

Young Woman Fleeing Domestic Violence in Ingushetia Released From Police Custody

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Aina Mankiyeva. [@marem_group / Telegram](#)

Moscow police on Thursday released a young woman believed to have fled abuse at her family home in the North Caucasus republic of Ingushetia, following a public outcry over her detention a day earlier.

Aina Mankiyeva, 21, was detained at a hostel on Wednesday and spent the night at a police station in northeastern Moscow after her mother [accused](#) her of stealing 20,000 rubles (\$250), according to the North Caucasus SOS Crisis Group (NC SOS), which assists women and LGBTQ+ people facing violence.

NC SOS said Mankiyeva, who is visually impaired, fled her family home in Ingushetia with the help of volunteers in April 2025. The news outlet Ostorozhno Media [quoted](#) one of Mankiyeva's friends as saying, "If she goes back, she will be killed."

While in police custody, Mankiyeva [submitted](#) a statement requesting state protection and asked law enforcement authorities to launch an investigation into her relatives, who she accused of rape and beatings, according to the human rights group Marem.

“I was repeatedly raped, my life was put in danger and I was unlawfully deprived of my liberty,” Mankiyeva’s statement reads. “I also wish to report a knowingly false accusation by my mother regarding the alleged theft.”

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Eva Merkacheva, a member of Russia’s Human Rights Council, [urged](#) police to investigate Mankiyeva’s relatives over the allegations and drop the theft charges.

“I understand that Moscow police intend to hand the young woman over to Ingush law enforcement,” she wrote on Telegram. “In that case, savagery and violence will have won over civilization and the rule of law.”

After her release, Ostorozhno Media [wrote](#) that Mankiyeva, accompanied by her lawyer, was taken to a safe location. Marem [said](#) the public outcry helped secure Mankiyeva’s release, but noted that she still faces theft charges.

According to the investigative news outlet IStories, her father, Khambor Mankiyev, is a well-known artist in the republic of Ingushetia and was given a four-year suspended prison sentence in 2012 for [trying to sell](#) one of his children.

In comments to Ostorozhno Media, Mankiyev [denied](#) ever beating his daughter. He claimed he did not know why Mankiyeva left home but said he was working with law enforcement authorities to return her to Ingushetia.

The episode is the latest in a string of cases involving young women who have fled abusive relatives in the majority-Muslim regions of Russia’s North Caucasus. So-called “honor killings” are widespread throughout the region, especially in the republic of Chechnya, which neighbors Ingushetia.

Rights advocates [estimate](#) that at least several dozen women have been killed in cases resembling honor killings between 2012 and 2017, with additional suspected cases since, including the [alleged murder](#) of Seda Suleimanova.

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