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US imposes sanction on 8 Iranian regime's officials responsible for rights abuses

US Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner:

With the President's new Executive Order, the U.S. will, for the first time, impose financial sanctions against those who have committed human rights abuses against the Iranian people

Maryam Rajavi:

Impose comprehensive sanctions against all leaders of the Iranian regime and perpetrators of execution of 120,000 political prisoners, especially the 1988 massacre of 30,000 prisoners and the killing of demonstrators during the last three decades

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In a major gathering of Muslims in Paris

Muslim leaders support Iranian Resistance against Islamic fundamentalism

Maryam Rajavi: Islam opposes fundamentalism, defends democracy and popular sovereignty

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More than 1,000 political, social, parliamentarian, and religious figures from 12 Arabic and Islamic countries attending the Paris gathering

Mayors and representatives from 24 French cities express solidarity with Iran opposition and Ashraf

13 French mayors and representatives from 11 other cities joined the event to express solidarity with the Resistance and Ashraf

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World Day against the Death Penalty

Rally in Paris calls on EU to sanction perpetrators of execution and torture in Iran

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US imposes sanction on 8 Iranian regime's officials responsible for rights abuses

Maryam Rajavi welcomes sanctions against human rights violators and calls for more effective sanctions and international tribunal to try perpetrators of massacre of political prisoners

On September 29, the US Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner announced the New Human Rights Executive Order targeting Iranian regime's officials responsible for or complicit in serious human rights abuses and said: "With the President's new Executive Order, the U.S. will, for the first time, impose financial sanctions against those who have committed human rights abuses against the Iranian people." He added: "We are imposing financial sanctions on eight government officials who have engaged in human rights abuses in Iran."

Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, President-elect of the Iranian Resistance welcomed sanctions imposed by the President of the United States on officials of the regime and statement by the U.S. Secretary of State in this regard. Mrs. Rajavi said that all those named are perpetrators of serious and systematic human rights abuses and should face justice for crimes against humanity.

Mrs. Rajavi added: Implementation of sanctions against the religious fascism ruling Iran for its crimes against the Iranian people has been a standing demand of the Iranian people and Resistance. Mrs. Rajavi expressed hope that the U.S. government and the United Nations Security Council would adopt effective measures against all those responsible for criminal suppression of the Iranian people and she emphasized the necessity of the following two specific measures:

Muslim leaders support Iranian Resistance against Islamic fundamentalism

On the invitation of the Arab-Islamic Committee in Defense of Ashraf, a large meeting was held on September 4 in Paris. The session was entitled "Islam against fundamentalism and dictatorship, an advocate of popular sovereignty." More than 1,000 political, social, parliamentarian, and religious figures from 12 Arabic and Islamic countries as well as Muslim representatives in France took part in the event. The session backed a statement signed by the majority of Egyptian parliamentarians underscoring the following points:



- 1. Fundamentalism and the velayat-e faqih (absolute rule of clergy) offer a distorted view of Islam to the world. Condemn the suppressive actions and crimes that are committed under the banner of Islam, especially the execution of dissidents for "moharebeh" (enmity with God).**
- 2. The imperative of protecting the lives of Ashraf residents, respect their status as protected persons under the Fourth Geneva Convention and call on the United Nations to install a team of observers in Ashraf.**
- 3. The American government is responsible for any potential tragic occurrence against Ashraf residents. The session demands the establishment of American forces inside Ashraf in order to ensure the protection of the residents as well as the protection of the UNAMI observers.**
- 4. After the July ruling of the US Court of Appeals, which suggested the illegality of the terrorist listing of PMOI by the US State Department, there are no excuses to continue this unjust listing. The label does not only harm the PMOI and the Iranian people but deals the heaviest blow to anti-fundamentalist Muslims everywhere. It is an affront to Muslims everywhere.**
- 5. Arabic and Islamic countries to enact urgent measures to end the siege of Ashraf and to remind the Iraqi government of its obligations for respecting the rights of Ashraf residents.**

First - Impose comprehensive sanctions against all leaders of the Iranian regime and perpetrators of execution of 120,000 political prisoners, especially the 1988 massacre of 30,000 prisoners and the killing of demonstrators during the last three decades. The list of these criminals includes regime's supreme leader Ali Khamenei, its president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, top judiciary officials, ministers of Intelligence, commanders of the Guards Corp and Security Forces, ministers and authorities of the Interior Ministry, and Intelligence and Security officials.

Second - Formation of an international tribunal to try those in charge of suppression of the Iranian people for three decades, especially the perpetrators of massacre of 30,000 prisoners in 1988, a clear case of genocide and a crime against humanity.

Mrs. Rajavi further added that comprehensive sanctions should be imposed on Tehran but, regime change and establishment of democracy and popular sovereignty is the desire of all Iranians that the world community should duly recognize.

Islam: Advocate of people's sovereignty, oppose velayat-e-faqih

Excerpts from Mrs. Maryam Rajavi's speech

From the perspective of genuine Islam, Ramadan is the month of emancipation for which Prophet Mohammad was given his mandate: to remove the shackles from mankind.

In diametric opposition, for the fundamentalist mullahs ruling Iran, Ramadan is a month of stepping up suppression. Ramadan is used as a pretext for repression and demagoguery under the banner of Islam to preserve an evil power that has reached the end of the line.

... Why has the slogan of "down with the principle of the velayat-e faqih" inspired the uprisings in Iran?

Because 32 years ago, when Khomeini set foot in Iran, his first and most important betrayal of the Iranian people and revolution was justified by invoking "velayat-e faqih."

He imposed the velayat-e faqih constitution with the Assembly of Experts that was comprised of his handpicked clerics.

The People's Mojahedin, as the largest organized Muslim organization, declared that it would not vote for the constitution because of the principle of velayat-e faqih and that it believed sovereignty belonged to the people and universal suffrage should be respected.

From the point of view of Khomeini, this was the Mojahedin's greatest sin and the main cause for suppressing its members until this day.

For the Iranian people and those who rose up, velayat-e faqih means "the three-decade totalitarianism of Khomeini and Khamenei."

The world was witness that during the uprising the Iranian people, students and young people set fire to and stomped on pictures of Khomeini and Khamenei.

Indeed, velayat-e faqih means a crippling and dark oppressive rule which has wasted my homeland's vast natural resources through war, suppression, and destructive policies. It has led to 80 percent of the population, which sits on a sea of oil, falling below the poverty line, forcing many of them to sell their kidneys to make ends meet.

The slogan of "down with the principle of velayat-e faqih" inspired the uprising in Iran, because the velayat-e faqih is

the source and the pillar of a 30-year dark oppression, manifested in daily suppression, torture and the killing of the most enlightened and selfless children of the Iranian nation, especially the most faithful Muslim and Mojahed men and women.

Velayat-e faqih means unbridled dictatorship, which charges the children of the Iranian nation with Moharebeh and sentences them to death only for participating in demonstrations. Velayat-e

faqih means ruthless state-sponsored terrorism; export of fundamentalism and engulfing the countries in the Middle East region in the quagmire of terrorism and bloodshed. Velayat-e faqih means the ominous program to build nuclear weapons which is threatening the world.

Indeed, velayat-e faqih means a cunning demagoguery, which has shed all this blood, perpetrated all this corruption under the name of religion, and at the same time tarnishing the image of Islam.

Islam is the religion of mercy and emancipation. The Holy Quran begins with "In the name of God, the Most Merciful and Most Compassionate." Velayat-e faqih does not limit itself to committing crimes in Iran but views its own survival in exporting calamity and catastrophe.

The velayat-e faqih regime wants to arm itself with nuclear weapons in order to threaten the Arab and Muslim countries of the region and Iran's neighbors.

Anyone who supports freedom and democracy and believes in genuine Islam

must necessarily support the overthrow of the velayat-e faqih and the right of the Iranian people to sovereignty.

I ask, in the name of the Iranian people and Resistance, that the United Nations, governments, people around the world and especially Muslims, help break the siege on Ashraf. I specifically ask the United Nations to emphasize that the residents of Ashraf are protected persons under the Fourth Geneva Convention, to prohibit their forcible displacement inside Iraq and the use of

violence against them, and to station a monitoring team there.

I ask the United States to guarantee the protection of the residents and the UNAMI monitoring team in the

framework of its international and treaty obligations and based on the agreement it has signed with every single resident of the Camp. And I ask everyone around the world to encourage them to undertake this responsibility.

Defending Ashraf is indispensable to the campaign against a barbaric and unbridled fundamentalism which threatens the entire region and the world.



The most important attribute of the Mojahedin members in Ashraf is that they are the leading force in the struggle against the velayat-e faqih. They reject any compromise with the velayat-e faqih regime, for which reason, the regime has launched hysterical attacks on them.

Defending Ashraf is indispensable to the campaign against a barbaric and unbridled fundamentalism which threatens the entire region and the world



Sheikh Teissir At-Tamimi

*Imam of the Ibrahim Mosque in Palestine's Al-Khalil
Chief Islamic judge of the Palestinian*

I have come from Palestine, Jerusalem, to convey the greetings of the Palestinian people and proclaim the solidarity of the Palestinian people with Ashraf.

I would like to tell them and also the Palestinians in exile around the world to stand and defend their rights within the framework of Islam and international laws and conventions.

I would ask the host countries to support them and protect them against any violation. They must be protected in Iraq until the day they return victoriously to their country.

We tell Ashraf residents to be patient and encourage each other to persevere. There is no doubt that victory will come, and with God's help this dictatorship will disappear and you will return to your country.

I listened carefully to the speech of President Maryam Rajavi about the regime of velayat-e faqih and I fully agree with all her arguments from the Holy Quran. Yes Islam is a religion of mercy. God told the Prophet; we have sent you as a mercy for the mankind. Islam invites people to respect the rights of others and recognizes other religions, thoughts and political views. When he took over Jerusalem, he drafted a treaty to protect Christian churches and guarantee freedom of worship.

Islam encourages tolerance. Islam respects the freedom of opinion and rejects tyranny.

I declare my solidarity with the residents of Ashraf and I tell them, God willing, when the dictatorship ends, with God's help you will return to your home country, this is your right.



Sheikh Akrameh Saïd Sabri

Imam of Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, in a video message

I thank the organizers of this conference and the Arab-Islamic Committee in Defense of Ashraf. Yes, our great religion of Islam cherishes human beings. Originally the wonder of man, there's this great religion, Islam has given human beings the freedom to believe in it, to have faith, select and choose what they believe. God said: «There is no compulsion in religion».

That's why we stand with you and we feel what you feel, we are faced with you to the same tragedy, which is the exodus, destruction of homes, separation, breakdown of families, arrests, killings, torture. These are all cases of denial of human rights. As for the oppressed throughout the world, we ask God to bring them back to their homeland and we stand alongside all oppressed people because we, ourselves, are so oppressed in Palestine. Dear brothers, I ask the Almighty to be always at your side in good and goodness.



Mohammad Ali Al-Hosseini

Secretary General of the Islamic Council of Lebanon

Your Islam is opposed to velayat-e-faqih. Your Islam generates unity and peace in contrast with the Islam presented by the Iranian regime that advocates war and hatred.

Today, Ashraf is under an inhumane blockade. There are 3,400 people imprisoned there. What is the world doing about it? Where are the defenders of human rights? This is what they do to Ashraf, but 70 million people in Iran, living in a greater Ashraf, they are also in prison.

We need help for human rights, democracy and justice. We should help the oppressed people of Iran. Today a new dawn is rising in Iran, the dawn of liberty! From this rostrum, from Paris, I address the Western governments and people and tell them that 70 million people no longer want the velayat-e faqih rule.

Here in Paris on February 11, the regime held a party attended by less than a hundred people. But in June, the Iranian Resistance held a gathering where thousands of people attended. That represents what the Iranian people want. They neither need money nor arms. The Iranian people want freedom. The Iranian people want a free and democratic Iran with the government of its choice.

Alima Boumediene

Senator of Paris

Maryam, thank you for giving us the opportunity tonight to share with you this hope, this desire, and the happiness resulting from sitting together in mutual respect and engage in dialogue. This too often disappears in light of Islamophobia in France where we see across Europe growing intolerance, renunciation, and the search for scapegoats. We express our solidarity with all peoples, the people of Iraq, particularly Ashraf, the Iranian people and resistance, and also the people of Palestine. All these peoples live amidst violence and unfortunately suffer torture, dictatorship and many other misfortunes.

Finally, you talked about peace. Yes you are right in asking the UN to intervene to protect people in Ashraf, and I would add it should also do so in Palestine and in other places. Peace can be achieved only when there is justice and that is why we will only demand peace, and live in peace if justice becomes a reality. So above all else, let us demand international justice, which must not include impunity. I wanted to join you and express these wishes on this night of Ramadan, and hope that people who live today under dictatorship, facing violence and occupation, will one day live in justice and peace.

Jean-François Legaret

Mayor of the 1st district of Paris

I am back with you at your invitation, in this venue which is located in the 1st district at the center of our capital. It is a symbolic location because the 1st district is particularly rich in heritage, history, and is a testimony to all foreign civilizations. I would like to describe this meeting as an example of free exchange of ideas and brotherhood. It simply sends a message of peace to all those who share a belief in Ramadan, the culture of mercy and generosity. So I wish you much success for this event and I hope you'll honor us with coming back again in the first district. I praise your belief in peace, brotherhood and friendship among our civilizations.

Abderrahmane Dahmane

Chairman of the Muslim Democrats Council of France

The Muslims in France should not be ashamed or be weary about expressing solidarity with Maryam Rajavi, because this woman is fighting for freedom and for an Islam we have grown to know: a just, moderate and democratic Islam. No one can frighten us to say, and we will continue to say: Maryam, we are with you because you are defending the future of a democratic Islam. That is why I pay tribute to all those who have severed their relations with the barbaric regime in Tehran.



Sami Faraj

Director of Strategic Research Center of Kuwait



I do not believe that people of Iran revolted in 1979 in order to return to the era of prophet Mohammad, as Khamenei recently claimed. The domestic policy of the Iranian regime is based on violating the people's right to freedom.

Today, the Iranian regime not only meddles in Iraq, but also interferes in the affairs of Yemen, Lebanon and Palestine. Its role in the Palestinian issue is to create obstacle in reaching a solution.

Some people may accuse us of supporting the PMOI in violation of recognized norms of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. We in the Gulf Cooperation Council discover terrorist cells every month that have been created by the regime and their aim is to destabilize the Persian Gulf region.

I have known the PMOI and Ashraf for quarter of a century and I am familiar with their thoughts and ideas. The solution to the Iranian problem lies with the people. The only hope is the organization that has fought for freedom, the rights of people and their sovereignty and their right to progress, for over 40 years. Therefore, we must look at the PMOI as the only hope for Iran. This is an organized movement with extensive resources across the world. This organization can in practice deploy Iranian people's energy from different aspects. This is the angle we must look at Ashraf which is a bridge for PMOI to its homeland Iran. If there is a hope for Iran and its people to return to their role in the Islamic and Persian Gulf region it only lies with the PMOI. Ashraf, as its bridge to Iran, must be maintained and we must look at this as a duty and try to strengthen its position and resources. The least we can do today, even if it meant in words, is to defend Ashraf, because it is not only related to Iran but to all of us Arabs and Muslims and countries around the world.



From left: Egyptian MPs Kamal Zahran, Ahmad Barakat and Ebrahim Saad About

Egyptian MPs against Ashraf blockade

Dr Kamal Zahran
Egyptian MP

On behalf of my colleagues and I who have signed the declaration of support for Ashraf, I wish to express our opposition to its ongoing siege and offer our solidarity with its residents. We emphasize that this problem must be address with a consistent criteria. We call for an end to the blockade of the residents of Ashraf and wish you best of health and dignity.

Saad About
Egyptian MP

By representing the Egyptian people, I salute this lady warrior, our sister Maryam Rajavi. This outstanding model of a Muslim woman, an example to follow, thank you and I send you my greetings. I also thank our host country, France, because this country is the bastion of freedom.

Ahmad Ebrahim Barakat
Egyptian MP

We gathered to support the oppressed people of Camp Ashraf who suffer from tyranny. The religion of Islam is summed up in two words: freedom of religion and the religion of equality. This is a religion that is equal for all languages and all peoples. The United Nations and all civilized people should stand up for their freedom and to protect the sacredness of their humanity. They must rise to the rescue of the oppressed, the oppressed in Ashraf, Gaza and everywhere. We declare with all our strength our solidarity with the oppressed people of Ashraf and Gaza.



From left: Houlah Hamayedeh, Hamdi Morad and Ali Al-Zala'ine

Hamdi Morad
Former Jordanian minister

We take this forum and this meeting to express our solidarity and support for the residents of Ashraf who are under attacks and the constant suppression by the Iraqi forces that pursue the policy of Iran in this region. I ask the UN to enforce the 4th Geneva Convention and

international law and ensure the safety and protection of Ashraf residents against any kind of aggression to guarantee their free and dignified life free from repression, blockade or attack. I call on all Arabs, Muslims and international human rights organizations to actively defend the rights of besieged residents of Ashraf.

Jordanians for protection express support for Ashraf

Dr Ali Al-Zala'ine
Jordanian MP

We are gathered today in this holy month of Ramadan to declare our full support for our brothers in Ashraf who since the beginning of 2009 are under blockade. We declare our solidarity with the families of resistance members and families of the Mojahedin in Ashraf. We ask God to help the efforts to lift the blockade of the brave people of Ashraf. We denounce the court cases made up by the Iranian regime to justify the blockade and inhumane attacks and plots by the regime against Ashraf.

Dr Houleh Al-Hamayedeh
Jordanian University Professor

This holy month of Ramadan is a great opportunity for us to speak about Ashraf and inhuman blockade by the clerical regime's repressive forces in Iraq. Since July 2009, the Iraqi government has been launching attacks against Ashraf. The governments of Iraq and Iran are taking advantage of Islam and engage in acts of sabotage and destruction and measures contrary to the teachings of Islam. We all know that Islam is against violence and fundamentalism and that is why we believe these plans have no relations with Islam.



From left: Reza al-Reza, Minas Al-Youssefi and Noureddine Al-Mousavi

Iraqis Solidarity with Ashraf

Minas Al-Youssefi
Chairman of Iraqi Christian Democratic Party

I wish to convey the greetings of the Iraqi Christian Democratic Party and its supporters to this gathering, the Iranian Resistance and its leader Massoud Rajavi. We as lawyers have been

defending the rights of Camp Ashraf residents right from the beginning. We have been calling on all international organizations and the UN to defend them as political refugees and recognize their rights under the Fourth Geneva Convention. I, as a member of Iraqi Lawyers Committee, will

continue defending Ashraf residents until they are free and can go back to their countries freely. God bless you all.

Noureddine Al-Moussavi
secretary General of Iraqi National Front

I bring you greetings from the residents of Camp Ashraf in Iraq. For over 26 years they have lived there and in the eyes of Iraqis they are not refugees, but they have historical and human rights. What I want to ask you is to put pressure on the United Nations to resume its responsibilities towards Ashraf. The departure of the UN observer's team from Ashraf is tantamount to ignoring its legal responsibilities vis-à-vis Ashraf residents. The situation in Iraq is more dangerous today

than any other time. In the current political vacuum in Iraq, many crimes can take place. We all pray for Ashraf residents and wish them success.

Reza Al Reza
Secretary General of Iraqi Shiite Jafari Association

At the end of the twentieth century we faced the emergence of Khomeini after the fall of the Shah. This development played an effective political role in misleading the view of Islam, divide Muslims and remove unity among them. The regime in Iran promoted this concept in Iraq after the occupation and in the region. This regime is trying to take Iran, Iraq and the whole region to the dark days of medieval ages. Even the free world has gradually realized that this thought is far more dangerous than Nazism for their peoples. The pioneers of freedom for Iran are the residents of Ashraf.

Rally in Paris in protest to death sentences against political prisoners

On the occasion of World Day against the Death Penalty and in protest to death sentences against political prisoners as 'Mohareb' (enemy of God), a major rally and demonstration was staged in Paris on October 9. Participants called upon the European Union to impose sanctions against Iranian regime's officials for their systematic violation of human rights including suppression of dissidents and protesters.

French personalities including Jean-Pierre Brard, Member of French National Assembly, and co-president of Parliamentary Committee for a Democratic and Secular Iran; Jean-Pierre Bequet, former MP and Mayor of Auvers-sur-Oise and founding member of the French Committee for a Democratic Iran that includes dozens



of prominent French figures, senators and MPs, voiced their support for the goals of rally.

Several protesters in Iran have been sentenced to death over the past year on the charge of 'Moharebeh' (waging war against God). Majority of political prisoners sentenced to death are sympathizers of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI) or relatives of Resistance members in Camp Ashraf including Mrs. Farah (Almira) Vazehan and Messrs. Ali Saremi, Mohsen Daneshpour, Ahmad Daneshpour,

Mohammad Haj Aghaei, Jafar Kazemi, Javad Lari, Abdolreza Ghanbari who are on death row.

In their final declaration, demonstrators expressed support for the call by President-elect of the Iranian Resistance Mrs. Maryam Rajavi to impose comprehensive sanctions against officials of the Iranian regime plus those involved in the execution of 120,000 political prisoners, especially the massacre of 30,000 political prisoners in 1988, and killing of protesters in the past 3 decades.



Mayors and representatives from 24 French cities express solidarity with Iran opposition and Ashraf

Maryam Rajavi: The US and UN must rise up to their responsibilities with respect to Ashraf and respect their obligations for protecting its residents

13 French mayors and representatives from 11 other cities joined the event to express solidarity with the Iranian Resistance and Camp Ashraf, Iraq, where 3,400 members of the main opposition People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI/MEK) reside. Mrs. Rajavi extended her gratitude to the French representatives for supporting the rights of Camp Ashraf residents and conveyed the appreciation and greetings of the residents to the elected representatives of the French people. Addressing the participants, Mrs. Rajavi said:

The international community must stand up to stop the commission of this barbarism.

The international community must also enact measures against execution sentences against political prisoners and especially supporters of the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI/MEK) and relatives of Ashraf residents in Iraq.

There are 9 people awaiting execution currently on charges of taking part in protests and having family links to Ashraf residents. These death sentences, including the latest against Ms. Farah



“... From our point of view, you are the symbols of the true values of democracy, liberty, equality and fraternity, which characterize France. That is why it is so significant to know that you are on our side, because we also cherish these values along with you. We have passed through difficult times, and today the situation has become a lot clearer than before. The world has realized that both you and we were right. The world has realized that we were right in saying that the murderous regime in Iran is not capable of reforms and is completely isolated within the country. Everyone is coming to the understanding that the clerical regime has stepped up terror, intimidation, arrests, torture and executions in order to preserve its rule. The regime reveals its brutality with horrendous death sentences such as the stoning of women like Sakineh Ashtiani who themselves are the victims of that system.

Vazehan, actually serve to expose the regime's inability to confront the popularity of the resistance movement and the backing of the Iranian society for Ashraf residents.

At the same time, the clerical regime is exerting more pressures on the bastion of resistance in Ashraf with the help of the Iraqi government.

The world must make efforts to convince the United States and the United Nations to rise up to their responsibilities with respect to Ashraf and to respect their obligations for protecting the camp.

We reject the policy of appeasement towards Tehran and demand democratic change leading to the establishment of a democratic and pluralist government on the basis of separation of church and state. This would be a government which would respect fundamental freedoms and would place compliance with human rights over and above all other issues.