporters announced the sentence on Monday, as did Ye-One Rhie, a member of the German parliament who has campaigned on his behalf. There was no immediate comment from Iranian authorities.

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**Iranian coroner denies Mahsa Amini died from blows to body**

They reported on Mahsa Amini's death. Now, they're on trial  
Iranian women post images without hijabs despite crackdown  
Clashes as thousands gather for Mahsa Amini memorial in Iran

Salehi was among thousands of mostly young Iranians who took to the streets last fall after the [death of Mahsa Amini](#), a 22-year-old woman who was arrested by Iran's morality police for allegedly violating the country's strict dress code and died in their custody.



The protests spread across the country and quickly escalated into calls for the overthrow of Iran's rulers.

The 33-year-old rapper, who was arrested last October, had criticised Iran's government in songs and music videos that were widely circulated online.

"Someone's crime was dancing with her hair in the wind," he rapped in a video with more than 450,000 views on YouTube – an apparent reference to Amini.

In another verse, he appears to predict the downfall of Iran's theocracy: "Your whole past is dark ... Forty-four years of your government, this is the year of failure."

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After his arrest, state media released a video showing him blindfolded and apologising for his words. Rights groups say Iran routinely tortures prisoners into making false confessions.

Following the protests, authorities [launched a heavy crackdown](#), in which some 500 people were killed and nearly 20,000 arrested, according to Human Rights Activists in Iran, a group that closely monitored the unrest. Authorities have said many of those detained were released or given reduced sentences.

Iran has [executed](#) a total of seven people in connection with the protests, accusing them of attacking security forces. They were convicted in secretive courts where rights groups say they were denied the right to defend themselves.

Salehi's supporters had feared that he too could face the death penalty.

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02:55

Iran protests: Musicians use lyrics to demand justice

SOURCE: NEWS AGENCIES

## Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi sentenced to six years in prison, avoiding death penalty

By Celine Alkhalidi, Jomana Karadsheh and Adam Pourahmadi, CNN

Published 12:12 PM EDT, Mon July 10, 2023



Teresa Suarez/EPA-EFE/Shutterstock

Protesters called for Salehi's release during a demonstration on the 44th anniversary of the Iranian revolution, in Paris, France, February 12, 2023.

**(CNN)** — Dissident Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi, arrested last October for supporting the protest movement in Iran last year, has been sentenced to six years and three months in prison, his official Twitter page said Monday.

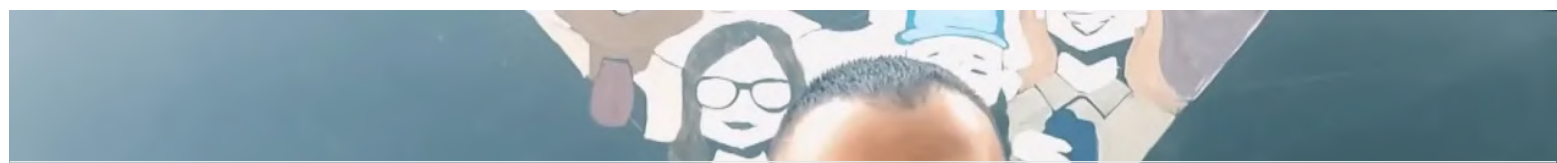
"Toomaj Salehi was sentenced to 6 years and 3 months in prison, and after 252 days of solitary confinement, transferred to the general section of the prison," the tweet said.

The rapper, 32, was previously charged with crimes that are punishable by death, including "propagandistic activity against the government, cooperation with hostile governments and forming illegal groups with the intention of creating insecurity in the country," Iranian state media IRNA had previously reported.

Salehi's lawyer, Reza Etemad Ansari, told Iranian daily newspaper Shargh on Monday that the rapper was "acquitted of insulting the Supreme Leader and cooperation with hostile governments."

Ansari told Shargh the rapper will be "banned from leaving the country for two years, and his passport will be revoked" adding that the rapper will be "banned from any activity, preparation and production of music and singing work for two years."

Salehi's uncle, Iqbal Iqbali, said in a statement Monday that his nephew has been "unjustly imprisoned for six and a half years" and thanked supporters who have taken steps for the rapper's release.





Toomaj/YouTube

Salehi was arrested in October last year during protests triggered by the death of Mahsa Amini.

“Your Toomaj, Iran’s Toomaj, the world’s Toomaj, and our Toomaj was unjustly imprisoned for six and a half years. May he and all of our political prisoners be released,” Iqbali said. “Thank you to all dear ones who have taken steps for the release of Toomaj and for the release of our political prisoners.”

Salehi had expressed support online and in his songs for a wave of nationwide protests that were triggered by the death of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish Iranian woman who died on September 16 after being detained by “morality police” and taken to a “re-education center,” allegedly for not wearing her hijab properly.

When nationwide protests started in mid-September last year, Salehi called for Iranians to protest against the government.



**RELATED ARTICLE**  
How Iran's protests transformed into a national uprising

“None of us have different color blood,” Salehi posted on Instagram. “Don’t forget our amazing union and do not allow them to create division between us, in this bloody and sad heaven.”

Salehi, who himself is of Bakhtiari ethnic background, has long rapped about Iran’s multi-ethnic makeup, encouraging unity among Iranians of different ethnic backgrounds.

“Stand with us, we stood by you for years,” Salehi raps in his song “Meydoone jang” which translates as “The Battlefield.”

“It’s not enough to be rebellious, we have revolutionary roots. Arab, Assyrian, Armenian, Turkmen, Mazandari, Sistani, Baluch, Talysh, Tatar, Azeri, Kurd, Gilaki, Lor, Farsi and Qashqai, we are the unity of rivers: we are the sea.”



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## World

## Iranian rapper facing possible death sentence also accused of colluding with Canada

A verdict in Toomaj Salehi's case could come as soon as Sunday

[Ashley Burke](#) · CBC News · Posted: Jul 08, 2023 4:00 AM EDT | Last Updated: 2 hours ago



Prominent Iranian dissident rapper Toomaj Salehi in an undisclosed location in Iran. (Submitted by Negin Niknaam)

A popular Iranian rapper facing a possible death sentence in Iran has also been accused by Iranian authorities of colluding with a hostile foreign government — Canada — because of an interview he gave to CBC News last year.

Toomaj Salehi is known for using his lyrics to openly criticize Iran's regime. He has amassed hundreds of thousands of fans online, including many Iranian-Canadians.

Salehi's lawyer, Amir Raesian, told an Iranian media outlet earlier this week after his client's court appearance that Salehi faces multiple charges under Iranian law, including inviting chaos and disorder, spreading propaganda against the Islamic Republic system, disturbing order, insulting the founder of the revolution and spreading lies.

The most serious charge he faces is that of spreading lies causing "corruption on earth," which could lead to the death penalty, Raesian said.

He said he was given 30 minutes to meet with Salehi at the Isfahan Intelligence Detention Centre but didn't have enough time to explain all the charges to his client. Raesian said he presented defences to each of the allegations.

Salehi also faces a charge of colluding with a hostile foreign government. That charge is linked to a rare interview he gave CBC News in October 2022.

- [Family fears Iranian dissident rapper Toomaj to be charged with crime punishable by death](#)
- [Iranian dissident rapper reportedly remains defiant under torture by regime](#)



- [Meet Iran's dissident rapper helping youth circumvent regime internet crackdown](#)

Raesian told the Iranian media outlet Ham-Mihan that interview is being cited as evidence of his client's cooperation with the Canadian government.

"Since the Canadian government is considered a hostile government in the eyes of the Isfahan Prosecutor's Office, as a result of this interview, it is an example of cooperation with the hostile governments," he recently told [Ham-Mihan in Persian](#).

While CBC receives public funds, the federal government has no involvement in its editorial content or journalism. That independence is guaranteed under the Broadcasting Act.

Salehi's cousin Ava Salehi addressed a rally in the Toronto area this week.

"I came here to beg you, let's not lose our Toomajs," she told the crowd in Persian, referring to Iranians who, like her cousin, continue to push back against the regime.

Jonathan Wilkinson, Canada's natural resources minister, recently signed a letter voicing his support for Salehi, pledging to advocate for his release and demanding a moratorium on executions in Iran. Salehi is the fourth detainee Wilkinson has supported in his capacity as MP like this, and other B.C. MPs have also [pledged to advocate](#) on behalf of a number of other prisoners in Iran.

Before Salehi was imprisoned, [he spoke to CBC News](#) in Persian about his role in an underground movement fighting online censorship in Iran amid growing protests. The protest movement emerged after 22-year-old Mahsa Amini died in Iranian police custody following her arrest for allegedly not wearing her hijab properly.



In this photo taken by an individual not employed by the Associated Press and obtained by the AP outside Iran, Iranians protest the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini in Tehran on Oct. 1, 2022. (Middle East Images/The Associated Press)

Salehi has been in prison for roughly eight months and has been held for most of that time at Isfahan prison, according to a German member of parliament acting as one of his political sponsors.

The German politician, Ye-One Rhie, said she received confirmation of Salehi's detention from the office of Iran's ambassador in Berlin. She said she watched a video of Salehi in which he appeared to be "badly beaten," with indications of broken bones.

"As far as we know, he is innocent," Rhie told CBC News. "Every day that he is in prison is very unfair. It's not lawful."

Rhie said she was relieved to read a report by the semi-official news agency Tasnim this week that suggested Salehi will face a prison sentence rather than execution.

Raesian tweeted on July 3 that Salehi's trial had ended and he was awaiting the judge's official ruling, which could land as soon as Sunday.

**WATCH/ Videos coming out of Iran a 'small picture' of what is happening: Toomaj Salehi**



▶ **Videos coming out of Iran a 'small picture' of what's happening, says Toomaj**

8 months ago | 2:04

Iranian dissident rapper Toomaj Salehi talks to CBC News about what's happening in his country.

Rhie said she believes that even if Salehi's interview hadn't aired in Canada, the "ruthless" Iranian regime would have "found something else" to use against him.

"They tried to frame him with everything and anything," she said. "They want to frame him as somebody who was talking to international media outlets ... as someone who doesn't love his country and will betray his country."

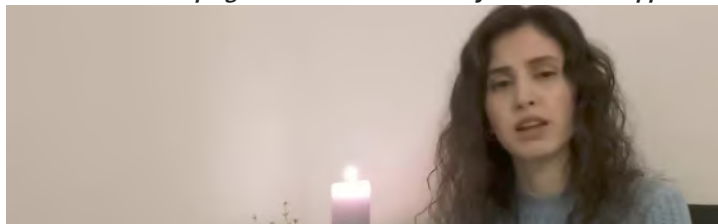
"He spoke very freely of his own opinion, what he thinks or how he thinks a state or government should be. He was very much in solidarity with all the women who went to the streets."

CBC News sent requests directly to Raesian for comment and did not receive a response. Rhie said she is not in contact with Salehi's lawyer because it could endanger him — and speaking with Canadian media could also put him at risk.

Rhie said she has no doubts about the candour of Raesian's rare interview because he has spoken "so frankly" about the Iranian regime.

Salehi's close friend and social media administrator Negin Niknaam is in direct contact with Salehi's family members in Europe and said the information posted on Ham-Mihan is accurate.

**WATCH/ Social campaign launched on behalf of jailed Iranian rapper**



▶ **Social campaign launched on behalf of jailed Iranian rapper Toomaj**

6 months ago | 1:28

Supporters of jailed dissident Iranian rapper Toomaj Salehi have launched this campaign on social media to bring attention to his case, saying he's at risk of execution.

Salehi has had two recent court appearances, including one on July 2 that only lawyers were allowed to attend, said Rhie. The hearing was held behind closed doors, something she called "very unusual."

"Usually the Iranian regime tries to instrumentalize the person as much as possible, to put fear into the hearts of the protesters, to show them what could happen to them," said Rhie. "So it was very unusual that they didn't do that."

The trial came after the U.S. State Department said in April that it was monitoring Salehi's case. It called on "Iran's leadership to release Toomaj

now."

- [Families of Flight PS752 victims breathe a sigh of relief as case goes to international court](#)

"Iran's harsh treatment of political prisoners is meant to intimidate people and suppress dissent, and it simply underscores just how much Iran's leadership fears its own people, particularly young people like Toomaj," State Department deputy spokesperson Vedant Patel [told reporters on April 6](#).

Global Affairs Canada recently sanctioned Morteza Barati, the judge at the Esfahan Revolutionary Court who is reportedly set to release a decision in Salehi's case.

In a statement last month, Global Affairs Canada (GAC) said Iran's Revolutionary Courts are closely tied to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and Ministry of Intelligence. GAC laid sanctions against multiple judges, including Barati, for their role in gross and systematic human rights violations in Iran's criminal justice system.

"The Revolutionary Courts are notorious for issuing death sentences and harsh prison terms following sham trials and based on evidence gathered under torture," the department said.

Niknaam said Salehi's family members in Europe are "very concerned" about his health and are calling on Iran's regime to provide him with medical treatment.

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*With files from Nahayat Tizhoosh and Samira Mohyeddin*

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CRONACA

# Cittadinanza onoraria al rapper iraniano Toomaj Salehi

Durante il consiglio comunale



Redazione

04 luglio 2023 12:19



Toomaj Salehi

**I**eri il sindaco Dario Nardella, nel corso del consiglio comunale, ha consegnato a Shabnam Khosravi, cugina del rapper iraniano Toomaj Salehi, la cittadinanza onoraria di Firenze.

“Vorrei ringraziare i proponenti di questa delibera consiliare che rappresenta un atto significativo e molto forte perché incarna il legame profondo che esiste tra la comunità fiorentina e la comunità iraniana. Questo atto – ha detto il sindaco Dario Nardella – ribadisce l’impegno mai sopito della città di Firenze per i diritti umani universali, in Iran e nel mondo intero. Oggi Firenze, che è una delle grandi capitali della cultura, ribadisce che non ci sono deroghe ai diritti umani. Ci auguriamo di scuotere la coscienza di chi può prendere una decisione del giovane musicista. Non è la prima volta che il consiglio comunale conferisce un’onorificenza a chi non può essere presente. Era già successo, per esempio, con Nelson Mandela. Finché ce ne sarà bisogno, Firenze ci sarà sempre”.

“Voglio ringraziare tutto il Consiglio comunale per il voto unanime alla delibera, manifestando così la tradizione di città dell'umanesimo. Il Consiglio comunale di Firenze, nel corso degli anni – ha aggiunto il presidente del Consiglio comunale Luca Milani – ha sostenuto l'impegno di coloro che in Iran si battono per la libertà, la democrazia i diritti umani in modo particolare per i diritti delle donne. A seguito della morte delle 22enne Mahsa Amini che mentre era in vacanza con la sua famiglia è stata arrestata dalla “polizia morale” per “abbigliamento inappropriato”, in tutto il paese è scoppiata la rivolta. La sua colpa? Un ciuffo di capelli fuoriusciva dal velo in cui era avvolta. Poco dopo l'arresto, la ragazza è entrata in coma ed è deceduta all'ospedale di Teheran, dove era stata ricoverata. La morte della giovane ha provocato un'ondata di proteste, il caso infatti è uscito dai confini iraniani e ha raggiunto una dimensione globale. La repressione alle proteste guidate dalle donne iraniane ha già fatto morti e feriti tra la capitale e la regione del Kurdistan iraniano, con centinaia di persone arrestate e tutt'ora in stato di fermo con accuse pesanti che comportano anche la condanna a morte. In questo contesto è maturato l'arresto lo scorso 20 ottobre del rapper Toomaj Salehi molto seguito nel suo Paese, nelle sue canzoni denuncia la violenza del regime iraniano chiedendo la fine della Repubblica islamica, e che si è subito schierato a sostegno delle vaste manifestazioni seguite alla morte di Mahsa Amini. Il giovane rapper rischia la pena di morte imminente se l'opinione pubblica internazionale non riuscirà a mobilitarsi in tempo; come cittadino onorario di Firenze potremo scrivere all'ambasciata iraniana in Italia per avere sue notizie per chiedere clemenza per lui e per tutte le donne e gli uomini che stanno chiedendo solo un paese più giusto e libero”.

“Questa cittadinanza – ha detto la presidente della Commissione Pari opportunità, pace, diritti umani, relazioni internazionali, immigrazione Donata Bianchi – ha avuto un lungo percorso, proposta con forza e determinazione dalle varie componenti della comunità iraniana, fu poi rilanciata da vari consiglieri, infine ha preso la forma di delibera ed è arrivata alla sua approvazione. Un impegno assunto pur nella consapevolezza del pericolo che Toomaj Salehi sta correndo. Un impegno che adesso è importante rendere concreto chiedendo conto sulle condizioni di questo giovane uomo all'Ambasciata dell'Iran e al governo iraniano, facendo pressione affinché gli sia risparmiata la vita, sia liberato. Come detto anche in aula, Toomaj è simbolo di una generazione che sta chiedendo democrazia, è simbolo dei 20.000 uomini e donne incarcerati in questi mesi perché partecipanti alle proteste”.

“Ringrazio il sindaco per questo atto coraggioso e significativo che pone Firenze sempre al centro dell'attenzione ai diritti umani. Ho partecipato alla manifestazione di protesta del popolo iraniano che vive a Firenze e si riconosce nel movimento Donna vita libertà. Sono tantissimi gli iraniani che vivono nella nostra città – ha concluso il consigliere del Partito Democratico Stefano Di Puccio – una vera e propria comunità, ex studenti dell'università che poi hanno scelto Firenze per vivere e lavorare e qui hanno fatto famiglia, ma restano naturalmente attaccati alle proprie origini. Durante il flashmob di protesta sono state esposte le foto dei giovani che sono stati arrestati e giustiziati, e di quelli che lo saranno a breve. Fra questi Toomaj Salehi; il giovane rapper rischia la pena di morte imminente se l'opinione pubblica internazionale non fa qualcosa. Mi auguro che questa cittadinanza onoraria possa salvargli la vita dall'esecuzione”.


#### LEGGI ANCHE

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April 6, 2023

April 6, 2023

### **Imprisoned Dissident Rapper Toomaj Salehi, Voice of Iran's Protests, Faces Possible Execution**

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***Sources Close to Toomaj Urge International Community to Demand His Release Before Trial Begins***

**Imprisoned Unjustly Since October 2022, in Urgent Need of Medical Care**

April 6, 2023 – The international community, including music and arts institutions as well as freedom of speech and expression organizations, should urgently call for the release from arbitrary imprisonment of dissident rapper Toomaj Salehi, who is widely considered the voice of Iran's protest movement, said the Center for Human Rights in Iran (CHRI).

“Toomaj rapped about political and social issues that Iranian authorities have long tried to conceal from domestic and foreign audiences to ward off criticism of their repressive policies,” said CHRI Executive Director Hadi Ghaemi. “Toomaj took extreme personal risks by further exposing issues that the state wants to hide, like child labor and political repression, through his art.”

“For peacefully criticizing state policies through his music, and because he has a large audience inside Iran, Toomaj has been in jail since October 2022, facing charges that could carry the death penalty,” added Ghaemi.

“He is in urgent need of intense and coordinated international pressure for his freedom, as are the many other detainees and political prisoners in Iran,” said Ghaemi.

Widely revered inside Iran as an underground rapper who directly addressed the denial of human rights in the Islamic Republic, Salehi, 33, known among his fans by his first name and from the city of Shahin Shahr, Isfahan Province, has been detained in isolation from all other prisoners in the province’s Dastgerd Prison—in a high-security ward controlled by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps’ (IRGC) intelligence organization—since October 31, 2022.

Another rapper, Saman Yasin, an ethnic Kurd, also remains jailed in Iran after being arrested in October 2022 amid street protests. He was initially facing charges that could carry the death sentence but that charge has since been dropped. In February 2023, he went on hunger strike against the uncertainty of his situation.

### **Facing Multiple Charges, Possible Death Sentence**

In interviews with CHRI, sources close to Toomaj said the rapper required urgent medical treatment that cannot be provided from within the prison.

They also stressed the importance of international pressure for Salehi’s release before his trial begins—in which he was initially denied a lawyer of his choice, and denied the right to prepare a proper defense—due to the severity of the charges he’s facing, including one that carries the death penalty.

He has only been allowed to meet with his lawyers three times in the last five months, sources told CHRI.

“Toomaj always used to quote [the poet] Ahmad Shamlou’s famous words that “an artist must always be ‘above’ power, not ‘with’ power,” said a source with detailed knowledge of his case who requested anonymity for security reasons.

“I can confidently say that if it weren’t for the media and international pressure in the early days and weeks, Toomaj might not be alive today,” added the source, stressing that the support has since faded.

“Toomaj’s trial has not yet been held, so it is very important to act now before it starts,” the source said.

Toomaj was arrested after joining street protests that had erupted across the country in mid-September 2022 after Jina Mahsa Amini, 22, was killed in state custody following her arrest by the so-called “morality police” for her alleged improper hijab.

He had previously been detained in September 2021 and was released after 8 days.

After moving from one safe house to another, he was detained shortly after the Canadian Broadcasting Cooperation aired an interview with him in which he described what it's like to live in Iran: "You are dealing with a mafia that is ready to kill the entire nation...in order to keep its power, money and weapons."

### **Medical Treatment Urgently Needed**



A screenshot of a video aired by Iranian state media, in which Toomaj, half his face covered by a blindfold, made a forced apology. Sources tell CHRI that his face was severely injured and that's why the blindfold is so large, to cover evidence of trauma to his face.

State media then published a video purporting to show the rapper blindfolded, with bruising on his face, apologizing for his words.

Family members and supporters accused the authorities of torturing Salehi in prison to force him to make a false confession.

Directed by Islamic Republic intelligence agents, state media has a documented history of aiding the country's intelligence and security apparatus by broadcasting false forced "confessions" that have been extracted under torture, in order to defame political prisoners in the public eye.

Toomaj is facing a charge that could carry the death penalty, "corruption on earth," as well as charges that each carry 1-10 years of imprisonment: "propaganda against the state," "formation and management of illegal groups with the aim of undermining national security," "collaboration with hostile governments," and "spreading lies and inciting violence through cyberspace and encouraging individuals to commit violent acts."

His court date has not been set.

### **Call to Action**



CHRI urges governments, UN bodies, organizations dedicated to promoting art, music, freedom of speech and expression, and other basic human rights, and concerned citizens worldwide to publicly demand Salehi's freedom and publicize his case by sharing this article and signing a [petition](#) calling for Toomaj's freedom.

Social media users can also produce content on their channels calling on others to join in sharing Toomaj's story and demanding his freedom along with all other prisoners of conscience detained in Iran.

A sample caption: "Toomaj Salehi, a dissident rapper who spoke about social issues, has been unjustly detained in Iran since October 2022 under charges that could carry the death penalty.

Iranian authorities should #FreeToomaj and all prisoners of conscience who have been jailed for peacefully raising their voices."

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## **Interviews**

Following are two interviews CHRI conducted with sources who have detailed knowledge of Toomaj's case.

Due to the Iranian authorities' restriction of Toomaj's contact with his family members and fears that he or his contacts in Iran could be further punished for speaking about his case, CHRI has concealed the sources' identities.

The following interviews were initially conducted in Persian and have been translated into English below.

### **Interview 1**

Toomaj had been threatened and pursued by [security] agents long before the protests began. Toomaj had always voiced his protest and never backed down from his stand. But he didn't like to talk openly about the threats and security pressures because he believed that it could make many people afraid.

With the release of Toomaj's first video after protests began [in Iran in September 2022], the threats started. He was taking part in street protests, and it was possible that he would be identified. At the same time, because he was being threatened and hounded, he was constantly moving around. Every day we were waiting for Toomaj's arrest. He was constantly changing locations and escaping. I can say he changed his location seven or eight times to avoid being caught. In those days, I was in constant contact with Toomaj. He even left me a few voice messages during his escapes, explaining that his hideout had been exposed. If he didn't message back within five minutes, it meant he had been arrested.

The last time we were in contact was on October 31, at 4:25 a.m. We were messaging when suddenly Toomaj went offline. After about half an hour, he messaged that his internet connection had suddenly been cut off and switched from 4G to E mode. Right there and then, we both quickly concluded that Toomaj's [physical] location had probably been discovered, and agents were on their way to arrest him along with two friends. About 20 minutes later, he messaged that a black Peugeot with tinted windows had entered the alley, stopped briefly, and then left. Toomaj wrote that he guessed the car had come to check the location so they could return with more agents to arrest us. It was around 5 a.m. when our connection was completely cut off. Later, I found out that at the same time, 70 armed agents surrounded the house where Toomaj and his friends were staying in the village of Gerd Bisheh, in Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari province. They stormed the house and arrested everyone, even the caretaker. However, the caretaker was released a few days later.

After the arrest, Toomaj and his friends were transferred to the detention center in Boroujen and subjected to severe physical abuse. The next morning, they separated Toomaj from his two friends and took him to another location, probably a safe house. In those days, state media also publicized a [video of Toomaj](#) showing him on the ground at the time of his arrest, with visible injuries and blood on his face from physical abuse.

### **Held in Isolation in IRGC-Controlled Ward**

It has been more than 150 days since Toomaj's arrest on October 30, 2022. He has been held in solitary confinement in Ward 1-T, which is controlled by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps' intelligence organization in Isfahan's Dastgerd Prison.

View this post on Instagram

[A post shared by Iran Human Rights \(@centerforhumanrights\)](#)

### **Denied Access to Proper Medical Treatment**

Toomaj was severely tortured during the first days of his arrest. His left eye was badly damaged due to the blows he received to his head. The condition of his injured eye is not clear. During this time, he has not received proper medical attention. Toomaj's right ankle was also broken as a result of torture and physical abuse and he may need surgery. Due to the fact that our information about Toomaj's medical condition is very limited and we don't have permission to take him to the hospital, we are very concerned about the severity and extent of his injuries.

### **Location Concealed from Family**

In the early days of his arrest, Toomaj's family was told by officials at the prison that he was not being held there. The family suspects that during the first few days of his arrest, Toomaj was being held in a safe house and was not in prison during that time. Unfortunately, during this period, Toomaj was tortured to the point where he either went

into a coma or was unconscious, so when the time came, officials transferred him to prison. Toomaj's physical health was so poor and critical that prison officials refused to accept him because they did not know what was going to happen to him. Finally, he was eventually transferred to that prison.

Toomaj's family spent about a month from the time of their son's arrest until they became sure he was in the Dastgerd Prison. During this time, Toomaj's father visited judiciary offices every day to follow up on his whereabouts. In the first few weeks, the authorities misled him by giving him the wrong addresses. For example, they told him such and such institution had arrested Toomaj and that he should follow up through that channel, or they lied and said Toomaj was being held in such and such detention center when multiple inquiries showed all the addresses were lies. Finally, about a month later, prison officials confirmed that Toomaj was being held in Dastgerd Prison, and they took some personal belongings such as clothes and things to deliver to Toomaj. Thirty-eight days after his arrest (December 8, 2022), Toomaj's father was able to meet him for the first time.

### **Trumped-Up Charges**

The accusations made against Toomaj by the prosecutor in Isfahan were very serious, especially since protesters had been executed for such accusations and lawyers said Toomaj could get the death penalty. The charges include "corruption on earth," "propaganda against the state," "formation and management of illegal groups with the aim of undermining national security," "collaboration with hostile governments," and "spreading lies and inciting violence through cyberspace and encouraging individuals to commit violent acts." The court date has not yet been set and we are still in a state of uncertainty.

### **Denied Access to Lawyer, Restricted Visits with Family and Books**

During the first few weeks of Toomaj's imprisonment, he basically had no access to a lawyer, and all the lawyers he chose were rejected by the judicial authorities. Amir Raeesian and Raza Etemadi, Toomaj Salehi's chosen lawyers, filed their request for legal representation on November 30, 2022, and on December 28th the judicial authorities agreed to their request. Then Toomaj had two brief meetings with his lawyers, and on February 15th he had a long meeting with Amir Raeesian.

Currently, Toomaj meets with his family once a week. Throughout this time, Toomaj's family faced many restrictions on bringing him certain items. For example, after many follow-ups, they finally managed to deliver some books to him in early January. However, they [prison authorities] had given a list of books to the family and said they were only allowed to choose from that list, which did not include many authors and subjects. Despite all these restrictions, and since Toomaj is someone who read books every day, his family managed to get some books for him.

Toomaj says he practices writing poetry in his head; he doesn't always need a paper and pen.

According to his father, in his last visit with Toomaj, Toomaj was very strong and spirited. Essentially, Toomaj's personality has been the same, and he has always been a symbol of strength and resilience for me and other friends. In fact, the family's current greatest concern is his health, especially the serious injuries he suffered as a result of torture.

Although Toomaj has a very strong and admirable spirit, we must seriously consider the fact that more than 150 days of isolation, along with poor physical conditions and severe torture, have had a profound effect on the one's spirit.

### **Toomaj Salehi: "Son of Iran"**

What truly sets Toomaj apart from others is his honesty. Personally, I was amazed to see someone like him, who sings and writes music so courageously, living in a strict society like Iran. When Toomaj produced his song "Soorakh-e Moosh" ("Mouse Hole") that year, there was no news or such an atmosphere like today. This courage and frankness are very evident in Toomaj's work.

Toomaj always used to quote [poet] Ahmad Shamlou's famous words that "an artist must always be 'above' power, not 'with' power." Toomaj always believed that artists have a pulpit and therefore they should use it to defend the people. Toomaj's artistic style, which is rap music, according to him, is the "voice from the bottom of society."

Toomaj always said that what people talk about should be reflected in art. Toomaj believed that the current problem in our society is the intensity of discrimination that persists everywhere. Child labor, poverty, executions, and torture are all part of our society's problems, and we as artists must be the voice of these people and their issues.

Toomaj always spoke with frankness and courage and always asked why an artist should speak in a convoluted manner [as some do in Iran]. He said we must speak our minds clearly, especially in the rap genre. According to Toomaj, the era of talking in a convoluted mann has passed.

Toomaj always said that he was a defender of the oppressed and those who are discriminated against in our society, in his own words, "the voice of the voiceless." He always said that he was a defender of child laborers. In my opinion, these are the points that make Toomaj the voice of Iran. Or as he says in his music, "I am the son of Iran."

Toomaj has reacted to even the smallest forms of discrimination in Iranian society and talked about all forms of oppression in his music. Even after the Sepideh Rashnoo incident [a girl who was assaulted and arrested for not wearing a hijab on a bus], Toomaj started a campaign for her. Toomaj always showed a reaction to the oppression and injustice that people face, regardless of their political leanings, and he was their voice.

### **Calls for Help from the International Community**

I can confidently say that if it weren't for the media coverage and international pressure in the early days and weeks, Toomaj might not be alive today. We know that if the detained individuals remain anonymous, or if no one speaks for them, any disaster could happen to them. Therefore, it is very important that we always be their voice.

I think currently the most important thing that can help Toomaj is a general consensus in the international community to bring broad, all-encompassing, focused and targeted pressure on the government of the Islamic Republic to release him. These broad and united international pressures will certainly have a significant impact on the case. So far, many things have been done, but they have been scattered and not focused.

## **Interview 2**

Toomaj's right ankle was broken during severe torture. He was in a coma for several days. Toomaj's fingers were also broken. Currently, due to the damage to his ankle, he still has difficulty walking. No action has been taken to provide treatment and follow up on his physical condition. On the other hand, due to the numerous blows to the left side of his face and eye, he also has visual problems. Of course, I do not know the exact extent of his eye problem.

## **Requests**

Our most important request is unconditional freedom for Toomaj because as a protesting artist and someone who has been the voice of the people, he has not harmed anyone and has no place in prison whatsoever. There is no place for any artist in prison. Therefore, our request is the immediate and unconditional release of Toomaj. This should happen very quickly because Toomaj needs urgent medical attention, and if this does not happen, his physical problems, such as the condition of his ankle or his eyesight may be affected for years to come. Toomaj has been kept in isolation for over five months now. Our second request is to allow for medical treatment. Our third request is to send a fact-finding committee to investigate the legal and judicial process against him.

See, even now, Toomaj's political sponsors in European countries have put pressure on their ambassadors in Iran, but unfortunately, no action has been taken. There has been no reaction from anyone...

...I personally think that the reason why no information was given about Toomaj's whereabouts during that time [of the first two months of his detention] was because of the severity of the torture that they had inflicted on him, and they had brought him to the brink of death, and that's why they were afraid to inform us about him.

I am sure that many psychological tortures were inflicted on Toomaj. He is a very strong and resilient human being. He has a strong spirit and a strong and resistant body. That's why he has resisted. We must try in any way possible to free him. Toomaj's trial has not yet been held, so it is very important to act now before it starts.

*\*This article was revised on April 6, 2023, to note that Toomaj Salehi was initially denied access to lawyers of his choice until he was allowed severely restricted access to lawyers he had chosen.*

Read this article in [Persian](#)

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# ویکی‌پدیا

## دانشنامهٔ آزاد

# Tomaj Salehi

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

## Tomaj Salehi



Tomaj Salehi

### Background information

**born**  
Azar 1369 12  
(32 years old)  
Gardbisheh  
Chaharmahal  
and Bakhtiari

**genre**  
Persian rap

**profession**  
Singer ,  
songwriter

**Years of activity**  
now-1396

**education**  
Bachelor of  
Solid Mechanics  
[1]

**The cause of fame**  
Protest music -  
activism

**Tomaj Salehi** (born on 12 December 1369 in Gardbisheh ) is an Iranian protest rapper and a political-prisoner imprisoned in Dastgerd Prison in Isfahan [2][3] , who is famous for his protest songs about the problems of Iranian society and protest against the policies and repressions of the Islamic Republic of Iran. . [4] He was arrested twice because of his protest songs and is being tortured in solitary confinement. [5] His songs on social media have been noticed by the media inside and outside of Iran. [6][7] In 2023, he received the "Heretic" award of the " Global Music Awards " organization for the song " Fall " [8] in the protest - activist music [9].section

[11][10] . Tomaj Salehi said that he works in a metal workshop

## personal life

Tomaj Salehi started learning music at the age of 7 by learning tonbak and organ. He said that he has been reading poetry since childhood and his favorite poet is Khayyam . Tomaj Salehi is originally Lor Bakhtiari . In his songs, he always has an empty rifle on his neck, which is a sign of his Bakhtiari. Among the various meanings of the name "Tomaj", he likes the Turkmen [12] . meaning of "brave rider" the most. His daily sport is boxing

Tomaj Salehi spent his childhood in Isfahan and Shahinshahr and has two degrees in turning. Like his father, he studied mechanical engineering with a focus on designing and producing medical industrial parts. His father has been a political prisoner for eight years. According to Tomaj Salehi, [12] .none of his family members have government jobs

## rap music

Tomaj Salehi heard and enjoyed rap music for the first time through his older brother. He started rapping seriously in 2015. He was once arrested for wearing a t-shirt with a picture of US [12] .dollars while reading

Tomaj Salehi had to sell his motorbike and household items to produce his music; Because of the political content of his songs, the Isfahan studios were not ready to record them, and he had

The song of the hole of the mouse, the song of the fortune telling	<b>Popular album</b>
The "Innovator" Award of the "Music of the Nations" organization the annual freedom of expression award in the art department	<b>(Awards)</b>

to go to far away places like the north of Iran, which cost him <sup>[12]</sup>.more

Tomaj Salehi considers his duty to inject courage and hope to people and says: "What am I afraid of? I am afraid of being a coward, of being afraid myself. Until now, I always went in the heart of fear

## awards

In 2023, Tomaj Salehi received the "Heretic" or "heretical" award of the "Global Music Awards" organization for the song <sup>[14]</sup> <sup>[13]</sup>. "Fall" in the protest-activist music section

Also, he won the "Culture of Resistance" award due to his support of human rights , freedom of speech and promotion of <sup>[15]</sup>.peace through his art and poems

In 2023, Salehi was nominated by the "Index on Censorship" organization as the winner of the annual freedom of expression <sup>[17]</sup> <sup>[16]</sup>.award in the art department

## Arrest 1400

Tomaj Salehi was arrested by 12 members of the security forces in a house in Isfahan on 21 Shahrivar <sup>[7]</sup> <sup>[20]</sup> <sup>[19]</sup> <sup>[18]</sup>. 1400 and was taken to Dastgerd Prison and released some time later

## Charge

According to his lawyer Tomaj Salehi, he was arrested on 21 Shahrivar at 1400 at 9 pm and accused of "propaganda against the regime" and "insulting the leader of the Islamic Republic ". <sup>[21]</sup> <sup>[22]</sup> He is a resident of Shahinshahr and his case was registered in the court of this city. In prison, he was banned <sup>[23]</sup>.from visiting and has not had any contact with his family

On 30th of Shahrivar 1400, Harana announced the release of Tomaj by filing a bail bond . <sup>[24]</sup> This news agency announced on 3 Bahman 1400 that Shahinshahr Revolutionary Court sentenced him to <sup>[25]</sup>.6 months in prison and a fine, and the execution of this sentence was suspended for one year

## reactions

The Iranian government has not provided an explanation about the reason for Tomaj's arrest. <sup>[26]</sup> In a message on Twitter , Amnesty International requested his immediate and unconditional release. <sup>[27]</sup> The Center for Human Rights in Iran wrote in a tweet: "Freedom of expression and opinion is not 'criminalized' in the laws of the Islamic Republic of Iran, but critics and protestors are constantly arrested for criticizing and protesting." "Tomaj Salehi was arrested only for singing critical songs and ".has been in unknown conditions and location since Monday, 22 Shahrivar

Reza Pahlavi wrote in a tweet: "The works of Tomaj Salehi and Shidaya Hamdani are the artistic crystallization of nationwide protests, and their popularity is a sign of the spread of subversive discourse." <sup>[26]</sup> Kylie Moore-Gilbert , who was arrested in 2018 and exchanged with three Iranian



prisoners after about two years, also demanded the release of Tomaj Salehi. Also, a large number of social media users demanded his release. <sup>[26]</sup> After his arrest, his Instagram account was disabled <sup>[28]</sup>. <sup>[26]</sup> and his Twitter account was closed by Twitter officials

## Arrest 1401

### companionship

With the beginning of the revolutionary uprising of 1401 in Iran, Tomaj Salehi published a picture of himself in street protests in early November 1401. <sup>[29]</sup> He also saw in the song *Fortune* in a Cup of Coffee that all the beads and all the heads were captured. While participating in the protests, he was worried that some protesters might be disappointed and upset if they were arrested: "We don't need to be sad now. I should not cry if my loved ones are killed. I have to seek trial". He then turned to a secret life and during this time he recorded videos and talked about the necessity of standing up against the Islamic Republic. In an interview with CBC television , he said that he is very hopeful about the future of the protests and believes that there will be a revolution in six months. He also said: "Protest music can create a big change and is very effective in society. This music gives hope to society and instills courage because in societies where people are under so much pressure from the <sup>[12]</sup>.government, they become disillusioned and passive

### arrest

According to the report of Student News Agency, on November 8, 1401, Salehi, who lived and worked secretly during the 1401 Iranian uprising, was arrested in Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari province . <sup>[30][31]</sup> Hours before his arrest, Tomaj Salehi said in a message on social networks that he and his friends noticed suspicious changes outside the house. He was injured while being detained and his face was bloody. <sup>[12]</sup> Fars News Agency , affiliated to the Revolutionary Guards , introduced him as one of the "leaders of riots promoting violence", which was not very correct and had a one-sided view. <sup>[32]</sup> This state media also announced that Salehi was arrested at a border crossing; The manager of social networks Salehi denied this claim and announced that he was arrested in Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari province and not in a border province. <sup>[32]</sup> For some time, his condition was unclear and no <sup>[33]</sup>.information was available about his whereabouts

The government - sponsored Young Journalists' Club released a video of a blindfolded man claiming to be Tomaj, apparently under pressure to admit that he had "committed a mistake." Salehi is now imprisoned in Evin prison . <sup>[5][34]</sup> According to his family, the Iranian authorities subjected Salehi to <sup>[35]</sup>.many and inhumane tortures just to force him to confess

### conviction

He has been accused of campaigning against the regime, cooperating with hostile governments and forming an illegal group with the intention of disrupting the country's security. <sup>[36][37]</sup> The charges against most of the protesters. Also, by the verdict of the Revolutionary Court , he has been accused of warring and corrupting the land and is facing the risk of execution . <sup>[38]</sup> On November 26, 2022, <sup>[39]</sup>.Tomaj's family said that his life was in danger

### reactions

Mizan news agency , affiliated to the judiciary, quoted Isfahan prosecutor Seyed Mohammad Mousavian, confirmed the news of Tomaj Salehi's arrest and claimed that he "played a role in creating disturbances and inviting and encouraging the recent disturbances and riots in Isfahan province, especially in Shahinshahr city . has a key [40]

On November 22, a group of artists, writers, media activists and civil activists published a statement in support of Tomaj Salehi and demanded his immediate release. [41] Part of the text of this statement is as follows [42]:

Tomaj is the voice of the people and the call of the nation will not be silenced. Let us now be his voice, who, if he were free, would rage against the tortures and death sentences of the protestors and demand their release. They have targeted Tomaj's body and soul, in revenge for the fact that he was the voice of the people. Torture and punishment of Tomaj .is our red line. Tomaj must be released

### A group of artists, poets, writers, civil and cultural activists -

مهدی یراحی، خواننده معترض در واکنش به انتشار خبر دستگیری توماج صالحی در رشته توییتی نوشته‌است: «مسئولیت جان او با جمهوری اسلامی و سپاه پاسداران است و اساساً نهادی که این جوان غیور را در بند کرده باید بازخواست و محاکمه گردد.» [۴۳]

یه‌ون ری، یکی از اعضای حزب اسپیدی از شهر آخن در پارلمان آلمان، کفالت سیاسی توماج را بر عهده گرفته‌است. با این کار او بخشی از نفوذ و فعالیت‌های پارلمانی خود را به توماج اختصاص داده و به تلاش‌ها برای آزادی وی کمک می‌کند. [۴۴][۴۵][۴۶]

امید نوری‌پور رئیس حزب سبزهای آلمان و نماینده پارلمان این کشور (بوندستاگ) نیز با انتشار ویدیویی اعلام کرد که کفالت سیاسی توماج صالحی را بر عهده گرفته‌است. [۴۷]

### اعتراف اجباری

در اعتراف اجباری که پس از بازداشت توماج صالحی از تلویزیون ایران پخش شد صحنه‌ای همانند موزیک‌ویدیوی فال نشان داده شده که در آن جای توماج و فرد تسبیح به دست عوض شده و توماج صالحی از ترویج خشونت از طریق ترانه ابراز پشیمانی می‌کند. [۱۲] درحالی که او هیچگاه مرتکب ترویج خشونت نشده‌است، بلکه همواره با استفاده از موزیک‌ها و شبکه‌های اجتماعی خود، مردم را به صلح و اهمیت دادن به همدیگر تشویق می‌کرد.

### شکنجه

گردانندهٔ صفحه توییت‌ر توماج صالحی، در ۱۶ دی ۱۴۰۱ اعلام کرد که احتمال از دست رفتن بینایی توماج در اثر ضربات وارد توسط مأموران جمهوری اسلامی وجود دارد. او با بیان اینکه حدود ۷۰ روز از حبس توماج در سلول انفرادی می‌گذرد، گفت: «در صورت از دست رفتن بینایی او این قصور متوجه مسئولان خواهد بود.» [۴۸]

در فروردین ۱۴۰۲ خانواده صالحی اعلام کردند که شدت شکنجه‌های جسمی توماج به حدی بوده که او چند روزی را در حالت بیهوش و خطرناک جسمی قرار داشته‌است. کمپین حقوق بشر در ایران از جامعه جهانی و نهادهای بین‌المللی موسیقی و هنری و همچنین سازمان‌های مدافع آزادی بیان خواست یک صدا و قاطعانه خواهان آزادی فوری و بدون قید و شرط توماج صالحی شوند. [۴۹]

### حکم

در ۱۹ تیر ۱۴۰۲ حساب توماج صالحی در شبکه‌های اجتماعی که توسط نزدیکان او اداره می‌شود با انتشار پیامی از صدور حکم ۶ سال و ۳ ماه زندان برای توماج صالحی و انتقال او به بند عمومی خبر داد. [۵۰] او تا پیش از ابلاغ حکم ۲۵۲ روز را در حبس انفرادی گذرانده بود. در ادامه، رزا اعتماد انصاری، یکی از وکلای توماج صالحی اعلام کرد که توماج، به اتهام فساد فی الارض به ۶

سال و ۳ ماه زندان محکوم شده‌است. وکیل او همچنین دربارهٔ مجازات‌های تکمیلی علیه توماج اعلام کرد: «از تاریخ قطعییت حکم به مدت ۲ سال، ممنوع‌الخروج شده و پاسپورتش ابطال خواهد شد. او همچنین از هرگونه فعالیت، تهیه و تولید آثار موسیقی و خوانندگی به مدت ۲ سال محروم شده‌است. توماج همچنین به مدت ۲ سال به حضور در دوره‌های مدیریت رفتار و مهارت دانش که توسط معاونت اجتماعی و پیشگیری از جرم دادستانی اصفهان برگزار می‌شود، ملزم شده‌است. براساس رای دادگاه، توماج صالحی باید گواهی پایان دوره این کلاس‌ها را به واحد اجرای احکام کیفری ارائه کند.» دومین و آخرین جلسه رسیدگی به اتهامات توماج صالحی روز ۱۱ تیر به صورت غیر علنی برگزار شده بود. به گفته امیر رئیسیان، دیگر وکیل توماج صالحی، در این جلسه، «اجازه حضور اشخاص ثالث، خبرنگاران، نمایندگان جامعه مدنی و همین‌طور خانواده موکل در دادگاه داده نشد.» دادگاه او در حالی برگزار شد که بنا بر اظهارات وکیل توماج صالحی، موکلش طی هشت ماه گذشته که در بازداشت بوده، تنها امکان نیم ساعت ملاقات با وکلای خود را داشته‌است.<sup>[۵۱]</sup><sup>[۵۲]</sup>

## ترانه‌ها

فهرست ترانه‌ها، تک‌آهنگ‌ها و موزیک ویدئوهای توماج صالحی.<sup>[۵۳]</sup>

نام ترانه	تاریخ انتشار	توضیحات
برهه	-	کلام و اجرا: توماج، آهنگساز: شاهرخ
دُر	-	-
جنگ رپ	-	-
منم یه زلزله زدم	-	کلام و اجرا: توماج، آهنگساز: جولین مارکل
پارافین	-	دیس به <u>مهران مدیری</u> ، کلام و اجرا: توماج، آهنگساز: احمد ترکاشوند
ندیدی	-	کلام و اجرا: توماج، آهنگساز: بیتکوری
چه	-	کلام و اجرا: توماج
درد	-	کلام و اجرا: توماج
موش	-	-
تانتو	-	کلام و اجرا: توماج
یاقوت	-	کلام و اجرا: توماج
موزیک ویدیو نرمال	-	-
انار	-	کلام و اجرا: توماج - افراسیاب - بی‌لقب، ضرب‌آهنگ: بهزاد
موزیک ویدیو <u>سوراخ موش</u>	-	-
موزیک ویدیو ترکمانچای	-	<u>اعتراض به برنامه ۲۵ ساله همکاری‌های مشترک ایران و چین</u>
موزیک ویدیو تاس	-	-
فرشید	-	وداع با برادر ناتنی‌اش، کلام و اجرا: توماج
موزیک ویدیو بازمانده	-	از توماج و افراسیاب
سیر تا پیاز	-	از توماج و افراسیاب
موزیک ویدیو طناب دار	-	از توماج و بی‌لقب
موزیک ویدیو ندیدی ۲	-	کلام و اجرا: توماج، خطاب به خامنه‌ای
موزیک ویدیو نقطه کور	-	واکنش به <u>هک دوربین‌های زندان اوین</u>
هیروشیمایا	-	-
موزیک ویدیو کارون	-	-
موزیک ویدیو پیچک	-	از توماج و <u>جاستینا</u>

شلاق	-	از توماج و جاستینا
موزیک ویدیو ببخشید	-	-
موزیک ویدیو افسون	-	انتقاد از اعتیاد
موزیک ویدیو گاپون	-	-
حبه انگور	-	-
موزیک ویدیو میدون جنگ	-	-
موزیک ویدیو فال	اکتبر ۲۰۲۲ <sup>[۸]</sup>	-

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- [توماج صالحی \(https://www.instagram.com/toomajofficial/\)](https://www.instagram.com/toomajofficial/) در اینستاگرام
- [توماج صالحی \(https://open.spotify.com/artist/5mBmrpiMC2lzIWCG0MDOYx\)](https://open.spotify.com/artist/5mBmrpiMC2lzIWCG0MDOYx) در اسپاتیفای
- [توماج صالحی \(https://soundcloud.com/toomajsalehi\)](https://soundcloud.com/toomajsalehi) در ساوندکلاود
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- [توماج صالحی \(https://twitter.com/ToomajSalehiRap\)](https://twitter.com/ToomajSalehiRap) در توییتر

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