

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### **The 61<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

December 10th, 2009

On December 10, 1948 the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and all Member countries including Iran signed the Declaration. Article 1 of the Declaration, that has deep roots in Iranian history and culture, proclaims: “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.”

It is worthwhile to remember that Cyrus the Great, the king of Persia, over 2500 years ago presented the first Human Rights doctrine, a document that remains the source of pride for all humanity today.

The history of human civilization shows that those countries that established their democratic system of government based on Human Rights doctrine have made great progress in the areas of social, economic, cultural, and political development and guaranteed their national welfare. We celebrate the anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights and hope that the people of Iran and other countries, who are suffering from despotic regimes, will succeed in gaining their human rights.

During the past three decades, the Iranian people have been deprived of their human rights by the ignorant and fanatic leaders of the Islamic republic. The regime has tortured and murdered many Iranians (students, writers, journalists, educators, lawyers, pro-democracy activists, workers, and others). Indeed, the most strict gender and religious apartheid has been created by the Islamic republic. Also, millions of Iranians live in poverty and hardship.

Despite these intolerable conditions, the people of Iran have demonstrated their opposition to the illegitimate regime with civil disobedience actions and by participating bravely in massive demonstrations across the country. A glance at the recent protests of Iranians indicates that they are fed up with the regime. They are increasingly frustrated, and they are seeking the right opportunity to set the stage for establishment of democracy in Iran. In response to people’s call for freedom and democracy, the Islamic republic has reacted by killing innocent Iranians such as Neda Soltan, torturing and raping men and women in prisons, presenting Stalinist-style show trials, and other atrocities, to prolong the existence of the regime and continue plundering Iran’s resources.

The world community must recognize that the Iranian people oppose the terrorist activities and adventurist policies of the Islamic republic. The recent Iranian demonstrations show that the people of Iran seek cooperation and mutual respect with the free world. However, it is the mullah regime that violates the Human Rights of Iranians, supports terrorist groups, and interferes in other countries. The uncivilized actions of the regime have seriously harmed the interests of the Iranian people.

Now that the people of Iran have risen up and need the support of the free world, we ask the free countries of the world to put aside their short-sighted policies and effectively support the Iranian people, in the same manner that they supported the freedom seekers of Poland and South Africa. Replacing the uncivilized mullah regime with a responsible democratic government will have a very positive effect on peace and stability in the Middle East and the world.

Co-signer Organizations in alphabetical order:

Constitutionalist Party of Iran, Council of National Front-Overseas Branch, Iranian Solidarity Congress, Pan Iranian Party-Overseas Branches, Student Solidarity Advocates