

IRAN: NEW EXPLANATION FOR PHOTOGRAPHER'S DEATH

July 29, 2004

The country's hard-line judiciary is now claiming that the death in custody of an Iranian-Canadian photojournalist, Zahra Kazemi, last July was an accident. "The only suspect in this quasi-intentional murder of Zahra Kazemi was innocent, so there remains only one other option," the judiciary said in a statement, explaining that her death "was because of a drop in her blood sugar level caused by her hunger strike, thus making her fall from a standing position and get hurt." On Saturday, the judiciary cleared an intelligence agent of her killing. Canada rejected Iran's latest explanation, Agence France-Presse reported, deepening a diplomatic rift over the case. "This theory has absolutely no credibility," a Canadian Foreign Ministry spokesman said. Nazila Fathi (NYT)

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