

# NEWS ON IRAN

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## Mullahs' 35th U.N. condemnation

NCR Secretariat, Aug. 24 - The forty-seventh session of the U.N. Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at the U.N. European Headquarters in Geneva adopted a strongly worded resolution condemning the persisting and flagrant violations of human rights by the mullahs ruling Iran.

Commenting on the resolution, Mr. Massoud Rajavi, President of the National Council of Resistance, said: The adoption of this resolution, the 35th condemnation of the ruling religious, terrorist dictatorship by a U.N. organ, reaffirms the illegitimacy and irreformability of the regime in its entirety.

Mr. Rajavi added: The international community's expression of abhorrence at this medieval regime's human rights abuses in Iran, export of terrorism and violation of international laws and resolutions is quite necessary. But in and of itself is not sufficient. The mullahs take maximum advantage of the international community's inaction towards their crimes. The time has come, therefore, that the U.N. Security Council earnestly place on its agenda the adoption of binding decisions and specific punishments, including a comprehensive oil, arms and technological embargo of this anti-human regime.

The Sub-Commission's resolution "condemns" the "excessive use of the death penalty," the "numerous cases of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment and punishment," "the use of excessive force and guns in suppressing public demonstrations" and "harassment and intimidation of people by street patrols."

The resolution, another irrefutable document condemning the regime by the international community, takes note of the regime's involvement in terrorism and "active spying on Iranian refugees" in Germany and calls for an "inquiry into the assassination abroad on 17 May and 10 July 1995 of five members of the Iranian resistance" which involved agents of the mullahs' regime.

The resolution expresses "concern" "over the fate of hundreds of people arrested during the demonstrations of 4 April 1995 in south Tehran" and "the repression by the security forces of peaceful demonstrators." It also expresses the international community's dismay at "the continued repression of women" including "the practice of gender-based discrimination" against them as well as the intimidation and harassment of the religious minorities, in particular "the assassination of three Christian leaders."

**Women Owe It to the Revolution!!!**

Tehran radio, Aug. 25 - Rafsanjani's speech in the "Exhibit of Government's Achievements": "Perhaps the number of Iranian ladies studying in the schools and universities is unrivaled in the world. Of course, I did not compare! But my general knowledge tells me that. A tremendous portion of our teachers, nearly 40 percent, are ladies. 35 percent of our college students are ladies. And 48 percent of our school children are ladies!!... The ladies' sector owes a great debt to the [Islamic] revolution."

Tehran radio, Aug. 26, Day of White-Collar Workers: Rafsanjani referred to the more than 600,000 women who work at the government offices, organizations and departments which comprise 26% of the total number of white-collar workers. He said that women's participation in social activities is an indicator of the state's attention and regard for the talents and services of women.

## 3,700,000 "sins" per day!

Agence France Presse, Aug. 28, TEHRAN - Chief of Tehran's public transportation announced Monday that sexual segregation between men and women in buses will expand to thousands of mini-buses in Tehran. This is to prevent any form of "contact" which is considered a "religious sin". In an interview, Mr. Mohammad Ali Tarfa told *Abrar* daily, "Everyday, 370,000 women take the mini-buses" and when there is no segregation between men and women, "want it or not, the male passengers have an average of at least ten contacts with female passengers."

"This means 3,700,000 sins per day which contradicts our religious convictions." According to the new law, women must sit on the right and men on the left aisles. In the rush hours, when there are no seats available, women must stand on the right side and men on the left."

Since three years ago, women and men have been segregated in Tehran's buses and women must sit in the back rows and men in the front.

## Workers' strikes

Voice of Mojahedin Radio, Aug. 27 - The manager of Qa'emshahr's No. 1 Textile Factory was compelled to pay the unpaid salaries of workers after they went on strike. According to the reports from this factory, Aminian, the head of this factory owns 51% of the factory's share and the rest belongs to the Organization of Industrial Development. The factory was built 60 years ago and most of its equipment are worn out. Aminian intends to close down the factory and lay off the workers and

undertake construction projects, instead. Due to workers' protests, however, he has not been able to do so.

### Forced Disappearances

Isfahan, Aug. 22 - On the midnight of Thursday, Aug. 17, the occupants of a vehicle opened machine-gun fire on two motorcyclists, killing them on the spot. No information is available on the identity of the murderers or the murdered.

Isfahan, Aug. 21 - Two men were killed in a shooting on Sharif Vaqefi Ave. No information is available on the identity of the killers. Eyewitnesses said two motorcyclists did the shooting and escaped.

### Resort to Arbitrary Methods to Step Up Suppression

NCR Secretariat, Aug. 25 - Mullah Ahmad Jannati, Tehran's Friday Prayer Leader and secretary of the Council of Guardians, called on the Hezbollah gangs to arise and directly counter what he called "western interpretations of democracy."

The Iranian Resistance condemns the mullahs' official resort to the deployment of club-wielding vigilante gangs to escalate public repression and believes this measure to be a desperate reaction by the ruling mullahs to the growth and spread of social protests.

In light of the regime's failure in legalizing the use of force to curb and contain increasing social protests, it has to more frequently resort to extra-judicial and arbitrary methods and once again unleash club-wielding gangs to launch a wave of terror and reinforce public repression.

### Economic Corruption, Bankruptcy and High Prices

Tehran radio, Aug. 22 - The examination of the Saderat Bank's embezzlement case ended today... Fazel Khodadad, the first row convict, judged to be "a corruptor on earth", was condemned to death for disrupting the country's economy and taking part in an embezzlement network. Ebrahimi and Morteza Rafiqdoust were also sentenced to life imprisonment for taking part in the embezzlement network and plunder of the Saderat Bank.

NCR Secretariat, Aug. 22 - With the execution of the first row convict, the judiciary can now cover up the leads in this major fraud scandal, and protect its main pawn who takes direct orders from Khamenei, the mullahs' leader. Mohsen Rafiqdoust is the managing director of the "Foundation of the Mostaz'afin (Downtrodden)" and the former commander of the Khomeini regime's Guards Corps.

Before this, Khamenei and Yazdi, the regime's Chief Justice, tried to intervene and play down Mohsen Rafiqdoust's involvement in this crime and strengthen his position.

Marand, northwestern Iran, Aug. 22 - Living only 10 kms from the Aras River, the residents of Hadishahr suffer from severe water shortages. Presently, they can consume water only at nights and are deprived of it the rest of the day. Some three months ago, residents of Hadishahr clashed with the city officials and protested, demanding the resolution of this problem, but no actions have been taken ever since.

*Salam*, Tehran-based daily, Aug. 17 - Prices of the food stuff continued to rise over the past two weeks. In Mazandaran Province, prices soared some 20 to 30 percent. The price of each kilogram of live chicken reached 3,800 rials and beef 8,500. A box of 30 eggs is sold for 3,700 rials in the protein shops. Two weeks ago, chicken was sold at 3,000 rials per kilogram, beef at 7,800 and every box of egg for 3,000.

*Jomhuri Islami*, state-controlled daily, Aug. 24 - 39,000 drug smugglers were arrested in Iran over the past year.

Tehran radio, Aug. 25 - Ahmad Janati, the Friday Prayer leader of Tehran and secretary of the Council of Guardians: One of the problems of our society is the shortage of housing, high rents and heavy deposits, particularly for the young men who want to get married. This is while many people own properties far more than their needs....

### Elections

Tehran radio, Aug. 26 - The fifth round of parliamentary elections will be held on March 8, in 196 electoral districts.

### Lives of 150 Iranian Refugees in Jeopardy

According to the information received, more than 150 Iranian refugees have for nearly one month staged a sit-in in the office of one of the parties in Turkey and demand to receive refugee status from the United Nations Office for the refugee affairs in Ankara. Despite the fact that some countries have expressed agreement to grant them entry visas, the refugees' fate is still uncertain and they are in the danger of being extradited to Iran. Having signed a security pact with the Khomeini regime, the government of Turkey has extradited a number of Iranian refugees in the past year.

The National Council of Resistance of Iran condemns Turkey's treatment of Iranian refugees which directly contradicts the sacred right to asylum. The

NCR calls for urgent measures to facilitate transfer of these refugees to other countries

### **Troop Concentration on Western Borders**

Agence France Presse, Aug. 23 - In a statement released in Baghdad, the Mojahedin announced, "The Tehran regime has concentrated three divisions in Kermanshah Province near the Iraqi border and aims to attack the armed forces of the National Liberation Army of Iran, the armed wing of the Mojahedin.

The statement adds: The Iranian regime has on the other hand reinforced its presence in the Iraqi Kurdistan and sent several Guards Corps officials to hire agents." The statement warns of "terrorist attacks" against the opposition.

Iran's last attack on a Mojahedin camp in Iraq dates back to the beginning of July. This attack targeted the Mojahedin's main base camp, Ashraf, located 50 kms from the Iranian border. On July 10, three members of the Mojahedin were murdered in Baghdad and the Mojahedin blame "the regime's agents."

### **Iran army holds wargames near Iraqi border**

Reuters, Aug. 28, NICOSIA - Iran started three days of military exercises near its border with Iraq on Monday, state-run Tehran radio said.

The exercises, code-named Beit-ol-Moqaddas (Jerusalem), aimed to "prepare military units for battle... and to put on display their power in face of probable plots by enemies of the sacred system of the Islamic republic," the radio said. It did not elaborate.

Infantry, armored and aviation units of the army as well as forces specializing in defense against chemical, biological and radioactive weapons were taking part in the exercises held near Gilan-e Gharb, it added. Gilan-e Gharb is some 40 km (25 miles) from the border with Iraq and 180 km (110 miles) northeast of the Iraqi capital Baghdad.

Relations between Tehran and Baghdad are strained by various issues including charges by each government that the other supports rebels bent on its overthrow.

*Jomhuri Islami*, Aug. 23 - The government will not allow the opponents of neighboring countries to enter Iran, said the Interior Minister in the meeting to ensure security of the western border. In return, he urged the neighboring countries to put an end to the presence of terrorists and the opponents of the Islamic Republic on their soil.

### **Nuclear Ambitions**

Tehran radio, Aug. 25 - Rafsanjani's speech in the Exhibition on Government's Achievements: "We cannot discuss the nuclear energy very much, but I assure you that we presently have very strong foundations in the country and have trained very good experts..."

Agence France Presse, Aug. 23 - Iran and Russia formally announced signing of an accord yesterday in Tehran to build a nuclear plant near Bushehr. According to this contract, 1,500 Russian technicians will take part in this project and Iran has accepted to pay 90% of the expenses for the construction of this plant by one of the credible foreign currencies.

### **Middle East Peace**

Tehran radio, Aug. 22 - The spokesman for the Foreign Ministry described the opportunistic statements of Yasser Arafat as "baseless" and said: "These claims are in fact a continuation of the hostile Zionist propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran and to cover up the failure in advancing the peace process." He added: "Instead of trying to accuse another country, Arafat would better confess his fundamental mistake in adopting policies that are unacceptable to the Muslim People of Palestine."

### **Germany Boots Out Spies**

NCR Secretariat, Aug. 25 - According to the information received, the Government of Germany has expelled two members of the Khomeini regime's embassy in that country.

Ali Osouli, one of the two who received orders to leave the country for violating "international diplomatic protocols", is an agent of the mullahs' Ministry of Intelligence who worked at the opposition-watch section, on the third floor of the regime's embassy in Bonn. The embassy's third floor is entirely devoted to the personnel and spies of the regime's Intelligence Ministry. Osouli's mission was to hire informers and spies to report on the Iranian refugees and activists residing in Germany.

The other agent ordered to leave is Seyed Jalal Abbassi, who worked two years in the regime's consulate in Frankfurt and was in charge of spying against the members and supporters of the Iranian Resistance.

The National Council of Resistance of Iran calls on the Federal Republic of Germany to expose the spying activities of these two agents of the mullahs' regime.