

# HAMBASTEGI

PAPER OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF IRANIAN REFUGEES



141

December 23, 2002

## All those jailed by the US Immigration must be freed!



There are many people from Iran and several other countries still in jail in the USA after having been arrested for complying with an order for all non-immigrant men over 16 from Iran, Iraq, Sudan, Libya and Syria to register with the US Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) by December 16.

Many of the Iranian detainees are in danger of being deported to the Islamic Republic of Iran. This inhumane policy must be defeated. These arrests are part of the war of terrorists - the USA's state terrorism versus Islamic terrorism. Restricting the civil rights of the people

of America is another element in this war. We must not become the victims of the war of the terrorists, lose our rights and have our dignity and humanity trampled upon by reactionaries.

All the detainees must be released unconditionally. We are the victims of the Islamic Republic of Iran's terrorism. We have run away from the horrors, execution and the reign of Islam to live in another corner of the world. Living in any part of the world is a fundamental right of every person. We will not allow ourselves to be condemned to a life of fear and trepidation. We must not allow the lives of people to be subject to such insecurity.

The Worker-communist Party of Iran - US Committee and the International Federation of the Iranian Refugees - US Branch call on groups and individuals to protest against the imprisonment of the immigrants and to join our protests. Shoulder to shoulder with the progressive and socialist groups of America, let us protest against Islamic terrorism and the atmosphere of fear created by the USA government.

The Worker-communist Party of Iran and the International Federation of the Iranian Refugees have called for several demonstrations in Los Angeles so far calling for the release of the detainees.

## We have also suffered at the hands of Islam!

**Maryam Namazie**  
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Thousands have been arrested throughout the USA after complying with an order for all non-immigrant men over 16 from Iran, Iraq, Sudan, Libya and Syria to

register with the US Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) by December 16. The INS is refusing to say how many have been arrested from the 7,200 boys and men who had been expected to show up at their offices nationwide. Young and old, many of them with pending immigration petitions, have been detained and are at risk of deportation.

There are numerous reports of mistreatment and abuse. And there are more mass arrests to come. Boys and men from Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Eritrea, Lebanon, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen face a registration deadline of January 10 whilst those from Saudi Arabia and

Pakistan must register by February 21.

The majority of those targeted by this outrageous racial profiling and state racism reminiscent of the internment of the Japanese during World War II are non-immigrants who were born in the Middle East and North Africa. The

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only 'crime' of these people who are in the USA on student, tourist or work visas and or with pending immigration petitions is their place of birth. Entire groups of people are being deemed criminals for the crimes of Islamic states and groups from which in fact many of them have fled. They are criminalised even if they are now citizens of other

countries like Canada, even if they are secularists, non-Muslims, opponents of political Islam and Islamic terrorism, Muslims who oppose political Islam (do all Americans or 'Christians' support the KKK?) and so on. These people are being deemed guilty for the acts of states and groups that have been at one time or are now supported by the USA and

West.

This USA law and registration system would really be preposterous if it was passed for the terrorist acts of some 'Americans' and or even the USA government. Wouldn't it be preposterous to round up all American and Western boys and men over 16 because of the actions of for example

Timothy McVeigh? Or even because of the acts of terrorism of the USA government on say the people of Iraq or Chile? It seems preposterous because it is a given that people living in the West are not homogeneous and don't usually represent the government or reactionary right-wing groups

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**Mansoor Hekmat (1951-2002)**

With the bloody suppression of the revolution in Iran and the imposition of an ultra-reactionary life on the people, tens of thousands of human beings, alone and without organisation, fled the Islamic Republic of Iran in search of security and tranquillity. Organising this vast human mass around the most modern and humane advances of humanity, unconditionally defending their right to asylum, and creating an international organisation without taking into consideration people's nationality, religion, sex and or political affiliation became an immediate necessity. Creating the International Federation of Iranian Refugees (IFIR) was Mansoor Hekmat's response to these conditions. As he said: 'Our entire life story is changing the lives of human beings.'

## **We have also suffered at the hands of Islam, from page 2**

in the West. But when it comes to 'easterners', everyone is one and the same with the Islamic states and groups that have wreaked havoc in the region and the world.

This racist law and the arrests portray all people from the Middle East and North Africa as terrorist. Clearly, this is not the case. In fact, Islamic terrorism and political Islam, which was strengthened by the West, has massacred a lot more for a lot longer. The tragedy and outrage that took place on September 11 is the daily tragedy of the people living in that region. In reality,

many of those rounded up in the past few days or the days to come are victims of this very Islamic terrorism themselves. This law also deems all those countries and people as 'Islamic' and 'Muslim'. It's as if the people of that region choose to live under Islamic fascism and intolerable Islamic laws. And this is not only the USA government's assumption. Armenia, which was originally on the registration list, was scratched off at the last minute for being a 'Christian nation'. According to a spokesperson of the Armenian Assembly of America: 'We have suffered

at the hands of Islam...unfortunately, we have junior members of the State Department who don't know one country from another'!!! It's as if there are no differences in beliefs, opinions, religions in that region, no struggles, no socialists, atheists, secularists, freedom-lovers and so on. For example, though there is an anti-Islamic backlash in Iran and people there are actively struggling to overthrow the Islamic regime in Iran, Iranians are being portrayed as one and the same with the state that is oppressing them.

This law and arrests have just about as much legitimacy as the law rounding up Germans and Japanese during the World Wars - that is, none whatsoever. What relation did the Japanese at the time have with the Japanese government? What relation does the Iranian, Iraqi, Libyan student, worker or tourist have with those governments? This law must be resisted and pushed back. The USA government must not be allowed to assault rights, diminish civil rights on a global level and re-victimise people who have already been the victims of Islamic or USA terrorism.

# **Oppose US immigration's detention and USA's racist law**

The International Federation of Iranian Refugees (IFIR) unequivocally condemns the USA Immigration and Naturalisation Service's arrest of thousands of non-immigrant boys and men from Iran and other Middle Eastern countries. The USA's policy of registering all men and boys over 16 born in many Middle Eastern and North African countries and detaining thousands is racist, diminishes civil rights in the US and has nothing to do with fighting against terrorism.

Send letters of protest to George Bush at [President@Whitehouse.Gov](mailto:President@Whitehouse.Gov) condemning the USA law and detentions, calling for an end to the registration process and demanding the release of all detainees. Send copies of your e-mails to [ifir@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:ifir@ukonline.co.uk).

## **Sample Letter**

I/my organisation condemn(s) the USA law requiring all boys over 16 and men born in many Middle Eastern and North African countries from registering with the US INS. I/my organisation also condemns the detention of thousands who showed up to comply with the law. We call for an end to the registration system and law and demand the release of all those arrested.

Send copies of your e-mails to [ifir@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:ifir@ukonline.co.uk).

# JOIN IFIR

\* I wish to join **the International Federation of Iranian Refugees (IFIR)** as:

Member (£25.00 p.a.)  Affiliated Group (£100.00 p.a.)

\* I wish to make a donation of: £ I wish to subscribe to Hambastegi English or Iran Monitor:  (£50.00 p.a.)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to the International Federation of Iranian Refugees and mail to P. O. Box 27236, London N11 2ZF.

\* I wish to make a standing order:

To: The Manager of (your Bank) \_\_\_\_\_

(Address of your Bank) \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay **the International Federation of Iranian Refugees (IFIR)** the sum of £ each month / quarter / year (delete as appropriate) until further notice and debit my Account no:  Sort Code:  starting on (date):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

[FOR OFFICE USE ONLY] To: **International Federation of Iranian Refugees**, Lloyds TSB bank plc. Sort Code: 30-99-86, account no. 0057223.

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