

Tudeh News



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Disgrace and condemnation of the "Supreme Leader" by the public opinion of Iran and the World

*(From "Nameh Mardom", Central Organ of the
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Publication of Mehdi Karoubi's letter exposing crimes committed in prisons by the security and military forces under the command of the "supreme leader", has generated another powerful wave of domestic and international opposition against the behaviour of the regime. These revelations happen at a time when the staged trials of a group of the leaders of the reform movement and activists of street demonstrations who were arrested in the recent weeks, have not stabilized the political situations in the country, contrary to what the regime had hoped for. These trials and specially the show of confessions by the victims of physical and mental tortures were condemned vigorously within the country and abroad. Last week the United Nations also requested an investigation into the charges of torture in Iran. The special reporter of the United Nations stated that the government of Iran had not allowed him to visit Iran. Disrespecting the United Nations and the call by Amnesty International, whose representative has not even received a response to the request for sending observers to the trials, clearly reflects the approach and position of the organizers of these trials toward the public opinion. The spite and hostility of the regime toward the progressive opinions in Iran and abroad, mirrors the total disregard of and disrespect for norms and principals of a democratic society and reveals the long

history of this regime in violating the human rights of the Iranian people.

Since the day that the regime's agents and its military and security apparatus shamelessly tempered with the result of the elections and the votes of 40 million people, and pulled Ahmadinejad as the "victor" of the elections out of the ballot boxes, nearly 100 protesters have lost their lives following armed assaults by the military and security services, thousands have been imprisoned and hundreds have been tortured in various prisons under detention by the security forces. According to verified reports, many of the detainees have been subjected to extreme brutality, rape and sodomy. The extent of the calamity is such that a number of regime's prominent figures have condemned these acts and are pointing fingers to Khamenei, Ahmadinejad, and their sycophant military and security forces as responsible ones for these crimes. Today, the extent of the legitimacy crisis of the regime is such that even some of the high ranking clergies and state officials are expressing doubt if the continuation of these policies would be possible and rational.

Examining the current situation, in some aspects inevitably resembles the crisis and situation in the last few years of the Shah's regime, which gradually diminished its moral, cultural, social and political credibility and ended up in its collapse. The public opinion in Iran and around the world regards the conduct of the regime in the recent weeks, especially the brutal violence against and beatings of masses of people protesting the blatant election fraud, characterizes the scrambling of a desperate regime holding onto power with its blood stained fingertips.

The regime's propaganda policy, such as anti-Israeli, anti-American and anti-British

rhetoric, is nothing but a smokescreen to hide the fundamentally anti-democratic nature of the regime and to divert the attention of the public opinion in a society that has been agitated by the revelations of the recent weeks. It is now clear that a vast majority of people actively demand the end of the dictatorship in Iran.

The history of popular movements if forged in battle fronts, i.e. on the streets, in factories, in schools and universities and in work places, where masses are mobilized to make changes and to defend justice, democracy and their rights. Today, in Iran, the history is being forged and the regime cannot stop the historic process that is on the way in our country with torture, staged trials and bloody repression of peoples' movement. This is the beginning of the end of a regime that undoubtedly will be the historical loser of this battle.

The spreading out of the current crisis has created an unprecedented division within the regime and even within its inner core. For example, Mr. Karoubi, the former speaker of the parliament, in a letter to Mr. Rafsanjani, the head of the Assembly of Experts and the Council of Expediency and the ex-president, expressed his concerns about the disclosed evidences of abuse and torture of political prisoners, saying "If only one of the many allegations are true it raises serious issues for the Islamic Republic." This statement from one of the leading pro-reform clerics who has played a significant role in the regime in the past 3 decades, clearly illustrates the deepening schisms in the regime. In recent days another exposing letter signed by "a group of religious scholars from Ghom, Esfahan and Mashhad" was published that while reviewing the events of recent days, has clearly expressed that Ali Kamenei is not suitable "to lead the regime" and has asked the Assembly of Experts to review the "leadership" situation in the regime. Meanwhile the people's opposition movement continues utilizing possible and democratic means. Massive demonstrations on the inauguration day for Ahmadinejad, where 5000 of security and military forces had surrounded the parliament and the "elected" president, fearing the reaction of

protesting electorate, had to use a helicopter to get to the Parliament, is indicating this fact that the political crisis of this regime will expand further. The fact that more than 50 members of parliament, presidential candidates opposing the election results, two former presidents, and member of Khomeini's family (the founder of IRI) and a number of high ranking clergies did not attend the inauguration and swear-in ceremony is another indication of the deepening crisis that the Supreme Leader and its allies are facing.

The continuing resistances of Mousavi and reformist forces against the regime's coup and planning to organize the popular protest movement have also had a definite significance in deepening the regime's crisis. Mousavi's careful and persistent position and statements, all within the framework of the regime's constitution, gradually establish the building blocks for a broad popular front of civil opposition against the regime's aggressions. The spirited and courageous presence of millions of our citizens in the street demonstrations confronting the regime's thugs has given Mousavi and his supporters such a backing support that they can participate in the popular opposition movement strongly and in an tolerable manner.

Also, we must mention Mehdi Karoubi's brave stance in exposing the savage sexual assault of the political prisoners and his candid criticism of the meaningful silence of some of the leaders of the regime. [Karoubi had written a letter to Rafsanjani regarding these issues.] Karoubi criticized Ali Larijani, the speaker of the parliament, and Aladdin Broujerdi, head of the 8th parliament's committee on National Security and the investigating committee for the conditions of the ill-treated detainees during the recent events, for denying his statements in his letter to Rafsanjani without any corroboration or proof. These all reveal the dimensions of the crack that have permeated throughout the regime. After questioning that "how is it possible to deny all my statements without investigating them or calling a hearing?", Karoubi pointed out a key point which is much worth of attention in

order to analyze the current situation. Karoubi's stated that: "I sense that these hasty denials have been reached under duress because these esteemed individuals are afraid of having the same destiny as their friends in the past. Mr. Larijani worries that he might be ousted from the position of the parliament speaker, or Mr. Broujerdi ousted from the National Security Committee just like Mr. Afrough in the seventh parliament..." By mentioning the pressures exerted on protesting members of the regime for allegiance with Ahmadinejad, he points out to a course that the regime is pursuing broadly in order to survive and to put an end to this crisis. The prime outcome of these pressures would be further severance parts of the governing rule from it, and narrowing of the core base of the reaction leaders, even in religious entities. The behaviour and actions of the regime in the recent weeks, from broad fraud in spoiling the votes of millions of Iranians, to violent and bloody suppression of the popular movement, have undoubtedly led to the further discrediting the despotic regime in the eyes of the public opinion in Iran and the rest of the world. The supporters of freedom, democracy and independence for the people of Iran all over the world understand and reject the false characterization of Ahmadinejad and his backers as "pro working people" and "opposing imperialism". Streets of Tehran and the pain and torment of the opponents of regime in the medieval dungeons, prisons and military torture chambers bear witness to the unlawful essence of the ruling regime. For democrats and progressives in Iran and around the world, the only genuine and appropriate course is support for the struggle of the Iranian people and further isolation of the Iranian regime of torture, terror and execution. We cannot just depend on the investigations of the United Nations Human Rights Commission about the ill-treatment of detainees; ending the brutality of the regime is a serious challenge in front of all the democratic forces in Iran and the world that requires a broad and joint struggle by all the freedom loving forces in Iran and an international powerful solidarity with this struggle●

Central Committee of Tudeh Part of Iran: Appeal to the United Nations

His Excellency, Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary General of the United Nations,
Appeal to the United Nations

As you are aware, close to two months after the presidential elections in Iran on June 12th of 2009, the broad demonstrations of the people of Iran in protest against the illegal action of the regime in manipulating the results of the elections are still continuing. According to the reliable information, during this time the security and police organs of the regime have resorted to illegal and repressive measures and have detained more than a thousand of the leaders and activists of the peaceful protest movement, have murdered scores of people in street shootings of the demonstrators or in the torture chambers of the regime, and have created distressing conditions for the majority of the Iranians.

The public opinion and the opinion of the prominent legal experts of the country is that the arrests are against the clear text of the Constitution of the country and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Worrying information published in recent weeks about the way the detainees of the recent events have been and are being treated, especially the well known leaders of reform movement, would not but deeply concern the political forces of Iran and the supporters of human rights, democracy and justice in the world.

The hearing court of well known figures of the reform movement started since last week, among which a few of the former high ranking officials of the state are present. What is taking place in this tribunal and in the process of reviewing the cases of the accused has nothing in common with a modern, customary and legal hearing, and in fact, it is a disgusting show of forced confessions of tortured human beings. The

bill of indictment presented by the prosecutor contains nothing but illegal framing and propaganda of the regime leaders, and is at odds with a legal document presentable in a court of law as a bill of indictment.

It is now a known fact that during the interrogations and the hearing sessions of the detainees of the recent-weeks demonstrations, none of the standard legal and international conventions have been followed in the process of the prosecutions.

Reports received from Iran indicate a systematic application of physical and psychological tortures in order to force the detainees to confess to “planning illegal measures”, “attempts for velvet revolution”, or “having contacts with foreign countries and groups outside of Iran”. The bill of indictment presented by the regime, the charges claimed, exerting extensive physical and psychological pressure while in complete isolation, all depict the scale of dangers that threaten the life of these victims. The Tudeh Party of Iran, which was itself a victim of a similar calculated and dirty conspiracy during the early 1980’s when a large number of its cadres and activists were executed or murdered under torture, warns against the calculated plots of the ruling regime of Iran. We are concerned that in order to overcome the deep political crisis that has currently engulfed the country, the regime leaders try to massacre the political prisoners in an attempt to stabilize their rule, as they did in the summer of 1988.

The public opinion in Iran deems the disgusting and false confessions in the recent hearings worthless and disingenuous, and regards them as an excuse by the regime to repress its political opposition.

The safety and security of these political activists and all the detainees of the recent weeks has given rise to a wide spread concern in the country and internationally.

The Tudeh Party of Iran appeals to the United Nations to:

- Demand the authorities of Iran to release the list of all the detainees, their charges, and the location of where they are detained;
- Demand the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to release the list of all who have been killed in the recent events, whether during the demonstrations or in the detention centres, and also publicize the circumstances under which these tragedies occurred and their perpetrators;
- To allow the representatives of the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations to be present in the hearing sessions and to freely meet with the detainees and their defence lawyers;
- Demand the officials of the regime to guarantee the wellbeing of the detainees of the last two months and to treat them lawfully and in a human fashion, within the scope of the international conventions, the Universal Declaration of the Human Rights, and in the framework of the international commitments of the regime.
- Demand necessary assurances for the detainees to have access to defence lawyers and the possibility to freely defend themselves before the courts.
- Demand unconditional release of all political prisoners, to rehabilitate the prestige of all detainees, and name the torturers.

The Tudeh Party of Iran thanks you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

Central Committee of the Tudeh Party of Iran

August 9th, 2009

Cc:

The Human Rights Commission of the United Nations – Geneva
Amnesty International
