



**'The basis of socialism is the human being... Socialism is the movement to restore human being's conscious will.'**

**- Mansoor Hekmat**

*The great Marxist thinker and leader of the Worker-communist Party and worker-communist movement, 1951-2002*

# Happy New Year!

## The Islamic Republic of Iran is forced to stop stonings under pressure!

27 December 2002

On Thursday 26 December 2002 it was reported that Shahroodi, the head of the Islamic regime of Iran's judiciary, had issued a directive to judges not to carry out stonings and disregard issuing such sentences in the future. This is a clear retreat in the face of general public protest, abhorrence, resistance and the resilient struggle of the activists of the women's liberation movement against this appalling crime. Furthermore, it is the result of pressures brought to bear by international public opinion through the recent negotiations with the European Union.

The Worker-communist Party of Iran (WPI) is proud of being at the forefront of this relentless struggle. The activities of its members and

activists to galvanise progressive public opinion internationally to bring pressure on the European Union are well-known. Mina Ahadi, a member of the WPI's Political Bureau and the Coordinator of the 'International Committee against Stoning' is a renowned international personality in this struggle. The European Union had no option but to convey this pressure to the Islamic Republic of Iran and the regime had no option but to retreat from continuing to commit this appalling crime. The regime must be forced to end all its crimes and must be ousted. All the leaders of the regime and those who have been party to sanctioning, issuing sentences and carrying out these barbaric and other Islamic punishments must be put on trial for their crimes against humanity.

The attempts by people like Jamileh Kadivar and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Khoradad faction (also known as the reformists) to suggest that the regime's retreat is even more shameful and disgraceful. This is our victory, the victory of people's protest and that of the egalitarian and progressive movement and must be recorded and recognised as such.

The Worker-communist Party of Iran congratulates the people of Iran, Mina Ahadi, the International Committee against Stoning and the activists of this struggle. The progressive movement of the people of Iran will press on until the downfall of the Islamic regime and the abolition of all of its criminal codes.

## Growing pressure against stoning

On the German Foreign Ministry's comments regarding Mina Ahadi's claim that they have done nothing to defend the victims of stoning in Iran

**Asqar Karimi**

The German Foreign Ministry's response to Mina Ahadi's exposure of the Ger-

man's government silence and collaboration with the Islamic Republic of Iran in regards stoning, which was printed in the German daily Berlin Zeitung, contains

some significant points. The German Foreign Ministry rejects Ahadi's claim that they 'have done nothing to defend

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**Mina Ahadi**

## Growing pressure against stoning, from page 1

the victims of stoning' and has stated that: 'the German Foreign Minister, Fischer, has met with and conversed openly and frankly with his Iranian counterpart about human rights.' The Ministry has added that: 'It is more effective to use quiet behind-the-scenes diplomacy rather than too much hue and cry.' What a convincing argument! But then, what else can a government that has supported the leaders of the Islamic regime in Iran, sold the regime arms and torture equipment and even trained its horrifying security agents say? Fischer's disgraceful defence is a desperate attempt by a reactionary European government that has accommodated one of the most criminal governments in history.

The noticeable point, however, is the growing pressure exerted by the Worker-communist Party of Iran (WPI), the force which represents the progressive people of Iran and has forced the German government to give such a feeble response. This force has not allowed any government to portray the Islamic Republic and its criminal leaders as 'demo-

crats' and 'reformists' and recipients of the 'Nobel Peace Prize.' This force has turned the beatings and injuries of Roya Mosayebi who had escaped stoning and compulsory veiling and sought asylum in Germany into a political disgrace and moral bankruptcy for the German government for forcibly veiling her in preparing for her deportation. This force is the one that defeated the Berlin conference which was organised by the Heinrich Böll Institute in April 2000 in order to promote Mr. Fischer's policy of selling Khatami as the representative of the people of Iran to the people of Germany. One must add tens of other activities. These pressures including the extensive activities of Mina Ahadi, the coordinator of the International Committee against Stoning and a member of the WPI's Political Bureau, forced the Institute to organise a conference on stoning and invite Mina Ahadi rather than the regime's representatives as a speaker; this in turn forced Mr. Fischer to respond.

Mr. Fischer does not represent public opinion in Germany; he belongs to the re-

actionary ruling administration of Germany. It is the Mina Ahadis who represent German public opinion, which is against stoning, execution, veiling and political Islam as well as against deportation and harassing those who have fled the Islamic regime. The civilised world needs us, we who have resolutely risen against political Islam. It needs to hear the truth from us. The civilised world does not benefit from the policies of reactionary European governments, policies which are incompatible with people's humanism and progressiveness. People are reaching the truth about Iran, the Middle East and political Islam from us; this is a tremendous responsibility that we shoulder. Our telling of the truth as it is, our radicalism and consistent and humanist defence of people's rights and freedoms, contemporary human society's need for us and our policies, the turning of European politics to the Left regarding political Islam and the Middle East, the growth of the progressive movement of the people of Iran to overthrow the regime are our strong points and has provided us with an historical opportunity

to make our version of political Islam (and not that of Mr. Fischer, Blair and Bush's) the general version of the West. Once before, the ANC did not allow the people of the West to see South Africa through the eyes of the European ruling administrations. Now it is our turn. We believe deeply in our victory in this struggle and are ready to fulfil our historical mission. This is the magnificent and enormous reality that forces a reactionary government to even more historical retreats. Fischer's defensive response and the extension of an invitation by the Heinrich Böll Institute to Mina Ahadi are only tiny aspects of this retreat in the face of public opinion, which is being shaped by us.

The Islamic Republic is too reactionary and has committed too many crimes. It is deeply despised by the people; it will be overthrown by the people's verdict on the scene and not 'behind the scenes'. Mr. Fischer and other German government officials should not have any doubts that they will create even more disgrace and shame for themselves; in this battle vis-à-vis us, they will end up being the losers.

**Read Mansoor  
Hekmat's Works on  
[www.wpiran.org/](http://www.wpiran.org/)  
English**

## The reactionary dealings against the people of Iraq condemned, from page 3

these reactionary dealings. The Worker-communist Party of Iran will support the deprived people of Iraq against USA warmongering and the despotism of the Iraqi Ba'ath regime and will unequivocally support the

struggle of the Worker-communist Party of Iraq that is the flag bearer and voice of the demands and shattered desires of the workers and the deprived and progressive people of Iraq.

## Arrests in the USA and the response, from page 4

*How different was the reaction of the Monarchists and the right wing opposition 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 Mon-

archists 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 unconditionally 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 de-

fending 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.*

## The reactionary dealings against the people of Iraq condemned

**25 December 2002**

The gathering of the so-called Iraqi Opposition Conference in London which took place in mid-December 2002 was a clear example of the USA and its main ally Britain's efforts to turn bullying into the dominant standard of inter-state relations. This conference was effectively and openly led by the former US envoy in Afghanistan and the current US envoy in 'Iraqi Affairs'; his team consisted of CIA and US State Department representatives. The conference gathered a group of reactionary Iraqi opposition which did not represent the great majority of the Iraqi people; in fact, their enmity towards the interests of the people of Iraq is evident. The selected participants were elements of the Hashemite clan, whose anti-people regime had been toppled over half a century ago, reactionary groups organised in the 'Iraqi National Congress' that are official mercenaries of the

CIA, former military commanders of the Ba'ath regime who have killed and plundered, leaders of the nationalist Kurdish parties whose 11 year rule has offered the people nothing but naked mafia-clannish war, segregation and regional cleansing, oppression and the murder of women, political opponents and the imposition of the harshest poverty and destitution on the working people of Kurdistan and finally Islamic groups backed by the Islamic Republic of Iran who dream of turning Iraq into an Islamic Republic and imposing veiling and stoning.

In the first instance, the prevailing policy of this reactionary conference was justification of the war that the USA is about to impose on the people of Iraq and the region. The outcome of such a horrific war is clear to the people of Iraq and the region and the progressive humanity of the world. If this war takes

place, despite the vast opposition of the progressive people of the world, it will undoubtedly lead to a darker future for the Middle East and the world. The London Iraqi Opposition Conference has taken place exactly in opposition to international efforts against the war; therefore all the participants would be guilty of crimes committed in the looming war. The other prevailing aspect of this conference was the efforts to impose a system of government over and above the Iraqi people and block people's intervention in deciding the future political system of the country. This is the very policy and destiny which yesterday formed the Bonn conference and established the Loya Jirga for Afghanistan; it will be imposed on any other people wherever possible.

The only point that the conference showed was the collective willingness of the participants to take part in

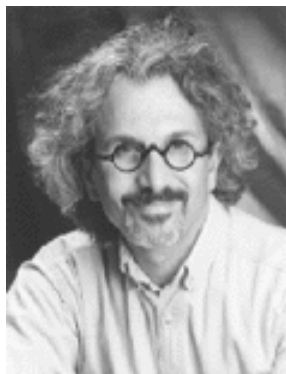
the looming war and stand shoulder to shoulder with Bush and Blair and the resulting dark scenario of nationalist and religious conflict. The rough verbal confrontation of the reactionary participants against each other during the course of the conference is only a test of the religious and ethnic conflict that they are planning for Iraq.

Any justification of the USA's warmongering and any reactionary wheeling and dealings to impose another anti-people system on and against the people of Iraq is rejected and strongly condemned by the Worker-communist Party of Iran that will make every endeavour to expose them. The demonstration and protest organised by the Worker-communist Parties of Iraq and Iran, which took place during the 3 days of the conference, are part of our efforts to expose

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# 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 Islamic 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Khordad 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 announced 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.

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