



Iranian Solidarity Congress

June 24, 2009

The Honorable John McCain
United States Senate
241 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McCain,

The members of the Iranian Solidarity Congress greatly appreciate your unequivocal support of the fundamental right of the Iranian people to determine their future for themselves in freedom. Brave Iranian men and women are risking their lives to defend their rights and express their opposition to the tyranny of the Islamic republic. As the world has witnessed, the Khomeinist regime has attacked unarmed Iranians with knives and bullets. Neda Soltani and many other Iranians have been killed in the recent protests, and thousands of protesters have been arrested by the regime.

The regime has said that it will make an example of the protesters that have been arrested. The Islamic republic's courts don't meet the standards for fair trials. Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Reporters Without Borders, the United Nations and other organizations have documented the violations of the human rights of the Iranian people by the Islamic republic. We are very concerned that the regime will torture imprisoned protesters to obtain phony confessions, and convict them in sham trials. It is important for the international community to use all available means to compel the regime to stop torturing political prisoners. We hope that you and your colleagues in Congress will work with the leaders of other democratic countries and the United Nations to send representatives of the Red Cross and human rights organizations to visit the political prisoners in Iran and monitor their trials.

Although, many Iranians have been killed and injured in recent protests, it is possible that a more horrific tragedy will follow as the Islamic republic tortures and executes political prisoners. We respectfully urge you to bring attention to this imminent danger, in order to save the lives of pro-democracy Iranians.

We agree with you that defending the universal values of democracy, human rights, civil liberties, and the rule of law, and condemning the unacceptable violence against the peaceful demonstrators, is not meddling in internal Iranian affairs.

Nelson Mandela and his colleagues received important support from the leaders of many countries and international organizations. That international support was an important factor in the victory of the South African people against the Apartheid regime. Pro-democracy activists in Poland, Hungary and many other countries also received international support that helped them to replace despotic regimes with democratic governments. These are examples of the kind of support that the Iranian people request from all enlightened governments and individuals in the world.

As usual, the mullahs have used fraud to manipulate their sham elections. All of the results that the Islamic republic has announced for the so-called election are fabricated. Even some of the candidates in the rigged elections are protesting against the fraud. In some regions, the regime's election results show

that voter turnout was more than 100 percent. The ballot boxes were stuffed with phony votes before voting began, in order to manipulate the results and artificially increase voter turnout. All of the regime's previous elections have also included fraud, as different factions of the mullah mafia fight over power and money.

The mullah regime has never had free and democratic elections. The necessary conditions for democratic elections don't exist within the framework of the Islamic republic. The theocratic regime has banned all pro-democracy parties, imprisoned and tortured thousands of pro-democracy activists, and censors publications and the internet. Furthermore, the jihadist mullahs control all radio and television programs. The regime allows only its supporters to be candidates in elections, and rejects all others. The same gang of terrorists has controlled the leadership positions of the Islamic republic since 1979 (Khamenei, Rafsanjani, Jannati, Khatami, Mir Hossein Mousavi, Ahmadinejad, Mesbah Yazdi, ...). Therefore, the leaders of the regime are not the representatives of the Iranian people.

The regime has expelled foreign journalists from Iran. Reporters Without Borders said 23 journalists were arrested over the past week. The regime has blocked many Web sites, including Facebook and Twitter. The regime is trying to stop the flow of information to the world about its crimes against Iranians. If the international community does not act decisively to support the human rights of the Iranian people, many more Iranians will be killed by the Islamic republic.

The mullah regime has also supported numerous terrorist groups and caused serious problems in several countries in the Middle East. The regime is pursuing nuclear weapons. The best option for eliminating all of the problems caused by the Islamic republic is to support the noble movement of the Iranian people for freedom, democracy and human rights. Imagine the important strategic impact of replacing the Khomeinist regime with a responsible democratic government that respects human rights and does not support terrorism.

The protests by hundreds of thousands of Iranians against the regime, and the brutal attacks and murder of Iranians by Hezbollah thugs prove that the regime is illegitimate, and it would be wrong to appease the regime with a "grand bargain" and give it legitimacy and new life.

What you see in Iran today is a historic opportunity to support the cause of freedom and democracy. The victory of pro-democracy Iranians will have a tremendously positive impact on the Middle East and the world. The cause of peace in the Middle East will be helped immensely.

We are aware that some of the so-called experts are pessimistic about the replacement of the Islamic republic with a democratic government. However, the recent protests in Iran show that millions of Iranians oppose the Islamic republic, and the regime is vulnerable. Negotiations with such an illegitimate regime will not resolve the problems that concern the United States.

Iranians are not seeking military action against the Khomeinist regime, or financial support from governments for the democracy movement. What is needed is active support from democratic governments and international organizations for the Iranians who are engaged in a brave struggle to end the tyranny of the mullah regime, and bring freedom and democracy to Iran.

Sincerely,



Dr. Assadollah Nasre Esfahani
Chairman
Iranian Solidarity Congress