

Tudeh News

International Bulletin of the Tudeh Party of Iran – July 2014 - No. 284

International Dept. Address: BM Box 1686, London, England, WC1N 3XX

Fax: (Berlin: 324-1627) (London: 208-392-2653)

e-mail: mardom@tudehpartyiran.org - URL: <http://www.tudehpartyiran.org>



THE FIRST-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE “PRUDENCE AND HOPE” GOVERNMENT: EMPTY PROMISES, PURSUING THE SAME DISASTROUS POLICIES AND CONTINUING SUPPRESSION AND REPRESSION!

(From "Nameh Mardom", Central Organ of the Tudeh Party of Iran No. 949, 16th June 2014)

The experience of the last year proved that the main task of the popular movement is not to resort to illusions and subjective analyses and have hopes in this or that faction of the regime, but to advance a tireless and watchful struggle to revive the movement and the ranks of the social movement.

It is one year since Hassan Rouhani took office. After all the commotions of “Long Live...” and “full force in defense of the government of prudence and hope” dwindled, what our society has experienced is the pursuit of the same devastating economic policies of the past by the Rouhani’s neoliberal government, and therefore the continuation of unemployment and chronic poverty for tens of millions of Iranians. In the area of the democratic rights and liberties, we also have witnessed an intensification of suppression, higher execution number of dissidents, attacks of security apparatus on social and labour activists and women movement, and violent offensives against political prisoners and ongoing house arrest of the Green Movement leaders in the past year...

A glance at the official statistics of the Iranian regime at the end of March 2014 clearly shows that the economy of the country is following the same path as before. According to reports by Fars news agency, at the end of March... at least 15 million people were living under the line of poverty. According to the statistics released by the Central Bank of Iran in May of 2014, the inflation rate by the end of April was 5.32%. The unemployment rate was particularly high among the youth and exceeded 24% which is a social tragedy for our nation.

As stated by the advocates of the new government, the “success area” of Rouhani’s action has been in negotiations with the West and US.

Rouhani’s administration begins its second year in office when the negotiation with 5+1 states on nuclear issues has entered a crucial and final stage. These negotiations,

which are carried out under the supervision and monitoring of the highest ranking offices in the regime and the Supreme Leader himself, along with the economic policies and the specific plans of economic liberalization, privatization and deregulation, are at the core of the regime’s strategic programs in its 4th decade of existence... These negotiations are carried out while the 6-month due date to finalize the negotiations is approaching and interventionist sanctions are still in effect as a lever to put Iran under pressure. Parallel to the developments related to nuclear negotiations, the economic and trade relations between the EU and US and Iran is growing. Mehr news agency quoted American experts in June of this year that bringing Iran in the global markets is a good opportunity for American investors and corporations... Reactionaries,



and particularly the Supreme Leader and factions affiliated with his office are trying to restore relations with the West while making the least changes and improvements domestically and in the social and cultural policies...

It should be noted that none of the factions of the regime oppose the strategy to revive relations with imperialism.

What causes frictions and encounters is battle over the share of each faction and power center from the interactions in the political scene and make up. Let’s not forget that nuclear negotiations and the final agreement will have an impact on the huge financial benefits of power and wealth centers. The recent

exchanges in the parliament is a clear example of this fact...

As the upcoming parliament election approaches, developments in the political arena of the country and the power balance in the regime will definitely go through some changes. The strategy of reviving the relations with imperialism pivots over the plan to save the "system".

One year after the engineered presidential election, the regime and at the forefront the Supreme Leader, are advancing their particular policy to save the theocratic dictatorship linked with the global imperialism. This policy counters the national interests and the rights of our nation, and particularly the working masses. It should not be overlooked that in this one year the suppression of the popular movement and clamp down on labour, women and student activists has continued. It should be emphasized that putting pressure on the activists is an integral and specific part of the regime strategy to revive its relations with imperialism.

Mistreatment of political prisoners, the cruelty in Ward 350 of Evin prison, raiding the political prisoners in Gohardasht, systematic prosecution of independent unions and union activists, intentional efforts under deceptive covers to control the labour movement, a rise in executions, including execution of political prisoners and prisoners of conscious, are undoubtedly parts of the regime's calculated strategy. Basically, last years engineered presidential election was managed in line the agreement between the heads of the regime, and particularly the Supreme Leader, to restore the relations with the West and save the regime and its future.

The experience of the last year proved that the main task of the popular movement is not to resort to illusions and subjective analyses and have hopes in this or that faction of the regime, but to advance a tireless and watchful struggle to revive the movement and the ranks of the social movement. Issues like improvement the livelihood of people, social justice, social and personal democratic rights and freedoms, national sovereignty, securing the independence of the nation and protecting its future have no place in the plans of the theocratic regime of Iran for reviving relations with imperialism. The main axis and core of the policies and strategies of the regime and its government is to save the regime!

REFLECTION ON THE ROLE OF IRAN'S REGIME IN REGION'S DEVELOPMENTS

(From "Nameh Mardom", Central Organ of the Tudeh Party of Iran No. 951, 17th July 2014)

After Wien 5 talks, Hassan Rouhani made the following comments regarding the significance of restoring the relations between Islam Republic of Iran and Imperialism: "...The final agreement with 5+1 is one of the greatest political

agreements in the region and the world." In fact, that is the case and resolving the nuclear issue with West- and with the US in particular- will initiate a new phase in the relations between the theocratic regime of Iran and imperialism, and particularly the United States...



The Middle East, one of the most geopolitically important regions in the world in the second decade of the 21st century, is burning in the flames of imperialism interventionism, religious and sectarian conflicts, and tense regional rivalries. The recent events in Iraq and the actions of terrorist group ISIS (Da`esh) has created a very dangerous situation not only in Iraq, but also across the Middle East region and the Gulf countries...

Giving rise to religious sectarianism phenomenon (and promoting it)- as a pretext to colonize suppressed nations- has a long history. The British colonialism in the 19th century and early 20th century took advantage of sectarianism, and particularly its religious version, in order to reinforce its dominance and plundering the wealth of the region. With the slogan "divide and conquer" the colonial powers spread the seeds of division and segregation and violence and war amongst the nations who were coexisting over the centuries despite their inherent differences. The colonial policies of Britain and other expansionist and domineering states (Tsar Russia, France, Belgium, Holland, etc.) in Asia and Africa could not advance and succeed without inciting sectarianism and provoking religious, tribal, ethnic and political conflicts. The history of our nation and also our friend, brother and neighbor nations in the region in the 19th and 20th century is full of conspiracies and ploys of colonialist and imperialists in provoking and boosting sectarian conflicts in various shapes and forms.

Imperialism has always taken advantage, and still does, of this "tool" in order to plunder the various resources of nations and to break their back in their resistance to this plunder. In our times, intervention and aggression of imperialism in our region and in target countries are carried under the guise of "humanitarian goals",

opposing “dictatorships” and the like; however, behind these covers and excuses and propaganda, the real goal is nothing but supremacy to plunder the wealth of nations. What we are witnessing today under the name of ISIS and religious-sectarian conflicts in Iraq, Syria, Libya, Yemen and other regions, has not been isolated from imperialism policies to dominate the lucrative markets of these countries and forcing these nations to yield to this dominance- for protecting the “New World Order”...

Hence, what is going on in Iraq and other countries as “sectarian-religious conflicts” has been- in the first place- the result of imperialist intervention and aggressive wars, and its goal is to gain further dominance and control over the oil and gas resources and to reinforce the position of imperialism. The control of ISIS and other terrorist groups over some of the oil fields in Iraq and Syria and even selling oil by them, essentially could mean the division and disintegration of these countries, and is the first step towards fabricating smaller countries with artificial borders. Let’s not forget that ISIS is exporting oil while it is committing murder. Israel, with the help of the US, shows negative reaction to the alliance and closer ties between various Palestinian factions and, by raiding the Palestinian territories and killing of the residents of these areas, is trying to divide the Palestinian factions and prevent the strengthening of true and progressive parties and organizations that are members of Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). All of these are actions in line with the creation of the “New Middle East”. More than anything, ISIS is the direct product of imperialist policies in the Middle East region. Why at this point in time Iraq is suddenly attacked by this terrorist group, is a valid and good question. The rise of ISIS and its attack on Iraq should be analyzed under the context of the developments in the region, including: the destiny of globalization process and the further weakening of imperialism’s “new world order” as a result of serious reactions to it within the international relations, the existence of the group of countries dubbed BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) and its potential to disrupt and change the power balance in the international scene, and also the developments in the regions and particularly taking the route to restore the relations with imperialism by the theocratic regime of Iran.

After Wien 5 talks, Hassan Rouhani made the following comments regarding the significance of restoring the relations between Islam Republic of Iran and Imperialism: “...The final agreement with 5+1 is one of the greatest political agreements in the region and the world.” In fact, that is the case and resolving the nuclear issue with West- and with the US in particular- will initiate a new phase in the relations between the theocratic regime of Iran and imperialism, and

particularly the United States. The rise of ISIS and the developments in Iraq are a move by imperialism in order to change the power balance in the region and is part of the domineering policies of imperialism. This new phase of relations of the IR of Iran with the United States will change the existing equations in the region. This evident return of Iran’s regime to the ranks of US allies will change the power balance in the region, and this change is hard to swallow and unacceptable for Turkey and Saudi Arabia...

In fact, ISIS, “religious sectarianism”, policy pursued by Iran, Turkey and Saudi Arabia are all at the service of the interests of the US and its allies. Religious sectarianism and sectarian conflicts are used by imperialism in order to further dominate the region and carry out plans like the “New Middle East”. Let’s not forget that provoking sectarian conflicts and setting off the flames of war and spreading out the bloodshed in the Middle East is not unrelated to other global events. The bloody conflicts in Ukraine, the events in the South East Asia and the growing and tension-creating role of Japan militarism with the help of the United States in the Pacific region, local wars and broad sectarian conflicts in Africa, repeated limited military aggressions of France and NATO in Africa, and war and criminal acts in the Middle East and particularly in Iraq and Syria, are all the links of a chain of interventions and aggressions that imperialism in the second decade of the 21st century have instigated in order to redistribute the markets and overcome its acute and years-long crisis...

The rise of ISIS and civil war in Iraq and Syria that are occurring in the second decade of the 21st century within the framework of the “New Middle East” plan and formation of smaller, weaker countries and states that are cronies of imperialism, prove another fact that religious-based regimes and political Islam, and in general, regimes in which religion has influence and power, in any shape or form, whether of Supreme Leadership or Taliban type, or in its most horrible form of ISIS, Muslim Brotherhood and others, have not led to anything but the disasters that we have witnessed so far. Political Islam and theocratic regime in the contemporary world are at the service of interests and wishes of global imperialism, and have prepared the ground for immense catastrophes for the people of the region. The fact is that political Islam and religious-sectarian conflicts tied with the interests of imperialism will cause and led to the disintegration and division of countries and successful execution of the “New Middle East” plan. Sectarian conflicts and war and bloodshed in the region and the rise and growth of criminal currents like ISIS should be evaluated and analyzed in the context of the aforementioned fact■

**In solidarity with the tormented
people of Palestine**

**Stop War and Killing in
the Middle East!**

Along with other peace-loving and progressive forces around the world, the Tudeh Party of Iran believes that no reason or excuse can justify the kidnapping and horrendous murder of the three Israeli teenagers and, naturally, all those who committed this crime must be brought to justice. At the same time, we strongly condemn Israel's action in the mass punishment of a nation by committing atrocious crimes such as bombarding a village and killing 18 women and children and other Palestinian civilians.

Last week, with the continuing bombardment of the Gaza Strip by Israel and the launching of rockets by Hamas, the flames of a new uneven war in the Middle East grew to very concerning dimensions. Together with all the other peace-loving and progressive forces of the world, the Tudeh Party of Iran is extremely concerned that at a time when the Middle East is entangled in the devastating and bloody adventure of reactionary forces and their imperialist supporters in Syrian and Iraq, and is experiencing the consequences of such adventures, the continuation and expansion of these conflicts will aggravate the current tensions and conflicts.

Last week the reactionary leaders of the Israeli state blatantly threatened that, in order to create safe margins around Israeli cities and Jewish settlements in the occupied territories in the West Bank, they will expand its repressive crackdown operations. International bodies have expressed their grave concern about the disastrous consequences of the entrance of Israeli military units into the Gaza Strip and the Occupied Territories.

The claimed excuse of the government of Israel for aggression against Gaza and other Palestinian regions- during which hundreds of innocent people were killed and injured and city facilities and infrastructures were destructed as a result of aerial and marine military attacks and non-stop bombarding of residential areas in recent days- is retaliation against the horrendous murder of three Israeli teenagers living in one of the Jewish settlements. Along with other peace-loving and progressive forces around the world, the Tudeh Party of Iran believes that no reason or excuse can justify the kidnapping and horrendous murder of the three Israeli teenagers and, naturally, all those who committed this crime must be brought to justice. At the same time, we strongly

condemn Israel's action in the mass punishment of a nation by committing atrocious crimes such as bombarding a village and killing 18 women and children and other Palestinian civilians. By committing such crimes and violating the fundamental rights of Palestinians to a peaceful life, which have so enraged the people of the world, the government of Israel cannot claim that it is seeking justice for Israeli citizens. Many analysts believe that the real reasons that Israel is enacting such repressive policies are related to the political developments in Palestine and other regions of the Middle East. Benjamin Netanyahu, the right-wing and reactionary Prime Minister of Israel, is very troubled that in recent months the Palestinian factions have succeeded in putting their age-old differences aside and form a united autonomous administration governing both the Gaza Strip and West Bank. Benjamin Netanyahu and his reactionary right-wing extremist collaborators are also very worried about the significant possibility of the rearrangement of elements of US foreign policy in the Middle East around collaboration with the ruling Islamists in Iran, the growing role and influence of Iran in Iraq and Afghanistan and the easing of tension between Iran and the US, and are trying to create tension and friction in the region.

It is no accident that the Israeli government in its propaganda in recent days has tried to portray the theocratic regime of Iran as the main culprit in relation to the events in Palestine.

The Tudeh Party of Iran condemns the continuation of recent conflicts, the military attack of the Israeli army on the Gaza Strip and the killing of innocent people and civilians, and expresses its solidarity with all the innocent victims of these conflicts and calls for a cease fire and the ending of all military action on both sides. In our view, the fundamental solution for the Palestine issue and the establishment of peace in the region is to create a sovereign Palestinian state alongside Israel, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and to implement the resolutions of the UN and its Security Council regarding the right of Palestinian refugees who are living in the refugee camps in neighboring countries to return to their homeland.

In unison and together with all peace-seeking forces of the world, including the World Peace Council, the Tudeh Party of Iran condemns the continuation of war and military operations and calls upon the United Nations to immediately take clear and effective action towards putting out the flames of this devastating war and to establish peace.

Central Committee of Tudeh Party of Iran
12th July 2014