



High Council for Human Rights of
the Islamic Republic of Iran

No. 8

An Elucidating Report on: Providing Medical Assistance to the Injured and Support for those Affected in January 2026

**The High Council for Human Rights
of The Islamic Republic of Iran
(February 2026)**

In the Name of GOD

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Introduction

This report has been prepared with the aim of examining the actions taken by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to support the injured and those affected during January 2026. Following the publication of certain claims alleging “neglect of the affected individuals” and human rights violations, this document, drawing on official statistics, concrete case examples, and domestic and international legal frameworks, presents the actual state of the supportive measures that have been implemented.

1. State Responsibility for Compensating Damages to Victims of the Unrest

1.1 General basis of state responsibility

The governing principle in both domestic law of Iran and international law is that the state is obligated to ensure public order and security. Whenever it fails or is negligent in fulfilling this duty, it bears responsibility for compensating damages suffered by citizens. Although the scope and mechanisms for implementing this responsibility vary across domestic laws and international regulations, **the principle of state responsibility for protecting the life and property of citizens is a widely accepted norm.**

1.2. State responsibility under domestic law of Iran

a) Main legal foundations

✓ Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran

- **Article 22:** The dignity, life, property, and rights of individuals are inviolable
- **Article 40:** No one may exercise their rights in a manner that causes harm to others
- **Article 171:** Compensation for damages resulting from the fault or error of government officials is mandatory

Conclusion: The state is obligated to protect the life and property of citizens against riots and any form of security threat.

✓ **Civil Liability Act (1960)**

- **Article 1:** Any person who, without legal authorization, causes harm to another is responsible for compensating the damage
- **Article 11:** The state is liable where its agents are at fault

Explanation: If the damage results from negligence by law-enforcement forces or from unlawful actions by government officials, the state bears direct responsibility for compensating the damage.

b) Specific laws and practices

In certain instances of riots, compensation for damages has been provided through Cabinet resolutions, compensation committees, and support funds.

1.3. State responsibility in the absence of identification of the perpetrator

One of the most important questions is whether the state bears responsibility when the perpetrator of the riot is not identified?

The prevailing view in the legal doctrine and domestic law of Iran is that **the state remains responsible**, because ensuring public security is an inherent duty of the state. The risk theory or the theory of guaranteeing public security strengthens the legal basis for this responsibility.

1.4. Legal theories applicable in Iran

- **Fault Theory:** This is the primary standard applied by courts in Iran, under which state responsibility requires proof of negligence or fault on the part of government agents

- **Risk (Hazard) Theory:** This theory considers the mere occurrence of damage resulting from a disturbance of public order to be sufficient to establish liability; however, it is less frequently accepted in practice
- **Guarantee Theory:** Under this approach, the state is deemed the guarantor of citizens' security. While this theory has a strong legal foundation, it is applied only sparingly in practice

1.5. State responsibility under international law

- Under the **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)**, states have a **positive obligation** to protect the right to life and the security of individuals.
- A state is held responsible even if the perpetrator of the harm is a private individual or group, or the perpetrator is not identified, **provided that**: a) the state was aware, or should have been aware, of the disturbances; b) it failed to take effective preventive measures, or c) it did not provide effective remedies or compensation after the incident.

Accordingly, under domestic law of Iran, state responsibility for compensating damages arising from riots is primarily assessed on the basis of negligence by agents or fault attributable to the state.

Nevertheless, during the riots of January 2026, the President's repeated directives to establish specialized task forces to address claims, identify shortcomings, and acknowledge deficiencies demonstrated an expansive governmental approach to accepting responsibility and supporting those affected.

2. Government Support for the Injured and Affected Individuals

2.1. The president's order regarding the provision of state resources

- The president instructed that all government resources be made available to the relevant ministries and institutions to follow up on the issues of the families of martyrs, veterans, and those affected by incidents
- It was decided that a report on the measures taken be submitted directly to the president by January 31, 2026 (Government Spokesperson, January 28, 2026)

2.2. Establishment of specialized working groups to follow up on demands

- Provincial governors were instructed to establish specialized working groups at the provincial level and, through continuous meetings with affected individuals and their families, to examine the causes and contributing factors of the injuries
- Various ministries, by forming specialized working groups and holding regular meetings and consultations with different social groups, including school students, university students, artists, and athletes, created a framework for effective dialogue and for following up on public demands
- The Minister of Justice was also tasked with cooperating with the Judiciary to expedite the release process of detainees related to the events

2.3. Free medical treatment for all injured individuals

- Medical treatment for all injured persons, whether civilians or members of the military and security forces, was provided free of charge (Abdolreza Abbaspour, Deputy for Health and Treatment at the Martyrs and Veterans Affairs Foundation, January 24, 2026).

- More than 1,000 patients suffering from severe eye injuries requiring emergency surgery received medical care, and both primary and secondary surgical procedures were carried out in cooperation with university professors. These patients incurred no medical expenses (Dr. Ghasem Fakhrai, Head of Farabi Hospital)

2.4. Ensuring impartiality in the treatment of the injured

- Injured individuals from all social and political backgrounds received treatment in a safe environment, without any discrimination based on their political or social position (Maryam Sabbaghi, Chief Nurse, Farabi Hospital).
- Approximately 3,000 people visited medical centers within six days following the incidents, and more than 12,000 surgeries were performed (Hossein Kermanpour, Head of the Information and Public Relations Center, Ministry of Health).
- In cases where injured individuals were at home, medical services were provided legally and without any security threats (Mohammad Jamalian, Member of the Health and Treatment Commission, Parliament)

2.5. Emergency and medical personnel efforts in crisis situations

- Despite obstruction and attacks on more than 219 ambulances and 54 emergency personnel, teams continued to provide services with courage and dedication
- The golden hour for saving the lives of the injured was respected despite obstacles created by rioters, and emergency services were delivered in the shortest possible time
- Hospitals and medical staff admitted all individuals seeking care without discrimination and provided necessary medical treatment

2.6. Humanitarian role of doctors and nurses

- Professors and specialized staff worked without taking leave, providing medical and surgical services while adhering to humanitarian and national principles
- Patients from all social groups, including protesters, security personnel, children, and the elderly, were treated impartially and without discrimination
- Physicians, in accordance with their legal duties, even visited the homes of affected individuals to provide medical care

3. Transparency in Information Dissemination

Official statistics on the injured, those under medical care, and fatalities were released by the Ministry of Health and relevant institutions. Moreover, the injuries were categorized based on their cause, including violent actions by armed elements or illegal individuals, public insecurity and protests, secondary incidents resulting from assemblies or environmental conditions.

4. Preventive and Security Measures

- Establishment of safe routes for transporting the injured to hospitals
- Coordination among relief forces, medical centers, and emergency services for crisis management
- Training of medical and emergency personnel to handle emergency situations and hospital overcrowding

5. Legal Framework

- Legal protection of patients and affected individuals, ensuring their basic medical and human rights
- Adherence to international human rights standards in safeguarding the life and health of individuals

6. Case Examples

- Free treatment of over 1,000 patients with severe eye injuries at Farabi Hospital, in cooperation with professors from Tehran University of Medical Sciences
- Provision of emergency services in high-risk areas, despite attacks by rioters on ambulances
- Medical personnel delivered care to the injured at both hospitals and homes without discrimination

7. Human Rights and Enlightening Summary

A comprehensive review of the actions taken by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in response to the events of January 2026 shows that assistance to the injured and support for affected individuals was carried out with full responsibility and from both a humanitarian and legal perspective. Official documents, interviews, and reports published by government institutions and medical centers indicate that:

- 7.1. **The government acted proactively and responsibly:** The establishment of specialized working groups, on-the-ground management of damages, and direct presidential orders to utilize all government resources for the families of martyrs, veterans, and affected individuals demonstrate the government's serious commitment to supporting those impacted.
- 7.2. **The right to health and medical care has been upheld:** All injured individuals, without discrimination, received free medical services. Hospitals and medical centers, adhering to the principle of impartiality, treated patients from all social backgrounds, and medical care was even provided at home. Specialized emergency services and the efforts of medical personnel under high-risk conditions ensured the protection of life and health for all the injured.

- 7.3. **Transparency and documentation have been respected:** The publication of accurate statistics on the injured, the number of surgical procedures, and the progress of medical treatments not only demonstrates the government's meticulous crisis management but also provides access to reliable information for both domestic and international stakeholders.
- 7.4. **Legal and humanitarian actions aligned with human rights:** Assistance to the injured and affected individuals was carried out in accordance with domestic laws and international human rights standards. Medical ethics, impartiality in treatment, and respect for human dignity were consistently upheld.
- 7.5. **Illustrative and enlightening examples:** Specialized efforts in hospitals, critical surgeries, care for affected individuals ranging from children to the elderly, and the rapid response of emergency services demonstrate the government's practical and humanitarian commitment to safeguarding life and health of individuals.

Based on this evidence, **claims of human rights violations against the injured or neglect of affected individuals are unfounded.** The government's actions were not only consistent with its legal and ethical responsibilities but also, through a humane and transparent approach, addressed both the immediate and long-term needs of the injured and their families.

At the international level, these documented measures can serve as an example of a **government's commitment to protecting human rights** in crisis situations, demonstrating that the health, safety, and dignity of individuals were treated as top priorities.

