

STATEMENT FROM BABAK NAMAZI ON THE SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARREST OF HIS BROTHER, SIAMAK NAMAZI, AMERICAN HOSTAGE IN IRAN

October 13, 2021

It was 6 years ago today that Siamak went to his daily interrogations with the Iranian Revolutionary Guards and did not return.

It was 6 years ago today my mother and father's hearts along with mine were shattered to pieces beyond repair.

It was 6 years ago today that my mother and father started their longing stare at a locked door of injustice, which remains locked despite their best efforts.

It was 6 years ago today that my family was involuntarily enrolled in the IRGC's painful lessons of the dark side of humanity, teaching us their ability to systematically disregard even the most basic human dignities and rights.

It was 6 years ago today that horrors and torments I would not wish on my worst enemy were and continue to be unleashed on my innocent brother: physical and mental torture, solitary confinement, illegal captivity, systematic and relentless cruelty.

It was 6 years ago today that laughter, trust and belief in justice was ripped out from our hearts and lives.

In these 6 years so much has been taken from Siamak, from my dad, from my mom, from my children, from me, from all of us.

We have learned and continue to learn that there is no limit to the cruelty that the Iranian Revolutionary Guards can unleash on innocent and vulnerable people, including a frail 85-year-old man who endured cruelty beyond comprehension – years of captivity, extended solitary confinement, multiple heart surgeries while in custody and even being shackled to his hospital bed.

We learned that let downs can be from all sides; Americans can be left behind multiple times by their own Government.

But at the same time, I learned and continue to learn so much from my amazing brother Siamak. I learned to endure, I learned to be strong, and most importantly, I learned to fight back.

And I will continue to fight and fight back until the last breath I have, and until I embrace my brother and father once again.