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Report Topic: Popular Unrest in Iran
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CMC Director: Liam Boyle
Report Author(s): Sierra Mason and Liam Boyle

Protesters gather after Iranian authorities reportedly steal body of 16-year-old

Hundreds of protestors assembled at Khorramabad cemetery in response to the body of a 16-year-old protestor being stolen by Iranian authorities and buried in the Veysian village of eastern Iran. The protestor, Nika Shakarami, went missing after texting a friend that she was being chased by security forces in Tehran. The Iranian authorities denied allegations that she was beaten to death. State-affiliated media reported that her body was found in the courtyard of a home after falling from the roof of a neighboring house. An investigation into her cause of death has been initiated. On what would have been her 17th birthday, Shakarami's family transferred her body to Khorramabad where Iranian forces secretly buried her the next day. END

CMCD Note

We assess with high confidence that the death of Nika Shakarami will further inflame the ethnic tensions underlying the ongoing protests. While Nika Shakarami's ethnic background is yet to be determined, her father hailed from Khorramabad, the capital of Lorestan Province. Lorestan province is heavily populated by members of the ethnic Kurds and Lurs peoples. This most recent death is likely to further-spread anti-government sentiments among Iran's ethnic peoples.

Sources

Al Jazeera, Iran organizes more counter-demonstrations as protests continue
https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/10/5/iran-organises-more-counter-demonstrations-as-protests-continue

BBC, Iran: Teen protestor Nika Shakarami's body stolen, sources say
https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-63128510