

Iran:Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

By Alireza Sabouri

May-2005

National Union for Democracy in Iran is a non-partisan non-profit organization founded in 2001. At the time, myself and a few other young Iranians got together to discuss and ask questions about what was happening to Iran and it started from there. We are primarily a coalition of young Iranian students and professionals who have been working to bring about a national referendum in Iran, under international observation, wherein the Iranian people for themselves, by themselves will freely select a secular democratic alternative to the Islamic terrorist theocracy. Whether that secular democratic government will be a Constitutional Monarchy, that as always is the decision of the people of Iran as it has been from the beginning of Iranian history, in contrast to a government forced upon Iran after a military defeat. Our only agenda is to give the people of Iran the opportunity to achieve their right to self-determination through that referendum.

So much has been lost since the inception of the Islamic Republic regime in February 1979. Collusion and collaboration, betrayal and hypocrisy became the order of the day in Iran under Islamic law. The list of tragedies inflicted upon a once prosperous and proud Iran includes: Eight years of a bloody and intentionally prolonged war with Iraq; more than 100,000 political executions; 600,000 political prisoners; economic mismanagement; isolation of the country; millions unemployed; annual double-digit inflation; systematic discrimination against women; extensive corruption at every level of society; gross violations of human rights; assassination of opponents; stoning; public executions; national unrest and revolt; soaring crime; wide spread drug addiction; looting of national treasures; assistance to terrorist organizations; and the evaporation of the geographic borders of Iran to name a few.

Our beautiful Iranian, mothers, wives, daughters and sisters - including our children- have experienced the heaviest casualties from a savage anti-Iranian way of life, forced upon Iranians by a non-representative regime of mullahs brought about and defined by murder, lies, greed, hatred, stupidity and inhumanity. Khomeini, the half British half-Indian artificial founder of this anti-Iranian regime of butchers had exposed his psychotic tendencies in his published

writings. Unfortunately at the time, nobody bothered to read them and the media apparently did not care to truly investigate the pseudo-messiah during the ratings circus-show known as the so-called Iranian revolution, while at that same time, all that was progressive in Iran was villainized and said to be enjoyed only by the elite.

Twenty-six years later, our civilization is under attack and our culture, history and heritage is misrepresented everywhere, while the truth about Iran still remains to be told.

The rise of the pseudo-reformist Khatami in 1997 only made things worse and helped to prolong the life of the Islamic regime for an additional eight years under the disguise of the smiling well-groomed mullah who would bring about reform from within the much-hated regime. It is now an undisputed fact that this was simply a soap-opera of so-called reformists versus conservatives set up by the regime and its supporters inside and outside of Iran to give the Islamic regime a more diplomatic face so that various financial interests could maintain the regime and their dealings with its terror government. Meanwhile, as advocates of democracy and civil liberties praised the smiling-mullah and the miniscule relaxation of a non-Iranian dress code enforced by club-wielding regime mob squads, the media as a whole missed its opportunity to expose the simultaneous increase upon attacks against the most basic human civil liberties committed underneath the veil of that phony reform. More significant is the fact that while those miniscule pseudo-reforms were being praised, no one was discussing the great loss of the freedoms, advancements and prosperity that had existed in Iran before 1979.

According to official sources in Tehran, in recent years there has been a 635 percent increase in the number of teenage girls in prostitution. The magnitude of this statistic conveys how rapidly this form of abuse has grown. In Tehran, there are an estimated 84,000 women and girls in prostitution, many of them are on the streets, others are in the 250 brothels that reportedly operate in the city. The trade is also international: thousands of Iranian women and girls have been sold into sexual slavery abroad to countries such as Dubai, Pakistan and Kuwait. The child sex slave trade, also known as "white slavery", is one of the most profitable activities in Iran today. This criminal trade is not conducted outside the knowledge and participation of the ruling mullahs. Government officials themselves, including pseudo-reformists, are involved in buying, selling, and sexually abusing women and girls.

While our Nobel prize recipient continues to conduct tours of American college campuses to discuss human rights violations against Palestinians and the fantasy of democracy in Iran within an Islamic legal system that considers women to be half human, the human rights nightmare of stoning, floggings, public hangings, torture and other anti-Iranian medieval criminal acts by the mullah regime continue systematically every day.

Today, Saudi Arabia, which spawned at least a dozen of the 9-11 hijackers and whose government openly advocates the inhumane life-style- which in Iran is forced upon Iranians by the Islamic regime.... is deemed a great ally. At the same time, Iranians who are undisputedly the most pro-American population in the region, and who are dying every day while fighting to bring about the end to the great terror regime, are treated with suspicion and fingerprinted at airports after incoming flights.

Today, the European Union headed by Britain, and several other nations who outwardly stand for liberty and democracy, still knowingly turn their heads and are deaf, dumb and indifferent to the atrocities committed by the Islamic regime in favor of dirty business deals with the mullah mafia. Perpetuating the existence of this regime only serves to keep a progressive, advanced population of Iranians oppressed, addicted and impoverished as British and European financial interests continue to exploit Iran's vast natural resources with a weak and corrupt proxy non-representative Islamic government. This is not the first that history has witnessed such a shameful event. One cannot help but recall the Opium War in China and the colonization of India.

In the 19th century, concessions made by a weak, bankrupt and incompetent Iranian government led to the separation from Iran of former Iranian territories, including present day Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Georgia, Armenia, Tajikistan and Persian Afghanistan. Today, The wolves are knocking again on our doors seeking to take oil-rich Khuzestan.

We, the younger generation of Iranians in our twenties and thirties were either small children or not yet born when our great country fell from its stature as a prosperous, strong and progressive nation into utter havoc and chaos on February 11, 1979. We comprise 70% of the population of Iran. We have been raised on personal computers and the Internet and our world has become

much smaller and more connected than that of our parents. We have learned from the mistakes of the past generation and have grown up suffering their consequences. Unlike the previous generation, we are compelled not by blind passion, but by logic and analysis. We have learned from the mistakes of the past and have built on our education.

Applying our analysis of the past, we are determined to put our energy behind that which has made our culture great, rather than self-destruction, for the well-being of all Iranians. We are the tomorrow of Iran and we cannot be ignored or deceived. We have learned to apply logic and analysis, rather than be blinded by envy, resentment and misinformation.

Here in America, many of us are US citizens, taxpayers, business owners and military personnel, and are proud to include amongst us a candidate for US Congress, the founder of E-Bay, a 12 year-old medical school genius, world-renowned fashion designers, an Oscar nominee, Olympic athletes and the head of the NASA Mars exploration project. We have made our mark in all aspects of life and have contributed to science, arts and education inside and outside of Iran.

However, with our accomplishments comes an even greater obligation to teach others the truth about Iran in every sense. We must teach the world that Iranian culture did not begin with and is not defined by Islam. ...that there is no such thing as democracy within an Islamic theocracy. We must teach the world about the systematic brutality inflicted upon Iranian men, women and children every day by this criminal regimeand expose all those who continue support, finance and conduct business with them. We must expose the Islamic regime lobbyists who continue to misrepresent themselves as the voice of all Iranians to US lawmakers and who seek support for the regime from US government officials. We must teach the world about our rich royal culture and its many contributions to humanity, as well as all of the progress and advancements that had existed prior to February 1979. We must remind the world that Iran is the undisputed birthplace of the first declaration of human rights and not the birthplace of terrorism. And most important, we must stand united regardless of our diversity and differences, as our unity has always been the key to our collective success.

Young Iranians will lead the Iran of tomorrow, since the days of the Islamic republic are numbered. And when that day arrives, we will remember and history will record those who stood with us and those who stood by and did nothing. Today, We as Iranians young and old from all walks of life stand united and demand that the truth about what is happening in Iran be told. Iranians will achieve a secular democratic form of government on their own. All we ask for is the moral support of the world at large and nothing more. Secular democratic change will come from within Iran by Iranians, and the de facto representative of the Iranian secular democratic movement is and has been Reza Pahlavi.

Website: www.oyicm.org