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# Iranian students report crackdown

By Frances Harrison  
BBC News, Tehran

**Iranian students and professors say an unprecedented number of disciplinary cases have been brought against students in the last month.**

They say 29 have been arrested in the last two months for political activism and 207 were taken before disciplinary committees in the last 40 days alone.

By comparison, just four students were disciplined a month on average under the last government.

University professors who criticise the government are also losing their jobs.

One of the best-known reformist professors to be affected by the latest purge is the outspoken cleric Mohsen Kadivar.

He has lost his chair in philosophy and literature at the teachers training university and has been transferred to a research institute in philosophy and ethics where he will have little contact with undergraduates.

Earlier, a university disciplinary committee had listed a number of complaints against him, including giving interviews to the BBC.

He is among scores of university professors who have been forced into early retirement or eased out of their positions since President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad came to power two years ago.

It is part of a campaign to purge the universities of secular and liberal ideas - a movement described by its supporters as a second cultural revolution.

Students critical of the government have also faced problems.

Eight have been jailed from Amirkabir University where students called the president a dictator to his face when he



Iranian students have shown open opposition to Iran's president

**“ The despotic understanding of religious rules would eventually lead to a form of theocracy ”**

Mohsen Kadivar speaking in a recent BBC News website debate

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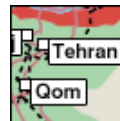
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