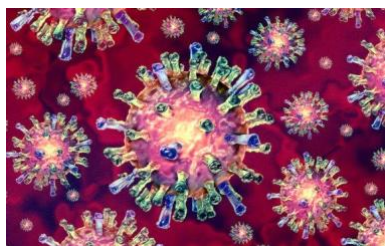




This is Issue No. 11 of the “IRAN: View from the LEFT” which will be published for those who want to get to know the Left Party of Iran (People’s Fadaian) positions. Each issue contains selections of the party’s positions on a monthly basis. The current issue covers November, 2020.

“IRAN: View from the LEFT” may occasionally contain news from Iran that media might not have drawn attention to.

Solution Seeking and appreciation



Although Covid-29 disease kills all over the world, but in our country, it takes the lives of Iranians on a larger scale. The resulting mortality rate during the period of August 21st to October 21st was about 200 people per day. In the week of October 22nd it exceeded 300 people per day and in the most recent week it even reached close to 500 people ... The Deputy Minister of Health has declared the ratio of inpatient deaths in Iran is 18%, which is more than three times the global average of 5%. ". In a TV interview, the same official added that the country is facing the “storm of Corona” and not just the second wave of the disease.

The Political-Executive Board of the Left Party of Iran (People’s Fadaian) wrote in a statement expressing its sympathy with the tens of thousands of families of the Corona victims and expressing its deep concern about the quality of the management of the Corona crisis:

Rewarding medical staff both spiritually and financially on the one hand and mobilization of the final year medical students and nursing universities through special education along with financial incentives for their participation in the campaign against Corona should be among the duties of the government. This can reduce the pressure on medical professionals. The allocation of extensive military facilities and the employment of military personnel under the supervision of the army medical staff and in connection with the aforementioned headquarters is an urgent necessity in the fight against Corona. At the same time, the Islamic Republic has a duty to urgently request and accept the cooperation of all countries of the world in the fight against Corona.



In the meantime, grassroots organizations and charities whose existence has so far been so valuable in enlightening and educating the people and providing them with livelihoods despite government restrictions, can play a much greater role. Aside from the fact that the government is obliged to strictly implement the necessary health protocols, it is the public and charitable organizations that can persuade people to stay at home, avoid travelling and gatherings, and wash hands regularly. There is no doubt that civil society organizations and aid groups, which are numerous in the context of our society, have the opportunity to be actively involved. In this regard, knowledgeable workers, teachers, students, cultural and anti-discrimination activists, especially women activists, as well as celebrities and personalities in the intellectual, cultural, artistic and sports fields can play an important role.



The Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) believes that at the moment there is no higher priority than confronting Corona and nothing should replace fighting Corona.

More .. <https://bepish.org/node/4520>

Unfortunately, in the weeks that followed, the Kovid-19 massacre continued unabated in Iran. The unparalleled efforts of the country's medical staff to overcome this dire situation - at a very high cost to them (for example, 30% of nurses are infected with the Corona virus) - have not gone unnoticed. In another statement addressed to the Iranian medical staff, the party's political-executive board wrote:



The Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) salutes the honorable and valuable medical personnel who are serving in the fight against Covid-19 disease, and appreciates your astonishing, sincere and selfless efforts. We bow our heads in respect to your dear colleagues who died in this way. We warmly shake your hands, which, despite all the shortcomings and hardships, have stood up firmly. You, the hard-working and dedicated medical staff of Iran, have shown that Iran does not have one Florence Nightingale, but thousands of Narges, the first victim nurse of the Corona virus, and Maryam, the most recent victim.

We are confident that Corona will go sooner or later. We believe in a free, prosperous and democratic future in Iran. On that day of freedom, your sacrifices will be the subject of novels and will find their way into the children's textbooks of this land to be a lesson of liberty, commitment and sacrifice for the future. In a time not far in future, the statues symbolizing these sacrifices will decorate the squares of our cities. More ...
<https://bepish.org/node/4548>

Calm before the storm?



The sudden and staggering increase in the price of gasoline in November of last year ignited the gunpowder depot of people's dissatisfaction and became the last drop that filled the people with anger and provoked them to protest on a large scale ... This move was due to economic reasons but it quickly became politicized and covered about 160 cities in the country. The government dealt with the people's protests very violently and savagely ... During the height of Corona disease and when people were involved in a life or death situation, the government announced the death toll of 230 protesters. However, other sources put the death toll at around 1,500 and those arrested at more than 7,000.

In the analysis of the political-executive board of the party which was published on the occasion of the first anniversary of this uprising, we read:

This was not an explosion of thunder in the cloudless sky. This was rather the result of more than forty years of incompetence, coercion, discrimination, injustice and structural and institutional corruption in the fabric of the Islamic Republic on the one hand and the extensive US sanctions during the past four years on the other hand has increased the cost of living, poverty and inflated prices. These two factors have put the society on the verge of exploding ... As the Corona disease starts to diminish, anger and dissatisfaction will erupt in the heart of society and unanswered demands will erupt. People will rise against the government again.

The November uprising was a movement in which the poor and the marginalized played a



major role. These people own neither the media nor the workplace to organize. Their dissatisfaction inevitably leads to the streets, and it is in the streets that they can join their forces and protests together so that their voices can be heard...

Due to the incompetence of the government and corruption and theft and systematic discrimination, the natural continuity of people's lives is more and more threatened and therefore the possibility of other uprisings should not be ruled out. In such circumstances, the political entities defending the interests of the workers and the poor must spread the idea of a democratic movement replacing the Islamic Republic and instill in their hearts the spirit of hope on their struggle. To walk on this pathway, it is important to take advantage of two other forms of struggle, namely widespread strikes in various sections of society and civil disobedience in the work and living environment, along with street protests, so that we can force the Islamic Republic to surrender to the will of the people or remove the regime.

The lack of a strong democratic alternative is the winning card in the hands of the government in the current situation. Protests for bread and freedom are likely to intensify as the danger of the corona diminishes. Hence, on the one hand, it is necessary for the forces of the left to be able to coordinate their efforts for justice and equality and on the other hand for the secular democratic forces to try to form a strong front.

Welcoming the end of the war, end the occupation, and reaching an agreement!

After six weeks of fighting between the governments of Azerbaijan and Armenia and Azerbaijan's military advance to retake some of the occupied territories, the bloody conflict ended with the issuance of a Russian-mediated statement by the two

presidents. Although the three previous ceasefire agreements have been violated by both sides but this one seems like the assurance that the end of the war is eminent due to the substantive agreements and commitments and the mediation and direct presence of Russia in monitoring it.

The political-executive board of the party has issued a statement welcoming the cessation of the war, the end of the occupation and reaching an agreement and has written:

The Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) is pleased with the cessation of hostilities, the liberation of parts of the occupied territories of Azerbaijan and the commitment of Armenia to surrender the remaining occupied territories, and hopes that the agreements will pave the way for lasting peace and settlement of any dispute between the parties in a democratic and just way...

We believe that the cessation of hostilities and Armenia's commitment to the evacuation of the occupied territories of Azerbaijan will save the people of the two countries and neighboring countries from the danger of turning the region into a center of further interference and testing of foreign powers and constant tensions. It can build a constructive relationship between the two nations of Azerbaijan and Armenia. However, based on the bitter experiences so far and the presence of extremist forces on both sides, we are still unsure about ending this war. This is based on the fact that on both sides of the conflict there are extremist forces that accuse the Armenian government as incompetent and on the other side forces that accuse Azerbaijani side by compromising with the enemy. These two forces of pressure are against the immediate and long-term interests of both nations and we hope that their efforts will not succeed.

Peace and coexistence are the needs of the people of Azerbaijan and Armenia. This was a positive and inspiring event in the South Caucasus and good news for our country,



which was at the neighborhood of this dangerous conflict. We welcome the peace that stems from the realization of the friendship between the Azerbaijani and Armenian peoples, which is most beneficial to the toilers of both countries, and wish the survival of this peace in the elimination of any interference by others. For both neighboring Armenian and Azerbaijani nations, we wish a better life in the light of peace and friendship. We wish Iran in peace and peaceful life away from nationalist conflicts, and we emphasize our belief in the continuation of long-standing historical relations and friendships between Azerbaijanis and Armenians.

A noble opportunity



Finally, the crucial outcome of the 2020 US presidential election was determined by the victory of Democratic candidate Joe Biden. Mr. Biden's victory will have important implications for the world. Given the very tense relations between the United States and Iran during the Trump presidency and Mr. Biden's remarks in this regard, the expectation of positive changes in these relations has been widely formed in Iranian society.

Trump's unjustified withdrawal from the Iran's Nuclear Deal and the imposition of heavy unilateral economic sanctions although severely strained the Islamic Republic but it deteriorated the livelihood of the Iranian people, especially the poor and low-income groups. It caused irreparable damage to Iran's developmental structures.

The Political-Executive Board of the Left Party of Iran in a joint statement with the Union of Republicans of Iran and the Solidarity of the Republicans of Iran, has addressed the possible changes of Biden's election as follows:

We, the three secular Republican organizations, express our satisfaction with this event and the hope that international relations will return to the orbit of rationality and conventional practices which can play an important role in curbing the far-right forces and their mutual influence in inciting other extremist tendencies. Also, given Biden's stated policy on Iran's Nuclear Deal and change in direction in the United States is an opportunity to return to the negotiating table, discuss the two countries' differences, and most importantly, lift sanctions in the time of Corona epidemics in Iran.

Contrary to the unrealistic portrayals of some of the political forces advocating the "maximum pressure" campaign, the Trump administration wanted to bring the key government officials to the negotiating table and reach an agreement by putting the Islamic Republic in a tight spot and cutting its oil exports and earnings. The aim was to force Iran to accept new and more concessions around the security considerations of the United States and its regional allies. Human rights issues and the just demands of the Iranian people had no place in the policies of the Donald Trump's administration.

During Trump's presidency, some Iranian opposition political forces tried to reach their desired political objectives with the intervention of the US government in forming their version of a transitional government abroad, without paying attention to the forces inside the country. They did not succeed.

Experiencing this approach, it is necessary to emphasize once again that trying to persuade the US government to pursue a policy of "regime change" is wrong and contrary to national dignity and the principle of



independence; Also, trying to bring the US government into the domestic political struggles in Iran to strengthen the position of one faction and advance its political projects is a wrong move and has negative consequences.

...

Past experiences and events that took place before and after the Iran's Nuclear Deal highlights the fact that there is no will in the Islamic Republic to change its dangerous regional policies. The Islamic Republic with its strategic and expansionist policy, has wasted most of the country's resources and facilities and with its policy of creating tensions in the region and the world, has isolated the country and driven our people to misery. Thus, engaging with the world with good intentions and de-escalating relations between Iran and the United States requires a change in regional policies, an end to the long-standing hostility to the United States, and the abandonment of the policy of Israel's annihilation. Resurrecting the Iran's Nuclear Deal must be accompanied by a change in these policies. Otherwise, returning to the deal will not have a significant capacity to solve problems and this vicious circle continues to exist.

We believe that reducing the scope of conflicts and lifting economic sanctions that are harmful to the Iranian people are beneficial to the interest of the country and our nation. Therefore, we are requesting demands such as the lifting of economic sanctions that are problematic for the livelihood and health of the people, a return to Iran's Nuclear Deal, a change in Iran's regional policies, and de-escalation of tensions with the US government as highest priorities in the current situation.

More... <https://bepish.org/node/4521>

Stop violence against women



November 25 has been designated by the United Nations as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

Although progressive efforts are being made around the world by advanced forces to end this inhumane phenomenon but various forms of violence against women are still practiced in most countries and there are still high number of women who are physically, sexually or psychologically abused. The numbers are very scary and shocking.

In Iran, under the influence of religious rule, the existence of harsh anti-feminist laws, as well as a patriarchal culture, women are subjected to double oppression. Government support for violence against women and children in the cultural and religious context of the society, as well as violence directly perpetrated by the government promotes violence in public and private settings against women, girls and teenage girls.

In the announcement of the party's women's working group on the occasion of November 25, we read:

We believe that:

** To build a society free of violence against women and children we must join hands and create a safe and non-violent environment with education and information at the community and family level;*

** By creating and organizing civic organizations and launching campaigns we can fight human rights violations and the promotion of violence against women as well as fighting against written and unwritten*



laws and reactionary traditions throughout the country;

** Only with the common determination and struggle of all women, men and LGBTQ people can this extremely inhuman phenomenon be stood up against and overcome.*

More.... <https://bepish.org/node/4572>

NO to execution



According to news, Ahmad Reza Jalali, an Iranian-Swedish physician and researcher who has been detained since 2016 on espionage charges has been transferred to Rajai Shahr Prison in Karaj to serve his death sentence. The head of international relations of the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) called on the head of the European Parliament delegation for relations with Iran to make every effort to prevent the execution. The text of the letter is as follows:

Ahmad Reza Jalali, an Iranian-Swedish physician and researcher is in danger of execution!
November 25, 2020

Dear Cornelia,

We have been informed that Dr. Ahmad Reza Jalali, an Iranian-Swedish physician and researcher detained in Iran, has been transferred to Rajai Shahr Prison in Karaj to serve his death sentence.

We ask you and the institution under your direction to make every effort to save the life of this European-Iranian citizen and to abolish his death sentence.

The Islamic Republic should not be allowed to trade the life of this young doctor for the release of one of the accused in the massacre of 1988, who has been imprisoned in Sweden since the November of last year.

Yours sincerely Mehdi Ebrahimzadeh

International Relations

Iran: Revoke death penalty against Swedish citizen immediately

Cornelia Ernst, President of the European Parliament's parliamentary delegation for relations with Iran, said: "I strongly condemn the imminent execution of the scientist and Doctor Ahmadreza Djalali, who has been sentenced to death in 2016. His execution must be stopped immediately. Both Iranian law and minimum standards of international law were utterly disregarded in his trial. Among other things, Dr. Djalali was forced to make a public confession of having spied for Israel. In addition, he is denied any medical care and his health is steadily deteriorating."

"Again and again, human rights violations and politically motivated unlawful death sentences based on trumped-up allegations occur in Iran. This is not the first time that the Iranian delegation in the European Parliament has had to deal with similar cases in order to stand up for the democratic rights and freedoms of the Iranian people. The European Parliament is without exception against the death penalty. It is a cruel and inhuman punishment, which represents an unacceptable denial of human dignity and integrity".

"I therefore call on the Iranian authorities to completely revoke the death sentence on Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali, to release him and to grant him immediate access to medical care."



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