

From Iran

Stoning Women to Death

Stoning is on the rise in Iran. Until now the number of stoning verdicts issued during Khatami's tenure have risen to seventeen. Eleven of the victims have been women. Even though ample effort and pressure is exerted by international human rights organizations and women's rights groups to save these women, most end up stoned to death.

Maryam Ayyoubi is the most recent victim to suffer such a fate. She was stoned to death in Tehran, In May,

2001 a 35-year-old woman was stoned to death, after eight years of imprisonment, for her alleged role in pornographic films. She denied the charges and professed innocence right up to her death. Again, a 38-year-old woman, Robabeh, was stoned to death in the same month. On June 25, a Tehran court condemned a young woman to 100 lashes and stoning.

The Women's Committee of the National Council of Resistance of Iran calls on international human rights organizations, especially women's rights advocates, to condemn and protest against these inhuman and cruel punishments against women. Special emphasis must be placed on stoning, which has been meted out with greater frequency in recent months.

The Good Wife's Guide

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- Have dinner ready. Plan ahead, even the night before, to have a delicious meal ready on time for his return. This is a way of letting him know that you have been thinking about him and are concerned about his needs. Most men are hungry when they get home, and the prospect of a good meal is part of the warm welcome needed.
- Prepare yourself. Take 15 minutes to rest so you'll be refreshed when he arrives. Touch up your make-up, put a ribbon in your hair and be fresh-looking. He has just been with a lot of work-weary people.
- Be a little gay and a little more interesting for him. His boring day may need a lift, and one of your duties is to provide it.
- Clear away the clutter. Make one last trip through the main part of the house just before your husband arrives. Run a dustcloth over the tables.
- During the cooler months of the year you should prepare and light a fire for him to unwind by. Your husband will feel he has reached a haven of rest and order, and it will give you a lift too. After all, catering to his comfort will provide you with immense personal satisfaction.
- Minimize all noise. At the time of his arrival, eliminate all noise of the washer, dryer or vacuum. Encourage the children to be quiet.
- Be happy to see him.
- Greet him with a warm smile and show sincerity in your desire to please him.
- Listen to him. You may have a dozen important things to tell him, but the moment of his arrival is not the time. Let him talk first - remember, his topics of conversation are more important than yours.
- Don't greet him with complaints and problems.
- Don't complain if he's late for dinner or even if he stays out all night. Count this as minor compared to what he might have gone through at work.
- Make him comfortable. Have him lean back in a comfortable chair or lie him down in the bedroom. Have a cool or warm drink ready for him.
- Arrange his pillow and offer to take off his shoes. Speak in a low, soothing and pleasant voice.
- Don't ask him questions about his actions or question his judgment or integrity. Remember, he is the master of the house and as such will always exercise his will with fairness and truthfulness. You have no right to question him.
- A good wife always knows her place.