

## **Fariba Kamalabadi (f) – The Baha’i Seven**

**Adoption Status:** Adopted by Representative Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR)

**Country:** Iran

**Occupation:** Developmental psychologist and Baha’i member.

**Detained Since:** 2008

**Charges:** Espionage, propaganda against the Islamic Republic, and establishment of an illegal administration

**Sentence:** 20 years imprisonment



**Additional:** Kamalabadi is a developmental psychologist and mother of three who was arrested twice previously because of her involvement with the Baha’i community. On one of those occasions she was held incommunicado for 10 days. As a youth, Mrs. Kamalabadi was denied the opportunity to study at a public university. In her mid-30s, she embarked on an eight-year period of study and ultimately received an advanced degree from the Baha’i Institute of Higher Education, an alternative institution established by the Baha’i community of Iran to serve young people who were barred from university.

### **The Baha’i Seven**

The Baha’i Seven are former Baha’i leaders in Iran who have been deprived of the rights accorded to prisoners under Iran's own laws and regulations. Prior to their arrests in 2008, the seven were members of an ad hoc national-level group that attended to the spiritual and social needs of Iran's Baha’i community. In September 2010 they were told that their sentences had been reduced to 10 years after an appeal court acquitted them of some of the charges, including espionage, but they have never been given a written copy of either of the court verdicts. It was first reported on 18 March, 2011 that the 20-year sentence had been reinstated.

**Adopted**