



ON THE PATH TO A FREE IRAN





Iranian & international
Iranian resistance
clerical regime



unanimity in support of
& for overthrow of the
ruling Iran

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Joint Master of Ceremony



LINDA CHAVEZ

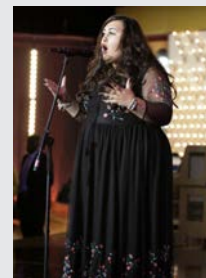
Director of Public Relations at
Ronald Reagan's White House

SYLVIE FASSIER

Mayor of the French city of Le Pin

"Thank you" Song

**Dedicated to all Supporters of
the Iranian Resistance.**



Singer: Holly Shahverdi

*For every moment
You shared the hope and
Lit the dark of the night
Like a shining star
For all the times that
You braved the odds and
For the courage you showed
And helped us come so far
For every moment you held on
For everything you've done
We thank you, thank you,
For everything that you've done
We thank you, thank you,
For everything that you've done
Thank you*

*For every challenge overcome
For every step you came along
For every word and every pray
For your faith in bringing home
A brighter day
We thank you, thank you,
For everything that you've done
We thank you, thank you,
For everything that you've done
Thank you*

Editorial

Tehran's Paranoia Over Free Iran Rally in Paris

For years the Iranian regime has been peddling the notion that no viable opposition exists in Iran. In its relations with foreign governments, Tehran downplays the existence of a viable opposition, in particular suggesting that the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran, PMOI (MEK), has no major standing among Iranians and poses no serious threat. As such, Tehran played the game of ignoring the existence of the PMOI and the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI). This argument intended to convince its interlocutors that the only realistic policy options are either appeasing Tehran or waging a full-fledged external war. And given the tragic experiences of recent history in the Middle East, Iran's mullahs remain confident that appeasement looks like the more attractive option.

The Free Iran gathering in Paris on July 9 punctured Tehran's long held narrative. According to scores of media outlets, some 100,000 Iranians and their international supporters participated in the event.

"The Free Iran gathering in Paris on July 9 punctured Tehran's long held narrative that no viable opposition exists in Iran."

Prior to the rally, dozens of political prisoners in Iran, in courageous acts of defiance, took the risk of sending messages of support urging the participants to be their voice for change. In addition, resistance activists from across Iran in a symbolic video expressed their support for the democratic opposition. Furthermore, hundreds of youths who had fled the country over the past year were present at the rally. Their presence spoke on behalf of the new generation and families of political prisoners. This prevented the mullahs from once again denying the deep roots of the resistance in Iran.

In addition, hundreds of dignitaries of different political persuasions from the US, Europe, and the Middle East took part in the event. Among them were internationally-acclaimed figures such as former US House of Representatives Speaker Newt Gingrich, former Governor and Democratic Party chairman Howard Dean, former President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso, former Foreign Minister of Canada John Baird, and Prince Turki al-Faisal of Saudi Arabia. This made the regime hysterical since nothing makes the mullahs more afraid than witnessing the countries in the region and the Iranian opposition to be on the same side. Given that the event was also broadcast live by several satellite TVs including Simay-e Azadi, a media blackout and ignoring the event became untenable. Just hours after the event concluded, Tehran lashed out, bashing the event and its message of regime change.

Many of the Iranian regime's top officials and figures responded publicly, attacking the NCRI, its principal constituent group the PMOI or MEK, and the President-elect of the Iranian Resistance, Maryam Rajavi. They represented both factions of the regime - the recognized hardliners associated with Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and the allies of so-called moderate President Hassan Rouhani.

Tehran lashed out against the Saudis, summoned the French Ambassador in Tehran to register an official protest and summoned the diplomat in charge of Egypt's interest section in Tehran to protest the presence of an official delegation from the Egyptian Parliament, headed by the Vice-President of the Parliament, at the Free Iran gathering. The regime's officials in their remarks and assessments warned that a new era had begun in the region, with the opposition gaining influence and prominence on the international stage. They also indicated that the appeal of offering concessions to the regime was wearing off among Western policymakers as the notion of regime change by the Iranian people and their own resistance continued to gain momentum. Tehran's reaction has been both unprecedented and hysterical, continuing unabated for 10 days. Iranian state controlled media was riddled with comments, stories, talk-shows, and interviews on the gathering and its call for regime change. As of July 24, there had been over 4000 stories in the news outfits and web sites affiliated with the Iranian regime regarding the July 9 gathering.



Welcome Message



VINCENT CAPO-CANELLAS

Senator & Mayor of Le Bourget

As Mayor of Le Bourget and Senator of Seine-Saint-Denis, I am very happy - with all the elected mayors and municipal councilors - to welcome you to Le Bourget today. This city that is naturally open to the world has a fine tradition of hosting major international events.

I particularly welcome all the persons who are here to testify that a democratic Iran must be our common requirement at Le Bourget. I think - but I'm certainly in no position to say this - that there was probably no better place to host your largest international gathering for a free Iran and to continue to defend the platform of Maryam Rajavi, President-elect of the National Council of Resistance of Iran.

"I particularly welcome all the persons who are here to testify that a democratic Iran must be our common requirement at Le Bourget."

Le Bourget, with its tradition of openness to the world, also gives us responsibilities in this world where peace is still in danger and responsibilities to defend human rights, gender equality, tolerance, respect for others, justice, freedom of expression, press and democracy; all values that we must fight for in Iran and I know this is your fight and we share it.

I wish you success in your event and I wish you to continue to build hope for a democratic Iran.

FREE IRAN

PARIS 2016



NCRI President-elect, Maryam Rajavi, with a number of dignitaries from more than 80 countries of five continents in "Free Iran" Gathering, July 9, 2016





IRAN LIBRE

PARIS 2016



ONE YEAR AFTER THE NUCLEAR AGREEMENT, Both Factions of Iran Regime Failed in Subduing a Profoundly Discontented Society



WHY SHOULD THE IRANIAN PEOPLE JUMP FROM THE FRYING PAN INTO THE FIRE? NO! THE IRANIAN PEOPLE REJECT THE TURBAN, WHETHER IT IS WHITE OR BLACK. THE RELIGIOUS TYRANNY MUST BE OVERTHROWN IN ITS ENTIRETY.

A MIDST STRONG FEELINGS AND APPLAUSE BY THE AUDIENCE, MARYAM RAJAVI STARTED HER SPEECH BY GREETING THEM ALL AND SAID:

I cannot find words worthy of describing the trust you are bestowing on me other than to say I am humbled and that your outpouring of emotion reminds me of the great responsibility you have put on my shoulders.

Every single day and night, my mind is preoccupied with the hope and anticipation that I will one day be able to fulfil this responsibility, a responsibility that I have to you, the Iranian people, to history and to God Almighty.

I have come to convey the words of those who have not been heard, those who are the decisive force in Iran; the words of those who have been oppressed, but whose resolve will change the face of Iran. In this endeavor, I rely on your determination and conviction and I want you to know that I rely on, and need each and every one of you.

Dear Friends,

One year has passed since the signing of the nuclear agreement between world powers and the velayat-e faqih regime in Iran.

Let us sum up this year. Ali Khamenei's faction failed to find a way out of the crisis engulfing the entire regime. The faction led by Hashemi Rafsanjani and Hassan Rouhani, who viewed this agreement as a ladder on which to climb, fell from it head first.

Western governments and companies, who were dreaming of a golden city in Iran, instead witnessed the wreckage of the velayat-e faqih system.

Indeed, both factions failed in subduing a profoundly discontented society. The victorious party, however, is the Iranian Resistance, which exposed the regime's bomb-making program and proved the righteousness of its solution, namely the need to



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The country's economy was supposed to be fixed, but it plunged into recession more than ever before. The banking system went bankrupt and factories closed down like autumn leaves.

overthrow the religious dictatorship. In 2011, near the end of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's tenure, Khamenei realized that his regime was in peril. To save it, in his own words, he turned to the United States through "a respectable regional intermediary" and expressed readiness to abandon the nuclear program.

In September 2013, as the news of the nuclear talks were being made public, Khamenei ordered the massacre of Camp Ashraf residents, engaged in back channel deals and resorted to slaughter to save Bashar al-Assad. He did so because he wanted to cover-up his backpedal from bomb-making with a hollow show of force.

Nevertheless, he ultimately retreated or in the very least temporarily abandoned the nuclear weapons program. But the crisis engulfing the regime could not be contained. To the contrary, it was exacerbated and plunged the regime into the quagmire of the Syrian war.

On the other hand, the People's Mojahedin, from Ashraf to Liberty, from Evin to Gohardasht prisons, to everywhere, remained as strong as steel and steadfast and expanded exponentially. Simultaneously, the Rafsanjani-Rouhani faction sought to portray itself as the savior of the regime through the slogan of moderation. They assumed that after the nuclear deal all doors would instantly be opened for the regime, enabling them to find a way to contain the protest movement inside the country.

In the year since the nuclear accord, many of the sanctions were lifted and oil exports increased. But the generated revenues were poured into the inferno of the Syrian war. Dozens of political and business delegations visited Tehran, where they found a bankrupt, unstable and totally corrupt system. The country's economy was supposed to be fixed, but it plunged into recession more than ever before. The banking

system went bankrupt and factories closed down like autumn leaves.

They wanted to improve their relations with the rest of the world, but instead expanded their intervention in neighboring countries. As a result, at least six regional and neighboring governments severed their relations with the regime. In the end, they staged a sham election and resorted to massive propaganda about the victory of illusory moderates. But the result was the continuation of the Supreme Leader's domination over both Assemblies, which Khamenei engineered and to which Rafsanjani consented. Indeed, this is the reality of masquerades about moderation and reform in Iran.

"Neither the deception about moderation nor the hoopla about the JCPOA succeeded in opening any doors for the regime."

Today, Iranian workers say that Rouhani's administration has imposed the most repressive policies against workers. Artists say that the scale of restrictions and pressures in the three years of Rouhani has been unprecedented since the revolution. Our Kurdish, Arab and Baluchi compatriots as well as the followers of other religions, especially our Sunni sisters and brothers, say that they have been subjected to repression and discrimination as never before. One can cite the arrests and executions in Ahwaz, the shelling of Kurdish villages in Iranian Kurdistan, and the resumption of production and testing of ballistic missiles. The number of executions each year is two to three times the figure during Rouhani's predecessor. In other words, neither the deception about moderation nor the hoopla

about the JCPOA succeeded in opening any doors for the regime. The fact is that even if the international community had provided the regime with the best opportunities, it would still remain feeble and incapable of resolving the crises engulfing it. Owing to explosive public discontent, the regime is continuously gripped by fundamental instability. Additionally, it has come face-to-face with a capable and vigilant alternative force. It is aware that this very alternative has the ability to steer the crises in the direction of overthrowing the entire regime.

Where can we see this reality? More vividly than anywhere else in the regime's own behavior. On October 29 last year, eight days after Khamenei wrote a letter to his president to approve the retreat from the nuclear program, he ordered the largest-ever missile attack on Camp Liberty in Iraq, home to Iranian dissidents. As a result of this crime, 24 Mojahedin members were killed. But, as with other instances, it was proven that Khamenei retreated from the bomb-making program the moment he feared the PMOI and of the alternative to the regime.

And just a few days ago, Khamenei first accepted the failure of his scheme to obstruct the transfer of PMOI members and their extradition, lamenting, "Why did they not handover these people to the Islamic Republic to carry out divine justice against them."

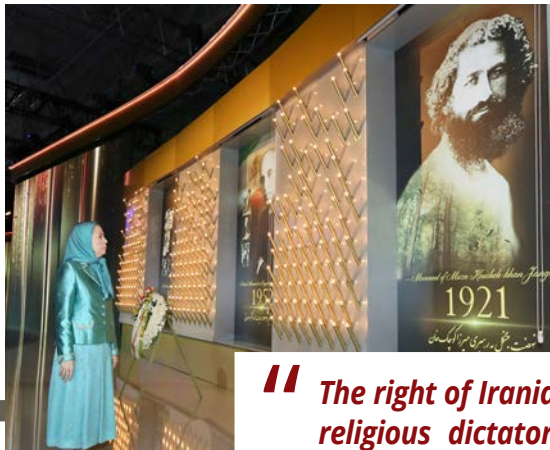
Since two weeks ago, the regime's Iraqi proxies prevented fuel, medicine and food from entering Camp Liberty. And five days before your major gathering here in Paris, he ordered the missile



“ The Iranian Resistance stands by the brother nation of Syria and its brave combatants. It is honored to act as the voice of solidarity between the two nations.



“ Our nation has arisen to secure its liberty even if it means plucking it from the dragon’s mouth.



“ The right of Iranian people to overthrow the religious dictatorship and attain freedom and democracy must be recognized.



attack against Camp Liberty. This was a reaction to Iranians welcoming this gathering. It was also a reaction to the courageous and commendable support expressed by political prisoners across the country for this gathering. Yes, again the moment of the Supreme Leader’s fear. But, our response to the clerical regime’s Supreme Leader is that, yes, divine verdict will certainly be carried out and that verdict is the overthrow of the velayat-e faqih regime. You can count on it!

Esteemed guests,

From what transpired in the past year, we can ascertain three fundamental realities:

First, both factions failed to find a way to preserve the regime. What is more, why should the Iranian people jump from the frying pan into the fire? No! The Iranian people reject both a black and a white turban. The velayat-e faqih regime must be overthrown in its entirety.

The second reality is that because of the Iranian people’s simmering desire for freedom and their readiness to fight on, the overthrow of the religious dictatorship is possible and within reach.

The third reality is that a real solution stands out, meaning that none exists within the ruling religious dictatorship. As a result, the solution offered by the National Council of Resistance of Iran, namely the overthrow of the ruling theocracy, is the most viable one. This solution is underpinned by the

existence of a democratic alternative. It is a solution based on the Iranian society’s simmering state and readiness. The suffering that political prisoners endure by staging lengthy hunger strikes exemplifies this resistance.

“The solution offered by the National Council of Resistance of Iran, namely the overthrow of the ruling theocracy, is the most viable one.”

Our nation’s workers are flogged and teachers are given long prison terms, but they fight on and refuse to give up. Our nation’s young women and men are being arrested and humiliated every day, but they continue to defy the mullahs’ impositions. Mothers are imprisoned and endure a multitude of pressures but they continue to demand justice. The combatants of freedom in Camp Liberty are shelled and face death by attrition because of hardships and a crippling siege, but they refuse to surrender, symbolizing resistance against the ruling regime.

This demonstrates our movement’s endless prowess. Our nation has arisen to secure its liberty even if it means plucking it from the dragon’s mouth. Today, therefore, the question is not whether the ruling theocracy will be overthrown. The question is how we can reach that goal more quickly. We can do so by establishing 1,000 Ashrafs, namely 1,000 bastions of rebellion and

resistance against the ruling theocracy. To achieve a free and just republic, we do not expect any miracles to happen. Nor do we expect any coincidental or chance occurrences in our favor. Our entire asset is the Iranian nation and its vanguard children. And this is indeed the greatest power in the world. So, we must expect everything to be achieved with our own hands and through our own determination. This is why we must establish 1,000 Ashrafs.

The symbolism of establishing 1,000 Ashrafs really speaks to an attempt to unearth repressed potentials; it means joining together the countless individuals who are currently scattered and disconnected, and it means encouraging people to invite the real hope in their hearts and minds that the beast can be brought down. Yes, we can and we must.

1,000 Ashrafs means that we bring about the overthrow of the regime through the power of our people’s determination and their organized resistance movement.

So, let me borrow from a poem by Bertolt Brecht, “Resist, person in exile! Resist, person in prison; Resist wife sitting in your house; Resist displaced person; Resist, you who are shivering in the cold; you must prepare to take command now.” The mantra of 1,000 Ashrafs offers both the blueprint for freedom, and the motivating force for the general uprising. It is the heavy hammer that will descend upon the ruling theocracy.

My fellow compatriots, We are full of hope because we have a history that has supplied the backbone needed to achieve freedom; because our nation has within it the capacity for major change, and because we have an organized movement that has built a bridge to the future through its sacrifice and resistance. But, there is someone who can make these hopes become reality; a vanguard who has arisen from the pain and suffering of the Iranian people, who has hoisted the banner of resistance against two dictatorships; the bright light that glows in the dark quarters of this struggle, the central link for all these hopes, and the source of optimism and hope for the Iranian people: Massoud Rajavi.

Thousands of years ago, Arash (the heroic archer figure of Iran mythology) established the boundaries of the Iranian nation. And now, Massoud is the figurative archer who points this historical arch toward freedom. Indeed, he is the source of inspiration and hope for our nation.

Let me add a few words about the policies pursued by the international community vis-à-vis the Iranian regime. As you are aware, international stakeholders assumed that the nuclear deal would bring tranquility to the region. But it rained down barrel bombs and 70,000 Revolutionary Guards on the people of Syria. It resulted in ethnic cleansing of Sunnis by the terrorist Quds Force in Iraq. And it led to the spread of extremism under the banner of Islam in the whole region. The Iranian Resistance stands by the brother nation of Syria and its brave combatants. It is honored to act as the voice of solidarity between the two nations. On the other hand, the mullahs and Daesh are reading from the same script. Both espouse a similar reactionary ideology, which is diametrically opposed to the pristine teachings of Islam. They have a similar modus operandi when it comes to barbarity and savagery. They need to rely on one another to survive. For this reason, so long as the regime's occupation of Syria, Iraq and Yemen continues, we cannot confront Daesh effectively. Regrettably, the notion of practical coordination with the terrorist Quds Force is being justified on the pretext of confronting Daesh. I warn that any silence vis-à-vis such an approach or any collaboration with the mullahs enables them to commit genocide and to infringe upon the national sovereignty of countries in the region.

Let me remind everyone that since the days of the great Dr. Mossadeq, U.S. policy on Iran, and consequently on the Middle East, has jumped from one mistake into the next: From the notion of empowering bogus moderates to blacklisting the PMOI, thereby blocking the path to change in Iran, to remaining silent vis-à-vis the 2009 uprising, thereby enabling the religious dictatorship. This policy has brought calamity to our nations and crisis to America.

"1,000 Ashrafs means that we bring about the overthrow of the regime through the power of our people's determination and their organized resistance movement."

How could this policy be corrected? We offer a solution that is the only effective option and the most indispensable and attainable solution: the right of the Iranian people to overthrow the religious dictatorship and attain freedom and democracy must be recognized.

This solution does not merely benefit the Iranian people. It also amounts to a breakthrough for the region and for the world. Many elected representatives of people throughout the world as well as senior U.S., European, Australian, Canadian, Asian and Middle Eastern personalities and dignitaries — who support freedom and democracy in Iran and the security of, and protection for, the residents of Liberty — proudly attest to this reality. I hail all of them and all of you present here today.

But the last word, yes, the last word, is the very first word for which we have risen up, namely resistance for freedom. Of course, we were not the first to take on this responsibility. This is the evolutionary extension of the 1906 Constitutional Revolution, of the national movement of Dr. Mossadeq and the July 21, 1952 uprising, which restored him as Prime Minister; it is a response to the stolen dreams of the 1979 Revolution and the blood-stained extension of June 1981 uprising.

Indeed, we were not the first to take on this responsibility, Prophets and great peacemakers were the pioneers.

In the Old Testament, God told Moses, "I have called upon you to liberate the enchained and those who live in darkness." The Bible quotes Jesus Christ as saying, "For someone who believes, everything is possible."

And the Quran has said, "So, Resist with a magnificent resistance. Surely they see it far off, and We see it nigh."

Throughout history, no obstacle and no barrier, however impenetrable and fortified, has succeeded in hindering this mandate. And in this light, the ruling religious dictatorship cannot withstand the power of the Iranian people's resistance. Indeed, a new era will dawn in Iran; a society based on democracy, separation of religion and state, and gender equality will blossom. To achieve this glorious objective, we have chosen to resist. We have chosen to resist anywhere and in any form to bring the ideal of freedom to fruition. We have chosen to resist so long as oppression and tyranny persist, and

we are honored to have made this choice. We will not relent until the day when freedom, democracy and equality roar like a powerful torrent from Azerbaijan to Baluchistan and from Khorassan to Khuzestan.

We will not relent until the day when Iranians of all persuasions and divergences can join hands to hoist the flag of victory, the flag of a free and democratic Iran. *



International Dignitaries



JOSÉ MANUEL BARROSO

*President of the European Commission
2004 - 2014*

I believe that given the opportunity to choose in real freedom their way of life, the Iranian people will choose freedom and not repression, tolerance and not religious fundamentalism, peace and not confrontation.

I am for an engagement with principles where human rights should never be let down, where we consistently put the issue of freedom and human rights in Iran and indeed all over the world.

Nothing is more important than the dignity of human being. We have to have a state that sees itself at the service of the human being, the concrete man, woman or child, and not the people at the service of the state. The truth is that because of terrorist attacks and fundamentalist organizations, there is now in Europe a movement of suspicion regarding the Muslim people.

"People of Iran deserve a better system and have the right to freedom, peace and tolerance."

It's very important that those that are the first to condemn, isolate, and fight terrorism, extremism and fundamentalism are Muslim people themselves. It's a fight that you have to win, certainly with the support of international community. So I wish you all the best. I hope that one day we will meet in Iran and we will be celebrating a free, democratic Iran because the people of Iran deserve a better system and have the right to freedom, peace and tolerance.



JOHN RUSS BAIRD

*Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs
until 2015*

The great struggle of our generation is the struggle against terrorism, and the regime in Tehran is by far the biggest state sponsor of terrorism in the world. Over the years, billions of dollars have left Tehran to sow fear, violence, death and destruction.

The people of Iran suffer each and every day under this regime. Death sentences in Iran are particularly disturbing because they are invariably imposed expeditiously by courts that completely lack independence and impartiality. Despite the election of Rouhani, there has been a dramatic increase in this activity. The regime targets a long list

of people, dissidents and activists, poets and filmmakers, students, Arabs, Baha'is, Christians, and other religious minorities.

The world should look at Canada's example over the last ten years. We closed our embassy in Tehran and each and every year for many, many years have led efforts at the United Nations to condemn this regime's horrific human rights record. But most importantly, we refused to go along with the obscene notion that Rouhani is any sort of moderate.

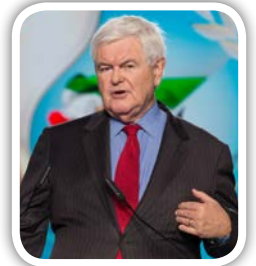
"We refused to go along with the obscene notion that Rouhani is any sort of moderate."

We have so many allies in the fight against this brutal regime. But our biggest ally in this struggle is the people of Iran. Make no mistake whatsoever. The people of Iran do not support the regime and they want to see it overthrown. The people of Iran abhor everything this regime stands for. They yearn for pluralism, human rights, equality of men and women, and freedom. Each and every one of us need to come together and stand in solidarity with the people of Iran.

NEWT GINGRICH

Former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representative

We have an obligation to communicate one key fact with support, with encouragement, with a systematic effort: The people of Iran will rise against the dictatorship, and we will eliminate the dictatorship as a threat to civilization. What you are doing by being here, by bringing all of these delegations who come from all around the world, by getting the news media to pay attention to the importance of your cause is an important act of citizenship.



"You are part of history and with continued commitment you are winning the argument."

You are making a difference and you are part of history, and with your continued commitment you are winning the argument. So I want you to know that the message I will take home to America is that there are thousands and thousands of Iranians who are prepared, who are ready, who are committed and who believe that we can truly bring democracy to Iran.

TOM RIDGE

First Secretary of U.S. Homeland Security



Now is the time for the world to recognize that since the behavior of the leaders in Tehran won't change, it's time to change the leaders. The NCRI has created the single most visible, most credible, and

most effective democratic movement with a clear and specific platform to bring a democratic Iran to existence, and I'm proud to join you and Madame Rajavi in support of that goal.

"We will be tireless in our efforts to support Mrs. Rajavi and all Iranians who favor democracy over tyranny."

All of us in this room must renew our commitment to the Iranian people. We will be tireless in our efforts to support Mrs. Rajavi and all Iranians who favor freedom over repression, human rights over human suffering, the rule of law to Sharia, and democracy over tyranny. The world would be a better place, a safer place, a more stable and peaceful place with a regime change in Iran.



PRINCE TURKI AL-FAISAL OF SAUDI ARABIA

We in the Muslim World Stand with You, Heart & Soul

There is a tradition that states that the Prophet Muhammad, (PBUH), once gestured towards his Persian companion Salman and said, "Even if faith were near the Pleiades, men from among the Persians would attain it."

This tradition points to a few fundamental truths about Persian history and identity. We can read this tradition as a testament to the Persian tradition of scientific and cultural achievement – that if anyone were able to grasp at the Pleiades, it would of course be the Persians...

During the medieval flowering of Islamic civilization, Persian people and Persian culture helped raise the Islamic World to greater heights of scientific and artistic accomplishment...

The Iranian Revolution of 1979, which installed the powerful yet polarizing Khomeini as Supreme Leader, was a new and vastly different articulation of Iranian identity. Khomeini's claim to rule was based on his interpretation of the concept of *velayat-e faqih*, the "guardianship of the jurists," a Shiite doctrine articulated in the late 19th century in face of a perceived increasing Europeanization of the Iranian imperial elites, which gave varying degrees of civil authority to religious scholars trained in Shi'ite Islamic law as opposed to the westernized imperial administrators and imperial family. Khomeini drastically expanded popular understanding of the doctrine: his own interpretation of "guardianship" gave himself, as the country's premier religious leader, unchecked authority over Iran's political affairs...

While Khomeini's "guardianship" did not extend politically beyond Iran's borders, his words and actions sent a message of an ambitious and wide-reaching Islamic command. He reached across ethnic and sectarian lines across the Muslim world, seeking to empower revolutionary political Islamists wherever they may be found or coopted. In Saudi Arabia in particular, despite words of welcome of a constitutionally Islamic government in Iran

by the Saudi leadership of 1979, Khomeini in his first year in power not only supported sectarian separatists in the Saudi Eastern Province, but also denounced all Muslim monarchies as un-Islamic.

Khomeini combined the Persian imperial ambition of the Shah with the more recent Shi'ite authority of his intellectual ancestors in Qom. This was an Iranian empire like no one had ever seen: insular, combative, and eschewing cultural exchange in favor of a claim to so-called universal truth rooted in self-interest and maintenance of the new revolutionary elite. It took on a pugilist's stance, not an embracing one.

Muslims around the world were dismayed by Khomeini's sudden claim to speak for them and what seemed like callous disregard for other Islamic traditions and ways of life. Muslims who followed theological traditions very different from the Twelvers and lived in countries with rulers, who were nothing like Khomeini, were disturbed to have their religion so closely linked with Khomeini's image, and to witness Khomeini embrace the role as the Supreme Leader not just of Iranians but of the entire Islamic world.

Of course, despite this isolationist and interventionist foreign policy, the first and foremost victims of Khomeinism have been the Iranian people themselves – not only the political activists opposed to his all-encompassing, authoritarian and totalitarian ideology; but also to the ethnic and religious minorities of Kurds, Arabs, Azaris, Turkmans, Baloch, Sunnis, Ismailis, Baha'is, Christians, and Jews of Iran against the clerical Twelver religio-political elite of the Revolution...

Today, the lofty beauty of the Pleiades can seem very far indeed from the reality of daily life in Iran. The country is marked not by worldliness or even by religion but by isolation; in contrast to the travelling artists of the Sassanians and the multilingual scholars of the Islamic Golden Age, many famous and well-respected Iranian artists today have trouble even getting on a plane to another country. Khomeini's ideological

ambitions have doomed the country to a cramped and narrow existence.

Interaction between Iran and its Muslim neighbors is limited and often hostile, due to their interventionist and interfering foreign policy relying on the constant and consistent and frequent creation of sectarian or Islamist armed proxy non-state organizations within states to serve Tehran's needs and weaken the nation-state, in order to create a strategically weakened periphery between an ideologically hostile revolutionary regime in Tehran against the West, at the center of which is a weakened and havoc-reeked Arab world, distracting the West, forcing them to cooperate with Tehran without comprising the mullahs' radical ideologies. Iranian policies under the Khomeinist regime since 1979 are constitutionally based on the principle of exporting the revolution, violating the sovereignty of countries in the name of "supporting vulnerable and helpless people." This has been the case over the years in Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, and elsewhere; relying on the Khomeinist regime's support of terrorism through the provision of safe havens in its country, planting terrorist cells in a number of Arab countries and even being involved in terrorist bombings and the assassinations of opponents abroad. Iranian actions in the Levant and across the Arab world have only worsened the once popular image of a populist Iran opposing the West, as such a façade has fallen and revealed the regime's Khomeinist intentions for what they are.

Be it in Morocco, Egypt, Palestine or even amongst Iraqi Shi'ites and Syrian Alawites themselves; Iranian interference is increasingly despised for the ruin it perpetuates and requires to be useful for the regime in Tehran. Elsewhere, the regime has supported groups from Sudanese Islamists, to the Japanese Red Army, the sectarian armed militias of the Iraqi Dawah Party, the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain, Lebanese Hezbollah,

... Continued on Page 14



HOWARD DEAN

Former President of the U.S.
Democratic Party

"Rafsanjani and Khamenei are war criminals and they should be treated as war criminals."



BILL RICHARDSON

Former Governor of New Mexico

"You've grown enormously in popular support and numbers and in political support from around the world."

I want to congratulate the resistance on the size of this crowd. I want to remind my fellow Americans that are at home right now a little bit about the nature of the Iranian regime. Not only have they murdered 2,500 of their own people in the last three years under the supposed moderate Rouhani, but they have helped murder 250,000 Syrian civilians by supporting the Butcher of Damascus, Bashar al-Assad. Let me remind my Americans at home that this is not just a matter of something that is going on in Iraq or Iran. Rafsanjani and Khamenei were in the room when the decision was made by the Iranian intelligence community to blow up the Jewish center in Buenos Aires in Argentina. These people are war criminals and they should be treated as war criminals. They should be indicted. We want somebody who just happens to be here, with a ten-point plan in Iran, to support people of all religions. We want in Iran what you are asking for, which is a secular government that respects Christians, Muslims, Zoroastrians, as well as Jews.

Today, Democrats and Republicans are here with you and you have so much support from around the world, from Parliamentarians, from leaders from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the United States; they're all here. You've grown enormously in popular support and numbers and in political support from around the world. I want to close with some questions. Can there be change in Iran? Can the mullahs be the agents of change? No! They continue their support of terrorism; they continue the executions and human rights violations; they continue to help Bashar Assad in Syria. There are no internal reforms in Iran. Will you be the democratic alternative in Iran that will bring human rights, freedom and democracy? I think the message here today is that the world must stand with the Iranian people. They should demand the end of the human rights violations and suppression in Iran. And we should stand behind the men and women at Camp Liberty. Let us not forget them.

Prince Turki al-Faisal's Speech Continued...

Hamas in Palestine and Islamic Jihad in Israel, the global organization of Al-Qaida and the Hezbollah in the Hijaz – all for the purpose of destabilizing Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states, so as to assist sectarian and revolutionary militants in these countries to replace the existing governments with proxies and puppets of the Khomeinist regime.

Iranians can be proud of their history and heritage. Arabs have the greatest respect for the faith and culture of Iranians, as well as the indelible Persian contribution to the marvels of Islamic society for nearly one and half millennia. Like all worthwhile achievements, Persia's greatest masterpieces were the product of cooperation and education, of learning from and with people of other backgrounds...

Pushing away these interlocutors, dividing Muslims with bombastic claims to religious leadership, intervening in neighboring nations' internal affairs and conflicts solely for the propagation of the regime's revolutionary interests, and refusing all rational solutions to the dispute over the Emirati islands, will not restore the former glory of Iran; it will do just the opposite. Khomeini wore the black turban that signified his pride in his long and noble Arab lineage. Today Khamenei and even Nasrallah wear it also. But the Iranian leadership's meddling in Arab countries is backfiring. The recent popular protests in all Iraqi cities, from Basra, where the Shiites make up the majority, to Kirkuk, where they don't, carried banners saying and they chanted: Iran, get out. Just this week, popular demonstrations in Abadan chanted, leave Syria.

Arabs will not be forced to wear a political suit tailored in Washington, London, or

Paris. They also reject even the fanciest garb cut by the most skillful tailor in Tehran. The situation in Syria, in which the Khomeini government has chosen to support al-Assad's regime, is a case in point. Ruhollah Khomeini was famous for his claim as the champion of the "mustazafin." Today, Khomeini's successors have chosen to support the oppressor, not the oppressed... In conclusion, the Islamic conversation is richer with the Iranian voice in it – likewise, the Muslim world too benefits from a strong, proud and influential Iranian presence; however, their approach must be one of mutual cooperation, exchange, and respect – as has proven necessary in all epochs of history with a strong Middle Eastern world. The Khomeinist regime has brought only destruction, sectarianism, conflict and bloodshed – not only to their own people in Iran, but across the Middle East. This is not the way forward. Until this existential element of the ideological elites of the Islamic Republic changes, I am afraid, there is little hope for progress in the tragic

geopolitical and societal abyss in which the Middle East, particularly the Levant, currently finds itself.

At the recent summit in Istanbul of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Muslim world unanimously condemned the Khomeinist government and Hezbollah for interfering in Arab countries and especially the sacking of the Saudi embassy and consulate in Tehran and Mashhad. The people of Iran should no longer suffer this humiliation. Khamenei and Rouhani believe that if they fix their relationship with the big Satan, their problems will be solved. They should pay heed to fixing their relationship with the Iranian people.

And you, Ladies and Gentlemen, your legitimate struggle against the Khomeinist regime will achieve its goal, sooner rather than later. The uprisings in various parts of Iran have ignited, and we, in the Muslim world, stand with you, heart and soul. We support you and we pray to God that He guide your steps so that all components of the people of Iran get their rights. ✨



U.S. Dignitaries' Video Messages in Solidarity



SENATOR JOHN MCCAIN

"The American people stand with you in your fight against violence, oppression and terrorism in Iran."

As you boldly call for democracy and human rights in Iran, the American people stand with you in your fight against violence, oppression and terrorism in Iran. Your display of unity is an inspiration to our nation and its people, who like you, sacrifice blood and treasure in pursuit of freedom. Unfortunately, the nuclear agreement has not tempered Iran's behavior nor has it improved human rights conditions in the region. Instead, this dangerous agreement has empowered Iran to be more aggressive in its malign activities and hegemonic ambitions in the region. We must do more to counter the dangerous threat that Iran's actions pose. We must resolve to stop the spread of radical terrorism and we must stand united with our friends at this dangerous hour.

ED RENDELL

Chair of Host Committee for Democratic National Convention & Former Governor of Pennsylvania

"You've gained the admiration and respect of not only the people in America but throughout the world."

My commitment is to all of you to help you someday see a free Iran. I believe that we'll achieve that one day; thanks to your commitment and the leadership of Maryam Rajavi. We have a legal obligation as well as a moral obligation to protect the safety of the residents of Ashraf who are now in Liberty.

I want the residents of Liberty to know that what you did in Ashraf and what you're doing in Liberty has been a beacon for people all over the world. You've gained the admiration and respect of not only the people in America but throughout the world.



CONGRESSMAN ED ROYCE

"We must push back against the Iranian government abuse of human rights at home and abroad."

As Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, we remain focused on the threat posed by the radical regime in Tehran. Stripping the rights of the Iranian people has been a consistent policy of this brutal regime since it seized power. Over the past three and a half decades thousands of Iranians have been taken from family and friends and convicted of vague charges without due process often in closed trials and as we know tens of thousands have been killed, thousands have been tortured in Evin prison. The world has given the government of Iran a free pass to attack the residents of Camp Ashraf with impunity. It is time to say enough. We must continue to push back against the Iranian government abuse of human rights at home and abroad.



NANCY PELOSI

*Speaker of the US House of Representatives
2007 to 2011
& Leader of Democrats in the House*

"Thank you for your work and leadership, thank you for your service and thank you for your commitment to democracy."

Greetings to the friends, supporters and advocates gathered for the 2016 Paris Rally for Democracy and Freedom in Iran. Freedom-loving people everywhere have a moral obligation to protect human rights. This international gathering honors that responsibility.

We must champion the building blocks of peace and prosperity and freedom in Iran and around the world. Women, students and minorities all have a valuable role to play in moving Iran forward. Their persecution must end.

This gathering is important to advancing the cause of human rights and freedom. The US is committed to achieving progress in the international community in this respect. Until the contributions of all Iranians are valued in Iran, we still have work to do. Thank you for your work and leadership, thank you for your service and thank you for your commitment to democracy.



CONGRESSMAN ELIOT L. ENGEL

"We are all going to keep fighting until we have freedom and independence for the people of Iran."

I admire everyone at this gathering because you are fighting for freedom in Iran. So I want everyone to know that I believe the United States and a free Iran could be, and should be, natural allies. The quarrel is not with the people of Iran but with the oppressive regime. We're all going to keep fighting until we have freedom and independence for the people of Iran. Just recently, the people at Camp Liberty were harassed and attacked. We need to put a stop to that. So let me conclude by saying, I wish you all again a very, very good conference. My heart is with you, and we will keep fighting for a free and democratic Iran.

US Dignitaries Side with Iranian Resistance for Change

JOHN BOLTON

Former U.S. Ambassador to the UN

We meet at almost the first anniversary of the Vienna nuclear deal and as was entirely predictable, the hopes that the deal would bring peace and stability to the Middle East and the wider world have been proven to be mere illusions. In fact, Iran has changed neither its policies nor its behavior in the year since Vienna.

"Support legitimate opposition groups that favor overthrow of the military theocratic dictatorship in Tehran."

The oppression inside Iran continues. Tehran's drive for hegemony in the region continues unabated. It is making what is left of Iraq into a satellite of the Ayatollah's regime. It is aiding the Assad regime in Syria with other 70,000 regular forces from the revolutionary guards and militias and paramilitary troops. It continues to fund and arm Hezbollah and Hamas and it is aiding the Houthis in Yemen. So much for change in behavior on the part of the regime. So I say again, there is only one answer here: support legitimate opposition groups that favor overthrowing the military theocratic dictatorship in Tehran and it should be the declared policy of the United States and all of its friends to do just that at the earliest opportunity.



MICHAEL MUKASEY

Former U.S. Attorney General

I am really here to speak not simply on my own behalf but also on behalf of Mayor Rudolf Giuliani who, unfortunately, could not be here today. But he wanted me to tell you that although he is not here, he is still in the fight and he will remain in the fight until it ends successfully for you and for us all.

"Rudi Giuliani is still in the fight and will remain in the fight until it ends successfully."

That fight, unfortunately, is going to have to include fighting not only the mullahs but also sometimes our own government. And we're willing to do that until the residents of Camp Liberty — and what a terrible name for a prison — have left and until we achieve complete victory which means a change of regime in Tehran. It means the victory for you, for all of the Iranian people, and really for all freedom-loving people in the world. For that, I am grateful to you and Mayor Giuliani is grateful to you.



LOUIS FREEH

Former
Director
of FBI

This week
marked
the 20th

anniversary of the bombing of the Kobar towers in Saudi Arabia where 19 Americans and dozens of Saudis were killed by the Saudi Hezbollah, which was trained by the IRGC. The bombers received their passports in the Iranian embassy in Damascus and were trained in the Beqaa Valley.

"Madam Rajavi, thank you for leading the way and being the only alternative to terrorist regime in Tehran."

I was so thrilled and moved to see a representative of the Saudi family here today talking about standing with you and with all of us in the continuing fight against the mullahs and the terrorists in Tehran. Finally, over 20 years, one thing that has remained constant is the bravery, leadership, dedication, and sacrifice that you have all made in the spirit of freedom. Madam Rajavi, thank you for being a constant anchor and a beacon of hope and faith for all of us. Thank you for leading the way and for being the only alternative to a terrorist regime in Tehran.



MITCHELL REISS

U.S. Special Envoy to Northern Ireland

One year since the nuclear deal, Iran continues to acquire nuclear technology from around the world to pursue its ambition of acquiring nuclear weapons.

"Madam Rajavi is right that peace will come to the region and dignity to all Iranians only when Iran is led by a democratically elected government."

It continues to bankroll and support the murderous regime in Syria. It continues to intervene massively in Iraq. It continues to threaten its neighbors around the Gulf. Madame Rajavi and PMOI have been warning the world for years about the dangers presented by the Iranian regime. Today no one can doubt the wisdom of their words. They have been right all along the line about these dangers. They are also right about one more fact. They are right that peace will come to the region and dignity to all the Iranian people only when Iran is led by a representative democratically elected government that embraces the agenda of Madame Rajavi and the PMOI, that honors its citizens, and that respects the rule of law.



ROBERT TORRICELLI - U.S. Senator (1997 - 2003)

On a radio in a camp in Baghdad, hundreds of brave souls are listening to this broadcast, and they need to know that they are on the front lines of the fight for Iranian freedom, and we will never forget their sacrifices in Camp Liberty.

"To those who have lost their lives, Iranian children will remember your names for a thousand years."

To those who have stood in Camp Liberty, to those who have lost their lives, Iranian children will remember your names for a thousand years. You will deliver a free Iran. It is hard to see history up close. But one day you will remember you were in this room when a coalition which begins in America and Canada, stretches across Europe and North Africa, now has a new anchor and a powerful voice, the kingdom of Saudi Arabia has joined our ranks and it will never, never be the same. The cowards in Tehran have something new to fear, something powerful. Saudi Arabia has taken a stand.

Arab Nations Stand with Iranian Resistance

Arab Dignitaries & Parliamentary Delegations from the Middle East and North African Countries



SID AHMED GHOZALI
Former Prime Minister of Algeria

I greet you all my Iranian sisters and brothers and on your behalf, I would like to welcome all brothers and sisters who have attended from Arab countries and it is an honour for me to present them to you. Allow me to make two points: First is the issue of Ashraf and Liberty. On behalf of all of you, I condemn the recent

attack of July 4 on Camp Liberty with 50 missiles in which large parts of the camp were burned in fire and dozens of people were injured. My second point is about very important documents which I have received from:

1. 3000 Iraqi Sheikhs who issued a statement in support of the PMOI and Camp Liberty residents.
2. 120 civil organizations that issued similar statements.
3. In three Arab parliaments, majority members condemned the Iranian regime's meddling in regional countries and its suppression of the Iranian people, and declared their support for the PMOI. These include the newly elected Parliament of Egypt which God bless them and help them, as well as the parliaments of Jordan and Bahrain.

SOLEIMAN WAHDAN AMMAREH

Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Egypt



I would like to take the opportunity in this international gathering to say that in our country, we are fighting against terrorism and this is something we must do in all fields including terrorism in minds and ideologies or against those inhuman organizations that are seeking chaos in humanity and disturbing human feelings.

"Your freedom will one day eventually come to existence and you will be in your country of Free Iran."

I would also like to urge the Iranian people inside and outside Iran to seek their freedom. No matter how long it takes, with the help of this magnificent gathering, which I have not seen anything like it before, your freedom will one day eventually come to existence and you will be in your country of Free Iran. I greet you all.



Delegations of Arab Parliamentarians and Personalities from various countries including Egypt, Algeria, Jordan, Palestine, Morocco, Tunisia, Yemen, Bahrain, Lebanon and Iraq.

**MOHAMMAD
AL-LAHAM**

MP, Palestine



I am extremely honoured to convey to you the greetings of the Palestinian leadership and people and to express our deepest solidarity and cooperation with you in your struggle against the tyrannical regime. This is a Velayat-e-Faqih regime that is proud of its religious sectarianism and has challenged the international community through inclusion of religious tendencies in its Constitutional Law and dispatch of its paramilitary forces beyond its borders responsible for killings and sectarian seditious conduct.

"Iranian regime made the highest damages to our efforts for freedom and independence weakening our national unity through encouraging the regrettable June 2007 coup d'état in Gaza against a legal rule."

Our people, who have suffered from various oppressions and the most atrocious racial occupation, have paid a high price for the Iranian regime's meddling in our internal affairs. This regime made the highest damages to our efforts for freedom and independence weakening our national unity through encouraging the regrettable June 2007 coup d'état in Gaza against a legal rule.

It is a great honour today to attend the international gathering of the Iranian Resistance and its supporters in Paris, in a free country, to form a strong structure and a joint front for confronting religious fundamentalism.

You are the noble part of the struggle of the heroic Iranian people. I salute the PMOI and all Iranian groups and parties which struggle for freedom. I also wish freedom for those who are in besieged Camp Liberty and perseverance for your legitimate struggle.

We will step forward together to confront fundamentalism, religious sectarianism and racism. Those who think it is possible to overcome the ISIS without eliminating first the tyrannical and suppressive regimes in Iran and elsewhere are making a big mistake. We salute you and as you have supported us in our struggle, we will be with you.

We will be together until you reach your final goal of freedom, liberation and removal of the tyrant.



SALEH GHALAB

*Former Minister of
Publicity, Jordan*



In the name of God, our next gathering should be in Tehran. People of Iran must gain victory. Those who betrayed

them will be defeated. Iran will be free for the people of Iran and you are the very people of Iran.

Four days after the 1979 revolution in Iran, I was in Tehran and the first place I entered was the headquarters of the PMOI (Mojahedin).

Like you, we all wanted to see a revolution in the right path based on friendship between Arabs and Iranians. But those narrow-minded traitors who are now watching us through satellite hijacked the uprising of the PMOI and the Iranian people. An Arab song from Egypt says: There is wisdom in the God's deed and there is an end to every oppressor. These oppressors will be annihilated and they will be damned in history.

"Those narrow-minded traitors who are now watching us through satellite hijacked the uprising of the PMOI and the Iranian people."

They took us to Evin Prison to explain how the Shah tortured people of Iran, and now torture is carried out in Evin million times worse. Why are there killings in Evin? This is a question asked by many. People of Iran are hungry; they demonstrated in Isfahan; a demonstration which was led by the PMOI.

Why should the wealth of the Iranian people go to Syria, Iraq and for Hassan Nasrallah, Hezbollah and Daesh and to be spent in Yemen? This wealth is for your next generation to build schools and universities and it is to be spent on a bright future for Iran. They will not survive. Like other tyrants in history, they will be removed and Iran will be once again an important country of the region and will be run in peace with liberty and democracy based on science, schools and universities.

I want to say about Camp Liberty. Liberty is Iran and all parts of Iran are Camp Liberty since they are all in pain and under attack with killings but my final word is: People will succeed and victory is theirs. Iran will be victorious and you will win. The PMOI is representing the Iranian people and it will be victorious. We will see you in Tehran.



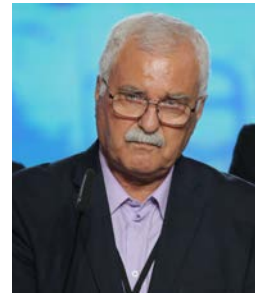
Iranian & Syrian Oppositions in a United Front

Victory of One is Triumph for the Other



GEORGE SABRA

Deputy of the Supreme
Delegation of the Syrian
Opposition's Negotiations



The Mullahs hijacked Iranian people's revolution and today they are hijacking the security and stability of the region. This religious dictatorship has created a regime which alters the history; it disrupts human relations between the peoples through sowing the seeds of hatred, enmity, fanaticism and sectarianism; it provokes animosity. This regime is driving the whole region towards annihilation.

"Syrian and Iranian revolutions are battles in a united front in the face of Tehran's oppressive regime and its subordinates in Damascus and capitals of other Arab countries."

Syrian and Iranian revolutions are battles in a united front in the face of Tehran's oppressive regime and its subordinates in Damascus and capitals of other Arab countries. Both the Iranian and Syrian nations have suffered similar pain and agony in their battle against the dictatorial rulers for half a century. Victory of the Iranian people will be that of the Syrian people and triumph of the Syrians will be that of the Iranians too. People of Syria and Iran are ascending the turbulent stairs of freedom through giving the blood of their children in an indescribably heroic decision. They are asking: Where does the free world stand vis-à-vis the situation in a country that represents the highest human civilization? What does it think about the security of Camp Liberty and dignity of its residents? What does it think about the security of Syrian people and their dignity? They have been facing a conflict and massacre in all cities, villages and refugee camps. We believe that glory belongs to Iran's heroic resistance and victory belongs to the magnificent sacrifices of the Syrian people who will eventually send away Qassem Soleimani in his coffin from Aleppo fronts to Tehran.

DR. NASR AL-HARIRI

Former Secretary General of the Syrian National Coalition

"There will be no liberation from Daesh (ISIS) and all terrorist organizations as long as the mullahs' regime is in the region. ."

In my homeland, Syria, more than half a million people have been martyred and over 14 million have migrated to taken refuge. More than 300,000 are in jails but it is our determination to win. We underscore that there will be no security and stability in the region as long as the mullahs regime and its agents – Bashar Assad at their top - exist; there will be no liberation from Daesh



and all terrorist organizations as long as the mullahs regime is in the region; it is impossible to hope for a bright future of human rights, freedoms and the rule of law as long as the mullahs regime is in power in Tehran. I stress once more that Damascus will be the gate where the mullahs' plan will be smashed and our heroes will chase this oppressive enemy to crush it until liberation comes to us and to you.





French Delegation

DOMINIQUE LEFEBVRE

MP of Val d'Oise

We know a free and democratic Iran is an essential and necessary condition for the stabilization of the region. A realistic policy vis-à-vis Iran cannot rest on a balance that does not reflect the democratic aspirations of Iranian people. That is why the Parliamentary Committee for Democratic Iran support the 10-point program presented by Maryam Rajavi, President of the NCRI, for a democratic and non-nuclear Iran, based on separation of state and religion, equality of men and women, and peaceful coexistence with its neighbours.



EVELYNE YONNET

Senator of Seine St Denis

I speak here on behalf of the French Committee for Democratic Iran that brings together many personalities of different political sensitivities. For us, defense of the universal values is inseparable from our political life. This is why we say here loud and clear: No to executions in Iran, particularly execution of minors; no to the flogging of workers demanding their rights and young people having a party and women who do not want to wear the compulsory veil. We support with all our strength the legitimate aspirations for a free and democratic Iran which is embodied in a woman defending justice and freedom and who fights for total equality between men and women and the eradication of extremism that wreaks havoc in your region and also in our neighborhoods.



MICHEL TERROT

MP of Rhône



Today, the heart of Iranian people is beating here in France at Le Bourget; the people who advocate and fight for a democratic Iran, for a strong and secular Iran, and for an Iran in the region which would work to ease rather than inflame conflicts. As a French parliamentarian with many others and many French people, we will continue to work and support the admirable struggle of Maryam Rajavi.

Today, the heart of Iranian people is beating here in France at Le Bourget; the people who advocate and fight for a democratic Iran, for a strong and secular Iran, and for an Iran in the region which would work to ease rather than inflame conflicts. As a French parliamentarian with many others and many French people, we will continue to work and support the admirable struggle of Maryam Rajavi.

STEVE MCCABE, MP

As Madame Rajavi said, there's almost a symbiotic relationship between Daesh and Iran's Revolutionary Guards. They are opposite sides of the same coin. This export of terror is causing Iran's economic woes and is stifling its economy. This is where the resources that the West decided to release when it lifted sanctions and unfroze bank accounts are going.

If we want peace and stability in the region, we need to listen to Madame Rajavi. We need to make clear that Iran will face punitive sanctions if it doesn't cease its activities in Syria. We need to ensure that Security Resolution 2231 is enforced and that we put an end to the export of arms and terrorism from Iran to other countries in the region. We need to stop propping up companies who decide to do business with those groups associated with the Iranian Revolutionary Guards. And we need to cease all activity with Iranian banking groups who both launder money and support other terrorist activities. That's the only way we'll make a difference. Let's stand up for a free Iran.



MATTHEW OFFORD, MP

I spoke about the dreadful situation of Iran's political prisoners in a debate in the House of Commons on June 28 and concluded that the time for concrete and verifiable improvements in Iran, especially on human rights, is long overdue. Iranian people seek democracy and a free and open country. Our Government's policy on Iran cannot ignore or underestimate these realities. As such, I called on our government, given its permanent status on the UN Security Council and its strong voice at the UN Human Rights Council, to take the lead on the international scene to secure the concrete actions with regards to advancing and promoting human rights in Iran. We will pursue the matter in the UK Parliament until it is achieved.



British

I am absolutely delighted to have such a wonderful delegation with me. We have the signatures in a book from the House of Commons and the House of Lords of over 400 members who are supporting the ten point plan of Madame Rajavi.

The British delegation is perhaps the strongest and the oldest cross-party support for you in Parliament. We have had successive generations of members of Parliament and members of the House of Lord supporters. Some of them, like the late Lord Corbert, and my colleague Tony Clark, were the vanguards. Some who are here today in our delegation have joined later, though they have been with our committee for over a decade: Mr. Steve McCabe and Mark Williams and Lord Carter. Some of my colleagues have joined the cause in





GILBERT MITTERRAND

President of the
France Libertés Fondation

As President of the France Libertés Fondation, the fate of Ashraf residents, today residents of Camp Liberty, remains our fight. That is why we condemn the latest attack on Camp Liberty. This reminds UN authorities as well as American, European and French authorities of their accountability to such offenses and conflicts. Above all, effective measures must be taken to prevent this from reoccurring before the final transfer of the residents. This is the point where the struggle for human rights and freedom gets connected to the struggle for a democratic and free Iran. These are two fights that join together and add to each other.

German Delegation



GUNTER VERHEUGEN

We turned into supporters of the Iranian Resistance because we wanted to prevent a humanitarian catastrophe in Camp Ashraf. Human beings became targets of terrorism just because they represented our ideals: freedom, justice, tolerance and peace. And therefore, they fell victims to murderous attacks. You cannot achieve reforms in domestic policies through negotiations with a religious and fanatic regime. What on Earth has improved ever since we struck the Iran deal? Murders are going on, torture is going on, there is no freedom, and people are still oppressed. Nothing has improved. So, the conclusion is very simple: You cannot change a regime that is based on religious fanaticism. You cannot negotiate with it; you can only replace it. You can replace it with a democratic opposition that has committed itself today here in Paris.



Right to left: Sabine Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger (Former Minister of Justice), Rita Süßmuth (Former speaker of the Federal Parliament), Gunter Verheugen (European Commissioner for Enterprise and Industry), Otto Bernhardt (Chair of the German Committee in Solidarity with Free Iran), Horst Teltschik (Former Chairman of Munich Security Conference), Detlef Wagner (Former Christian Democrat Party-Berlin), Christian Zimmermann (Director of Human Rights Office-Berlin).

OTTO BERNHARDT

One of our main objectives has been from the very beginning to ensure that the people of Camp Liberty be brought to safety as quickly as possible. We managed to take one hundred of them to Germany, which was quite difficult. There is one country that should also be applauded, once again, and praised, that have taken in so many, hundreds of them. I can only say, I pay tribute to the great performance of Albania.



Delegation

the last four or five years: Dr. Matthew Offord, Mr. Bob Blackman, Mr. Mark Pritchard, Mr. Craig Williams, Dr. Paul Moynihan, and his colleagues Mr. Ronnie Cowan, Mr. Steve Patterson, Mr. John McNally, all representing the wonderful Scottish Nationalist party. We are also joined by prominent jurists like Kirsty Brimelo, QC and Professor Sara Chandler QC and Mr. Malcolm Fowler.



DAVID AMESS, MP

BISHOP JOHN PRICHARD

Bishop John Prichard reminded a call in November 2015 by himself, by the Archbishop of Wales, and by over 50 bishops for decisive actions to end attacks on Camp Liberty. Referring to the camp residents, he said: "Nothing seems to deter these gallant refugees from standing tall and seeking to bring freedom and justice to Iran. This recent attack just demonstrates that the Iranian regime is doing everything it can to prevent the relocation of those residents of Camp Liberty to other countries outside." He thanked Albania for hosting them and called on the British government again to guarantee the safety of these residents and expedite their relocation to places outside Iraq." He further added: "I want to stress that in clear opposition to what the Iranian regime is doing to Christians, we have Madame Rajavi, a Muslim leader who symbolizes interfaith harmony between Muslims and Christians. This represents a crucial change for religious minorities in Iran. So I wish you, Madame Rajavi, every success in your struggle. I'm absolutely with you."



PAUL MONAGHAN, MP



Today, we are here because we believe the Iranian people deserves more than being associated with barbaric atrocities or terrorism. We are encouraged to see that there is a domestic opposition movement, the NCRI, with popular support, that offers the Iranian people an alternative to the current regime and shows a way forward to a free and democratic Iran that offers freedom, rule of law and human rights. That is why, we support you and Mrs Maryam Rajavi. We will continue to call on our government to initiate and

engage in a constructive dialogue with the NCRI so that your people can be free sooner rather than later.



European Dignitaries



GIULIO TERZI

Former Italian Foreign Minister

Once again, we convene in this wonderful gathering to express our staunch determination to fight for dignity and freedom while our brothers and sisters in Camp Liberty have been attacked once again by terrorist militias guided, organized, and controlled by hands and minds full of blood in Tehran. This savage attack illustrates the mullah's fear of the resilient freedom fighters who want nothing but democracy, human rights, and sovereignty for their people.

"Savage attack on Camp Liberty illustrates the Mullahs' fear of the resilient freedom fighters who want nothing but democracy, human rights and sovereignty for their people."

The Iranians in Camp Liberty are the ones who inspire all Iranian for democratic change. Mojahedin of Camp Liberty are determined to continue their struggle whatever the price would be. They are symbols of courage, heroism, self-sacrifice, and perseverance. Let me also underline the duties of the US, European governments and the UN regarding the security and safety for Camp Liberty. The Fourth of July attack on the Camp shows once again how urgent is the need to protect and transfer all residents out of Iraq as speedily as possible. There must be no gold rush to the Iranian market when the risk exists to feed and to provide more money and financial resources to a heinous regime which funds terrorism and sedition in sovereign countries and disturbs the regional stability.



AD MELKERT

Former Special Representative of the UN Secretary General in Iraq

"When elementary human rights are being violated under the eyes of those that have a responsibility to protect, we don't expect the UN to merely assume a broker's role."

Fortunately, over the past year, it has been possible for some of Camp Liberty residents to leave their plight behind and find a home in a country that truly deserves respect and gratitude for providing hospitality: Albania. We know that there is still an unforgiving sense of revenge that puts the life of the remaining residents at the highest possible risk. We wonder why the international community does not act more forcefully, more credibly, and more effectively. When elementary human rights are being violated under the eyes of those that have a responsibility to protect, we do not expect the UN to merely assume a broker's role. It is time to enforce authority and for the secretary general to convene all parties involved for ensuring lasting guarantees with regard to life, property, and eventual right for all to be able to leave unharmed and to find safe asylum.

ALEJO VIDAL QUADRAS

Former Vice-President of the European Parliament

"The Iranian regime's weapons are falsity and crime. Our weapons are truth, courage, faith and freedom. This is why final victory will be ours."

I will begin by saluting the brave residents in Camp Liberty. I strongly condemn the recent rocket attack on July 4 on the Camp. The US and the UN mission in Iraq have a direct responsibility to guarantee the security and safety of Liberty residents until all of them are transferred outside Iraq. It is an outrageous scandal that after so many deadly attacks, and so many requirements and warnings from humanitarian organizations and parliamentarians all over the world, nothing effective has been done yet. The Iranian regime has tried to prevent people and politicians attending this huge event today. Their weapons are falsity and crime. Our weapons are truth, courage, faith and freedom. This is why final victory will be ours.



STRUAN STEVENSON

Chair of the European Iraqi Freedom Association

"Freedom, justice, honor, duty, mercy and hope are the key principles of Mrs. Maryam Rajavi and the PMOI."

We need to understand how the extremist groups came into being. Both Shiite and Sunni extremist groups adhere to the same violent and despotic philosophy which champions the creation of a universal Islamic caliphate through bloody violence and conquest. Both advocate repression of women, violation of basic human rights, and total suppression of non-believers and opponents of Sharia law. The Iranian regime exports terror. The Revolutionary Guard and the Quds Force supply arms, money, and military personnel to every Middle East conflict zone. No philosophy of terror and extremism can flourish in a soil enriched with tolerance and love. In the famous words of Sir Winston Churchill, "All great things are simple, and many can be expressed in single words: freedom, justice, honor, duty, mercy, hope." These are the core values of the NCRI. These are the key principles of Mrs. Maryam Rajavi and the PMOI.



Members of European Parliament Support «Free Iran» Gathering



**GÉRARD
DEPREZ**

*President of
Friends of
Free Iran in
the European
Parliament*

On 14 June 2016, Gérard Deprez, President of Friends of Free Iran in the European Parliament, announced that over 270 MEPs from all 28 EU Member States and all political groups signed a joint statement on Iran, calling on EU to “condition” its relations with Tehran to improvement of human rights. Anthea McIntyre, MEP, spoke about this in the “Free Iran” Gathering.



ANTHEA MCINTYRE

*Member of the
European Parliament*

As a representative of the European Parliament, I am one of over 270 voices from the Parliament calling for future relations with Iran to be conditional upon respect for human rights and a halt to executions. As a woman, I am especially concerned about the situation of women in Iran. Rouhani’s regime has increased the restrictions on women; some 70 women have been executed and many women are in prison because they dared to express their opinion.

I believe that the European Union should not have diplomatic and trade relations with Iran, until the executions end and human rights are respected. The European Commission officials should stop making trips to Iran to discuss commercial deals. I find it sickening to see women officials discard their normal clothes just to appease the mullahs, and adopt the dress code that is imposed on millions of Iranian women against their free will.

The people of Iran deserve so much better. And that is why we stand behind Maryam Rajavi. She has stood up for democracy. She has stood up against the fundamentalists. She has stood up against the mullahs who threatened our free world today. Maryam, you are an inspiration to us all. She is a very brave lady. She is a great leader, so long live free Iran.

Video Messages of MEPs in Solidarity with the Gathering



JOSÉ BOVÉ
(MEP, Greens, France)

How can we today accept a regime that imprisons, prosecutes and executes thousands of women, journalists, union activists, and youths? The people are forced to keep silent. How can we accept that our democratic and secular country deals and trade with such regimes? I ask all supporters of Maryam Rajavi and the Iranian Resistance to participate in the major gathering held on July 9 to support a democratic and secular Iran. Today, more than ever, the world needs a democracy which is transparent and secular, and that is why I am supporting the Iranian Resistance.



TUNNE KELAM
(MEP, EPP, Estonia)

We cannot proceed with our relationship with Iran, be it political, economic or social unless there is an improvement of the human rights situation in Iran. There has been no change of politics or mood in the Iranian regime. The regime has been the root of extremists in the Middle East, one of the causes of the presence of ISIS. It can’t be expected that allying or cooperating with Iranian leadership could be a remedy. I look forward to the 9th July when there will be the yearly huge meeting of the supporters of free and democratic Iran in Paris under the leadership of Madam Rajavi.



PATRIZIA TOIA
(MEP, S&D, Italy)

I would like to express my solidarity with the people of Iran who are living under a religious dictatorship. I am particularly concerned about women in Iran and about the limitations they have to tolerate. People of Iran deserve to have a democratic leader. I have a lot of sympathy for the leader of the Iranian Resistance, Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, whom I have met several times in Brussels. Her leadership as a Muslim woman brings hope for a free Iran. I encourage everyone to join the “Free Iran” gathering event in Paris on the 9th of July. I hope your rally would be a great success.



MARIAN HARKIN
(MEP, ALDE, Ireland)

Discrimination and criminal repression against ethnic and religious minorities, arrests of critics and systematic censorship still continue in Iran. We are particularly concerned about the current rising rate of executions in Iran. The model proposed by Madam Maryam Rajavi calling for the abolition of death penalty and for equality between men and women is the most progressive. On the 9th of July, there will be a huge gathering in Paris to support Iranian people’s call for democratic change in Iran. I would urge as many people as possible to attend that event.



KERRY KENNEDY

President of Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights

We stand in solidarity with the Iranian people. We stand against the mullahs who have caused untold terror to your beloved country with their oppression and reign of terror. Under the mullahs, women are banned from pursuing a long litany of professions. Child marriage is prevalent and the legal age for marrying off a daughter is 13 years old, and with court permission, 9 years old. In 2011, nearly 50,000 little girls between 10 and 14 were married. They might call it marriage, but others would call that spade sexual slavery.

"Let the mullah tyrants tremble and shrink as we join with the people in Iran and speak truth to power."

In Iran, the second biggest user of capital punishment in the world, young women can be hanged for crimes, following unfair trials, including those based on forced confessions extracted through torture and other ill treatments. The frightened girls are imprisoned in a juvenile delinquents correction center after their verdicts, and a large number of the inmates are then killed on their 18th birthday. We cannot say we did not know. The time is long past for Iran to end these widespread abuses. They are wrong and in violations of international human rights law. Let the mullah tyrants tremble and shrink as we join with the people in Iran and speak truth to power. It is time to free Iran.

RAMA YADE

Former French Minister of State for Human Rights



A year after the nuclear deal in 2015, sanctions against the Iranian regime have been lifted but in the substance of human rights, absolutely nothing have changed. The Iranian regime still holds the world record in executions. A regime which organizes hangings in public places is not a state like any other. In Syria, the poison spreads since with the complicity of the West, Iran is involved in the killing of the Syrian people. It's tough times for democracy; it is a dirty time for human rights; it is tough times for freedoms because meanwhile, business continues. Blocked accounts abroad are back in Tehran immediately ignoring this grim reality. Companies, investors, banks have resumed their trade with the mullahs' regime, fourth oil reserves, second gas reserve, ten-eighth global economy. That is the reason of this commercial frenzy. But the Iranian regime cannot delude; history teaches us that without political rights, business cannot walk. Iran cannot claim any ownership to the community of nations as long as Iranians are not free. Iran cannot claim any respectability without respecting the rights of peoples. Iran cannot claim to be the policeman of the Middle East in its apparent struggle against Daesh while it supports the butcher of Damascus, Bashar al-Assad, who has 250,000 deaths on his conscience.

"As Mullahs' regime rule over Tehran, we will be, Mrs. Rajavi, on your side to demand the abolition of death penalty, release of political prisoners, freedom of expression, an end to censorship, freedom of conscience and equality for women."

Human rights are not a Western value, but a universal principle. We have a duty to tell the truth to the world, that the supposedly moderate claimed Rouhani has a worse record than its predecessor, Ahmadinejad. Secularists, democrats, women and Christians are still the subject of fierce repression but there is among Iranians a huge will to stand up for democracy and for freedom. The agreement of July 2015 is an historical mistake, cynicism, weakness, helplessness prevailed over the calls for freedom, but this is only one round and as the Mullahs' regime rule over Tehran, we will be, Mrs. Rajavi, on your side to demand the abolition of death penalty, release of political prisoners, freedom of expression, an end to censorship, freedom of conscience and equality for women. I want to tell you my friends, as a woman I am proud to be your friend and partner in struggle. Long live Free Iran! "



FRANCES TOWNSEND

Former White House National Security Advisor

"Mrs. Rajavi, you stand for gender equality against a misogynist regime. I am so proud to stand with the women of this movement and in Camp Liberty."

Your work here has never been more important. It's incredible to me that Rouhani, the moderate, in his three years in office is responsible for 2,500 executions, more than any other leader in Iran in the last 25 years. Can you imagine the UN sanctioned him for the execution of children? It doesn't get much worse. So your work, the work of Mrs. Rajavi, and the principles that you all stand for here are increasingly important. In the face of violent extremism and an oppressive regime, you stand for freedom. Mrs. Rajavi, you stand for gender equality against a misogynist regime. I look out at the women here today and I am so proud to stand with the women of this movement, with the women in Camp Liberty. When I think of the rise of acid attacks against women in Iran, meant to intimidate and silence them, I say I am proud to be your voice and I stand with you. You here today, those in Camp Liberty and in Ashraf before then, you are the future of Iran. You are the voice of Iran. Tehran hears you today and the world hears you. You will be successful.

Special Report by Washington Times

The Washington Times

Thursday • July 14 • 2016

ONWARDS TO FREEDOM IN IRAN
BIPARTISAN VOICES CALL FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE



<http://www.washingtontimes.com/specials/onwards-freedom-iran-bipartisan-voices/>

Bipartisan Declaration of the U.S. Delegation in «Free Iran» Gathering

Read out by Linda Chavez and Patrick Kennedy



THE FOLLOWING POINTS REPRESENT THE UNIFIED, BIPARTISAN VIEW OF THE AMERICAN DELEGATION

1. In democracies like America, we have learned that tolerance and respect for all religions and individual freedom of religion are essential to a peaceful society. *That is why we agree with the NCRI that the Iran will remain a threat to its neighbors and to its own people so long as the Supreme Leader claims total authority over the nation's affairs and violates the sovereignty of other countries.*

2. In democracies like America, elected leaders have limited terms, and citizens are accustomed to choosing new office-holders promising a different direction whenever the public believes change is needed.

That is why we agree with the NCRI that US policy has misunderstood Iranian regime politics for years; whether hard-line or so-called reformist, all of Iran's leading regime figures bear responsibility for terrorism, assassinations, massive human rights violations and political executions. None have clean hands and all will try to block true reform.

3. In democracies like America, we tend to label politicians based upon their place in the liberal-to-conservative spectrum, because these differences in philosophy translate into differences in policy.

However, we agree with the NCRI that in Iran, such labels do not have any meaning for the people. Hassan Rouhani is called a reformer, but internal repression and external aggression have only increased since he took office. Iran is already conducting provocative ballistic missile tests that the P5+1 thought had been prohibited by the nuclear agreement.

4. Like most of our colleagues in Washington, we have for many years looked for opportunities to achieve real restraints on nuclear proliferation by untrustworthy states including Iran.

Yet we share the NCRI's concern that the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) fell short of ending the threat of a future nuclear-armed Iran. Whether or not the Tehran regime is following the 'letter' of the JCPOA, it is clear they have nothing but contempt for the 'spirit' of the deal. We particularly commend Madame Rajavi for advocating a nuclear-free Iran as a core policy for the NCRI. There is no threat to the Iranian people that would be reduced by nuclear weapons in the hands of this regime.

5. Whatever views each of us may hold about the US Administration's nuclear negotiation with Iran, we all recognize that the US has given Tehran a free hand in Syria, Iraq, Yemen and elsewhere throughout the negotiations, with the result that Iran has caused grave damage in each place.

That is why we agree with the NCRI that the time is long overdue for the US and other democratic countries to pay far closer attention to Iran's leading role in destabilizing neighboring Arab countries by fanning sectarian conflict, and to give much higher priority to deterring and demanding an end to this unlawful aggression.

6. In America, where all the attention in 1979 after the Shah fell was on the American hostage crisis, we have overlooked how the fundamentalists under Ayatollah Khomeini suppressed the population's desire for democracy through deadly force starting in 1981. Had we understood the regime's total lack of popular legitimacy from its inception, we would have paid closer attention to the popular uprisings in Iran in 1999 and 2009, reflecting deep disaffection with religious dictatorship.

After meeting countless exiled Iranians in America and Europe and understanding the traumatic crimes inflicted on their families, with as many as 120,000 murdered by the regime and three executions a day on average even now, we are fully persuaded that this regime does not reflect the will of 79 million Iranian people, and stays in power only through a relentless combination of repression and propaganda at home, and export of terrorism and fundamentalism outside Iran. We agree that the Tehran government is acting out of weakness and failure, not strength. Indeed, Tehran's best source of strength is the rest of the world's lack of firm policies against the regime's transgressions, ignoring the desire of the Iranian people for change.

7. In America there has been much concern over the release of substantial frozen funds to Iran as a result of the nuclear agreement. We were led to believe that the Iranian people would benefit from government spending on their living conditions and well-being.

Yet we are now faced with widespread indications that business with the outside world is being handled almost exclusively by front companies profiting the dictatorship. We see that the funds unfrozen by the lifting of sanction are fueling the sectarian

conflicts in Syria and Iraq, and arming violent non-state actors in the Arab world including Hezbollah and the Houthis in Yemen. Average Iranian citizens are seeing no benefit from all the funds released to the regime. Again, the NCRI's warnings have been borne out by facts.

8. Back in America we along with many members of Congress have had the opportunity to meet Iranian-Americans who actually know what happened to their relatives opposing dictatorship and corruption in Iran under the Shah and the mullahs. For decades Washington has had a false and very misleading understanding about the Mujahedin-e Khalq resistance group, promoted by Iranian intelligence and propaganda.

The true story of those in Iran brave enough to stand up to dictatorship and repression is a story of heroism on behalf of a great civilization and 79 million Iranians trapped by a failed and desperate regime. We support the NCRI and the MEK because we now know the truth about their legitimate resistance to tyranny, confirmed by several major judicial reviews in Europe and North America, and are no longer confused about whose cause is just. Not one member of the MEK has ever been convicted of terrorism.

9. As Americans we feel a special obligation to focus on the future and to be a positive agent of change for the better. For many years, the US has fallen short in understanding what kind of liberalization and change the people of Iran have wanted going back to the days of Mossadegh, even as far back as 1906.

With the US Administration clearly having misread Iran's unchanging hostility toward US interests in the nuclear talks, it is time for America to move forward and start talking with the organization representing educated, principled, modern Iranian Muslim men and women all over the world who support the NCRI and Madame Rajavi's ten-point plan. We therefore recommend that from now on, the United States should maintain an open channel of dialogue with the National Council of Resistance, to benefit from these exiles' experience and knowledge about the regime in Tehran. The regime is discredited, illegitimate and in decline, and the people of Iran deserve to know that Americans understand their plight, and respect their right to determine their own future, free of oppression.

10. Finally, as Americans we value our country's honor and reputation, and stand here today believing that our government must uphold the solemn pledges it has made in the name of the American people.

In this respect we have all steadfastly demanded security for the residents of Camp Ashraf, now Camp Liberty, and continuously reminded our government to uphold America's obligation to ensure the protection of the residents. We ask the Administration to take all necessary measures for their safety until the last residents leave Iraq, and to urge the United Nations to relocate the residents with far greater urgency. We call on the Government of Iraq to prevent agents of the Iranian regime from gaining access to Camp Liberty with the intention of disrupting the relocation, and to uphold its commitment to allow the residents to sell their assets in Ashraf and Liberty and take personal possessions with them to Albania. Our country and the UN have promised protection to the MEK members in Iraq, and yet in seven attacks, many have been killed or wounded by Iraqi security forces and militias acting at Iran's behest. It is time the United States made clear that we will keep our word and uphold our principles and those of the UN.

We are honored to stand with this brave group of men and women, whose promotion of a modern, educated, tolerant and democratic form of Islam has never wavered in the face of lethal attacks. By offering a clear and legitimate alternative to Tehran's brutal and morally corrupt fundamentalism, the resistance has proven that bullets, rockets, prison cells, torture and the hangman's noose are no match for the pure ideals of patriotic Iranians. Today we salute you all.

Amb. J. Kenneth Blackwell - Former U.S. Representative, United Nations Human Rights Commission; Hon. Marc Ginsberg - Former U.S. Ambassador to Morocco; Amb. Mitchell B. Reiss (Ret.) - Former Ambassador, Special Envoy to the Northern Ireland Peace Process; Amb. Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr., Former Special Envoy and Asst Sec State; Hon. Rudy Giuliani - Former NYC Mayor, Presidential Candidate; Hon. Edward Rendell - Former PA Governor, DNC Chairman; Hon. John Bolton - Former UN Ambassador; General (Ret.) James L. Jones - Former USMC Commandant, NATO Commander, National Security Advisor to the President; Hon. Bill Richardson - Former NM Governor, Secretary of Energy, UN Ambassador, Presidential Candidate; Colonel (Ret.) Thomas V. Cantwell, Former US Military Commander for Camp Ashraf; General George Casey - Former U.S. Army Chief of Staff and Commander of Multi-National Forces - Iraq; Hon. Linda Chavez - Former Assistant to the President For Public Liaison; Chairman of the Center for Equal Opportunity; Hon. Robert Joseph - Former Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security; Hon. Patrick Kennedy - Former Rhode Island Congressman; Hon. Tom Ridge - Former PA Governor, Secretary Homeland Security; Hon. John Sano - Former Deputy Director CIA National Clandestine Service; General (Ret.) Hugh Shelton - Former Chairman of US Joint Chiefs of Staff; Gen. (Ret.) James Conway - Former Commandant U.S. Marine Corps; Hon. Joseph I. Lieberman - Former Connecticut Senator; Hon. Eugene R. Sullivan - Lt. Colonel (Ret.), U.S. Army, Retired Federal Judge; Hon. Newt Gingrich - Former Speaker of the House; Lt. Gen. (Ret.) David Deptula - Former Deputy COS For Intel, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance, U.S. Air Force; Colonel (Ret.), U.S. Army Wesley M. Martin - Former US Military Commander for Camp Ashraf, Senior Antiterrorism Officer - Iraq; Lt. Col. (Ret.) Leo McCloskey - Former US Military Commander For Camp Ashraf; Hon. Raymond Tanter - Former Personal Representative of Secretary of Defense to Arms Control Negotiations; Hon. Robert Torricelli - Former NJ Senator; Hon. Paula J. Dobriansky - Former Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs; Hon. R. Bruce McCollm - President of the Institute for Democratic Strategies; Colonel (Ret.) Gary Morsch, Former Senior Medical Officer at Ashraf; Hon. Frances Townsend - Former Homeland Security Advisor to the President; Hon. Louis J. Freeh - Former Director FBI; Hon. Michael B. Mukasey - Former US Attorney General; General (Ret.) Charles (Chuck) Wald - Former Deputy Commander U.S. European Command

Prominent Women Back Maryam Rajavi for a Free Iran

Global Solidarity from Asia, Africa and Europe

REBIYA KADEER - *President of the World Uyghur Congress and Noble Peace Prize Candidate, East Turkestan*

We share a common destiny in struggle. Free Iran. I know many among us sitting here today paid a heavy price in order to fight for freedom, human rights and democracy. Dear Maryam Rajavi, sisters and brothers, we share a common struggle. I would like to honor those brave Iranian men and women who were killed with brutality in Camp Liberty. We live at a time when the world is more than ever facing global threats by religious extremists. Extremist Muslims count women as the foremost victims of their philosophy.



The world needs to engage in a cultural battle against extremism and the solution must have Islamic and female elements. Part of the solution is right in front of us: Maryam Rajavi, who is a Muslim woman with a tolerant and democratic interpretation of Islam. She's a president who reflects the true essence of Islam, which is peace and liberty. Respect, tolerance and deep compassion are the genuine principles of Islam. These are principles shared by the Uyghur people.

RANJANA KUMARI
Director of the Centre for Social Research, India

I bring you greetings from the largest democracy on this planet, India. Your gathering here once again is sending the message across the world that the fighting spirit of people shall remain until they win. I don't think anything in the world can stop your struggle and your victory. We all have to stand by you to struggle and fight to get the democracy and freedom in Iran. Until you get it we are with you. I think it is really important for the globe to know if there is peace and democracy in Iran, if there is civil liberty protected in Iran, if women are respected in Iran. It is only then that there is going to be global peace. So I really salute Madame Rajavi for her courage of conviction to struggle, to fight for the rights of people of Iran, and I salute all of you who are supporting her. I am sure the day is not far when you win and walk free with head and spirit held high.



BANDANA RANA
2016 UN CSW Women of Distinction Awardee, Nepal



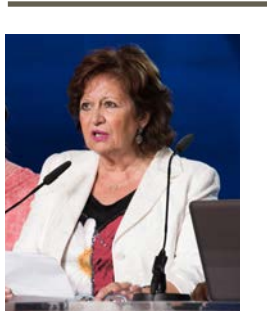
Having worked with women victims of violence for almost three decades, I share the pain, the anguish, and the trauma of the women in Iran. I express my solidarity towards this

movement. I have seen such amazing leadership, power, and energy of the women in the front line of this movement and I salute them and their mission. Let us ensure that the women of Iran are not left behind to continue to be suppressed, violated, and discriminated. Let us support the women power and leadership in the journey to equality, development and peace.



MARIA CANDIDA ALMEIDA
Deputy Prosecutor General, Portugal

Madam Rajavi, I respect and believe in your ideals and share your dream of freedom, equality, liberation and your perseverance in fighting for human rights, in particular for women rights. As a Portuguese woman who deals with the rule of law in her profession, I would like to express my deepest solidarity with your struggle for justice, democracy, and human rights in your country. Your dream is a noble, humanist and democratic one. I am sure you will make that dream come true soon. It is the law of life, the hope of justice and peace.



SEKAI MASIKANA HOLLAND
Founding Member of Australia's Anti-Apartheid Movement and Founder of the Movement for Democratic Change, Zimbabwe



From Africa, Madame Maryam Rajavi, I bring our solidarity messages. I salute the crowd gathered here today. I also salute our people in Zimbabwe who are today engaged in a nonviolent stay-home resistance to disable

50 years of dictatorship as we, like you, ache for freedom. We walk the same path of freedom as you do. Having attended this rally, I want to convince the African Union and the UN, and to approach all the anti-apartheid movement survivors that supported our struggle to turn their full attention to the struggle of Iran. Today we extend our solidarity to your struggle as Iranian women against religious fundamentalism. I heard Madame Rajavi today communicate to us an inspiring message. I know now that freedom is coming to Iran. Until we meet in Tehran soon.

Albanian Politicians & Performers

Join "Free Iran" Gathering



Maryam Rajavi with the Albanian delegation of members of government, MPs, political and social personalities and well-known artists.

PANDELI MAJKO

Former Prime Minister of Albania



I have come today with friends of mine from Albanian Parliament, from the right and left wing. But don't forget that like human body which has right hand and left hand, it has in the middle one heart, one heart that is open to friends like you. Albanian government and political parties have decided that all members of Camp Liberty come to Albania. I told Hassan (From NCRI) that now at least Camp Ashraf is the last camp of Iranian opposition. They'll come to Albania, everything will be normal, everything will be quiet. His answer was, "No. The last camp is our motherland, Iran." This is the reason we are here, waiting with all our friends — European and Americans. Wishing that soon you will be back in your country, Iran.



FATMIR MEDIU

Member of Parliament

I recall 1999 when Pandeli Majko was the Prime Minister of Albania and almost one million Kosovars were forced to leave Kosovo because of ethnic cleansing. Then Albanians opened their hearts and their doors. We go further back in our history. During the Second World War, when we gave shelter to all the Jews. That is what Albanians are. Maybe we are not a rich country today, but we are a country with rich values, with a great heart. One thing we want is that brothers and sisters from Camp Liberty feel at home. But is that all? No! First of all, we should save the lives of the people who are still at Camp Liberty. Second, we should accelerate their coming to Albania. And third and the most important one is that we should keep this fire for freedom and liberty in our spirit. All people are created equal, endowed by God with certain unalienable rights — life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness. That is what we have to stand all together and work together because we are all the people of the world. Brothers and sisters, you are more than welcome to Albania. Let's do our best for the free world, for freedom and liberty.



Maestro ZHAN VICTOR CIKO Conductor of Albanian Orchestra



A joint choir group of Iranians & Albanians



A noble orchestra of the Albanian children



Albanian singer, Armaldo Kligej accompanied by a joint orchestra of Iranians & Albanians



Swiss Delegation



LAURENCE FEHLMANN RIELLE

Member of the Swiss Federal Parliament

As an elected representative of the Swiss Federal Parliament, I've come to express our firm and full support for human rights and the advent of true democracy in Iran, a country that has lived for almost 37 years under a religious dictatorship. I am also here to commend Madam President Maryam Rajavi for her tireless struggle against this dictatorship.

"Iranian people deserve all our support and I am convinced that the day will come when they will succeed in establishing a true democracy."

Today it is clear that the regime acknowledges only two options for the residents of Camp Liberty: surrender and give up any resistance or be killed. In recent years, I have often witnessed demonstrations that the Iranian Resistance regularly held in Geneva, the European headquarters of the United Nations to remind the



From left to right: Éric Voruz (former Federal MP), Christiane Perregaux (Honorary professor of Geneva University), Jean Charles Rielle (former Federal MP & leading member of the Geneva City Council)

international community that we cannot remain passive in the face of the crimes perpetrated by the mullahs' regime. Ladies and gentlemen, the Iranian people deserve all our support and I am convinced that the day will come when they will succeed in establishing a true democracy. Long live democracy in Iran, and long live residents of Camp Liberty.



Performance with flags of more than 80 countries whose dignitaries participated in the "Free Iran" Gathering.



Artists' live performance, directed by Jack Doll, about heinous crimes committed in Iran's jails showing bitter and painful suffering of hundreds of thousands political prisoners who refused to submit to the regime and many of whom were executed. The resistance continues today until the establishment of democracy in Iran.



Video Messages of Solidarity

US Senate & House of Representatives



SENATOR CARL LEVIN

Each year Iranian expatriates and supporters of democratic Iran gather together to keep the flame of hope alive. Hope for a different Iran, an Iran that respects human rights and religious freedom. Each year we gather together calling for the end of discrimination and all of its ugly forms in Iran. We call for equal justice at long last for all Iran's people...So the opposition will continue, stronger and stronger until a new Iran emerges, a secular and democratic Iran, an Iran that doesn't support terror, an Iran that respects charter of the United Nations. That is what the Iran peace loving people hope for and call for and rally for.



REP. BRAD SHERMAN

I commend the MEK for the critical role it played in exposing the Iranian regime's nuclear weapons program. I remain committed to ensuring that Iran does not get nuclear weapons that's why I broke with my own political party and opposed the recent Iran nuclear deal. I am sure that the Iranian regime will cheat on that deal and we will then move forward with new sanctions which will force a new policy and hopefully a new regime in Tehran. I also want to commend Madame Rajavi for her advocacy of democracy, human and women's rights in Iran. Only when The Ballot Box determines who holds power, when both women and men can speak freely and Parties can debate, will the Iranian people be able to govern the country for the benefit of all. I hope you all enjoy this year's convention.



SENATOR ROBERT MENENDEZ

We come together to demand that the people in Camp Liberty live in safety and security — no longer the targets of terrorist acts... Let's not forget the role the MEK leadership played in exposing the duplicity of the Tehran regime and the important work you are doing to raise awareness of Iran's nuclear program. I intend to introduce legislation that will hold the regime accountable for its blatant support of terrorism. Let us hope and pray that, inshallah — God willing — the work we are doing will improve the safety and security of the MEK members at Camp Liberty. For that, we stand in solidarity today.



REP. TED POE

As human beings I believe there is a fire in all of us that wants to be free. That fire cannot be quenched by any dictator; it is in our soul. Many have given their lives in the pursuit of freedom. You daughters of democracy and you sons of Iran are here today standing defiantly for freedom. You have that fire burning inside of you, for your desire is to live in Liberty and you have paid the price; you have left your homes and your families, you've been wrongfully imprisoned and tortured and you've lost loved ones and yet here you are still standing for what you know is right. I stand shoulder-to-shoulder with you. You are not alone in Washington. I am fighting to help you pursue freedom and justice. I introduced a resolution that formally declares that the United States condemns these attacks in Camp Liberty.



SENATOR THOM TILLIS

I am deeply troubled by the escalation of human rights violations in Iran and the fragile situation in Iraq, which places your loved ones at Camp Liberty in grave danger. Fortunately, through strong bipartisan support in Congress, we are making some progress to ensure the safety and security of the brave men and women at Camp Liberty. Since the implementation of the nuclear agreement, Iran's military and intelligence operatives have stepped up their destabilizing activities across the Middle East, sowing sectarian tensions and increasing their influence in the region. Clearly, this must stop and this is exactly what your event is about. It is about enacting real and positive change and bringing democracy and freedom to the people of Iran.



REP. JUDY CHU

From here in Washington DC to all of you in Paris, I want you to know that I stand in solidarity with you and your fight for freedom, democracy and human rights in Iran and I'm so impressed by the many students, scholars, former political prisoners, women's rights advocates and other leaders who have joined together once again for this important cause. I'm committed to the safety of the people of Camp Liberty and I will continue working with you and our government to make sure they are never abandoned. So thank you again for all of your important work to promote human rights and a free Iran. I am proud to join you in this effort.

European Lawmakers Support Maryam Rajavi's Platform for Free Iran



LUCIO MALAN

*Member of the
Italian Senate
Presidential Committee*

From this gathering, from the hundreds of thousands of people who share the same feeling of those who are here but couldn't come, from

the millions of people in Iran who would give their support to Madame Rajavi and the NCRI if only they were able to cast their vote or to express their opinion, a great message goes to all the leaders of all nations, especially to those who like to entertain friendly relationship with the regime of Tehran. And the message is that you, Madame Rajavi and the NCRI, are worthy to represent the Iranian people and not the corrupt clique of Tehran.

"You, Madam Rajavi and the NCRI, are worthy to represent the Iranian people and not the corrupt clique of Tehran."

To those leaders who flatter and honor the chiefs of the regime of Tehran, comes at hand an old wise saying: those who are ready to give away their freedom; in order to have some business and to have some benefits, they are going to lose and they deserve to lose both their freedom and their gains. All of us who are here are not ready to give away their freedom. We are not ready to give away the hope for freedom of the Iranian people. And this is why we are ready to support and we do support Madame Rajavi and the NCRI in their struggle, hoping, acting, speaking and praying for the day of victory, for the day of freedom that you deserve. Free Iran!



JON BALDVIN HANNIBALSSON

Former Foreign Minister of Iceland

I come from Iceland and I am representing the five Nordic and the three Baltic countries. When Nelson Mandela was released from prison the first trip he took abroad was to Stockholm for a meeting with the five of us, the Nordic foreign ministers. He came to say thank you. This is the most firm, respectable thank you greeting I have ever had from a great man. During our discussion he said, what is important is not so much the evil works of the evil-minded; more important is the silence and passivity of the good-minded. I am here, he said, to thank you because when we were utterly in the dark, alone, isolated and hopeless, the Nordic countries secretly, quietly, but persistently, supported our case when the leaders of the Western countries called me a Communist terrorist.

"Even if we would not have heard any words spoken today except for the magnificent speech by Maryam Rajavi, her speech was focused, serious, honest and truthful."

Another case, from the recent Baltic experience; few if any nations suffered more than the three Baltic states during and after the Second World War. They were invaded by both the Nazis and the Soviets. But when the Baltic states appealed to the leaders of the West to support them, they were in for a rather rude shock because they were told by the leaders of the West, sorry, there are so many interests at stake in our partnership with the Soviet Union, you have to wait. Stay away. Don't insist as for home rule. Settle for a compromise with your oppressors.

At that time it became necessary for the smaller democracies of Europe to fill the political vacuum of leadership and to stand by those small nations so that they will not be sacrificed in the big power game about other things. So there are two things to remember from those two tales. One, when the suppressed are isolated it does matter to give them moral support and solidarity. And finally, even if we would not have heard any words spoken today except for the magnificent speech by Maryam Rajavi, her speech was focused, it was serious, honest, and truthful, and it was something that we could draw conclusions from.



MARCIN ŚWIĘCICKI

*Former Minister of Foreign Trade
Former Mayor of Warsaw, MP, Poland*

It is really a shame that Western democratic governments are still negotiating, making deals with the savage regime in Iran, but are not cooperating enough with democratic alternatives for Iran. We brought with us 180 by-partisan signatures of Polish parliamentarians in support of your fight for freedom. When I see your determination, dedication, and readiness to sacrifice, I am sure that this barbaric regime will fall in Iran.

MALGORZATA ZWIERCAN

MP, Poland

Our Polish Movement has had its contributions to the democratization of the CEE countries as well as Russia. I wish you the leaders of the Iranian opposition as well as you the very creative nation, may God bless you all. May Polish-Iranian cooperation live. Iran, Ashraf, Azadi!



DR. MANUEL ALTAVA

*Chair, Judicial Committee,
Spanish Senate*

The international community does not accept and will never accept that the people of Iran are being repressed. We cannot close our eyes to these atrocities and just engage in talks about business. As representatives of our people we have to defend European values. We believe, as many members of parliaments in Europe have insisted, that any expansion of relationship with Iran must be conditioned to a halt on executions and a clear progress on human rights. For this reason, we are in solidarity with the Iranian democratic opposition under the leadership of Mrs Maryam Rajavi and her secular platform to achieve a free future Iran. And to achieve this urgent necessity, count on us. We will do our best to help in this noble cause.



ROMEO NICOARA

MP, Romania

We all heard the speech of Iranian Resistance President-elect, Mrs. Maryam Rajavi. Her inspiring remarks are a slap in the face of the Supreme Leader. Today we know that Mrs. Rajavi has not only presented a 10-point plan, a democratic platform for future Iran, but also a plan that give a roadmap for how to get there. I and my colleagues support you for all those reasons. We will continue to do so and urge and petition our government to do the same, to see and recognize the National Council of Resistance of Iran as representative of true democratic aspiration of the Iranian people and have both means and resources to bring about the democratic change that the people of Iran yearn for.

Statement by Cross Party European Delegations Sponsors of "Free Iran" Gathering



Read out by Egidijus Vareikis, Lucio Malan
and Brian O'Domhnaill

Friends of a Free Iran parliamentary committees in European countries, which are sponsors of the event, reaffirm the 10-point U.S. delegation's bipartisan statement as well as statements by parliaments in Arab countries. They welcome the assessment and solution offered by Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, President-elect of the Iranian Resistance while emphasizing the following points as the resolution of the large gathering:

1. The largest gathering of Iranian exiles in Paris, which is continuation and evolution of similar gatherings in past years, occurs at a time in which there are no free elections or polling inside Iran. In these circumstances, this gathering offers a reliable example of the Iranian people's firm demand for overthrowing current rulers as well as their inclination towards the National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI) and its leadership.
 2. The perseverance of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI/MEK) and the NCRI over the past 38 years against the religious dictatorship, their democratic plans and platforms as well as their organizational and management capabilities, shows their potential to bring about change in Iran and its defining role in leading Iran towards a democracy. Supporting this resistance and its plans and platforms, including Mrs. Rajavi's 10-point plan for the future of Iran, will aid democracy in Iran and peace and tranquility in the region and the world.
 3. Any form of cooperation and joint actions with the Iranian regime under the pretext of confronting ISIS in Syria and Iraq or any form of including Tehran in negotiations related to the Syrian crisis would be extremely dangerous and it must be avoided.
 4. The events of the past 38 years and especially the past year since the nuclear agreement demonstrate that pinning hope on a solution within the regime, including the emergence of a moderate faction, would be a myth which has already done great damage to the global community. The only real solution for the Iranian crisis as well as the regional crisis – to which the regime is the main contributor – is fundamental change in Iran, the overthrow of the religious dictatorship and the establishment of a pluralist and secular democracy.
 5. We concur with Mrs. Rajavi's view that the Iranian regime's warmongering and de facto occupation in the region is a symptom of internal weaknesses and crises, and if this regime is contained within Iran's borders it will take a qualitative and significant step toward being toppled. But, under the shadow of nuclear negotiations, the P5+1 countries have ignored the Iranian regime's meddling in the region, especially in Iraq, Syria and Yemen, to the point of even siding with the regime. This has led to a devastating situation in the region. We affirm the essential need to take international measures to expel Iranian forces and affiliated militias from the rest of the region, particularly from Syria and Iraq. If the regime does not comply, punitive measures against the regime should be on the agenda.
 6. The abysmal violation of human rights is the distinguishing feature of Tehran's rulers. They do not have the slightest respect for recognized international standards. The number of executions during Hassan Rouhani's presidency, in 2014 and 2015, have been unprecedented when compared to the past 25 years. We urge various countries, particularly western governments, to make economic and political relations with Iran contingent on the regime's ceasing of executions.
 7. According to NCRI reports, which have been verified by independent western sources, over half of Iran's economy, especially foreign trade, is controlled by the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). Any form of trade with Iranian companies directly or indirectly tied to the IRGC must be stopped. The interest accrued from such trade will directly fund warmongering and export of terrorism, not to mention the violation of UN Security Council resolutions.
 8. The promotion and advocacy of a democratic and tolerant Islam by the PMOI and Mrs. Rajavi, and practical measures conducted by this movement to forge a bond among followers of various faiths, including the bond between Sunnis and Shiites, the results of which are clearly seen in this gathering, greatly aids attempts to overcome sectarianism and religious conflicts which are inflamed by the Iranian regime and other religious extremists.
 9. The freedom fighters at Camp Liberty are symbols of resistance and perseverance. They echo the Iranian people's resolve for change. The missile attack against Liberty on July 4 is a warning that the Iranian regime intends to carry out other massacres before the remaining residents have had an opportunity to relocate. Therefore, we urge the U.S. the European Union and the UN to provide and guarantee the protection Camp Liberty until the last person has been able to leave Iraq. At the same time, we urge them to accelerate the relocation process.
- We conclude this statement with an excerpt from the statement issued by the American delegation: "We feel proud to stand with the group of courageous women and men whose goal is to establish a modern, conscious, and tolerant and democracy Islam. They have never given in under the weight of lethal attacks. By offering a clear and legitimate alternative against the morally corrupt and vicious fundamentalism in Tehran, the Resistance has proven that bullets, missiles, prison, torture and executions cannot defeat the ideals of Iranian patriots. Today, we salute all of you."

Canadian Delegation



JUDY SGRO

MP & Former Minister of Immigration

We all add our voices to the tens of thousands demanding help for those very, very special people at Camp Liberty, and call for an end to the persecution of innocent people. We also thank Albania for its true leadership. For a

very small country it has done more to help the residents of Camp Liberty than any other country in the world. We must put an end to the persecution in Iran and we must put an end to all of the efforts to silence people. It must stop not tomorrow but today. Here in this gathering in Paris there are personalities from more than 59 countries, and we are all united to support democracy, freedom of speech, and human rights in Iran. Respect for each other in this world we all share



is fundamental to our future and our children's future. Today we stand together in the coming days and months to work together to end the persecution and to liberate the people and see democracy flourish in Iran.

U.S. Foreign Policy Experts Note "You are the Future of Iran"

ROBERT JOSEPH – *Former Under Secretary of State for Arms Control & International Security*

The Iranian regime will not and cannot reform, neither from within nor from out. It must be overthrown by the people of Iran. We must pressure the regime from all directions. We must retain and impose new sanctions for its ballistic missile activities and for its support of terrorism.



"We must support those who seek to tear down this barbaric regime and in its place establish a democratic, secular and non-nuclear Iran."

We must counter Iran's presence and its influence in the region economically, diplomatically, and when necessary, militarily. We must highlight Iran's abysmal human rights practices and show to the world exactly what it is doing to repress the aspirations of the Iranian people. And most important, we must support those who seek to tear down this barbaric regime and in its place establish a democratic, secular, and non-nuclear Iran. You, the Iranian Resistance, are the vehicle for this historic change. While this will demand many more sacrifices upon those that you have already made, it is your destiny. You are the future of Iran.

PHILLIP CROWLEY – *Former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs*

So many of the governments in the Middle East are focused on survival. That is true in Tehran and that is certainly true in Damascus. They are not trying to advance the human condition. They are trying to cling to power, regardless of the destruction and suffering that they generate. But we know their days are numbered. Sadly, it won't be soon enough, but change is coming.



"The future will reward those who govern based on not what they are trying to prevent but what they're trying to build, based on the foundation that is here in Paris."

We must believe that the future will reward those who govern based on not what they are trying to prevent, but what they are trying to build, based on the foundation that is here in Paris, the ideas that you have embraced, the determination and inspiration that you have shown to see this struggle through to the end. Iran will rise again as a country to be admired, not feared; as a country that unites the region, not divides it; as a country that believes the people should be empowered not oppressed. We support you and let me assure you, you inspire us.

MARC GINSBERG – *Former U.S. President Deputy Senior Adviser for Middle East Policy*

I want to talk to the young people, the most important people here who for the next generation are going to carry the message of a free Iran. I want all of them to stand up and join me and say, "We will prevail!" and "We will win." You are the agents of change. The people in Ashraf, the people in Liberty, the people in Iran depend on you. They need your leadership. You are the future of a free Iran. We believe that change is just around the corner.



"You are the future of a free Iran. We believe that change is just around the corner."

The Iran nuclear agreement is not a license to empower the Ayatollahs in Iran. It is a license for you to destroy the government in Iran. I have a very humble message from a humble person who believes in you, who understands the sacrifices that you are making to carry the message, to light the fires, to keep freedom alive. It is essential that you do not lose hope, keep the faith, and support a democratic aspiration for the people of Iran. They are dependent on you and we are grateful to you.

U.S. Military Commanders: Solution is "Free Iran"

Iran regime is a source of regional instability



GENERAL GEORGE CASEY

Commander Multinational Forces Iraq, 36th Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army

In my early days in Iraq it took me long to figure out that the United States and Iran had diametrically opposed objectives. We were seeking to empower a democratically elected Iraqi government that respected the rights of all ethnic and sectarian members of Iraqi society. Iran for some reason

didn't want a country like that on its borders. They bought political power by giving money to Iraqi politicians and political parties. They bought public support by giving economic aid, particularly in the south of the country, and they continuously fomented sectarian violence.

I can tell you that it is Iran's support for training and equipping the Shia militia in Iraq that allowed the level of sectarian violence to be sustained through 2006 and 2007 and it continues into today. I believe that unless there is change, Iran will be a destabilizing influence, not only in Iraq, but in the region for a long time to come. And we're seeing it today in Iraq, in Syria, in Lebanon, and in Yemen. Change needs to come to Iran.

GENERAL CHUCK WALD

Former Deputy Commander U.S. European Command



The people that spoke to you today from the U.S. are some of the best leaders we have in our country and they aren't all from the same party and they have come here with a common cause, believing that the most important thing in the world is democracy and freedom and the freedom of you, the people from Iran, is important to them more than anything you can hear. I always like to say three things. Number one, it is time for the mullahs in Iran to become accountable to the rest of the world. Number two, the mullahs and the IRGC need to stop sponsoring and paying for terrorism, both in Syria and Lebanon, and in Yemen and the rest of the world. And three, it is time for our people in Camp Liberty, all of them, to go to Albania or other places where they can have their freedom. We stand with all of you and what our world needs more today than ever is leadership and I have to commend Madam Rajavi for that leadership.

GENERAL JAMES CONWAY

34th Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps



I hope you read in your pamphlet that there are more than 70,000 Iranians in Syria. This marks a dramatic change from what it's been. I would like to tell you that it might get better, but I don't think that's the case.

Iran has done what it has done on an annual basis for the last ten years with about \$16 billion a year dedicated towards those activities. Since the nuclear agreement, that \$16 billion can be multiplied by a factor of ten. So I think it's fair that we can anticipate much more disruptive activity, not less on the part of the Iranian military.

So what's the answer? What do we do? The answer is right here - a free Iran. What is likely and what must happen for there to be change is a revolution. You people represent that effort.

What I would say to the representatives of the northern nations who are here today is that unlike 2009, when the revolution starts, we have to get behind your effort for it to succeed fully. God bless you all and good luck.



BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID PHILLIPS

Former 89th Brigade Commander and Commandant U.S. Military Police Corps

Madame Rajavi, members and friends of the Iranian Resistance, and most importantly, those of you who are still

at Camp Liberty, I have the distinct honor to get to know you at Camp Ashraf. In 2004 the Human Rights Watch published a report that was filled with lies and mullah propaganda. I wrote a letter to the president of Human Rights Watch and said I was so confident that the people of Resistance at Camp Ashraf were dedicated to freedom that I offered that my own daughter should go there. I feel so strong that the heroes who are now at Camp Liberty are freedom fighters and will be remembered when Iran becomes free that they were the vanguard.



COLONEL WESLEY MARTIN - Former U.S. Military Commander for Camp Ashraf

You are the true defenders of liberty. To the residents of Liberty, you are the true heroes, despite all the ground and rocket attacks, despite

the logistics blockade, despite the Iraqi government imposing hardships, you remain firm. You are the beacon of light in a graphic region that has been overcome by the darkness imposed by fundamentalists. Whether Al Qaeda, Islamic State, or the Iranian Regime, their goals are the same - to destroy progressive civilization and individual freedom. We stand firm with the residents of Liberty and they are our inspiration. I assure the residents we are working hard to relieve the pressure and bring you out and bring you to safety.

Red Roses from Inside Iran

Presented to "Free Iran" Gathering

INGRID BETANCOURT

Former Columbian Presidential Candidate



This annual event has become a beacon of hope for so many people in Iran. So for many years we have been here expressing ourselves, our engagement, fighting, and speaking on their behalf. But today, for the first time, we are going to see and hear the voices and faces of the people that are fighting in Iran. We are going to hear the testimony of those heroes that have been living in a grave in the darkest of darkness in the prisons of Iran. These people have taken all the risks to bring these images to us today. The footage that has never crossed the borders ever, is bringing to us the symbol of their suffering turned into a constructive force of hope, in the symbol of red roses. Those red roses they are bringing to us today are the red roses of the blood and the courage they have poured for freedom. It's with these roses that they are changing and transforming the chains of so many Iranians into wings of freedom.

"The red roses of the blood and courage poured for freedom are changing and transforming the chains of so many Iranians into wings of freedom."



With this footage that we are going to witness, there is also a very extraordinary human story. This is the story of a child, a young girl. She was eight, living with her family in Iran, a normal life, but at eight, some armed uniformed men, came to arrest her father. They beat her father in front of her and took him away forever. Her father is still in jail in Iran. She narrates that her life from there on — she is now 18, but for these last 10 years has been living 20 minutes a week. She is going to be with us. She managed to cross the borders to come to freedom and to bring the roses, the roses of her father, the roses of all the prisoners in Iran that have been giving their life and their blood for the freedom of the people of Iran. It is for them that we fight. It is for them that we are gathered today here, for them and the people of Ashraf.

PARIA KOHANDEL

18 year-old daughter of Saleh Kohandel, a political prisoner who has been in jail for 10 years only for supporting the PMOI

My name is Paria and I am 18 years old. I am here to be the voice of my father, who is my source of pride and my hero. He has spent the last 10 years in prison because of his commitment to bring freedom to our generation. I was 8 when they arrested my father. For 10 years, I could only see him for 20 minutes at a time each week, with a glass panel separating us. My dad used to say: In prison, there are lots of 17 or 18 year old teenagers who have been sentenced to death or long-term imprisonment on petty charges. He said he would see his own daughters, the 8 year old Paria and the 11 year old Zahra, in their faces. This is a generation that has watched public executions and experienced the pain of child labor through all its life; a generation that was unwittingly thrown into a war that is still in progress.



Paria Kohandel, her sister (Zahra Kohandel), her uncle (Farzad Madad-Zadeh, a former political prisoner)

My country Iran is at war; a war for freedom; a war for being able to breathe freely; a fight to create an Iran without prisons and executions.

The regime has tried constantly to make us become our own enemies while trying to convince us that we are all alone in this fight. But, we are not alone. We have something to lean on, to count on, which taught us over these years become alive like the fire, instead of being motionless like the ash remaining from the flames; and that we can rebel against suppression and be free.

We want to show our commitment and accept new responsibilities to overthrow the dictatorship. This is our responsibility. Because we have felt with every fiber of our being what these henchmen have done to our country.

We will free Iran. Because Maryam Rajavi, whose name is banned in Iran because it is a source of fear for the ruling regime, has taught us that "we can and we must." We can and we must take this glowing light to Iran.



A Message by Saleh Kohandel From Behind the Bars

On July 22, Saleh Kohandel, Paria's father and a political prisoner affiliated with the PMOI, smuggled out a message from notorious Gohardasht Prison in Karaj, north-west of Tehran to greet the organizers of "Free Iran" gathering for their success. The message partly reads: "My greetings to the generation that has put up with the hardships of resistance to bring happiness and peace. My greetings to you who sacrifice yourselves for the sake of human beings. You feel indebted to your people, unlike the ruling mullahs in Iran. It is proven that whoever devotes and sacrifices everything in the path of freedom and liberation, he will undoubtedly be rewarded back."

People from inside Iran with blurred faces present red roses to "Free Iran" gathering



Tehran: I say hello to you from Tehran. We support Maryam Rajavi's plan for Iran. I give you this red rose on behalf of a group of youth in Iran.

Shiraz, Central Iran: Today, if you ask me and the youth like me that what we demand, we would say only one thing and that is freedom, something we have lost for a long time. In this country, we see only injustice, torture and oppression. Even the flowers have no odor in our homeland. This red rose is for you.

Mashhad, North East of Iran: We support your grand gathering. This flower is a gift from us for you.

Iranian Kurdistan: I wish there will be a day when there is no gallows in Iran, no women suppressed for veil and no homeless child in the streets. I wish a free Iran. This flower is from me to your gathering.

Karaj, Central Iran: I am giving this red rose to all the youth who are participating in this gathering. Keep up the good work. God is with us.

Hamedan, North West of Iran: In July 9 gathering, we are all committed to regime change. Down with Khamenei, Long live Rajavi, Long live freedom.

Boushehr, Southern Iran: I salute all Iranians in the annual grand gathering of the Resistance. You're our voice; you echo the desire of our nation for freedom.

Messages Sent from Iran's Prisons

Ali Moezzi, Evin Prison

Congratulations must be given to liberal compatriots and the members of the PMOI, who organized this event. It is true that the members of the PMOI will, like blazing torches, set tyranny on fire. Yes, the multilateral and global resistance has large numbers of people in prison, in exile, at schools or in universities, in the factory or bazaar, at home or on the street; they are united to bring down the corrupt theocracy.



Shahin Zoghitabar, Gohardasht Prison

Dear Iranians living outside of Iran! I know that you certainly feel a great urge to attend this gathering since your attendance is as a call-out for the innocent prisoners of the mullahs' regime awaiting execution. You can be the voice of the children of labour, the unemployed youth, mistreated workers, as well as the girls and mothers who suffer under the mullahs' oppression. You can also be the voice of the homeless people, and those children displaced in Syria.



Arzhang Davoudi, Gohardasht Prison

In view of the corrupt regime, we put our hopes on all liberals who want to free Iran and the Iranian people. Thus, we urge everyone to participate in the Iranian Resistance's gathering held on July 9, 2016 in Paris. In advance, we appreciate the continual efforts of those people organizing this gathering and we welcome all participants of this event coming from all over the world. I thank you all sincerely.



Prisoners, Central Prison of Zahedan

We political prisoners of the Central Prison of Zahedan call on all our countrymen, both inside the country and abroad, to definitely take part in the major gathering of Iranians in Paris which will be taking place in defense of the rights of the Iranian people in order to prevent all these catastrophes that are taking place. Be the voice of political prisoners in Iran.



The Only Survivor



ZOHREH SHAFAI

Member of the PMOI Central Council

Her mother, father, 2 brothers and 1 sister were all executed

Of my family, only my brother Mohammad, who was 7 at that time, and I survived the massacre. My brother is currently in Camp Liberty. In summer 1981, one day, it was in the afternoon that Pasdaran attacked our house arresting my father in front of my mother and my 7-year-old brother; few days later, my mother was also arrested. This was followed by the arrest of my other brother, Majid, at the age of sixteen. On June 18th, the newspapers announced the names of 53 opponents affiliated with the PMOI including my father, my mother and my brother who were all executed. I was shocked. What was their crime? Simply supporting the PMOI, distributing their publication, giving donations to the PMOI and helping to cure their patients because my father was a doctor.

It was very hard but it was the price for freedom. I remember what my father said when they set his car on fire: "When one decides to struggle for freedom of his country, he should be prepared to sacrifice everything; freedom cannot be achieved without a price." Six months later, my old brother, Javad, a Metallurgy engineer graduated from Sharif University in Tehran, was tortured to death at the age of 27. A month later, my only sister, 24-year-old Maryam, was killed together with her husband.

In prison, my mother and father were asked to appear on television to make false allegations against the PMOI and in support of the regime. They would have stayed alive and even released from prison if they did that but they refused to do so and said: "We sacrifice our family in order to gain freedom for everyone else."

Now, on behalf of the families of those executed, I want to salute the sisters and brothers in prisons of Iran and tell them that your messages were heard. Perseverance of the resilient prisoners in the prisons of Sanandaj, Orumieh, Karoon, Vakil-Abad as well as the Sunni, Arab and Kurd prisoners illustrate that our brave compatriots will not give up their struggle for freedom and democracy even in prisons.

Finally, we once again pledge to Maryam Rajavi that wherever we are, whether in jail or in every town or village, in Camp Liberty or anywhere else in the world, we will pay the price for Iran's freedom. We send a message of love to the oppressed people of Iran and in memory of all the roses who were hanged in Iran, we say: "Stop Executions"

New Generation of Women In Key Role Positions of the Resistance

NARGES AZDONLOU

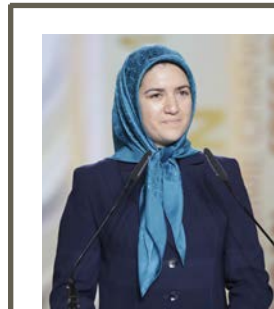
Member of the PMOI Central Council

I greet all my countrymen across Iran and before all, the political prisoners in all the prisons of Iran. I thank them for their brave messages to the Grand Gathering of the Resistance which echoes their voices. We are a fortunate generation which opened its eyes to the world in the early 80s and later became acquainted with the PMOI and the resistance movement founded by Massoud Rajavi whose growth and regeneration cannot be stopped by any power in the world. This generation has learnt from Maryam Rajavi to sacrifice for others and to give away its own rights with no expectation in order to bring democratic rights for other people, and this is also the pure message of our today's gathering. Our generation has a belief and faith in that through taking up higher responsibilities and with stronger determination, we can and we must build 1000 centers of resistance like Ashraf. This enables us to be 1000 times more determined in making sacrifice, in forgiveness, in listening to people and in having the courage to make risks for them and finally to take off for high goals in bringing democracy to Iran.



RABIEH MOFIDI

Member of the PMOI Central Council



Over the past year, the world has witnessed that it was the revelations and persistence of the PMOI that made the regime drink the chalice of poison in nuclear deal; moderation of this regime proved to be a void and invalid idea; appeasing the religious fascism proved to be a dangerous and unjust conduct and the right policy vis-à-vis the Mullahs' regime

is a firm stand. Today, we witness how the PMOI political stands are being welcomed. We have learnt from Maryam that if we persist on our principles we will regenerate in thousands; if we take more commitments on our shoulders we will become hundred times stronger and thousands of solutions will show up in front of us. Thus, we pledge to bring about a bright future for Iran; we pledge to bring freedom for the people of Iran so that they can speak freely, listen tolerantly and experience trust and solidarity. Our generation has learnt from its leaders to sacrifice and become dedicated to its only goal and ideal which is freedom for the Iranian people.



A performance illustrating the Iranian people's resistance for freedom, confronting one hurdle after another, none of which could extinguish the flame of resistance for democracy. Thanks to the pioneers of the Iranian people and their sacrifices, today the movement is stronger than ever before, ensuring that the regime will be overthrown.

ZINAT MIRHASHEMI

NCRI Member, Editor in Chief of the Publication of the People's Fadaian Guerrilla Organization of Iran

I salute the Iranian political prisoners as well as workers and teachers who are in jail. I also salute the resilient PMOI members in Camp Liberty. What has brought us together today despite our diversities in language, beliefs and colour is a common struggle against the religious dictatorship ruling Iran and the resistance against those who want to take away our torches of struggle and to put them off. Those who stand with the Iranian Resistance to reach its goal are the true advocates of human principles and values. To achieve peace and democracy in the Middle East, it is necessary to stop supporting the Iranian regime in all fields and to break diplomatic relations with it. Countries of the world should condition their trade relations with this regime on improvement of human rights situation in Iran. This will certainly strengthen people's struggle for freedom.



PASTOR SAEED ABEDINI

Jailed in Iran for 3.5 years for his Christian faith and released in January 2016

My presence here proves that each act of resistance will be a victory; a victory for freedom. The message

of God in the Bible says that we should resist in the face of tyranny. While it is not a reality yet, I hope that we will all be able to celebrate a free future for Iran, which is a bright future. I would also like to thank Mrs. Maryam Rajavi for her constant support and I am grateful to my friend Robert Pittenger who introduced me to your fight. I would like to send the prisoners in Iran a message that you are not forgotten. The one who resist until the end will be victorious. I remember the moment when the regime's Intelligence Ministry arrested me; I was told: "For you, it is the end. You will never get out of this prison." But today I am here and this shows that the evil will never win. Many of us have heard that many priests were killed in Iran and the regime has falsely put the blame on the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran. My presence here today proves that we are together and we love each other. I believe time has come for the Iranian nation to choose its leader. The Iranian people have the right to live freely. I return to the beautiful words by Mrs. Rajavi today which I truly enjoyed. She said: "Our nation has arisen to secure its liberty even if it means plucking it from the dragon's mouth."



KAK BABA SHEIKH HOSSEINI

Secretary General of the Khebat Organization of the Iranian Kurdistan

The khebat organization of Iranian Kurdistan has stood firm on its principles throughout its struggle against the Mullahs, bringing their jaws onto the ground. As a disciplined organization involved in a just struggle, we have always said no to dictators and have never surrendered by their injustice and oppression. We have been a vanguard organization which provides an example of a political organization that has learnt and achieved experience throughout its struggle.

Thus, I express my highest greetings to Maryam and Massoud Rajavi and I hope that we shall altogether return to a free Iran in a near future. We deeply believe that there exists absolutely no way to freedom in Iran other than overthrowing the Mullahs regime. No doubt, any negotiations with this tyrannical regime and its appeasement will make the three-decade long struggle of the people of Iran and Kurdistan harder.



Iranian Youth Determined & Eager for Democratic Change With Maryam Rajavi

SAMIRA ARDALANI - Italy

I am a medical student and a member of the Iranian Youth Society in Italy. I am here to be the voice of millions of young Iranians, who are with their arrest and torture, paying the price for freedom. It is our duty to support and back the residents of Camp Liberty. We condemn the criminal missile attack on the camp on July 4th and once again we call on the U.S. and the UN to take the necessary measures to save the lives of the camp residents and to immediately transfer them from Iraq. Today, we once again renew our pledges with the leadership of the resistance and the PMOI members in Camp Liberty that we will do whatever necessary with increasing energy under their guidance to liberate our beloved country, Iran.



YEGANEH SAMIMINEZHAD

Norway

I am now a member of the Iranian Youth Association in Norway. I left Iran 3 years ago where I witnessed severe suppression of the Iranian youth and women. The regime recognizes no right for the youth in Iran but in spite of all the arrests and executions, the young people have never surrendered to this regime and their fight for a free and democratic Iran continues in the streets and jails. Iran's young generation is inspired by the freedom-fighters in Camp Liberty. Although citing the word Mojahed (PMOI member) is a red line and forbidden in Iran, the resilient political prisoners have sent their messages in solidarity with this gathering and the regime has failed to reduce the spirit of resistance in the hearts and minds of the Iranian youth. Iran's youth will build a free and secular Iran with a bright future, peace and justice under the leadership of Mrs. Maryam Rajavi.



ADAM PRIKLER - Slovakia

Hello, my name is Adam and I come from Slovakia. I am a psychology student from Catholic University in Ružomberok. From what I've learnt studying psychology, I can tell you that somebody that murders thousands of people, who enslaves his own nation, and who spreads fear to empower himself, is nothing more than a mass murderer and a psychopath. But

you, you have one advantage against him, because by definition, a psychopath is not able to feel for other persons; he is empty and he is alone inside. But you people, you care for each other, you support each other, and you take care of each other. And take a look at how many people gathered today to show that they also care for you, and they also support you. And this is your strength, and this is why you are not alone, and this is why you are going to win.

Media Coverage of "Free Iran" Gathering

- Special Report Prepared by Washington Times
- Reports by Reuters, AP and AFP
- Live Broadcast by 10 Major Arab TVs
- Special Report by Sinclair Broadcast Group, the largest owner of television stations in the United States with 173 TV stations in 81 US cities



The Washington Times

July 11, 2016

Iranian dissidents call for regime change

The bigger National Council of Resistance of Iran has come to be known during more recent years as perhaps the only dissent group on the planet with enough money and political juice to rally tens of thousands of supporters in the heart of Europe each June behind a collective call for the overthrow of Iran's Shiite Islamist government...

"Despite the intensification of the suppression over the past couple of years, we have witnessed a growing interest among the Iranian people, especially women and youth, toward the Iranian Resistance," Mrs. Rajavi said... "I have said repeatedly that we are not fighting to obtain power in Iran," she said. "We are not even fighting for a share of power. We are fighting to create a situation where the people of Iran are able to freely elect the people they choose. I and our movement will certainly support anyone who is elected through the ballot box in the course of free and fair elections monitored internationally."

The New York Times

Iran had earlier criticized the participation of Prince Turki al-Faisal, Saudi Arabia's former intelligence chief, in the rally.



Media Coverage of "Free Iran" Gathering



10 July 2016

Iran says Saudis back terrorism after senior prince attends rebel rally

The rally addressed by Prince Turki al-Faisal on Saturday was held by the political wing of the exiled People's Mujahideen Organisation of Iran (PMOI), which seeks the overthrow of Iran's clerical leadership established by the 1979 Islamic revolution. Saudi media gave top coverage to the speech. The rally was also attended by a number of Western political figures, including former U.S. House of Representatives speaker Newt Gingrich.



July 10, 2016

Iran: exiled opposition paints a grim picture of the nuclear deal

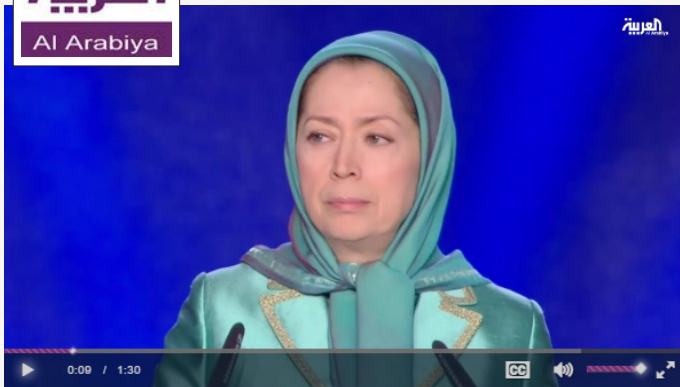


The President of National Council of Resistance of Iran (NCRI), Maryam Rajavi

"Much of the sanctions has been lifted and oil exports have increased, but the money is engulfed in the flames of war in Syria.".... She was speaking at the annual gathering of the movement, held at Le Bourget, near Paris, which brought together thousands of people mainly from Europe but also the U.S. and Australia.



Al-Arabiya TV



Maryam Rajavi: Saving the country passes through the overthrow of the Velayat-e-Faqih regime



Paris on a day with the "Largest Gathering" of anti-Iranian regime

المعارضة الإيرانية في مؤتمر باريس: Aleqtisadiah
July 9, 2016 لا حل إلا بإسقاط نظام "الملاي"



Saudi Arabia's National TV



Five continents of the world have participated in the congress of the Iranian opposition

Media Coverage of "Free Iran" Gathering

francetvinfo

Alain Chemali
07/11/2016

The Saudi Turki al-Faisal at the Rally of Iranian Dissidents of Khamenei



At the annual gathering of Iranian opposition, Maryam Rajavi succeeded in mobilizing Western and Arab personalities including Prince Turki al-Faisal. Under the slogan of "No to the white or black turban! Down with the regime of Supreme Leader", she denounced Iran's interference in the neighbouring countries.

ASHARQ AL-AWSAT

استقامت خمس مروحية لنظام خلال أسبوعين وقتل مائة منها الروس
اعتقال قادة البحرية التركية في قضية سيرايا تقال ألام الألبانية كبير
وتزوج بلقب وويلدون، تصويت

التشرق الأوسط
جريدة الصربية اليومية
العدد 10000
الطبعة: 11
الطبعة: 11
الطبعة: 11

رجمي نوكه نجن مع السورين، ونرفش تفجيرات الحرم النبوي • باريس، تحضر طهران من التدخلات
المعارضة الإيرانية: اقتلاع الملاهي بات ممكنا
على التجنيد في 2015

رئاسة الوزراء وصلت 28 خرقا ماليا
مسؤول يمني: الحوثيون صرفوا مليار دولار

التشرق الأوسط
جريدة الصربية اليومية
العدد 10000
الطبعة: 11
الطبعة: 11
الطبعة: 11

Iranian Opposition: Uprooting of the Mullahs is Possible

العربية
AL ARABIYA ENGLISH
MIDDLE EAST

AL-ARABIYA ENGLISH

NEWS PERSPECTIVE BUSINESS MEDIA OPINION LIFESTYLE VARIETY SPORT INFOCUS VIDEO BLOGS

NEWS MIDDLE EAST

Iran opposition: Tehran backs Syria to hide failure

Maryam Rajavi, the leader of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, waves to the audience as she addresses thousands of exiled Iranians in Villepinte, north of Paris, Friday June 27, 2014. (AP)

Le Monde
DES RELIGIONS

By Alice Papin
21 July 2016

The opposition to the clerical regime, held at Le Bourget, seeks secularism

In early July, the Paris hosted the Iranian opposition in exile, gathered to fight for, among others, of a secular state banning religious discrimination...

Diaspora members, politicians and international religious leaders, all aspire to freer Iran. They no longer want the current authoritarian regime, the Islamic theocracy, governed by a president, Hassan Rouhani, and a Supreme Leader, Ali Khamenei. In their place, they would like Maryam Rajavi, who chairs the NCRI. Veiled in green suit, her speech in mid-afternoon, triggering thunderous applause...

At the heart of her political program, consisting of ten central points, there are also religious changes: "The Iranian Resistance is committed to the separation of religion and state. Any form of discrimination against the followers of all religions and of all religions will be banned."

Saudi Arabia's National TV

الإخبارية
Home News Reports Politics Economy
Wednesday, 27 Shawwal 1437 - 13 Jul 2016

100,000 gather in Free Iran rally in Paris

100,000 gather in Free Iran rally in Paris

eureporter
#FreeIran
Maryam Rajavi to #FreeIran gathering in Paris: "A year after nuclear deal, both factions fail at rescue, Iranian regime on verge of being overthrown."
EU Reporter Correspondent | July 9, 2016

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GULF NEWS
IRAN
 July 14, 2016 | Last updated 1 minute ago

UAE NEWS BUSINESS SPORT OPINION LEISURE LIFE&STYLE

UAE 21 GULF 8 MENA 10 EUROPE 11 AFRICA 2 ASIA 16 AMERICAS 5 OFF

Saudi prince in push for Iran regime change at Paris opposition conference

Saudi prince says he supports opposition's efforts to rid Iran of 'Khomeini cancer'



(1 of 2)

CONGRESS BLOG
 THE HILL'S FORUM FOR LAWMAKERS AND POLICY PROFESSIONALS

July 14, 2016 - By Giulio Terzi

West is still repeating old mistakes with Iran

Anyone who understands how small the return has been for the West following nuclear negotiations, and how many risks exist in promoting business with large sections of the Iranian economy controlled by the Ayatollah, the IRGC and entities linked to severe violations of human rights and to terror financing ought to pay attention to the voice of Iranian dissidents who gathered in a major rally in Paris organized by the National Council of Resistance of Iran, led by Maryam Rajavi on July 9. The "Free Iran" gathering, joined by hundreds of European and American politicians in a bipartisan fashion, as well as prominent Middle Eastern figures, such as Prince Turki al-Faisal of Saudi Arabia, sent a narrative that is more reflective of the reality than that which the proponents of the deal wanted us to believe a year ago.

It is time to realize that as far as the Iranian people are concerned, the outcome of negotiations has been overwhelmingly negative. That is the effect of any Western policy that further empowers regime insiders at the expense of those who are vying every day to change the regime into a truly democratic system.

Al-SEYASSAH Newspaper
 10 July 2016



Rajavi: People want the overthrow of the Velayate-Faqih regime



مؤتمر حاشد للمعارضة الإيرانية في باريس حضره ممثلون لدول عربية وغربية
رجوي: الشعب يريد إسقاط نظام ولاية الفقيه
 تركي الفيصل: مطلب المعارضة إسقاط النظام سيحقق وأنا أيضاً أريد إسقاط النظام

Al-HAYAT Newspaper - 10 July 2016

الحياة
 AL-HAYAT
 www.alhayat.com

رجوي تعتبر سقوط نظام ولاية الفقيه الحل الوحيد لانقاذ ايران
طهران خائفة من طبخة ومؤامرة

Rajavi considers fall of the "Velayate-Faqih" regime as the sole solution to save Iran

THE NATIONAL

10 July 2016

Iran: 100,000 gather to call for urgent end to 'religious dictatorship'

The crowd that gathered at Le Bourget, Paris, for the annual gathering of Iranian communities were more than 100,000. The conference was then shown footage of a series of messages of support from people in Iran, their faces covered, each one holding a red rose – a symbol of freedom adopted as the logo for this event.

Media Coverage of "Free Iran" Gathering

the guardian

Tuesday, 12 July 2016

Saudi talk of 'regime change' takes hostility to Iran to new level

Last weekend, Turki al-Faisal was one of several VIPs who attended a conference of the Iranian opposition movement, the National Council of Resistance Iran (NCRI), near Paris. Turki accused the Islamic Republic of destabilising the Middle East and "spreading chaos". He even said that he hoped to see the fall of the regime - in the familiar phrase of the Arab spring uprisings.

International Personalities Participate in the Iranian Resistance's Conference in Paris, Support their Plan

Le Parisien

Val d'Oise
12 July 2016

At the Bourget thousands of Iranians ask for a regime change

Thousands of people, including political personalities from more than 70 countries, gathered at Le Bourget on Saturday. A common point: their pledge in support of human rights and struggle for a free Iran. Maryam Rajavi, president of the NCRI which is based in Auvers-sur-Oise, exposed the regime's state in the country, a year after the nuclear deal. Among the subjects addressed was the growing crises and the urgent threat of Islamic extremism in the Middle-East. There was a noteworthy contribution from Dominique Lefebvre, Member of Parliament from Val d'Oise region.

arab news

Sunday, 10 July 2016

WORLD AFFAIRS

Hanging with the People's Mujahadeen of Iran

A Report by Michael J. Totten - 21 July 2016



...They are based in France now. They have to base themselves somewhere outside Iran because they will be tortured and executed if they go home. And they

have formed a larger umbrella organization that includes other opposition movements called the National Council of Resistance of Iran. Every year they hold a huge rally in Paris that is broadcast live on television (via satellite, of course) into Iran. They invited me this year, so I went... Here is another reason the regime hates them so much: the MEK is the only major Middle Eastern political movement led by a woman, Maryam Rajavi... Want to know what real Iranian moderates look like? Take a look at the MEK's 10-point platform for a future Iran... Under what theory should the West spurn these people in favor of a government that tortures dissidents, supports terrorist

armies all over the Middle East and hangs homosexuals from cranes in the capital? ...

The event in Paris was a grand spectacle. It lasted eight hours. Roughly 100,000 people attended, the vast majority of them Iranians living in exile. Never in my life have I seen so many human beings in one place.

The MEK may not be popular inside Iran, but it sure as hell is in the European diaspora, which suggests its popularity back home may not be quite so near the floor as its critics allege. Honestly, I thought I'd be bored. I was jet lagged and exhausted.... Yet I wasn't bored for even five minutes. The organizers managed to keep things interesting and engaging with a splendid diversity of programming, including thunderous speeches, riveting films, and music and dance.

Most of the speakers weren't Iranian. They were high profile officials from the United States, the European Union and the Middle East, including Saudi Prince Turki bin Faisal... Every single one of those speakers flew to Paris not only to support the Iranian opposition, but also regime change in Iran.

"The regime is doomed," Howard Dean said during a pre-event panel discussion, "and we'd like to help it along on its path to doomsday as fast as possible... It stands for everything that is evil and bad about humanity. Our job is to make sure they don't succeed, and the faster we get them out of there, the better."

Worldwide support of #RajaviYes for #FreeIran

126,000 Joined #FreeIran Campaign on Social Media

العربية @AlArabiya قناة العربية - 56m

عشرات الآلاف يطالبون من #باريس بوقف نظام المذابح
ara.tv/68k9k
#FreeIran



Al-Arabiya with 10.4 million followers tweeted live broadcast of the "Free Iran" gathering

د. أنور قرقاش @AnwarGargash

الحضور الجريء للأمير تركي الفيصل في مؤتمر المعارضة الإيرانية يأتي بعد صبر أشبه بصبر أيوب، منطقتي التدخل ولغته المذهبية وعدم إحترام الجيرة مسؤول

8:05 PM - 9 Jul 2016

2,102 784

Dr. Anwar Gargash, Deputy Foreign Minister of the United Arab Emirates

Courageous presence of Prince Turki Al-Faisal in the convention of Iranian opposition followed what was patience of a saint; patience of a saint vis-à-vis meddling, sectarian language & lack of respect for neighbours.

EU Reporter @eureporter

#RajaviYes Massive crowds in Paris for the annual #FreeIran gathering of Iranian communities @4FreedomIran



With 4122 followers

HashKSA @HashKSA هاشق السعودية - 53m

صور من تجمع المعارضة الإيرانية في #باريس.
#FreeIran



With 5.53 million followers

Howard Dean @HowardDean

#FreeIran The Rouhani Regime has executed 2500 Iranians and helped murder 250,000 Syrian civilians in three years

398 324

0:12 AM - 9 Jul 2016

Bill Richardson @BillRichardson

I'm at the Iranian Grand Gathering in Paris today. We must stand up for human rights in Iran & support the Iranian people. #FreeIran

119 112

9:05 AM - 9 Jul 2016

Linda Chavez @LindaChavez

#FreeIran we stand united with the Resistance



276 197

Phillip J. Crowley @PhillipCrowley

Amazing chance to speak to 100,000 people in #Paris and thank #Albania for taking in refugees from Camp Liberty.



231 172

Saudi Gazette @Saudi_Gazette · 7h

100,000 gather in Free #Iran rally in #Paris — goo.gl/2wa4PY #MaryamRajavi



With 39,000 followers

Worldwide support of #RajaviYes for #Freelran

- 1.1 billion tweets to #Freelran during the rally.
- Al-Khalij News Agency of the United Arab Emirates announced that #Freelran enjoyed half billion impressions on July 9th.

#Freelran & #RajaviYes First in the World Trend on July 9

The screenshot shows the homepage of hashtags.org. The 'Trending Hashtags' section is highlighted with a red box and contains a list of trending tags. At the top of this list, '#freelran, #rajaviyes' is circled in orange. Other trending tags include #humanityaimsofmsg, #teenchoice, #lovelive, #butterflykiss, #loveive_suitstime, #aimnamidreamhigh, #veranomtv2016, #iran, #aldubonkmsjlive, #blacklivesmatter, #gameinsight, #imguglybut, #euro2016, #wimbledon, #android, #androidgames, #mmklovetsmats, #trecreu, #seventeen, #alvabraziel, #britishgpp, #nowplaying, #pokemongo, #on, #rt, #job, #got7, #nct127, #quran, #monsta_x, #f1, #dallas, #kcamexico, #paris, #tuituti, #travel, #por, #callejulianca, #adatewithxian, #follow, #periscope, #milehotum, #news, #commando, #hiring, #hadith, #choicemalewebstar, #kingujarat, #np, #agson, #maryamrajavi, #win, #tdf2016, #antitwice, #jewelry, #bts, #mgwv, #bigolive, #fra, #edhi, #felizindependencia, #halfmoonfriends, #photography, #necklace, #taeyeon, #agqr, #teamaimazing, #fall_in, #exo, #atlantaprotest, #mark, #deradera79, #flvinatl, #supportzakirnaik, #socialmediaking, #felizdiadelaatria, #wimbledonfinals, #giveaway.

Candice Malcolm (@CandiceMalcolm) · Follow

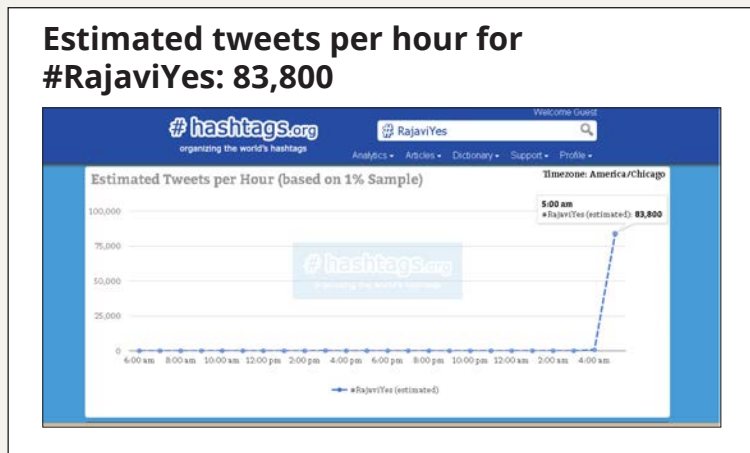
I spoke to the Operations Director at Le Bourget convention centre. 106,000 ppl at #Freelran rally today in Paris.

RETWEETS: 61 LIKES: 54

Clare Lopez (@ClareMLopez) · Following

#Freelran Prince Turki bin Faisal just pledged Saudi support to 100,000+ Iranian opposition NCRI/MEK gathered in Paris

RETWEETS: 42 LIKES: 48



#RajaviYes Hit the World Trend

The screenshot shows a Twitter feed with #RajaviYes as a world trend. The top tweet is from Hambastegi Mell (@hambastegi_mell) with 129 retweets, stating 'Speaking now: Prince Turki Al-Faisal #RajaviYes 4 #freelran'. Below it, a video shows a speaker at a podium with a 'FREE IRAN' banner. The 'Trends' sidebar on the left lists #RajaviYes as the top trend in 29% of countries, followed by Serena Williams, Evonne, #FreeIran, #RajaviYes, #Iran Freedom, NCR/MEK, and #Iran Freedom.

Loubna AMHAIR (@loubna) · Follow

Republicans and democrats from #US unite to #Freelran and support #MaryamRajavi

RETWEETS: 152 LIKES: 159

8:43 AM - 9 Jul 2016

Patrick J. Kennedy (@PatrickJKennedy) · Follow

Join the #Freelran live stream as we renew America's commitment to democracy & human rights in Iran: ncr-iran.org/en

RETWEETS: 60 LIKES: 73

11:34 AM - 9 Jul 2016

سلمان الدوسري (@SalmanAldosary) · Follow

Over 100,000 People Gather at #Freelran

Over 100,000 Iranian dissidents have rallied on Saturday in a giant gathering in Paris calling for the downfall of Iran's... english.aawsat.com

RETWEETS: 67 LIKES: 58

Ranjana Kumari (@ranjanakumari) · Follow

"Overthrowing of Iranian theocracy is the most viable solution for Iranian people. Even if it means plucking it from dragons mouth"

#freelran

RETWEETS: 75 LIKES: 55

Dr Paul Monaghan MP (@PaulMonaghanMP) · Following

Just returned to London from International #freelran Conference. Thanks to all delegates for supporting #RajaviYes

RETWEETS: 10 LIKES: 11

Paris: Solidarity Conference with Middle East Nations

Maryam Rajavi's 9-Point Plan To End War and Bloodshed in Syria & the Region

On July 10th, a conference of solidarity with Middle-East Nations was held at the NCRI Headquarters with presence of the Iranian Resistance President-elect Mrs. Maryam Rajavi in which prominent Arab figures like large number of parliamentary delegations, political and cultural dignitaries from various Arabic and Islamic countries such as Palestine, Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Morocco, Algeria, Bahrain, Kuwait, Lebanon, Iraq, Tunisia, Yemen, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Sudan, Mali and Djibouti attended.

In this conference, while elaborating on the occupational policies of Iran regime in the region, Mrs. Rajavi underscored the necessity and importance of ending the Mullahs' warmongering in Syria and called on the international and regional countries for taking nine urgent and practical measures aimed at bringing the Assad dictatorship to an end and returning peace and tranquillity to the region.



1. Condemning the Iranian regime's atrocities and meddling in Syria by the UN Security Council, UN member states and all other international bodies;
2. Expelling the Iranian regime from the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and cutting ties with the Iranian regime by Arab and Muslim countries following the decisions made by the OIC Islamic Summit Conference in Istanbul, until such time that the regime completely terminates its meddling in the region;
3. Providing broad-based political and financial backing to the democratic Syrian opposition, as well as fulfilling and supplying their essential military needs and weapons;
4. Adopting the necessary international measures to remove the Iranian regime's forces and affiliated militias from Syria, and undertaking punitive measures including sanctions against the regime. If it refrains

5. Excluding the Iranian regime from any negotiations over the Syrian crisis;
6. Fully implementing UN Security Council resolution 2231 through the adoption of effective practical measures to prevent the Iranian regime's sending of arms to Syria, Iraq and terrorist groups;
7. Banning all deals and trade with IRGC-affiliated companies;
8. Banning all forms of cooperation and joint action with the IRGC and the militia under its command in Syria and Iraq under the pretext of fighting Daesh;
9. Establishing a no-fly zone in northern Syria to protect the civilian population and to provide help to asylum seekers and displaced refugees.

Dr. Bisam al-Amush, former ambassador of Jordan to Iran, who chaired the conference emphasized that the articles presented by Mrs. Rajavi enjoyed the approval of all the participants in this session. The idea was also vehemently supported by Sid Ahmed Ghozali, former Prime Minister of Algeria, and Tahar Boumedra, former head of UNAMI Human Rights Office in Iraq, in their speeches.





SID AHMED GHOZALI

Former Prime Minister of Algeria

I thank the PMOI and President-elect of the Iranian Resistance for their generous hospitality. I have had the opportunity to participate in such conferences throughout the years and every year we witness that the number of us, Arab Muslims, who take part is increasing. This is very promising and indicates the awareness which exists on the relation between the battle and struggle of the PMOI and the struggle in our countries for freedom, democracy and justice; this is a common struggle. In other words, as I have always said, when the PMOI is paying the highest price for its people and country, they are at the same time fighting and being martyred for our common goal.

As we look at what is going on in Iran, Syria, Yemen and Lebanon as well as the pains and agonies in these countries, we find one common element and that is meddling of the Iranian regime. The first strategy of the mullahs is to impose themselves as a regime particularly on the Iranian people and also on all the Arab and Muslim people and the course of action they have adopted is to destabilize the ruling systems in all our countries. With the God's willing, the time will come soon when there will be an awareness in all other countries on the fact that ignoring and overlooking the issue of Iran and the Iranian Resistance will heaven forbid have a negative result against Arabs and Muslims.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE MARTYRS OF SYRIAN PEOPLE'S REVOLUTION

The delegations participated in the conclusion of the conference at the headquarters of the Iranian Resistance in front of a memorial which symbolized the Syrian Revolution. The participants paid tribute to the martyrs of Syrian people revolution by signing a record to recall the martyrs.



Maryam Rajavi signs the record to recall the martyrs of Syrian revolution



DR. BISAM AL-AMUSH

Former Ambassador of Jordan to Iran

First of all I congratulate Mrs. Rajavi on the success achieved in July 9 gathering. I believe today's conference was also a success and all the participating Arab delegations praise you for that. Allow me to emphasize on Mrs. Rajavi's recommendations. I call on all Arab countries and this is

for us politicians and journalists to advise our governments. I address the PMOI asking them on their part to call on the Arab parties to break their diplomatic relations with the Iranian regime in order to make the regime feel encircled. As my brother Dr. Tahar Boumedra said in his example of South Africa, if the regime realizes that it is encircled then it will seriously feel that it is going to be harmed. Arab states should officially recognize the Iranian opposition and open offices for them in their countries.



TAHAR BOUMEDRA

Former Head of the UN Human Rights Office in Iraq

I can see that there is now a consensus in taking the mullahs' regime practically as a threat to population of the region; not only to the peoples in the region but in the entire world.

All the matters which

concern you and were expressed in your speeches have actually been stipulated in the mullahs' Constitutional Law. This is the only constitutional law in the world which permits the mullahs' government to export terrorism. This is not my word; it has been officially stated in their current constitutional law. You also said in yesterday's and today's speeches that the mullahs' regime is a threat to the world peace and security. This is also something allowed in Iran's constitutional law and is its basis. As a matter of fact, the UN Charter begins with "We the Peoples of the United Nations." You the peoples of the region and the world who spoke yesterday were unanimous in that this regime must be

overthrown. It was also stated by the Prince of Saudi Arabia that it should be overthrown as soon as possible and without delay. We also heard Madam President Maryam Rajavi's proposal in her speech to expel this regime from the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). Personally, I very welcome this and I suggest that this should be taken as a starting point for the regional and international configuration which will lead to the expulsion of this regime from the OIC.

I go even further to rely on the UN experience in dealing with South Africa. South African government was an isolated government. The isolation was imposed on it by the United Nations General Assembly and thus the apartheid government did not represent South African people. In the same way, Iran regime does not represent the Iranian people and ought to be expelled from the UN General Assembly. This will be feasible and in access for the PMOI to achieve if we take into account the precedence of the matter and the course of actions that have been taken, and we can start an international configuration using the example of South Africa to lead to the right point.

Parliamentary Delegation of Egypt

The Egyptian parliamentary delegation of ten lawmakers led by Deputy Speaker of the Egyptian Parliament, Soleiman Wahdan Ammareh, expressed solidarity with the Iranian people and Resistance. Speaker of the delegation said: "We are against the policies of the mullahs' regime in the region. This regime attempted to transform the Arab World into small zones, and pull the entire Middle East into yet another war through provoking religious fanaticism. Such bigotry has nothing to do with Islam." The Egyptian delegation called on all countries and nations of the region to unite in action against terrorism and fundamentalism.

Speakers: Members of Parliament, Iman Salem, Ahmad Ra'fat, Faeqeh Fahim



Delegation of Syrian Opposition



Heitham Maleh - To this day Bashar Assad has displaced 14 million people, destroyed 4 million homes and 70% of all the hospitals in various Syrian cities, murdered many of the country's medical staff and deprived the Syrian people of any development and prosperity. In return, Iran has provided Bashar Assad \$40 billion in support.

From left to right: Hannan Al-Balkhi, Heitham Maleh, Nasr Al-Hariri, Ahmad Al-Khatab



Riaz Al-Seif - Despite all that have been done by the mullahs and Bashar al-Assad, we have so far stood firm and with the God's willing our people will preserve self-confidence. This is our only weapon to win with.

Delegation From Palestine

Expressing her support for the Iranian resistance and the PLO's solidarity with the PMOI, Ms. Nejat Al-Astal, stated on behalf of the Palestinian delegation: "We have known the Iranian regime through the PMOI. Today, we acknowledge Iran as a country represented by the Iranian Resistance."

Speakers: Nejat A-Astal, Saham Thabet, Ahmad Buholi, Jahad Abuzanid



Delegation From Iraq

Speakers: Mohammad Sheikhli, Reza Al-Reza, Dawood Al-Basri



Delegations From Jordan & Bahrain



Speakers: Mohammad Al-Haj, Soltan Al-Hatab, Bisam Al-Batoosh (from Jordan)

The Delegations from Jordan and Bahrain presented to Mrs. Rajavi statements supported by the majority of their parliaments expressing their backing for the Iranian Resistance, as well as strongly condemning the July 4th rocket attack on Camp Liberty in Iraq and calling on international interlocutors to provide safety and security for Liberty residents.



From left to right: Ali Zayed, Hassan Bukhamas (from Bahrain)

Australian Delegation



Australian delegation participated in solidarity. From left to right: Phil Glendenning, Meredith Burgmann, Brian Medway

Algerian Delegation



Speakers: Anwar Malek, Sharifeh Kadar, Ismail Khalafallah

Mr. Anwar Malek, the Algerian commentator and a member of the Algerian delegation, stated in his speech: "We come from a country which has had a great revolution with one million martyr. We heard that Iran's Mullahs have said their revolution is a continuation of the Algerian revolution. We vehemently reject the idea and instead we see the continuation of the Algerian revolution in Iran's noble and true revolution led by the PMOI and symbolized in its values.

Delegation From Yemen



Speakers: Jamal Al-Awazi, Ibrahim Al-Amari



Delegation of pastors from the US participated as observers.

Photo Gallery



Photo Gallery



Photo Gallery



Photo Gallery



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