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DEN NORSKE  
NOBELKOMITE  
*The Norwegian  
Nobel Committee*

## **PROTEST AGAINST THE TREATMENT OF SHIRIN EBADI AND HER FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

The Norwegian Nobel Committee have learned from trustworthy sources about the shocking treatment Nobel Peace Prize laureate Shirin Ebadi and her family and friends have received. Shirin Ebadi has done nothing wrong. It is therefore totally unacceptable that parts of Dr Ebadi's property, including the Nobel medal and the Nobel diploma, have been confiscated by the authorities. We are deeply disappointed that Dr Ebadi's husband was arrested and beaten some months ago. Other members of her family and friends of the family have also been mistreated. The Norwegian Nobel Committee urge Iran to live up to its commitments, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Most countries take great pride in one of their citizens being selected as a Nobel Peace Prize laureate. Several countries even give the laureates additional financial support instead of heavily taxing the Prize.

Many laureates, including Shirin Ebadi, have received the Prize because they insisted that their governments follow the basic principles of human rights. Some of these laureates were put in prison for extended periods of time. Yet, even in these cases their Nobel medals and diplomas were not confiscated.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee urge that the persecution of Shirin Ebadi, her family and her friends stop immediately.



Thorbjørn Jagland  
Chairman

Oslo, November 27, 2009