

Tudeh News



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Iran went through another difficult and adventurous year

Statement of Central Committee of the Tudeh Party of Iran

(From "Nameh Mardom", Central Organ of the Tudeh Party of Iran No. 760, 17th March 2007)

Dear compatriots!

The central committee of the Tudeh Party of Iran, would like to wish you a happy Nowrooz – this occasion of renewal and fresh starts, this ancient tradition of the Iranians – and hopes that the new year will be the year of peace, freedom from the despotic regime, and achieving freedom.

Iran got through a difficult and dangerous year last year. The policies adopted by the Supreme Leader's installed government, added to the political, social, economical and



international problems that Iran faced, thus making life more difficult for millions of Iranians.

In the economic area, pursuing the previous disastrous policies in place – which were based on providing short and long term benefits to big businesses and neo-bureaucratic capitalism that have grown inside the government apparatus – have contributed to an increase in unemployment and damaging the country's production capacity. And all economic signs, despite claims by the government, speak of the worsening economic situation in the country. Adoption of policies that do not benefit the people and only increase privatization of centres of production in the country and more reliance on the export of petroleum and natural gas as the main sources of national income, have turned Iran into a uni-product economy and a consumer of imported goods. While, the

heads of the regime hide behind nationalist slogans and speak about the country's nuclear policy, the country's interests in other areas are being sacrificed through deals with multinational corporations and international conglomerates. The continued growth of social inequality, increased unemployment rates all over the country and thus putting more and more families under the poverty line – as defined by the regime – has faced a large portion of society with tremendous difficulties in providing the basic necessities of life. Alongside the trend of growing poverty, we are also witnessing an exponential growth of wealth among the heads of the regime – especially a large portion of the Pasdaran (Revolutionary Guards) and armed forces commanders – that have pocketed billions of dollars of the country's resources through illegal deals and bribery. These people have monopolized all levers of power and are ready to use repression in order to keep the status quo.

Last year, the government increased its attack on the democratic rights and freedoms of the people from all different classes in society. The fear of the dark minded authorities and the cronies of businessmen and capitalists from the independent and organized struggle of the working class resulted in the Ahmadinejad government's dropping the "Amity Regime" mask and sending pressure groups and goons to workplaces in the country. The savage attack of these elements and subsequent arrest of hundreds of Tehran's Public Transit workers and the brutal repression of other workers protests are signs that the regime is facing a serious political-economical disaster and is reverting to its old and bankrupt methods of repression, in the hopes of riding out the current political storm.

Even universities have not been able to stay immune during these events. Increased pressure on the student movement, closure of tens of student publications, banning of thousands of students from continuing their education, threats and attacks on independent student organizations, and the arrest and torture of tens of student activists continues with the aim of breaking the resistance of the student movement. Sending armed militia forces under the title of "Student Militia" and the use of various excuses by the government appointed university administrations to bring activists to disciplinary hearings have all created an incredibly harsh atmosphere for students to work and protest all throughout the country.

The brave women of our country have also been facing the same repressive policies. The attack of hired goons and the riot police on the peaceful protest commemorating international women's day (March 8th, 2007), the arrest and abuse of tens of protesters, and increased pressure on women in the country under the guise of "fight against immorality" is the regime's answer to the demands of women for equality and freedom from the medieval rules in Iran towards women.

Despite all these hardships, forces within the society continue their fight against the regime. Continued protests by workers, sit-ins and marches to maintain and expand independent workers organizations, and recent actions by the brave education workers against low wages and lack of justice that they face, are all signs that the people of Iran are continuing their fight against tyranny. The flames of this fight have also been rekindled in universities across the country, and student activists are using all means at their disposal to continue their political struggle. During the past week, the women's movement

has also shown that it will not give in under pressure from the regime's thugs, and the brave hunger strike by activists in solidarity with the movement forced the regime to release incarcerated activists. The main problem with all these splendid struggles against the regime is that they are all scattered, and there is a lack of a united front with a uniform political agenda to fight against the regime. On this topic, despite some efforts to unite the opposition, unfortunately all the problems remain due to political prejudgements and sectarian approaches.

Brave Compatriots!

In the year that passed, Iran was entangled in serious international problems regarding uranium enrichment and the government's nuclear policies. The escalation of tensions in the Persian Gulf between Iran and the Bush government – while Iran's neighbours burn in the fires of war, bloodshed, and foreign occupation – worries the national and patriotic forces of Iran very much. In the last few years, the Tudeh Party of Iran has insisted on our national right to the use and harvesting of peaceful nuclear energy, and reaffirms its opposition to any foreign meddling in this issue. Meanwhile, we have announced that taking such positions by the Supreme Leader's regime, while our people's rights are being trampled in many other areas, is a diversion to mask public opinion from the real domestic issues. Recent tactics used by imperialist forces in the region, which have used many excuses to occupy two of our neighbouring countries in various ways, and their unprecedented presence in the Persian Gulf, are worrying trends that cannot be ignored. Continued tension in the region and the serious possibility of economic sanctions against Iran, will not be beneficial to our national interests. We

must open the doors to negotiations and prevent Iran's further isolation in the international arena. The regime's current policies and the hollow threats issued by the despot leaders are only advancing the plans of imperialism in further meddling in Iran's internal affairs and can have extremely dire consequences for Iran in the future.

Dear Compatriots!

The New Year is starting out in difficult and worrying times. The only way out for our country is increased pressure and a united front against the current regime. The experiences of the last ten years, the despotism heavy defeat in June 1997 elections, as well as the experience of the people in the region and the world have shown that we can force the oppression back. In the last few years, the majority of our people have shown their discontent with the regime numerous times. If the progressive forces in the country do not turn this widespread dissatisfaction into a united political force with a plan to change the life of the country, the despotic regime will continue its disastrous approaches.

Let us turn this new year into the year of our cooperation against dictatorship, and let us attain peace, freedom and social justice.

Central Committee of the Tudeh Party of Iran ***March 15, 2007***



Resolution on the US threats against Iran

Participants of the ***Euro-Mediterranean meeting of Left Parties***, in Nicosia, Cyprus on 17th-18th March 2007, express their grave concern over the heightening tensions in the Persian Gulf region emanating from the US militaristic and hegemonic stance in its conflict with Iran.

The US led pressures against Iran on the question of that country's expressed wish to develop nuclear technology for peaceful purposes, is only a cover for the US attempts to secure US control over an area of the Middle East that is best situated to control the production and export of energy resources from this part of the world.

We also express our concern over the provocative and unacceptable statements from the Iranian president. These statements have provided the US and its allies, in particular the Israeli government, with the excuse to continue their provocations against Iran. The Iranian regime is exploiting the current situation to extend its suppression of progressive forces, trade unions, youth and student movements as well as women's movements.

We express our full solidarity with the people and progressive forces of Iran, with trade unions, women, youth and student movements that are campaigning for peace, democracy and social progress.

We strongly and unconditionally express our total opposition to any military attack or intervention against Iran by the US, the EU or Israel. We resolve to support all genuine efforts directed at the resolution of the current differences

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between the US and the Islamic Republic of Iran through peaceful and diplomatic means.

We call for the elimination of all nuclear weapons in the Middle East, strict observance of the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty and declaring the region a nuclear weapons free zone.

The future direction of developments in Iran should be decided only by the people of Iran and no one else.

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Communist Party of Austria
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Party of Belarusian Communists
Communist Party of Britain
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Synaspismos (Coalition of Left and ecology movements)- Greece
Communist Party of Germany
The Left Party- PDS Germany
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WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!

