

PRESS RELEASE

Ten Good Women Remembered

10 Baha'i women in Iran were executed on June 18th, 1983. The youngest was 17, the others mostly in their 20's.

Their crime was their belief in gender equality, the unity of humankind, and the teaching of moral education to children.

After months of imprisonment and torture and under the cloak of darkness, the women were executed in a square in Iran's southern city of Shiraz.

As each woman was hanged, the remaining women were forced to watch in an attempt by the authorities to get them to recant their faith. None did.

North Christchurch resident Royiyeh Faramarzi, who is related to two of the women, left Iran as a refugee in 1980. 'Gender equality is absent and criminalised in Iran,' she says.

Bahá'í women serving in positions of influence have been dismissed from their jobs. They are barred from universities, public employment and virtually all forms of social life.

The Bahá'í International Community has launched a year-long global campaign, called #OurStoryIsOne, to honour the executed women and the long struggle for justice and gender equality by women of all faiths and backgrounds in Iran.

"If a government treats its hardworking, law abiding and peace-loving people like this, where will it stop?"

Mrs Faramarzi says global campaigns like this give a voice to innocent people whose lives are cut short. It ensures their stories are told and their memory is kept alive. "We must be their voices," she says.

The public event "#OurStoryIsOne", to commemorate the deaths of the 10 women 40 years ago, will be held at 2 pm on the 18th of June in the Ngaio Marsh Theatre, University of Canterbury.

For more information about the campaign and event, please contact Event Coordinator jennyhindinmiller@gmail.com or phone 021 288 9762

For photographs of the 10 women and further information see the [new dedicated website](#)