

Iran protests rage nationwide

The death of Mahsa Amini, a young woman in the custody of Iran's "morality" police, has triggered protests throughout the country, with Basij militias using force to disperse demonstrators



■ **1979: Organisation for the Mobilisation of the Oppressed** – known as **Basij** shock troops – is created by **Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini**

■ **1981:** Basij becomes part of **Revolutionary Guards**. Basijs are famed for their overwhelming attacks against **Saddam Hussein's** troops in 1980-88 war with Iraq

■ **1990s:** Morality police are often made up of and backed by Basij militias which number some one million active members

■ **Sep 13, 2022: Mahsa Amini** (above left) – 22-year-old woman arrested by morality police on allegations of violations of Islamic dress code

■ **Sep 16:** Amini dies in custody

■ **Sep 22:** U.S. imposes sanctions on Iran's morality police, including head, **Mohammad Rostami Cheshmeh Gachi**

■ **Sep 16-23:** Twelve people, including four members of Basij, killed in Iran during biggest protests since 2019