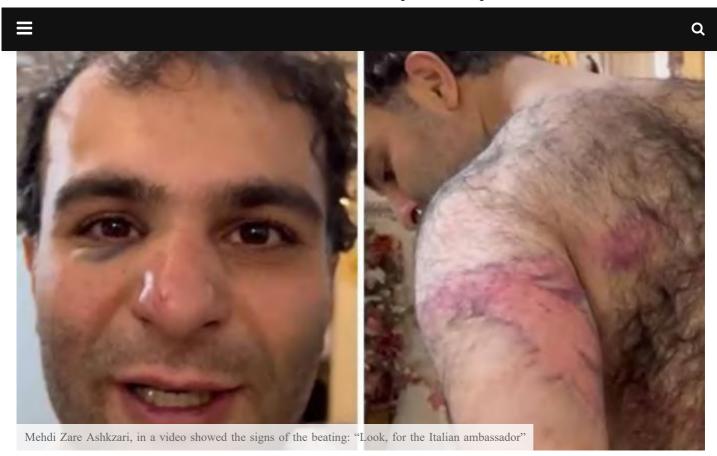




★ Italy 24 Press News > Local

✓ Mehdi Zare Ashkzari, in a video showed the signs of the beating: "Look, for the Italian ambassador"

LOCAL Hayes ♥ Local ② 13 days ago ◎ 30 **⊘** REPORT



Two frames of the video sent to friends

Look at this, for the Italian ambassador. Talking in the room Mehdi Zare Ashkzari who, in underwear, bare chestedshows signs of beating which he had just suffered. She was I live: the video dates back to when he had not yet been arrested, had yet to end up in prison and had not undergone the torture that led him to a coma, until his death twenty days after his release. The video tells of when it was beaten on the street the first time, when he managed to get to safety and within the walls of a private apartment he decided to document what had happened to him. The events took place at Tehran. Then the video was transmitted, through one of the many web applications that allow it, and reached his Iranian friends residing in Italy, in Bologna. The pictures show that Mehdi Zare Ashkzari has a black eye and obvious signs of injuries on armon the back and on legsthey look like batons.

The funeral

Of the boy, 31 years old, who was studying pharmacy in Bologna, The funeral has already been celebrated. It took place on Monday in Yazd, where his mother is also buried. He had returned to Iran precisely to pay tribute to the dead mother a year and a half ago, then he was no longer able to return to Italy due to problems with the seen. When did the protest demonstrations against the regime begin? Mehdi Zare Ashkzari started to scgo to the square every day. Until he was arrested: after about twenty days he was released in pitiful conditions, was transported to the hospital, had all his teeth broken and passed from a coma to death.

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I called him canary

He was a working student in Bologna, Mehdi, who everyone remembers as a good person. He had a soft heart, such a good boy that I called him canaryexplains his friend Benjamin Aalami, 31, originally from Tehran. Mehdi divided his days between the studio and the pizzeria Hello Vip, where the manager, Yaman, moved, cannot understand the atrocious fate of the boy: I still can not believe it — she confides — memories of him come back to me every second. He was a boy full of energy, he was loved by everyone. In the evening, after work, when he could go out with his friends. He didn't often talk about politics – adds Yaman – but when he did it he was very critical, like practically all the Iranians who live here, even if many do not say so. Precisely because of his commitment to the pizzeria Ciao some of his friends had nicely nicknamed him MehdicioHe says Roozbeh, 33 years old, Iranian from Borujerd, also Bolognese by adoption, former student of the Alma Mater: I came to Bologna in 2014 and I graduated from the master's degree in Statistics, Economics and Business. I met him even before his arrival here.

Friends: if we went back to Iran we would be arrested

His friends today are shocked, not amazed: I'm not surprised – Benjamin admits – given that every day we read terrible news from our country. incredible that all this happened to him, that he is yet another victim. And now they have no intention of returning to Iran: We have participated in many events against what is happening and if we returned, as soon as we landed, we would be arrested and maybe there would be another drama like Mehdi's – says Roozbeh -. They are here too fake students informing the Iranian government. The only consolation that from outside I can do something to give a voice to our people. He sees a glimmer Sohyla ArjmandIranian, human rights activist and involved in the Women for Nasrin association, which runs the pars restaurant in Bolognina: For a long time the world kept silent about the massacres they carried out in Iran: me I want to scream block the death penalty for protesters. Now at least we are talking about Iran, something has to happen.

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