

We couldn't prevent it, Panahi executed in Iran - Brother

by The Region - 08/09/2018 10:04



Kurdish political prisoner Ramin Hossein Panahi was executed in Iran, his brother said on Saturday.

He was at risk of execution for almost half a year according to his lawyer, Hossein Ahmadi Niaz.

Just last week, Panahi's parents had been taken to prison to visit Ramin even though he was deprived of any visits. The lawyers and the family warned that this could be a sign that his execution is imminent, and could happen within days.

The 24-year-old Ramin Hossein Panahi was sentenced to death in January for "taking up arms against the state." His execution was previously scheduled for 3 May, and he was transferred to solitary confinement in preparation for it. However, the authorities granted him a reprieve from execution, taking him off death row after Iranian and international rights activists intensified a social media campaign for annulling his death sentence. However, many of the activists said they feared Iran

was delaying execution until after the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, which ended in mid-June.

UN human rights experts have recently made a fresh call to Iran to annul the death sentence imposed on Ramin Hossein Panahi. The UN experts said there were many legal concerns about the handling of the case, including reports that Mr Panahi had been tortured, denied access to a lawyer or medical care, and that he had been held incommunicado.

The experts also stressed their concern that the charges against Panahi did not meet international standards, which specify that the death penalty must be limited to cases of intentional killing.