

# Tudeh News



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## *Statement of the Central Committee of Tudeh Party of Iran*

**On the occasion of July 9, 1999, the day of widespread attack of security forces on student activists**

Dear Patriots,

July 9, 2007 is the eighth anniversary of the brutal attack of Vali-e Faqih (Supreme Leader) vigilantes and reactionary thugs on the country's universities, and the bloody and cruel suppression of students' freedom movement against the despotism and monopolism of the rulers. Despite the bloody assault of July 9<sup>th</sup> and the "crush down" cry of Velayat-e Faqih regime, the student movement of the country continued, and is still continuing its admirable struggle for freedom and democratic rights of the people. This persistence in struggle, despite all the suppressive attempts of the security system and thugs of the regime that have taken over the universities, has worried the heads of the regime and made them infuriated. As a result, in the recent weeks we have witnessed the elevation of pressures and extensive arresting of student activists.

According to the latest reports, today July 9, 2007, the security and intelligence forces of the regime showed up at Tehran's Amir Kabir University and in a brutal raid, arrested the

members of the Central Council of Office for Consolidation of Unity (OCU) and transported them to an unknown place. The statement issued by the Tehran Council of the OCU reads: "the new wave of pressures has pushed the students on the verge of clamor...In one day, on July 9<sup>th</sup>, six members of the Central Council of the OCU were arrested for quiet sitting in front of the Amir Kabir University, and after a short while, security forces stormed into the offices of the Alumni Association of Iran, and in an unlawful and willful action, abducted 9 of our friends."

According to reports from Advar News internet site, "after air-shooting and breaking into the offices of the Alumni Association of Iran, security forces used impact sticks and violence and arrested the individuals present in the office and transported them to an unknown place." According to this report, the central office of the Alumni Association of Iran has been sealed. The following individuals have been arrested and taken to an undisclosed place: Abdullah Momenie (member and spokesperson of the Central Council of the Alumni Association of Iran), Bahram Fayyazie (member of Central Council), Habib Haaj Heydarie (Public Relations), Mojtabaa Bayaat (former member of the Central Council of OCU), Ezatollah Ghalandarie, Morteza Eslaah-Chie, Masoud Habibi, Saeed Hossein-Nia, Arash Khaandel and Ashkaan Ghiyasvand.

The Central Committee of Tudeh Party of Iran condemns these brutal and anti-freedom actions of the suppressive bodies of the Velayat-e Faqih regime, and calls upon all the humanitarian forces in Iran and around the globe, and Iranian political and social forces in particular, that use all in their power to defend the detained students and demand their unconditional and immediate release.

The assault by suppressive bodies of the regime on July 9<sup>th</sup> is a clear indication of the blatant confrontation of the ruling reaction with educational institutes and student movement of

the country. Widespread cleansing of prominent personnel of universities on charges of dissidence, and widespread arrests of student activists across the country, indicate the coordinated plan of the regime to obliterate the student movement. We have to rush to help this movement and protect it against any harm from the ruling reactionaries. Setting up a broad, global campaign of solidarity with the arrested students along with organizing domestic protests could make the regime retreat.

**Hand in hand for immediate and unconditional release of all the detained students and all the political prisoners of Iran, and for intensification and expansion of the united struggle of masses against the ruling dictatorship!**

*The Central Committee of Tudeh Party of Iran  
July 9, 2007*

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## Ever Increasing Political-Economic Bankruptcy of Ahmadi-Nejad Government and Escalation of Suppression and Repression

*(From "Nameh Mardom", Central Organ of the Tudeh Party of Iran No. 768, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2007)*

It's been over two years since Ahmadi-Nejad government – the political representative of big trade capitalism and the direct agent of military-security leaders and those dedicated to the Supreme Leader – took office. Ahmadi-Nejad came to power to steer the government of Velayat-e Faqih (Supreme Leader) regime in a time of desperation and lack of trust of vast factions of social forces in the "state reformists", and with extensive use of vote rigging – helped by the Revolutionary Guards and Militia forces. Big Goebbelsian lies and empty promises about moving "towards justice", and the distribution of oil money amongst the poor who live in severe poverty and privation, resonated with many sectors of the public, especially the deprived

strata. The changes of the past two years – as predicted by our party and other political-social forces in Iran – demonstrated the emptiness of those promises and the policies of his government. Very soon it became clear that what the government of security-military leaders and representative of the most dark-minded political forces of the country meant by talking about "social justice" and "distribution of oil income" was to hand out the nation's wealth and natural resources among those who have achieved astronomical fortunes under the Supreme Leader regime and are now controlling the country's economic pulse like organized crime. The huge increase of the budget of the reactionary Council of Guardians and other parasitic and corrupt organizations in the regime ... and the allocation of millions of dollars of economic contracts to organizations affiliated with and controlled by the Pasdaran (Revolutionary Guard) army are clear examples of such policies.

It is clear that adoption of these policies that overall will only advance the goals of a small minority, and the lack of sensible and clear socio-economic policies in combating the gigantic ills of society, will have serious socio-political repercussions.

The dissatisfaction of the masses with the actions of the reactionary government in the past months has been increasing widely and is escalating. The deceitful manoeuvres of the regime about the nuclear policies of Iran have lost their effects, so has the manufacture of "extraordinary" circumstances – which aimed to silence critics; thus, more and more of various social forces start direct confrontation with the policies of the reactionary government. The widespread protest actions of workers in factories and manufacturing units that were met by the onslaught of the most recalcitrant ministers in the Ahmadi-Nejad government, the widespread protests of teachers, which continues despite the harsh repression by the security forces, the widespread attack on the progressive and radical student movement of the country that has led to the arrests and summons to persecutor office of numerous students and activists in the recent months, the violent repression of women's movement in the country, and in the recent weeks the renewed attack on newspapers and news websites critical of the disgraced government of Ahmadi-Nejad, all point to the ever increasing debility of reaction government and its attempts to survive. Recent reports that point to the increasing nervousness of the reaction regime by the current events in the country and the escalation of suppression to control the situation, include

the massive protests after the announcement of rationing of gasoline, the leak of the "Radio Javan" survey about the scale of dissatisfaction with the current government, and the subsequent attacks on ... newspapers as well as pressures on Iranian Labour News Agency (ILNA) to control it.

As outlined above, the adoption of incorrect economic policies which only aim to benefit the interests of large trade and middlemen capitalism has had detrimental effects on the economy of the country and the lives of its people. The growing rate of inflation – which even according to the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic has surpassed 16 percent – while the increase in salaries is only at 4 percent, speaks of the increased pressure on the deprived and the reduction of the purchasing power of working people. According to the latest estimates of economists, considering the growth of inflation in recent decades, the actual purchasing power of the working people has shrunk by 40 percent during the Supreme Leader regime [since 1979 revolution]. Alongside the growing inflation, the move towards more privatization - as directed by the leadership of the regime - has had gross impact on the growth of unemployment and the erosion of economic foundations of the country. Another part of these destructive economic policies is the ever increasing use of enormous oil revenues for imports of consumers' goods (which has multiplied in the past years due to the increased price of oil). It suffices to point out that according to the current official statistics, foreign imports grew from 35 billion dollars in 2004 to 50 billion dollars in the last year.

It is in this context that the even the opposing voices of a few forces loyal to the regime was raised against the dangerous policies of Ahmadi-Nejad government, and this government is facing a growing wave of criticism, even among the regime's traditional supporters.

If this trend continues, there is no doubt that the extent of social opposition against this anti-popular and reactionary government will grow. The period of sluggishness in the people's protest movement is quickly coming to an end and we will once more witness an overwhelming presence of masses and social forces in direct struggle with the reaction. It is during these times that we must pay close attention to the lessons of the past. The use of all possible tools at our disposal, a structured plan to ramp up the union and political struggle of social forces and avoiding unrealistic policies are keys to opening the current deadlock. Disparity of the current growing struggles is still the main weakness that must be overcome by increased attempts to

organize and integrate the struggle of social forces, and to develop a joint plan for political struggle.

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## The need to intensify the united struggle for freedom of labour, student and women's activists

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*(From "Nameh Mardom", Central Organ of the Tudeh Party of Iran No. 770, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2007)*

*Tudeh Party of Iran supports the interesting initiative of International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) for a worldwide day of action on August 9, 2007 to protest against the oppressive measures of Iran's regime and for the release of detained labour activists, Mansour Ossanlou and Mahmoud Salehi. TPI calls upon all the party members and supporters to actively participate in this campaign.*

With escalation of economic-political crisis of the disgraced government of Ahmadi-Nejad, the atmosphere of the country becomes more of a "security" one. The augmentation of activities of various intelligence agencies, case-building and attacking against union, student and women activists, and increase of pressures and torture in medieval prisons to take fake and worthless "confessions", all demonstrate the desperation of a regime that despite various claims about its stability, has targeted the citizens of our nation with widespread and brutal attacks in order to preserve its unstable position.

Concerning news from prisons about renewed pressures on labour and student activists, pressure on newspapers and news websites, and continuing the arrests, all demonstrate the escalation of security policies of the regime to strike a blow against the popular movement of our nation and its social forces, i.e. labour, student and women's movement.

In this environment, it is only with increased cooperation and solidarity of all freedom-loving and pro-democracy forces, and also the solidarity and pressure of public opinion of Iran

and the world, that the despotic regime could be forced to retreat and assent to unconditional and immediate release of detained activists.

Parallel to these invasions, in the recent weeks we have witnessed interesting and promising signs of solidarity and joint struggle of popular movements, which we have to make every effort to strengthen and expand them. Along with this joint concurrence inside the country, a strong wave of international protests against the attacks of the regime, in the form of protest letters and communiqué by international student and trade union organizations have been challenging the Supreme Leader regime.

As an example, following the re-arrest of Mansour Ossanlou, the Chair of Syndicate of Workers of Tehran and Suburbs Bus Company, the voice of protests against this arrest and for solidarity with labour and trade union movement – which despite the brutal suppression in the past 3 decades courageously continues its activities– raised. At the same time, all political parties, and student groups and organizations, and various social forces collectively supported the Syndicate, and practically the whole labour movement of Iran.

As pointed out, in addition to the domestic support, in the international scene, and especially from the international trade union organizations, a considerable wave of protest formed. Initiated by “International Trade Union Confederation” and “The International Transport Workers’ Federation”, August 9th 2007 was called the international action day to protest the anti-labour actions of the Iranian regime, and to demand the freedom of Iranian workers, Mansour Ossanlou and Mahmoud Salehi. This initiative is of utmost importance for the labour movement of our country and is most welcomed, because on one hand it shows the international solidarity of workers, and on the other hand is an opportunity to make known to the world public opinion the situation in Iran and the tough struggle of Iranian workers under the rule of the dictator regime. The appeal of these two organizations to all international and unions and organizations reads: “Dear Friends, we are writing to request your organization to join an International Day of Action on Thursday 9 August concerning two prominent trade union prisoners in Iran: Manour Osanloo and Mahmoud Salehi. We know that the summer period is not a very good one to launch international solidarity action, particularly in the northern hemisphere. We believe, however, that the particular circumstances in these two cases call for urgent and determined action if our two detained colleagues are to be released in the

foreseeable future...We are hoping that both Osanloo and Salehi will be released before our target date and are maintaining constant pressure on Iran authorities to that effect. If, however, either one or both of them are still detained on Thursday 9 August, we are calling on all ITUC and ITF affiliates and Global Union Federations to consider our International Day of Action in solidarity with Iranian workers on that day. Thursday 9 August will mark one year exactly since Mansour Osanloo was released from prison after an earlier period of imprisonment. That release was undoubtedly the result of continuous protests and pressure from the international trade union movement... On this anniversary day, we are calling upon our affiliates to visit the Iranian diplomatic mission in your country with protest letters and/or hard copies of the petitions collected by the ITF. If there is no Iranian embassy in your country, you may consider visiting your Ministry/Office of Foreign Affairs to raise your concern; holding a press conference; organizing a workplace meeting, or taking any other action which you consider appropriate.”

Tudeh Party of Iran welcomes this proper initiative and calls upon all the members and supporters of the Party to participate in this international campaign for freedom of labour activists and also the detained youth and women activists.

All possible means and routes of struggle must be utilized to put pressure on the regime leaders. The active role of political organization and parties, and their coordinated effort to organize protest gatherings and actions could have a significant impact on the current events. The ever increasing attacks of the reaction could not be confronted by silence and inactiveness. Inactiveness will only encourage the reaction to expand its security and intelligence activities and escalate the current suppression even more. The rising movement of people is capable of confronting the reaction plots. This capability must quickly be integrate d and organized.

