

Houshang Mahmoudi

Born: February 1927, Tehran

Abducted and disappeared in Tehran on 21 August 1980

Houshang Mahmoudi was born into a Baha'i family. After completing his high school education he obtained a law degree from Tehran University. He later established a photography and film-making business. He was one of the first producer and hosts of children's programs on TV and Radio. He produced numerous films about the history of the Faith and of the various Baha'i historical sites in Iran, including the Siyah Chal, the House of Baha'u'llah in Tehran and the House of the Bab in Shiraz. For many years he was the director of the Audio-Visual Institute of the National Spiritual Assembly¹ of Iran. He was also a member of the National Spiritual Assembly of Iran.

On 21 August 1980, the National Spiritual Assembly had a joint meeting with two Auxiliary Board members², Yousef Abbasian Milani and Heshmatollah Rowhani, to discuss the situation of the Baha'is imprisoned in Yazd and Hamadan. At approximately 4 pm, the meeting was raided by a number of Pasdars. The members of the National Spiritual Assembly, including himself and Abdol-Hosein Taslimi, Ebrahim Rahmani, Hosein Naji, Manouher Ghaem-Maghani, Ataollah Mogharrabi, Yousef Ghadimi, Bahiyyeh Naderi and Kambiz Sadeghzadeh, as well as the two Auxiliary Board members, were kidnapped. They were never seen or heard from again.

(This brief biographical note is based on the best available information. If you find any inaccuracies, or any important facts omitted, please email us through the Contact page.)

¹ **National Spiritual Assembly:** a nine-member administrative body elected annually by the Baha'is of each country, tasked with overseeing the affairs of the Bahá'í community of that particular country.

² **Auxiliary Board Members:** group of individuals appointed by the Continental Board of Counselors for a five year term. Their responsibility is to encourage individuals and strengthen Baha'i communities in their area of service - usually smaller regions within a country. Auxiliary Board Members have a consultative role in relation to the Local Spiritual Assemblies.