

Iranian Resistance's President-elect Maryam Rajavi Visits a National Liberation Army Base

Resistance Leader Massoud Rajavi: Iranian Resistance has entered a new stage as mullahs' regime faces great schism.

Associated Press: Rajavi vowed that the NLA will overthrow the Iranian mullahs' regime as she was cheered by over 10,000 supporters.

AFP: 10,000 combatants of the Mojahedin's military wing, the National Liberation Army, took part in the gathering.



Sunday, December 8, a military base of the National Liberation Army of Iran - For the first time in three years, Maryam Rajavi, the Iranian Resistance's President-elect, attended a huge gathering of the National Liberation Army combatants. She was accompanied by the President of the National Council of Resistance and Commander in Chief of the NLA, Massoud Rajavi.

The meeting was in direct telephone contact through a conference call with thousands of Iranians in 13 major cities in Europe

and America, including Paris, London, Rome, Washington DC, Los Angeles, the Hague, Zurich, Oslo, Copenhagen, Brussels, Cologne, Hamburg and Stockholm.

Speaking amid emotional scenes of tumultuous cheers and outpouring of sentiment by Resistance combatants, Mrs. Rajavi hailed the people of Iran and commended their resistance, while paying tribute to the memories of 100,000 martyrs who gave their lives to liberate the Iranian nation.

"Today, near the borders of my

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homeland and among the combatants of freedom, I feel more proud and happier than ever," Mrs. Rajavi told the gathering, adding that the end of the twentieth century shall mark the beginning of the era of democracy, peace and justice in Iran: the "dark age" of the mullahs' rule is reaching the end.

A couple of hours later, news of the gathering made headlines around the world as reporters from the international news agencies and media present in the gathering sent out their reports. The French news agency, AFP, reported from Baghdad: "Journalists observed that the Iranian opposition movement, the People's Mojahedin, held a huge rally on the outskirts of Baghdad on Sunday. 10,000 combatants of the Mojahedin's military wing, the National Liberation Army, took part in the gathering. Mrs. Maryam Rajavi told the meeting: "The era of dictatorship in Iran is coming to an end." She added that "the closing years of the twentieth century will be decisive and will usher in democracy, peace and justice to Iran." Mrs. Rajavi was elected as the "future president of Iran" by the National Council of Resistance of Iran in 1993."

Reuters reported: " Maryam Rajavi, proclaimed by the Iraq-based Iranian exiles as the future president of Iran, told a gathering of several thousand supporters on Sunday that the days of the clerical government in Tehran were nearing an end.

"Wearing a blue suit and matching headscarf, she was greeted by a cheering crowd of about 8,000 combatants of the army of the Mojahedin Khalq opposition group.

"About 2,000 heavily armed Mojahedin fighters guarded the entrances to a military base in the

outskirts of Baghdad where she delivered her address.

"It was Rajavi's first visit to Baghdad since 1993 when the Mojahedin named her as the head of a future government to be set up once they fulfil their goal of toppling Tehran's Islamic rulers."

The Associated Press wrote that "Maryam Rajavi, the Iranian Resistance's president-elect, who has been away from Iraq for three years to gather international support, vowed (in the meeting) that the NLA will overthrow the Iranian mullahs' regime, as she was supported by over 10,000 supporters." In another story on the popular uprising in Kermanshah, the Associated Press reported: "The Mojahedin did not claim responsibility for the unrest, but Iran's opposition leader in exile, Maryam Rajavi, in Baghdad on Sunday praised it as a "courageous uprising."

The President of the Iranian Resistance's parliament, Mr. Rajavi, welcomed the presence of President Maryam Rajavi among the NLA combatants and in proximity of

Iran's borders. He added that the mullahs' bloodthirsty regime has reached the final stage of its existence.

" Maryam's presence here utters the final word for the dawn of a new phase in our Resistance and a long stride towards final victory.

"The mullahs are facing the most dangerous schism of their rule: the inevitable exclusion of Rafsanjani from power and his removal from the position of the chief executive. This will further weaken and destabilize their regime in the coming months.

The meeting came to an end after several hours during which scores of the combatants spoke about their views on the prevailing situation between the mullahs' regime and the Iranian Resistance and the future prospects. The rally ended amid the cheers and applause of the NLA fighters chanting slogans in which they vowed to continue their struggle until the overthrow of the mullahs' regime and the establishment of peace and freedom in Iran.

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Associated Press: President-elect of the Iranian Resistance Maryam Rajavi accompanied by her husband, Resistance leader Massoud Rajavi, enters a gathering of over 10,000 National Liberation Army supporters, who greeted the leaders at a National Liberation Army military camp outside Baghdad.

"The end of the twentieth century will usher in democracy, peace and justice to Iran"

President-elect Maryam Rajavi addresses NLA combatants on her vision of the future

Amid the euphoric chants and jubilation of the NLA fighters, who repeatedly interrupted her speech with rounds of applause and cheers, Mrs. Rajavi made a moving speech: "I am delighted to see you so full of joy and love for your people and country and so loyal to the struggle to liberate Iran.

"I am convinced that you will conquer history. You will keep faith with your people and your homeland. I see it before my very eyes the day each one of you becomes a ring as hard as steel and as precious as gold in the long chain that will stretch to Tehran.

"Today, near the borders of my homeland, amidst the freedom fighters of my country, I am happier and more proud than ever. I am fully confident that the end of the twentieth century will usher in democracy, peace and justice to Iran. I am confident that the dark era of tyranny and destitute will come to an end. I hail all the freedom-loving women of Iran who have courageously defied the aggression and terror of the misogynous mullahs and have joined the Resistance. I hail the honored and freedom-loving men of Iran who want to see an end to the calamity and disaster that the Khomeini regime has brought to Iran, men who use every opportunity



AFP: Some 10,000 fighters of the National Liberation Army (NLA) of Iran welcomed 08 December Maryam Rajavi, the elected-president of the Iranian Resistance, on her first visit to the NLA in three years.

to rise up and protest against the ruling mullahs.

"I hail all the heroic people of Iran wherever they are, for they have provided the bedrock of support upon which this courageous and iron-willed army has grown. The heroic people who have never missed an opportunity to rise up against the mullahs' regime.

"Let us hail the people of Kermanshah and their martyrs who have once again proven with their uprisings in the past few days that this regime cannot prevent our

people's resistance and revolt. Let me tell the people of Kermanshah that the National Liberation Army is the rock upon which you can stand and rely to continue your uprising and spread your protests to other cities and provinces."

Maryam Rajavi's final words were almost drowned in the reverberating applause of the combatants, as they chanted "Maryam our shining sun, President of Iran, we will take you to Tehran."

World Press Reports

Reuters news agency, Agence France Presse and the Associated Press were the first news agencies to dispatch their correspondents' reports on the first visit in three years by Mrs. Maryam Rajavi to a National Liberation Army camp (see the main

story). But other news agencies, radio and television channels and newspapers in different countries followed suit. Excerpts from some of these reports:

Voice of America covered the event in several of its foreign-

language broadcasts, including Persian. It reported: "Some 10,000 members of an armed Iranian opposition movement held a rally today. Members of the Mujahedin-Khalq opposition organization gathered to hear a speech by Maryam Rajavi, who has been declared by the

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"Dawn of a New Phase in the Resistance"

Massoud Rajavi, Speaker of Resistance's Parliament, evaluates Iran's political landscape

"Since the beginning of 1996, the mullahs have stepped up the number of executions by at least 200% and increased the assassination of their opponents outside Iran by at least 300%. There has been a hardening clampdown on Iranian writers, intellectuals, and members of religious minorities, while their leaders have been cowardly assassinated. The regime has been holding an unending series of military and security exercises in different parts of the country with the intention of terrorising the masses. But the courageous people of Kermanshah, Ravansar, Javanrood and Paveh showed that despite the most brutal repression, the uprisings of the Iranian people will continue relentlessly until the day this religious dictatorship is overthrown.

"That's why the mullahs find themselves so much in need of adventurist and interventionist policies and export of terror to all parts of the world from Iraqi Kurdistan to Afghanistan and other Arab and Muslim countries. These fruitless efforts all indicate that the religious, terrorist dictatorship ruling Iran has entered its final lap. That is why the ruling mullahs have lost their balance.

"Everything today points to the fact that the so called critical dialogue policy and any political or



AFP Photo - Iranian National Liberation Army elected president Mayram Rajavi waves to thousands of her jubilant supporters welcoming her to a NLA base 8 December. More than 10000 NLA fighters attended the meeting, held in one of the NLA's five main camps.

economic investment in the mullahs regime are doomed to fail.

"But the people of Iran, the Iranian Resistance and the National Liberation Army will open their way towards freedom with President Maryam Rajavi at the head of the only viable democratic alternative, National Council of Resistance. They will do so regardless of all policies aimed at appeasing the mullahs, policies which act against the highest interests of the Iranian people and work in favor of the mullahs' suppression and plundering, policies which sacrifice the principles of human rights on the altar of dirty

deals with the mullahs.

"In the past three years the fact that the overwhelming majority of the Iranian people support the Resistance's President-elect has been established in the course of successive protest and publicity campaigns of the Iranian people outside Iran and in rallies of Iranians abroad. As a result, the Iranian Resistance, in full defiance of the sham presidential elections of the mullahs' regime has declared, with full confidence in itself, its readiness to take part in a free presidential election under United Nations supervision on the basis of the principle of the rule of the people and not the rule of velayat-e-faqih (or the supreme religious leader).

"It is admitted by friend and foe alike, and the many opinion polls we have conducted in Iran also confirm, that the overwhelming majority of the Iranian people support the Resistance's President-elect.

"Of course, the experience of the past 15 years shows that the mullahs ruling Iran have never submitted to the Iranian people's right to choose freely or to the internationally recognized norms of behaviour. The only way to establish democracy and peace in Iran and stability and coexistence in this region of the world is for the NLA to overthrow this regime."

"Iranians Impatiently Await the Arrival of the NLA"

New recruits from Iran speak at the NLA gathering

During the visit to a National Liberation Army base by President-elect Maryam Rajavi, scores of new recruits who have left their cities and regions in Iran and joined the NLA in the past few weeks addressed the gathering and spoke about the situation in the country. Mrs. Rajavi spoke briefly with each of them and asked them several questions. The following are excerpts from the conversations:

Combatant from Tehran

NLA combatant (addressing Mrs. Rajavi): I just wanted to welcome you here and to give you my word of honour not to rest until this medieval regime is overthrown.

Mrs. Rajavi: When did you leave Iran.

NLA combatant: About a month ago.

Mrs. Rajavi: Where are you from?

NLA combatant: Tehran.

Mrs. Rajavi: What do you think the people of your neighbourhood would say if they had the chance to see the NLA from close?

NLA combatant: The people can't wait for the NLA to liberate them from the mullahs' oppression. They have no hope other than the NLA. There is no-one but this army and the Resistance that can save our people.

Combatant from Ahwaz:

Mrs. Rajavi: How long ago did you join?

Combatant: I left my native city of Ahwaz and joined the NLA only ten days ago.

Mrs. Rajavi: And what have you seen in these ten days?

Combatant: I've seen livelihood, happiness, smiles on people's faces, and these are things which you no

longer see in Iran, because the mullahs preach death, grief, and hatred. That is Khomeini's culture, but the people I have seen here they are so free of this culture and so far away from it that I feel I'm born again.

Combatant from Khorram-Abad

Combatant: I came here about four months ago from the city of Khorram-Abad (western Iran).

Mrs. Rajavi: And what was going on there?

Combatant: There are many young people like myself who would love to join the NLA but haven't had the chance to do so. In my city the vast majority of the people watch the Resistance's television program. I have known people who have watched a one-hour program on the Resistance's television and then decided to cross the border and join the NLA.

Combatant from Karaj

Combatant: I was in jail on political charges and it's less than a month that

I have come here. What I can say is that Resistance supporters who were in our prison resisted all the tortures and maltreatment by the regime's agents only because they knew the Resistance was alive and well.

Combatant from Tehran

Combatant: I came here less than two months ago from Tehran. In my neighbourhood there were many more people who wanted to come and join the NLA. In the past year or so the situation has changed a lot, because in spite of the regime's repression, people are now openly defying the government's authority. For example when Turkish TV broadcast on satellite an interview with you (Mrs. Rajavi) one of my friends recorded it and invited all of us to go and watch it in his house. This kind of thing is increasing every day. Every time there is a Resistance television program the people inform each other. The regime can do nothing to counter this prevailing atmosphere.

World Press Reports

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Iranian exile opposition movement as their country's future president. Mrs. Rajavi said that the era of the mullahs' bleak rule has come to an end. She predicted that a new era of democracy, peace and justice would soon dawn on Iran.

The Washington Times carried a picture of Mrs. Rajavi being greeted by her jubilant followers and reported Mrs. Rajavi's speech concerning the uprisings in Western Iran.

The German *Suddeutsche Zeitung*

also carried a picture of the meeting, adding that thousands of Mojahedin fighters in Iraq put up a huge welcome for their president-in-exile when she returned after three years.

Radio Sweden (Persian section) reported that for the first time in three years, Maryam Rajavi visited a National Liberation Army base on the outskirts of Baghdad, accompanied by NCR President and NLA Commander in Chief Massoud Rajavi.

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Western Iran in Grips of Anti-government Riots

Scores of Casualties, Hundreds of Arrests as Populace

Defy Gov't Crackdown

- Nine were killed, 60 wounded, 200 arrested in Javanrood

According to the reports from Javanrood (western Iran), thousands of the people of this city took to the streets on Tuesday, December 3, to protest the suppressive policies of the mullahs' religious, terrorist dictatorship.

Chanting "death to Khamenei, death to Rafsanjani," they marched toward the headquarters of the Security Forces in this city. Simultaneously, Navab Narimani, the governor of Javanrood, arrived at the site and ordered the troops to open fire on the crowd. As the Security Forces delayed in executing the order, Narimani personally opened fire on the demonstrators and the shootings began. The demonstrators set fire to 11 Security Forces vehicles and the car belonging to the governor and inflicted heavy damages on the building.

At the same time, thousands of others marched to the center of logistics for the Security Forces and the Department of Islamic Guidance (in charge of censorship and repression) where they faced the shooting of the Guards Corps. As a result of the clashes, the two centers and a number of the regime's vehicles were set on fire.

Overall in this day, seven members of the Guards Corps and Security Forces were wounded.

On Wednesday, another major demonstration was staged in front of the Justice Department in protest to the arrests made the day before. Again, the Guards Corps opened fire and building was inflicted with heavy

damages.

At least nine persons were killed and 60 wounded in these two days in the city of Javanrood.

The Ministry of Intelligence immediately sent several teams to the city to arrest the demonstrators and conduct interrogations. The teams have so far arrested more 200 residents of this city and sent them to Kermanshah for interrogation and torture.

To control the situation in Javanrood, several reinforcement battalions have been dispatched from Kermanshah and Tehran and a de facto state of emergency is in force.

The Iranian Resistance calls on the international community to condemn the latest atrocities of the mullahs' regime in western Iran and take appropriate actions to save the prisoners.

In another development, one of the officers in charge of clamping down on the demonstrators, Ali Akbar Najafi, a Security Forces colonel, was killed in the clashes yesterday in Kermanshah, reports from this city say.

Demonstrations and unrest continued this morning in many parts of Kermanshah province. At 9.30 this morning, hundreds of people staged a demonstration in Paveh. Guards forces have attacked the demonstrators and at least 30 persons have already been arrested.

After 48 hours of silence, the mullahs' religious, terrorist dictatorship attributed the incidents of the past two days to the Mojahedin.

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Iranian Government Blames Mujahideen for Unrest in Western Iran

The Washington Times

9 December 1996

BAKHTARAN, Iran (AP)--Clashes over the death of a Sunni Muslim religious leader left five people dead last week, a senior security official in this western city said Sunday.

The unrest was sparked by the death Monday of Mullah Mohammad Rabii, who officials said suffered a heart attack. His supporters claim he was killed by government agents.

The security official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told The Associated Press that three rioters and a security officer were killed in Bakhtaran, 280 miles southwest of the Iranian capital, Tehran.

Hundreds of protesters also clashed with security police in Ravansar and Javanrud, towns 40 miles northwest of Bakhtaran.

The official would not say how many were wounded in the riots Wednesday and Thursday. He said 40 people were arrested.

The security official blamed the riots on "anti - revolutionary elements", a term usually used to refer to agents of the outlawed Iranian opposition group, the Mujahideen Khalq, which is based across the border in Iraq.

The Mujahideen said nine people were killed and 60 wounded in Bakhtaran, and that dozens were killed and hundreds wounded elsewhere in the province.

The group did not claim responsibility for the unrest, but Iran's opposition leader in exile, Maryam Rajavi, in Baghdad on Sunday praised it as a "courageous uprising."

Statement by NCR Secretariat

Massoud Rajavi called on all Iranians to rise to support Kermanshah

December 5, 1996 - Mr. Massoud Rajavi, President of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, hailed the arisen people of Kermanshah, Paveh, Javanrood, Ravansar, and other cities in the Western province of Kermanshah. He called on the nation to rise to the aid of the people of Kermanshah and give them support.

Mr. Rajavi extended his condolences to the families of the martyrs of the demonstrations and clashes yesterday. He condemned the discriminations against religious minorities and the suppression of the adherents of Sunni faith and assassination of their leaders.

The uprising of the people of Kermanshah is but an indication of the hatred of the general public toward this illegitimate regime, Mr. Rajavi said. He called on the international community to reject the mullahs' religious, terrorist dictatorship and pressure it to free those arrested yesterday.

Following the mysterious death of Molla Mohammad Rabii, the prominent Sunni leader in Kermanshah, residents of Kermanshah, Paveh, Javanrood, Ravansar and other regions in that province poured into the streets. In protest to the mullahs' suppressive policies, they chanted anti-government slogans. Shortly afterwards, the regime's Guards Corps opened fire on the demonstrators, killing a large number and wounding many more.

People attacked and inflicted much damage on government buildings and centers of repression. Large

groups of people were arrested yesterday in Kermanshah. No information is available on their fate.

According to the reports until late last night, the situation remains tense in most regions in Kermanshah. The Security Forces and Guards Corps are on full alert throughout the region and Guards Corps units patrol all the main streets in the city of Kermanshah.

Diplomats desert mullahs' ranks

December 3, 1996 - According to reliable information, Ali Ashraf Mojtahed Shabestari, the Khomeini regime's ambassador to the Republic of Tajikistan, has defected from the regime and requested political asylum. Another of the regime's diplomats in Pakistan and at least two others in European countries have done the same in protest.

In Germany, three diplomats who were planning on defection were hoaxed back to Tehran. Six of the embassy staff were dismissed in this connection.

Fearing further defections and disbandment of its embassies, the mullahs' religious, terrorist dictatorship has dispatched a mission from the Ministry of Intelligence to Europe to review the situation of the personnel at each embassy. The mission's assignment is to prevent the desertion wave and send back to Iran those elements who are recognized as suspicious.

Diplomatic defections is subject of hot discussions within the regime. One close associate of Khamenei described them as consequence of the "advances of the Mojahedin and the stagnancy of the diplomacy of the Islamic Republic," which have

demoralized the Foreign Ministry staff and caused their attraction to the "opponents of the regime."

Mullahs' terrorists murder four Kurds

December 3, 1996 - Saturday, December 1, the Khomeini regime's terrorists attacked a group of members of the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran and their families near Koysanjaq, Iraqi Kurdistan. Five were killed and a number of others wounded. The victims included an innocent four-year-old child.

This cold-blooded murder took place only a few hours before the Third Committee of the U.N. General Assembly passed a resolution condemning the mullahs' violations of human rights and export of terrorism.

Silence of the international community and not showing any reaction to the mullahs' military expedition and meddling in the Iraqi Kurdistan, have terribly encouraged the regime in pursuing its crimes in this region.

The National Council of Resistance extends its condolences to the bereaved families of the victims of this terrorist atrocity and calls on the international community to condemn this crime. The time has come for the U.N. Security Council to boycott Iran's ruling mullahs for their systematic disregard of international laws, increasing violations of human rights, and unbridled terrorism.

With those murdered on December 1, the number of victims of the regime's terrorism in 1996 amounts to 22.

UN General Assembly Condemns Rights Violations in Iran

Rajavi calls for international boycott of mullahs' regime

NCRI Secretariat, December 13, 1996 - The 51st session of the General Assembly in New York voted 79 to 30 in favor of the United Nations 39th resolution condemning "continuing violations of human rights" in Iran, including "the high number of executions", torture, "restrictions on the freedom of expression, thought, opinion and the press", "widespread discrimination against women", "significant toughening of criminal legislation", and the "harassment and persecution" of "writers and members of the press" in Iran.

The UN General Assembly deplored "the continuing politically-motivated violence against Iranians" outside Iran and called on the mullahs' regime "to refrain from activities against members of the Iranian opposition living abroad and the harassment of their relatives within Iran."

Mr. Massoud Rajavi, President of the National Council of Resistance, welcomed the resolution and said:

The decisive vote of the highest international human rights body, for the twelfth consecutive year, against the religious, terrorist dictatorship ruling Iran makes it all the more imperative that the mullahs' murderous regime be expelled from the international community, including the United Nations, and that Iran's seat at this body be transferred to the National Council of Resistance of Iran which represents the overwhelming majority of the Iranian people.

The NCR President noted that the ruling mullahs' disregard to persistent global concerns and their trampling upon the internationally recognized human rights instruments, has made it urgently necessary that the regime's appalling record on human rights and terrorism be referred to the United Nations Security Council.

Citing a 200% increase in the number of executions and another 300% rise in the assassination of opponents abroad in 1996, extensive

arrests including those of 55,000 in 8 months under the pretext of smuggling, the endless chain of suppressive military and security maneuvers in various regions, the stepped up clampdown on intellectuals and writers, and the persecution of religious minorities and ruthless murders of their leaders, Mr. Rajavi emphasized that the popular uprisings recently in the Kermanshah province reveal the illegitimacy of the regime and the general public's hatred of the mullahs' religious, terrorist dictatorship.

The President of the NCR added: It is high time that the international community adopt practical and effective punishments, including a comprehensive oil, arms and technological embargo to deprive the mullahs' outlaw regime from means of domestic suppression and international export of terrorism and unrest to other parts of the world.

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Mullahs on War Footing

December 15, 1996 - The Guards Corps (Pasdaran) of the religious, terrorist dictatorship ruling Iran announced that it is preparing to launch its largest military maneuvers called Tariq-ol Qods or the Road to Jerusalem.

The maneuvers follows dozens of other suppressive military maneuvers in Tehran and other parts of the country. In addition to terrorizing the public and preparing to confront nationwide resistance and popular uprisings, Tariq-ol Qods reveals the expansionist and aggressive

ambitions of the mullahs' regime in the Middle East and Persian Gulf. The name, itself, is very telling about the regime's hostility toward Middle East peace and tranquillity.

These maneuvers which cost hundreds of millions of dollars coincide with enormous purchases of arms and a stepped up export of terrorism and unrest to the region and reveal the regime's intentions.

Unprecedented rise in rights violations

November 27, 1996 - The state-run newspapers in Iran reported last

week on the executions of at least 6 persons in Tehran's Qasr prison, 4 persons in Sari (northern Iran), a lawyer in Tabriz (northwest), and a university professor and Sunni leader in Zahedan (southeast).

The total number of executions announced by the mullahs' regime this year thus amounts to at least 114 persons. Compared to the 50 announced executions for 1995, the total sum in 1996 shows over 200 percent increase although the year has not ended yet. More than half the executions took place in the past three months, indicating an unprecedented escalation in the violations of human rights in Iran.