



**‘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*

## *The Worker-communist Party of Iran Political Bureau’s Resolution on* **Ensuring the People’s Right to Determine the Future System of Government in Iran**

1. The fall of the Islamic Republic of Iran is imminent and the question of determining the subsequent system of government has been posed to society.

2. The Worker-communist Party of Iran’s (WPI) alternative is the Socialist Republic. The Socialist Republic ensures the free, direct and conscious participation of the people in deciding the government and

provides the most extensive freedoms, prosperity and equality in society.

3. As announced in resolutions adopted by the WPI’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Congress, the WPI believes that mass revolution against the Islamic Republic of Iran is the most practical and shortest route available to the people to achieve their elected government.

4. The opposition on the Right

advocates a referendum and a constitutional assembly as the ideal method to replace the Islamic Republic. The possibility of people’s intervention and participation is truncated or totally denied via these methods. The objective of these groups is to prevent the conscious and free participation of people and mask and cloak their alternative as democratic. The real method of achieving

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## **Declaration of Political Freedoms**

To establish the prerequisites and the possibility for free and safe political participation in society and for the people to be able to determine their preferred government freely and consciously, the Islamic Republic of Iran must be overthrown and the provisions of this Declaration must be realised.

1. Separation of religion from the state and education. Abolition of all laws, policies and regulations with a religious basis. Freedom of religion and atheism.

2. Unconditional freedom

of thought, expression, press, association, organisation, political affiliation and strike.

3. Complete and unconditional equality of women and men in civil and individual rights. Abolition of all laws and regulations that contravene this principle.

4. Equality of all citizens irrespective of gender, religion, nationality, race and citizenship.

5. Freedom of all political prisoners.

6. Abolition of capital punishment.

7. General access to state media and mass communication for all, in particular political parties and groups.

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power by these groups is a coup d'état as well as wheeling and dealings from above. Under these circumstances, not only are political freedoms and people's participation in deciding the government denied, but there is also the possibility of society's disintegration.

In light of the above, the WPI has adopted the following to provide the necessary conditions for people's

participation in deciding the future form of government:

a) Announcement of the Declaration of Political Freedoms, the provisions of which will provide the people with the possibility of deciding the future system of government consciously and freely under safe and secure circumstances. The

provisions of this Declaration are the demands and clear expectations of the masses of people; its undertaking by

any party and government is a measure of their commitment to the demands and the will of the people. The Worker-communist Party of Iran will strive to obtain a pledge from all political parties and groups on their commitment to these provisions.

b) Announcement of the Assembly of the Representatives of People's Councils as the supreme authority to decide the future

system of government. Councils are the mass and best available means of people's organisation and of enforcing their will. Councils are the most democratic form of organisation for the activities of all political parties and groups. There are no restrictions for political parties and individuals to participate and be elected as representative in these Councils.

# Islamic regime caves in to protests: Stonings suspended in Iran

## International Committee against Stoning

According to the state-run press in Iran, the Islamic punishment of death by stoning has been suspended in Iran. The Islamic regime of Iran has retreated in the face of mounting protests, both inside and outside Iran, to put an end to this hideous crime. The head of the judiciary, Shahroudi, is reported to have written to his judges asking them not to use stoning as a sentence for extra-marital relations. Scores of people have been stoned to death in the Islamic Republic in Iran. The most recent cases were those of a woman and a man by the names of Goli Nik-khoo and Yunes Asady who were stoned to death in the city of Naghadeh. In the city of Yazd, a woman, Nosrat Abouie, managed to set herself free during the stoning and is now in prison awaiting execution, as are four other women (Sima, Ferdows, Shahnaz and Ashraf) who have all received sentences of death by stoning.

The International Committee against Stoning has been campaigning for the abolition of the barbaric act of stoning for more than four years. In a meeting with the European Union last month, Mina Ahadi, Coordinator of the Committee, received assurances from officials that the Islamic regime in Iran would be pressured on the issue of stoning in forthcoming negotiations. The halt to stoning in Iran is a tremendous victory for all those progressive organisations and individuals and women's rights groups and activists that have been campaigning for the abolition of stoning. The International Committee against Stoning extends its warmest appreciation and congratulations to all Committee members and those involved in this campaign.

It is important to note, however, that stoning has not yet been abolished from the law in Iran. Extra-marital relations are still a crime. The heads of the regime are already discussing alternative forms of punishment - including execution - for sex outside marriage. We are strongly opposed to capital punishment and any form of punishment for extra-marital relations. Consensual sex between adults is their private affair which no state has the right to interfere in. Our Committee will continue its campaign until the total abolition of stoning in Iran and everywhere and for the decriminalization of sex between consenting adults.

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

## The Declaration of Political Freedoms: The measure of regard for people's will, from page 4

of society and choose the governing system in a free and secure environment. It is, therefore, imperative for the provisions of the Declaration to be widely publicised and the Declaration of Political Freedoms to be established as an undeniable and clear standard in society. Respect for this Declaration must become an important factor in judging political parties and groups. In my opinion, the degree to which political parties respect people's will and wishes and respect freedom must be judged by their readiness to abide by this Declaration and their efforts for its realisation. Consequently, the Declaration of Political Freedoms will play a profound role in the current and future political confrontation in Iran. Not only the implementation of its articles is necessary to provide the minimum prerequisites for the people to be able to freely choose their future government, but also the acceptance or rejection of the Declaration of Political Freedoms by political groups will itself be a means by which the people can achieve awareness and make a conscious decision.

*The articles of the Declaration are a part of the vast demands of the WPI's programme, which have always been reiterated. With this in mind, what factors explain inclusion of these articles in the Declaration of Political Freedoms?*

**Azar Majedi:** The Worker-communist Party of Iran struggles for a completely free and equal society. We want to abolish discrimination in the real sense of the word and not just in the legal sense. We, therefore, deal with the root of the inequalities. We want the abolition of wage labour. 'For a Better World', the programme of the Worker-communist Party of Iran, oversees the establishment of such relations. Our constant effort is to attract ever more sections of the people to this programme and to establish a system that will bring about such relations. The Socialist Republic is the Worker-communist Party of Iran's response. It is therefore clear that when the Worker-communist Party of Iran takes power not only the Declaration of Political Freedoms but also a lot more freedoms will be immediately established in society. The WPI's adherence to the Declaration of Political Freedoms is a foregone conclusion since as you mentioned, its provisions are only a small part of the demands that have been adopted in the Party's programme.

As I mentioned in response to the last question, the significance of the Declaration of Political Freedoms is that it secures the minimum prerequisites for a free and safe political struggle, conditions without which the possibility of

people's open and free participation in political life would be taken away; in that case talking about free choice would be meaningless. In a sense, this Declaration sets the ground rules for a free political struggle in society. It puts the onus and pressure on political parties and groups to show their respect for the will and choice of the people by abiding by the provisions of the Declaration.

*Practically speaking, from today, what must be done with this Declaration and what specific steps need to be taken?*

**Azar Majedi:** The Worker-communist party of Iran will extensively publicize this Declaration. It will strive to make the commitment to this Declaration a means and criteria for judging political groups and parties. It must get to a point where the Declaration of Political Freedoms becomes an established and undeniable fact of life in society.

Additionally, we will send this Declaration to all opposition political parties and groups and urge them to actively take part in the dialogue and announce their commitment to the Declaration and its provisions. I believe that any political party or group that claims to have respect for the will and choice of the people must welcome such a Declaration. It must be noted that just the announcement of a commitment to such a Declaration by the opposition will raise the political

expectations in society and this in itself is a significant issue. The opposition's open dialogue and engagement regarding the Declaration of Political Freedoms and publicly announcing their agreement or disagreement with the Declaration will play a major role in the development and direction of the political struggle and attaining political awareness in the society. Accordingly, as far as the role and significance of the Declaration is concerned, agreement with it and the fight for its realisation will be the most favourable outcome. Even if this is not the case, the dialogue over it, its publicity in society and the political confrontation over it will have a significant role to play in the course of political developments in Iran and the downfall of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The situation is hazardous; we must act and try to provide the conditions for people to be able to choose the future government freely and in a safe environment. We will not allow for another system to be imposed on the people once again, jeopardize people's lives and push society towards disintegration. We hope that other opposition groups show that they are as concerned as we are.

*The above is an interview first published in Persian in International Weekly number 139 dated 27 December 2002. It was first published in English in WPI Briefing 90 dated 6 January 2003.*

# The Declaration of Political Freedoms: The measure of regard for people's will

Interview with  
**Azar Majedi**



*The announcement of the Declaration of Political Freedoms is one of the WPI Political Bureau's initiatives to provide the necessary prerequisites for the people's participation in determining the future system of government in Iran. What is the role of the Declaration in the current*

*situation?*

**Azar Majedi:** The fall of the Islamic Republic of Iran is imminent. The Islamic Republic's downfall can take place under diverse situations. It is extremely possible for the Islamic Republic to be overthrown by a mass revolution. As far as the interests of the people are concerned, this is the best and the most desirable form of the Islamic Republic's downfall. The more people are involved in protests and struggles for the overthrow of the Islamic Republic and by relying on their own power, the more likely the establishment of a system which is compatible with their interests. The presence of the Worker-communist Party

of Iran (WPI) as a powerful party, which represents the interests and the progressive and egalitarian demands of the people is an assurance towards this end. It is equally possible, however, for the Islamic Republic to fall via wheeling and dealings from above or through a coup d'état. In these situations, there will be attempts to impose a government contrary to the wishes of the people, to prevent people's participation in their political life and strictly limit political freedoms. The Declaration will have a profound role to play so as to prevent this.

In our view, the Declaration of Political Freedoms is a means by which to secure conditions for the people to

participate and intervene in the political life of the society and minimum conditions for free political activity which is the necessary prerequisite for people to choose freely. In the situation that the downfall of the Islamic Republic is imminent and an urgent matter for society, it is imperative to try to create such a situation. Particularly for a society such as Iran, which has always been under naked dictatorship and political oppression and which has experienced the bitter and bloody suppression of a great revolution, the struggle to ensure such conditions has profound significance. The people of Iran have never had any opportunity to participate in the political life

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## Call to opposition parties to pledge their commitment to Declaration of Political Freedoms

To all Opposition Parties:

The Islamic Republic of Iran's downfall is imminent. Ensuring the people's right to determine the future government of Iran requires recognition of and commitment to the most basic political freedoms. To this end, the Worker-communist Party of Iran (WPI) announces the Declaration of Political Freedoms and is committed to its realisation. The Worker-communist Party of Iran calls on all opposition political parties and groups to pledge their commitment to this Declaration.

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16 December 2002

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