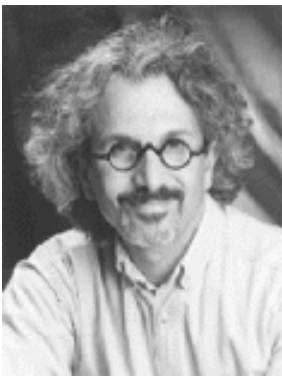




Arrests in the USA and the response

Interview with
Ali Javadi



The USA has recently arrested hundreds of the Iranians and many others born in the Middle East residing in the USA. What are the USA government's objectives?

Ali Javadi: With the September 11 atrocity, the world entered a dark and bloody era. The war that the USA administration calls the 'war on terrorism' is in fact the beginning of a war between two poles of reactionary Is-

lamic and state terrorism. One of the consequences of the September 11 atrocity is the attempt by the ruling USA administration to turn American society towards the Right. This is part of the battle to define the details of the New World Order and accordingly give meaning to the 'internal' dimensions of this reactionary order. The general path of such efforts is through the imposition of much more police control and restricting the civil rights and prerogatives of citizens. All these restrictions and police controls are pushed forward under the pretext of 'people's security' and 'internal security'. On the other hand, in its war against political Islam, it was expected that the USA ruling administration will impose more police control and restrictions on the

citizens of Islam-ridden societies and Iranians in the United States. The people who have themselves been victims of Islamic terrorism or fled this reaction suddenly find themselves victims of the war of the terrorists. The USA did this during the 2nd World War too. Japanese residents of the USA were rounded up and taken to 'concentration camps' in an inhumane act. In my opinion, within this framework, these are the objectives of the USA government; it will continue to pursue them in the future.

What has been the response and protests to these arrests?

Ali Javadi: A local radio station, which occasionally deals with social issues of

Iranian immigrants called for a demonstration on Wednesday of last week. The International Federation of Iranian Refugees (IFIR) also called on progressive Iranian people to take part in this demonstration with the slogans of 'Freedom for all Detainees', 'An Immediate end to mass Detentions,' 'No-one is Illegal,' 'No to Islamic Terrorism, No to USA state Terrorism' and 'Down with the Islamic Republic of Iran.' The social fabric of the participants in the demonstration was particularly different from other demonstrations in this city. The presence of the young generation was noticeable. Two generations of Iranian immigrants residing in Los Angeles that took part in the demonstration, both

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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those who were born in America and those who had left Iran because of the dark rule of the Islamic Republic, saw the action of the US Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) as inhumane. The press release issued by the Worker-communist Party of Iran and the IFIR was very well received.

The Islamic Republic tried to pose as the defender of the detainees and the BBC announced that 'Muslims' were arrested and that Iranians had demonstrated. What is your assessment of these attempts?

Ali Javadi: The Islamic Republic of Iran tried to take advantage of these protests. The regime's 2nd Khomeinist faction (also known as the reformists), the Tudeh-ists, the Fedayeen Majority and other supporters of the Islamic regime followed the same policy. Clearly, their attempts had nothing to do with the essence of this protest. The aim and objective of the Islamic thugs and their supporters are clear; they are promoting their own policies. The BBC however, provided them with the publicity they wanted. The BBC an-

nounced that: 'the detention of Muslims was met with a demonstration by Iranians.' To falsify the fact and reality is part of the BBC's job specification. In this saga, no one was arrested for believing in Islam. This action of the BBC is another example of the very same policy that brought Khomeini from the depths of political Islam's sewage to the forefront of Iranian politics, called him the 'leader' of the revolution, called the people's revolution 'Islamic' and employed its broadcasting machinery in the service and support of the despicable Islamic movement. Some of the USA extreme-right media also tried to portray the same image of the protests. They tried to portray these protests as being in the camp of the Islamists and not the protest of the civilised world against the inhumane and right wing policy of the US ruling administration. The massive majority of the people who took part in this demonstration are those who day and night are cursing the Islamic regime.

How different was the reaction of the Monarchists and the right wing opposi-

tion to the people's protests against the detentions and what is your assessment of these reactions?

Ali Javadi: The reaction of this rank was amazing! In their bizarro-world there is nothing outside the two camps of reactionary Islamic terrorism and state terrorism; there is nothing called civilised and progressive humanity. Exactly like the USA right wing circles, and to justify their policy, they linked these protests to the Islamic regime and groups associated with them. Some of their circles, in the same manner of the fascist US attorney general, openly defended the inhumane policy of the USINS. The situation was so bad that Reza Pahlavi, was forced to write to George Bush ten days later and ask for a softening of the detention policy while asking for US support for himself in order to save face! The Monarchists and generally the grouping that does not have any other means of achieving power apart from guns, tanks, cruise missiles and the USA propaganda machinery could not be seen to side with this protest. In the war of the terrorists, they are uncondi-

tionally on the side of the USA and Israeli state terrorism. The right wing US government is their only saviour and hope to get to the throne. Their hysterical propaganda is because of their policy. Do they have any history of defending the civil rights of the people during their time in power? The people have not forgotten the SAVAK machinery and denial of even smallest of civil rights during their rule.

The above is an interview conducted in Persian by International Weekly number 139 dated December 27, 2002. It was first published in English in WPI Briefing number 89 dated December 30, 2002.

**FREEDOM
FOR ALL
DETAINEES**

**NO ONE
IS
ILLEGAL**



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.'

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 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.

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.

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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