# Tudeh News

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## Bush's Ultimatum To World Peace

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### A Call Upon All Popular Forces: Join the Active Campaign of Opposing the War

*Majority of the people in the world are against this war which violates international laws and runs contrary to the UN Charter.*

George Bush in his message to the American people announced that he would start the war against Iraq after a 48-hours period. Bush also demanded that: " Saddam Hussein and his sons must leave Iraq within 48 hours" and "their refusal to do so will result in a military confrontation commencing at a time of our choosing."

According to the press and media reports from around the world, Bush's ultimatum has met a broad opposition by leaders from various countries. Jacques Chirac called the position taken by George Bush a unilateral action and against the will of the UN Security Council. The leaders of China, Canada, Mexico and Russia denounced the action of the US ruling circles and it allies, as contrary to the acceptable international relations.

Reports from the media around the globe in the recent days describe the decision of the leaders of the imperialist countries as the start of final stage of war against Iraq. George Bush, Tony Blair and Jose Maria Aznar, in their meeting on Sunday 17th of March deliberately mocked the world's public opinion and decided to reject diplomatic solutions through the UN, and embarked on preparations for the final military invasion of Iraq.

Inflexible policies adopted by US and Britain, and their unacceptable conditions declared at the Security Council regarding Iraq have confronted not only the UN but also, the European Union with a very serious and unprecedented crisis.

George Bush's decided to start the war while most of the countries in the world believe in the possible ability of the UN inspection team for disarmament and implementation of the UN resolutions. This illustrates that the US had predetermined the date of the invasion last summer, during meetings organized by the CIA and Pentagon with the Iraqi opposition. The subsequent events including the cooperation or lack of cooperation of Iraq with the UN efforts regarding

disarming its weapons of mass destruction has had no impact on the decision and policies of the US.

The decision of these three imperialist countries, i.e., US, UK and Spain, in light of unprecedented worldwide antiwar protests once again demonstrates the warmongering nature of the imperialism and its dissonance with the will of the people. The consequences of the decision taken by the America's ruling circles and it allies to start this war, not only poses a serious threat to the people of Iraq but also jeopardizes the security of the Middle East and the entire world.

All progressive forces in the world are well aware that the ultimatum by Bush his ruling circles threatens the very existence and function of the international relations – leading to the collapse of UN's structure.

The military invasion of Iraq by the imperialist countries and presence of more than 300,000 American and British troops fully equipped with the modern weaponry constitutes a serious threat to our country. The progressive forces of Iran should not underestimate the direct and indirect impacts of this military adventurism on the developments of our country. Iran's progressive and democratic forces cannot agree with the military invasion and imposition of "regime change" by imperialism in Iraq or in any other country, including in Iran. Only the monarchists and the wishful supporters of returning shah's regime to Iran can dream up such venomous idea.

Opposition to war and warmongering is intrinsically connected to the struggle for democracy and against the dictatorship of the "Velayat-e Faghih" (absolute rule of the supreme spiritual leader). We have been witnessing with concern that during the last few months the ruling reactionary regime by taking advantage of the convulsive regional conditions, and an unprecedented military presence of the United States forces close to our borders, has increased its oppression in order to reverse the reform process. The people of our country are well aware of the fact that the leaders of the regime have colluded directly and indirectly with the US and UK plan of military aggression against Iraq. The regime's rulers are banking their hopes on a share in the future of Iraq. We warn against the dangerous consequences of these policies pursued by the regime, which are contrary to our national interest, which must be exposed.

The working people of Iran who traditionally have believed in peace and equality, and have experienced the bitter devastating consequences of eight years of war with Iraq have a very important duty in raising their peace-loving voices across the country. The outstanding action by the Iranian women who on March the 8$^{th}$ shouted slogans in support of peace and participated in organized demonstrations in Tehran and Esfehan are exemplary actions.

Struggle for peace and against the devastating policies of the US and its allies in the region are an inseparable part of struggle against the Velayat-e Faghih's regime toward the continuation of the reform process. Progressive forces in Iran and in the region must deploy all their efforts in this direction.