



This is Issue No. 13 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 January, 2021.

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

Words of the Month



Middle East

Three years after completely severing relations, Saudi Arabia has reconciled with Qatar. Having imposed the sanctions overnight, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt lifted them just as abruptly without any of their demands being met. This course of events can only be witnessed where there are absolute rulers. What did they achieve?

The underlying issue of contention was policy towards Israel/Palestine, yet this has not been even mentioned in their official declarations. During the period of sanctions, the UAE and Bahrain recognised Israel while Qatar has stood by her policy of supporting Palestinian rights. This “peace” arrangement between the UAE and Israel will only embolden Israel to expand her expansionist policies. Such

recognition is valid only when it genuinely considers and respects Palestinian rights.



World

Joe Biden officially assumed power on January 20, as American society has been shaken over the past four years by Trump’s policies and the Corona epidemic. President Biden has called for national unity to address any of the current crises, including the Corona epidemic, the economy, racial relations, climate change and the resumption of relations with allies. He faces major challenges along the way.

Building national reconciliation will be one of the major challenges facing Biden, which will not be easy. Extreme polarization as well as racial segregation are not only challenges Biden faces in the next four years, but he also faces a fascist and racist white right-wing insurgency. Fighting the spread of the coronavirus and carrying out extensive vaccination operations will be another priority of the new Biden administration.

In addition to all this, Biden also faces an intra-party challenge, and that is the expectations of the progressive faction. It is expected that with Bernie Sanders taking over as chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, the progress of their plans will have to be seriously considered.

In the global arena, Biden will have difficult days ahead with pursuing a policy of engagement with China and repairing highly inflamed relations. During Trump’s four years in power, the United States’



credibility among allies, especially NATO members, diminished. Biden is working to restore that credibility and role.

Joe Biden presented several plans for dealing with Iran during his campaign. He announced his determination to prevent the Iranian regime from producing any nuclear weapons and stressed that if Iran returns to the JCPOA, the United States will join again. He spoke of maintaining US leverage to deal with other Iranian issues, including the development of ballistic missiles, human rights abuses and Iran's destabilizing activities in the region.

American experts believe that Biden should not rush to return to JCPOA. They say Biden should prioritize issues such as Covid-19, improving the economy and the issue of China, which he promised during the campaign.

Until the last days



Until his last days in the office, Trump did not stop intensifying "maximum pressure" against the Islamic Republic of Iran. A policy whose primary effects have been to make the livelihood of the Iranian people more difficult and to disrupt developments within the country to the detriment of the democratic forces. In the meantime, the activities of US allies in the region, specifically the governments of Israel and Saudi Arabia, to bring Iran to a direct

military confrontation with US did not stop. Even in the last days of Trump's presidency, it would not be surprising if he took risky actions to make additional and brand new problems for Biden administration which was about to start their work as of January 20. The movements of the US Navy in the southern waters of Iran and Trump's threats that he blamed the Islamic Republic for the killing of even one American soldier in Iraq were disturbing.

The statement of the political-executive board of the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) in the last weeks of Trump's presidency writes about this:

In these critical moments, the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian), expressing concern about everything that is going on in relation to our country and the Iranian people, considers it necessary to warn all about the tense actions of the Trump administration and Netanyahu's right-wing government in the Persian Gulf and the adventurous reciprocal reactions from the Islamic Republic. In our view, the way to neutralize foreign provocations, whether by the Netanyahu administration or Trump or any other administration, is not to resort to rising tensions but to declare adherence to the provisions of the Iran Nuclear Deal and express Iran's readiness to negotiate with the United States unconditionally. We condemn the tense actions of the US and Israeli governments and consider any action by the Islamic Republic, which further inflames the current situation, against the national interests of the Iranian people. We expect the United Nations and international peace organizations to curb the dangerous actions and reactions that are taking place around the borders of Iran and inside the country.

Political-Executive Board of the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian)

December 16, 2020

Link: <https://bepish.org/node/4712>



Victory is not far away

The workers of Haft Tappeh Industrial-Agricultural Complex have been fighting for years for their union rights and the ousting of the owner of this complex. Now the movement has entered a new phase. Recently, various governmental and pro governmental institutions have stepped up their efforts in support of the current owner of Haft Tappeh, who bought the factory from the government at a low price. Despite this support, the revelation of the widespread corruption and many violations during the transfer of Haft Tappeh to the said owner has made his expropriation inevitable.



Currently, the final fate of this case is tied to the continuation of the workers' struggle against looting of public properties and against the destructive and vindictive privatization processes. The delay of the court and the arbitral tribunal in issuing the final verdict on the owner, Mr. Asad Beigi, and the eviction case despite the many violations committed during the privatization of Haft Tappeh, indicates the unwillingness to cancel the privatization and the government's support for the principle of privatization policy. Simply put, this means the auctioning of public property.

Statement of the Political-Executive Board of the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) writes in this regard:

The workers' struggle against privatization of Haft Tappeh and other units is in fact part of the people's struggle against corruption and looting of public property by government agents and their affiliates, and in defense of public rights. This fact dictates that other groups which are against wasting of the country's national treasures, support the Haft Tappeh workers and put pressure on the government to punish the looters.



The Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) once again appreciates the valuable and just struggles of the hard-working Haft Tappeh workers for their rights and the abolition of privatization and we declares our support for them. We also call on the workers, wage earners, justice seekers and libertarians to support the struggle of the Haft Tappeh workers to oust Assad Beigi and return the factory's ownership to the public sector with the participation of the workers and their independent representatives and to punish the corrupt and embezzler owner.

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Ideological approach to Covid-19

In his speech on Friday, January 8, the supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic, Ali Khamenei, resorted to conspiracy theories in regards to the most acute problem of society, namely the corona pandemic and its vaccination. In his speech he issued orders that meant nothing more than continuing the current difficult situation and causing more deaths. Speaking about the corona and its vaccination after a period of absence, he banned the purchase of vaccines from the United States and Britain and stressed that neither country should be trusted! He also added that optimism has no place as far as France is involved! After issuing these statements he cited the solution to be primarily in the direction of domestic production to boost the "resistance economy" and secondly, his agreement to purchasing vaccines from countries other than stated above!



The political-executive board of the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) issued a statement and called Khamenei's speech against the national interests of Iran. The statement reads:

In the Islamic Republic, we are faced with a "leader" for whom the principle in all matters, including the fight against this disease which has claimed tens of thousands of lives to date, is based on "visioning enemy" anywhere and everywhere. Today, there is someone at the head of this system who is playing with the fate of a nation with his confused mentality

and conspiracy-oriented, ambitious and adventurous policies of his government. Khamenei's approach and banning the American and British vaccines results in freeing the pro government smugglers so that they can loot more people by smuggling the vaccine. This has no effect other than putting more pressure on people and increasing the risk of more loses.



The Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian), expressing its disgust with Khamenei's decree, considers this approach a criminal act. This action reveals that the problem of this system is not the prevention of death by Corona, but the continuation of hostility to the world and the emphasis on policies that have taken the lives of thousands of Iranians in various fields and in different directions to date. Exposing Khamenei's approach is a national duty. Confronting his destructive approach to Corona is vital, and the catastrophic consequences of such action must be explained at the broadest levels, on the streets and in the workplace, on social media, in the hospitals and workplaces of veteran doctors and nurses. It is important that the Islamic Republic be pressured to provide the vaccines approved by the World Health Organization and the swift and widespread vaccination of the people as soon as possible.

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No to Mandatory Election, Yes to Free Election!

The presidential election will be held on June 18, 2021, which is about five months away. This election has features that distinguish it from previous ones. If in previous periods the factor of attracting people to participate in the elections was necessary and important for the regime, this time, but with the regime aware of the widespread dissatisfaction of the people and recognizing the unprecedented frustration of the society towards the ballot box, the main attention of the leaders is achieving a uniform power structure. Therefore, the importance of the presidential election in this period for the regime is related to several processes: the confrontation between society and the regime, increasing the ability to suppress the people uprising and the demand movement, preparing for Khamenei's succession in accordance with the Supreme Leader intentions, and confronting tensions in foreign policy. In this regard, cohesion in the management of the country to face foreign policy tensions, with the complete takeover of the institutions by the far right and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) commanders has an important position.

Statement of the Political-Executive Board of the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) on the situation of the society towards the elections writes:



Today, not only many people no longer trust the mandatory elections, but they have also lost hope of any opening in the Islamic Republic. The experience of the Rouhani government put the last nail in the coffin of the engineered elections in the Islamic Republic and buried the remnant of the trust of a part of the society in the elections in the Islamic Republic. The current situation in the country is an indication of increasing demands and political struggles of the people against the regime. Ignoring the regime tricks, people pursue their demands through strikes, rallies and street protests.

Calling for a boycott of the mandatory election, the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) does not consider participating in the presidential election to be in the interest of the Iranian people's liberation and justice struggles against the tyrannical regime of the Islamic Republic. It is important that a combination of left-wing republican and democratic forces to make their "No" roar to the mandatory elections more resonant with their joint actions. By resorting to false promises, deceptive slogans, and this time possibly by false dualism of military and civilian, once again, the regime is trying to create electoral excitement to pave the way for the implementation of its anti-popular goals. By announcing our readiness for joint action with the republican democrat and left forces in the widespread boycott of this election, we call on the party supporters at home and abroad to make the "No" to the mandatory elections campaign more resonant in any way possible and isolate the regime as much as possible. In this campaign, the coordination and cooperation of the forces seeking the transition from the Islamic Republic to a secular and democratic republic play an important role. We call for free elections to form the Constituent Assembly and draft a constitution in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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