

# Tudeh News



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## **The Fall of Baghdad and an End to Saddam's Dictatorial Rule; The Destiny of the People of Iraq Must be Determined by Its Own People**

*(From editorial in the "Nameh Mardom Supplement", Central Organ of the Tudeh Party of Iran No. 657, 8th April 2003)*

After three weeks of a bloody war with thousands of wounded and dead, and capture of most of Baghdad by the US forces the dictatorial regime of Saddam Hussein collapsed. The fall of the dictator and the anti-popular regime of Saddam has undoubtedly been the aspiration of the vast majority of Iraqis and the progressive freedom-loving forces of this country. It is now more than two decades that these forces have fought to overthrow this regime, during which they were unable to achieve their just goal, primarily due to the covert and overt support of the Saddam's regime by the American and the British governments.

With the collapse of the Iraq's regime, the fundamental issue that Iraqi people and its progressive forces are faced with, is the fate of their country and the movement towards establishing a national democratic government. Progressive forces around the globe and the region have raised their deep concerns regarding the decision by the Bush administration to impose an American regime on Iraq people. Granting of the reconstruction contracts by the Bush's administration to American monopolies and corporations which have close ties with the government officials of the US, such as Dick Cheney, Donald Rumsfeld and Bush himself, proves that behind the claims of "liberation" of Iraqi People, lay the real objective of regional military occupation, prevailing over the oil and natural resources of Iraq, and finally, imposing an anti-popular and puppet government on the people of Iraq. These concerns have deepened further following the announcement of the composition of the transitional government formed by the Bush administration. The transitional government is to be headed by the retired American general, Jay Garner, one of the foremost supporters of the right wing government of Sharon in Israel and a consultant of the military industry complex in the US.

Although the details of this government have not yet been announced, however the world press has reported that 23 American ministers and their Iraqi advisers will form the building block of this government. The extent of the world opposition and the opposition of the Iraqis toward these plans is such, which even the American's protégés, such as Ahmad Chalabi is against it.

After two decades of dictatorship, it is the indisputable and undeniable right of the Iraqi people and national, democratic and freedom-loving forces of this country to determine the destiny of Iraq and its government's structure. In the coming days as the military conflicts in four corners of Iraq nearing the end, the Iraqi progressive forces and the people around the world demand that American and British forces to leave this country and the sensitive region of the Persian Gulf. Continued American military presence in the region and the threat toward the other countries such as Iran and Syria, will only result in escalation of tension and crisis in the region, which can potentially slide the region into further tragedies.

While expressing solidarity with the people of Iraq and its progressive forces such as the Iraqi Communist Party which have fought many years against the dictatorship of Saddam, the Tudeh Party of Iran also calls

upon all the progressive forces of the region and in the world to support the struggle of the Iraqi people in establishing a free and national democratic government, and an immediate end to military occupation of Iraq.