

Tudeh News

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Tenth anniversary of Sep 11th Iran, and the position of the extremist factions of imperialism as voiced by Tony Blair

(Abridged from "Nameh Mardom", Central Organ of the Tudeh Party of Iran, No. 877, 12th Sep, 20 11)

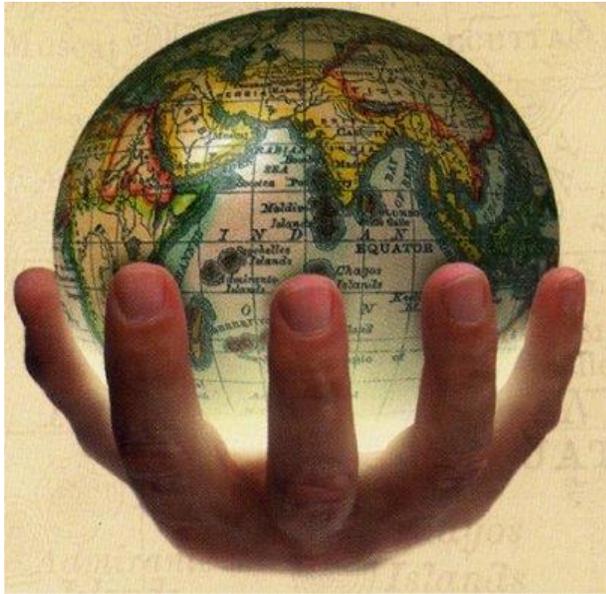
Sunday September 11th of 2011 marked the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington in which about 3000 people lost their lives. The events of that day not only resulted in enforcing widespread security measures and extensive restrictions, and even the suspension of social and individual rights of the people in many countries and particularly the Western countries, but it was also the beginning of a new so-called "War on Terrorism" era, which once again spread the ominous shadow of war and destruction over the lives of the people of the world. On October 7th of the same year (2001) the US and British military forces launched the "Operation Enduring Freedom" (and as well, along with other NATO forces) to take revenge of the terrorist operations of September 11, and invaded Afghanistan. This attack ultimately resulted in ousting the reactionary Taliban regime and installing Hamed Karzai as the president of the country. Even though a few countries have ended their military presence in Afghanistan, but ten years after that military attack, Afghanistan is still struggling with war and bloodshed and is under foreign military occupation. About one and a half year after the attack and occupation of Afghanistan, the US and British forces this time invaded Iraq, another country in Asia and in the Middle East region. This invasion was conducted under the pretext that Saddam Hossein's dictatorial regime is in possession of Weapons of Mass Destruction. However, later it was proved that this was a false

claim and even the leaders of United States and Britain did not believe in this propaganda campaign at the time of the attack.

What has been forcefully carried forward by the main imperialist powers in the world in recent years is nothing but utilizing military force and adventurism to advance their expansionist and domineering policies such as "Regime Changes", installing puppet regimes and protecting "friendly regimes", and also protection and expansion of their economic and strategic interests, including the use of war to alleviate and mitigate the structural economical crises of their capitalist systems.

An important point here, as our party have repeatedly emphasized, is that even though such regimes as Taliban and Saddam Hossein are anti-democratic and dictatorial, but the "Regime Change" and "Establishment of Democracy" and "Rule of Law" by means of aggression and military and non-military, direct and indirect intervention by the main imperialist powers, or relying on these domineering powers and their support will led to nothing but the establishment of puppet regimes, or at least regimes with restricted self-determination, who as long as in power, would be indebted to those domineering powers, as we clearly witness in Afghanistan. The recent events in Libya also follow a similar scenario. The foreign military forces, this time led by France and Britain, under the NATO flag and through direct intervention in that country, are trying to bring to power the "National Transitional Council", which is assembled by some of the opposition forces. Their purpose is not only to take control of the oil and gas resources of that country but in the light of the current situation in Egypt and the absence of Hosni Mobarak, also to secure a reliable base in North Africa.

The imperialist powers still strongly pursue their interventionist policies, an issue that is the cause of concern for all the peace loving and progressive forces around the globe. In recent days, once again a few of the leaders and spokespersons of the imperialist policies have made direct statements, including about Iran, which are very concerning. Nicolas Sarkozy, the French president, in a meeting on Wednesday August 31st with the foreign ambassadors in Élysée Palace, said that Iran's "military nuclear and ballistic ambitions constitute a growing threat that may lead to a preventive attack against Iranian sites..." The French president added: "Iran refuses to negotiate seriously. Iran is carrying out new provocations in response to the challenge from the international community for it to provide a credible response. The international community can only provide a credible response to this challenge if it demonstrates unity and firmness and imposes even harsher sanctions. We would be mistaken to underestimate their effects; they are increasingly noticeable."



Hillary Clinton, the US Secretary of State, in a speech in an American college in New York on Friday and on the eve of September 11, besides warning about the possible Al Qaeda terrorist attacks on United States, talked about the State Department's future plans for counterterrorism efforts and said that the United States will help develop "strong and stable democracies" worldwide, which is interpreted by the political analysts as attempts to intervene in the internal affairs of other countries and "regime changes."

Stephen Harper, the prime minister of Canada, in an interview with the CBC TV channel of that country, underplayed the recent terrorist attack and murder of the people in Norway and said "the major threat is still Islamicism" to Canada and must be fought with. And the most recent statements in this regard were voiced by Tony Blair on Friday, September 9th in an interview with The Times. He said: "... in Iraq I mean one of the main problems has been the continued intervention of Iran, and likewise in Afghanistan... I think regime change in Tehran would immediately make me significantly more optimistic about the whole of the region..." Tony Blair, who in his time as the Prime Minister was Bush's main ally in planning and executing the military intervention and occupation of Afghanistan and Iraq, earlier and under the pretext of production of nuclear weapons by Iran had said: "Iran had to be met with determination and if necessary force." He also has written in his memoir: "Globalisation has made military intervention in rogue regimes overseas more necessary than ever." Knowing what was said by the officials of the UK Ministry of Foreign Affairs in "the Iraq War Inquiry", then Tony Blair's newest threats of regime change become more disturbing. During the "Chilcot Inquiry" the UK Foreign Office officials said that "Iran and Libya, not Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq, were Britain's main security concerns before the invasion of Iraq". What makes the whole situation more toxic and fragile is the irresponsible position of some of the officials of the IR of Iran, stated here and there, regarding the possibility and capability of Iran to achieve nuclear weapons, even though the rhetoric would be denied later. These irresponsible and adventurist positions could easily be used by interventionist powers that will later on use them to prepare the ground for possible aggressive operations. The domineering powers are always looking for ways to protect and expand their greedy interests all over the world. In their views "democracy" is not only the "right to vote", but "it's actually about open markets" (Tony Blair, September 9, in interview with The Times). These domineering powers are prepared, and give themselves the right, to take any inhuman and non-democratic action such as military intervention in order to gain access to these "open markets". Even though the nature of

imperialism is nothing but this, but we can't disregard the adventurist and ill-advised statements and actions of the officials of the countries such as Iran who provide the pretext for the ominous intentions of the imperialism. The imperialist powers have no interest in "democracy" and "respect for the people's rights" in countries such as Iran. Their problem is not the poor practice of democracy, or disrespect for human rights, or lack of democratic styles in governance; and in general, they couldn't care less about the internal policies of Iran. The threats of Mr. Blair, who serves as the high ranking ambassador of imperialism in the Middle East, have been formulated based on the undeniable evidences of adventurist and unreasonable operation of the theocratic regime of Iran in Iraq, Afghanistan and other countries in the region, and are pursued under the pretext of countering those operations. Carefulness and precision in foreign policy and constructive defense of the Iranian national right to utilize the nuclear energy, avoiding violence, and following policies based on real military capabilities, non-intervention in other countries' internal affairs, sensible use of international resources and attracting the support of the peace loving forces as much as possible, establishing friendly relations with other countries specially the neighboring countries, could be an impediment to the interventionist plans of imperialism.

The recent statements of the leaders of the imperialist states, and their repeating emphasis on fight against the Islamist forces even through military intervention and regime change, the aggressive and hostile positions against Iran taken by the Israeli government which has always had the military attack on the agenda, direct intervention of the foreign military forces in Libya for regime change, opposing constructive negotiations regarding the establishment of a sovereign Palestinian state by persistence of the Israeli government on building more Jewish settlements in occupied territories, and recently the occupation of the Israeli embassy in Cairo on Saturday, September 10th and return of Israeli ambassador to his country, have created a tense and unstable situation in the region which is very worrying. While the people of the countries in the region are rising up for their rights and freeing themselves from the grip of the dictatorial regimes and establishing a popular democracies- which is not to the pleasure of the domineering powers- such an

unstable situation has once again spread the shadow of war and destruction over the region. The so called "War on Terrorism" which was launched after the September 11 terrorist attacks, not only doesn't address all dimensions and the real roots of terrorism, but since then has only been used as a pretext for military adventures and unbound intervention by the imperialist powers in other countries, and also has restricted the democratic rights of the people in the domineering countries. The "Arab Spring", "Iran's Green Movement", other struggles and social movements around the world including in Europe and Africa demonstrate the opposition of the people to the actual economic and military terrorism of the imperialist powers and the necessity of change and establishment and strengthening of real popular democracies over the whole world. The death dealers and the war mongering imperialists and the reactionary extremists have taken the people hostile under pressure and made their lives miserable. The just and dynamic struggle of the people is a reaction to the necessity to get free from this situation for establishing a humane and decent life; a difficult yet promising struggle●

The Dictatorship regimes in the Middle East, Imperialism's domineering and Developments in Iran

(From "Nameh Mardom", Central Organ of the Tudeh Party of Iran No. 876, 29th August 2011)

Continuing bloody suppression of demonstrators in Syria by the security forces of the ruling Ba'athist regime, attempts by the imperialist countries to create groundwork to get certain resolutions ratified in the Security Council to enable them to intervene directly in Syria, fall of Tripoli and defeat of the forces loyal to Moammar Gaddafi, Libya's dictator, under the NATO's bombardment, have all been among the top world stories in the recent days. The collapse of the functional structure of Libya's ruling regime under the all out, nonstop, and pre-planned bombardment of invading NATO air forces, and the warranted concerns about the future of democracy in Libya, once again necessitates the examination of the destructive role of dictatorial

regimes in the region which creates the conditions for imperialism to act and to pursue its hegemony.

Considering the current analyses and approaches of political forces in our country, and the due to the impact it could have on slogans, united action of forces, and creation of a united front, this matter is of utmost importance. There has been no short of analyses in the recent weeks that ignore the evolving complex situations and happenings in the struggles of masses in the Middle East, and either with an infantile “left-wing” view deny the socio-political conditions of the struggle of Syrian masses and accuse the mass movement in that country of following the plans of the US and imperialism, or without paying due attention to the slogans and tactics of the armed opposition forces in Libya approve the bloody war in that country. Such analyses and approaches, therefore, in practice take side with the pro-imperialism camp that support regime change through military intervention and support of the world powers.

Both of these approaches, i.e. ignoring the fact that the neoliberal policies adopted by the Syrian government in recent decades has led to poverty, unemployment, and lack of social services and safety nets for the working people and therefore has built up a high dissatisfaction in the nation, or counting, in vain, on nonstop aerial shelling of the people and their homes, roads, infrastructures, and commercial and government centres by NATO forces in a hope that democracy and the rule of law will be brought to Libya, are the result of ignoring the social fundamentals and laws, ill-information about, and over-simplification of the complicated developments in the region.

In our belief, no democratic and realistic force in our country or in the region that closely follows the current events can approve the bloody suppression that Syrian government has employed to contain the mass movements and their democratic reform demands. By the same reason, and based on the logical, patriotic and popular policies always pursued by progressive forces in the world and our party, neither the imperialism’s intervention in Syria, nor the policy of “regime change” in Libya, pursued by the imperialism using the “opposition” forces as a cover for its expansionist goals, could be supported with any justification.

If imperialism and its Israeli allies have evil plans for Syria and the current events in this country and want to topple and “change” the regime, the correct approach is not to ignore the criminal policies of the Syrian security forces that has so far led to the death of more than 2000 protestors; or to ignore the people’s slogans who demand social, economic and political reforms, respect for human rights, and democracy. The demands of Syrian people, in principle are legitimate and in line with important political and economic changes, such as abolishing Article 8 of the Constitution and effective social and economic reforms in order to improve the living condition of 80 percent of people who live under the line of poverty. As we’ve stated before, the Tudeh Party of Iran supports the struggle of the Libyan people for democracy, human rights, and to put an end to the neoliberal policies of Moammar Gaddafi regime which has put country’s oil resources on sale in the last decade and has appointed corrupt and despot officials to rule over the destiny of the people. Meanwhile, we cannot support the policies of a mixed spectrum of groups that have invited the Arab reactionary regimes and imperialism for “regime change”, and include: Islamic extremists, supporters of the return of King Idris dynasty, those who have ties with the security agencies of imperialism, members of the current criminal regime that have changed sides.

Our analysis is that despotic and repressive regimes, under any cover they might be, are in fact and final analysis paving the road for imperialism to dominate the economic, social, and cultural lives of their own country, because by targeting and suppressing the progressive and left forces, by preventing the development and formation of popular and democratic organizations, practically restrict the resistance potentials of people against threats and offensive of imperialism and exploitation of imperialist institutions. Experience of the Shah in Iran, Saddam in Iraq, Mubarak in Egypt, and Zine El Abidine Ben Ali in Tunisia, and political events in the countries of the region in recent decades has shown that with repression and use of force, stability cannot be achieved nor would the life of the regime be prolonged. Successful experiences belong to forces that have adopted democratic, patriotic, and popular policies to create socio-economic platforms based on national unity and

establishing democratic and civic states. National unity cannot be created in a repressive regime and in an atmosphere of terror. Libya's experience and Gaddafi's report card in the last two decades is a clear example. By rejecting democracy and democratic structures in the country, Moammar Gaddafi not only declared party and partisan activity abolished, but also created a chaotic form of state organization that would only guarantee the rule of him and his tyrant and corrupt sons. He practically isolated Libya in the diplomatic world by sanctioning known terrorists and supporting their operations. Like all the dictatorial regimes, ruling regime in Libya conceded with imperialism, since 2000, in attempt to secure its rule; while suppressing the opposition became its official policy, it started implementing the demands of imperialists. On this path, the Libyan regime not only supported some of the most notorious and despised dictatorial regimes in the region, in Egypt and Tunisia, but took an important role in the so called "war on terror" of imperialism. This approach, although would work in the standstill years of 2000's, but in the current situation when popular movements in recent months have created upheavals in the countries of the region, it actually deepened the crisis of the regime. Domestic and international isolation of the regime expanded. Imperialist countries, realizing the ever weakening position of Gaddafi's regime and exploiting his suppressive policies against the people, suddenly changed sides and with calculations and counting on certain individuals within the opposition groups, took over the path and control of the slogans of the mixed opposition front. Since the ratification of Resolution 1973 of the Security Council of the UN in mid March of 2011, France, UK and the US utilized their own distorted, fraudulent and illegal "interpretation" of this Resolution as authorization for forceful regime change in Libya. Although Resolution 1973 was apparently passed to create a "no fly zone" to protect civilians against the military apparatus of the Libyan dictatorial regime, but it became a license for terror and aerial bombardment in support of one side in a domestic conflict. In order to ensure that their oil companies have access to huge oil reserves in Libya, and by capitalizing on Libyan regime's criminal conduct and atrocities towards the legitimate and lawful demands of the Libyan masses, Britain, France and United States have turned this country to rubbles, and now, like what they did in Afghanistan and the

former Yugoslavia, they have taken control of the political affairs of the country.

Ban Ki-moon, the General Secretary of the United Nations, last week asked for ceasefire and finding a political solution for peoples demands as "the only alternative to achieve peace and security in Libya". But in an attempt to establish a puppet regime in Tripoli, the leaders of the offensive NATO have continued a destructive war policy against all international conventions. Undoubtedly, this has been the deciding factor in recent victories of the rebellious army of the "National Transition Council". The central question is this: Were the disorganized army units of a "mixed" coalition of opposition groups able to reach the capital without an all out and continuous aerial bombardment of the positions of pro-Gaddafi forces by the British bombers? The fact is that the answer is No. The armed forces that entered Tripoli last week were in fact acting on behalf of NATO countries to facilitate the control of the oilfields of this North African country by the NATO countries. Presently it appears that the "National Transition Council", also called NTS, will officially take over the political affairs of the country. Despite the opposition from the "African Union", the main NATO countries hastily attempt to establish the "unelected" NTS as the "legitimate" government in Libya. What is obvious right now is that most individuals and figures of the NTS are unknown elements in the struggle of Libyan people for freedom and democracy. Heavy presence of extremist Islamic forces, forces loyal to the monarchy regime that ruled before 1969, and American, British and French lackeys of security agencies of Imperialist countries, constitutes a great concern among the progressive forces around the world about the future of Libya. An example is "Abdul Hakim Belhadj", the chief commander of rebellious forces in Tripoli, who is the leader of "Libya's Islamic Jihad Group" and also one of the leaders of the extremist Islamists connected with Al Qaeda. "Iman Al Zavaheri", the brain and organizer of "Al Qaeda", in a message in 2007 calls Belhadj as the "Commander of Mujahidin"; the same Behlaj who has been involved the terrorist plans of fundamentalist Islamists in Northern Africa.

The Tudeh Party of Iran, which closely and carefully follows the current events in the region, believes that devotion and faithfulness of the political forces of our country to the peaceful, democratic, popular and freedom-seeking causes of the popular movement has to be measured through their consistent position with regards to the current events in the region. How could one march under the banner of freedom and democracy in Iran and not oppose the suppression of dictatorial regimes in the region or claim to be peace-lover and patriotic but not criticize the aggressive imperialist policies in Libya and Afghanistan? It is a very dangerous delusion that some right-wing forces and remorseful activists have, that attempt to align their slogans and tactics with the leaders and policy makers of imperialist countries, in order to “accelerate” and “facilitate” their struggle against the Iranian regime. If United States and Britain were supporters of democracy and human rights in Iran, they would not have perpetrated the coup against the legitimate and elected government of Dr. Mosaddegh. Or in the midst of the bloody repression of 1980’s, during the “Iran-gate” scandal, they would have not bargained with the leadership of the Iranian theocratic regime. One cannot employ anti-people tactics to reach popular and human goals. Having principles is the key to success of the real defendants of freedom●

Statement of the Tudeh Party of Iran

On the anti-Communist Legislative Measures Enacted by the Government of the Republic of Slovakia:

Tudeh Party of Iran denounces recent anti-communist measures in the Republic of Slovakia

The Central Committee of the Tudeh Party of Iran was shocked to receive reports indicating that the authorities of the Republic of Slovakia have, on 1st September 2011, enacted a new article of the penal code which criminalizes the views and activities of the Communist Party of Slovakia and bans all symbols associated with the communist movement

and its ideology. According to the new legislation, any activities in support of communism and the promotion of communist ideology could incur a prison sentence of up to three years.

The Tudeh Party of Iran considers that such provision is not only illegal and discriminatory, but also an insult to the memory of all those who sacrificed their lives to liberate the world from Nazism.

The Tudeh Party of Iran denounces in the strongest terms the campaign of intimidation and slander waged by the right wing authorities against the Communist Party of Slovakia. In legislating against the free operation of the Communist Party of Slovakia, the Slovakian authorities are violating the spirit of the Articles 18 and 19 of the UN Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. This Covenant protects the rights of people to their opinions and to the expression of them publicly. We would like to remind the government of the Republic of Slovakia that, in taking this step to legislate against the activities of the Communist Party of Slovakia, it has defined its place in the world alongside the most reactionary and backward regimes such as the theocratic regime ruling today in Iran. In Iran the authorities also have banned communist, left and working class organisations from operating openly and participating in the people’s struggle for peace, independence, democracy and social justice.

The Tudeh Party of Iran would like to reaffirm its support and solidarity with the Communist Party of Slovakia, a party that in the course of its existence has fought bravely against Nazism and has offered many martyrs in the campaign to liberate its homeland. We support the struggle of the Slovakian comrades to ensure that the democratic rights of the Communist Party of Slovakia, and its members, are safeguarded so that it can operate freely and effectively in the interests of working class and of the Slovakian people in general.

**The International Department of the
Central Committee of the Tudeh Party of
Iran**

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