

## Hosein Naji

Born: 1924, Tehran

Abducted and disappeared in Tehran since 21<sup>st</sup> August 1980

After completing his primary and high school education, Hosein Naji obtained a medical degree from Tehran University. He then pioneered to Rasht and spent four years in that city where he served as a member of the Local Spiritual Assembly<sup>1</sup>. He was later awarded a scholarship by the army to continue his studies in England. He acquired a medical speciality in cardiology and then returned to Iran. Two years after his return, he was awarded another scholarship to conduct medical research in the United States. He returned again to Iran and opened a private medical practice in Tehran. He was a member on the Local Spiritual Assembly of Tehran and then on the National Spiritual Assembly<sup>2</sup> of Iran. At the time of his abduction he was the chairman of the National Spiritual Assembly.

On 21 August 1980, the National Spiritual Assembly had a joint meeting with two Auxiliary Board members<sup>3</sup>, Yousef Abbasian 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 Hosein Naji together with Abdol-Hosein Taslimi, Ebrahim Rahmani, Bahiyyeh Naderi, Manouher Ghaem-Maghani, Ataollah Mogharrabi, Yousef Ghadimi, Houshang Mahmoudi and Kambiz Sadeghzadeh, as well as the two Auxiliary Board members, were abducted. 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.)*

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<sup>1</sup> **Local Spiritual Assembly:** a nine-member administrative body elected annually by the Baha'is of a particular area, tasked with overseeing the affairs of the Baha'i community of that area.

<sup>2</sup> **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.

<sup>3</sup> **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.