



June 16, 2009

President Barack Hussein Obama
The White House
Washington, DC

Re: Iranian elections

Dear Mr. President,

You said over the weekend, "It is up to Iranians to make decisions about who Iran's leaders will be. We respect Iranian sovereignty and want to avoid the United States being the issue inside of Iran."

Mr. President, we beg to differ.

We urge you not to make the same mistake as President Clinton, who washed his hands when asked on the White House lawn by reporters on July 9, 1999 if the United States would come to the aid of Iranian students who were in revolt in 18 cities across Iran.

America could do nothing, Clinton said – echoing almost exactly the taunt used by Ayatollah Khomeini repeatedly during the revolution.

Mr. President, America can do much, as you and your supporters said repeatedly during your election campaign.

For starters, America should continue to hold up the beacon of liberty that Iranians look to with such longing – not put it under a shroud.

America should hold Iran's clerical leaders and Revolutionary Guards thugs to the same standard it holds all governments of the civilized world, as servants of the sovereign will of the people they claim to represent.

Seven Iranians were murdered by regime thugs just yesterday during a non-violent protest in Tehran. Many more will be killed in the coming days.

Mr. President: No government deserves our respect that murders its own people.

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America can do much, Mr. President. We can fly the banner of freedom high, not stoop to the level of the dictators who despise and revile us.

We are not calling on you or your administration to provide material assistance or support to this or that candidate or political party inside Iran. We are calling on you to assert America's moral authority in defense of freedom.

We are calling on you to refuse to recognize the imposter regime of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, and to muster world opinion to neutralize him behind an international *cordon sanitaire* until he crumbles from isolation and neglect.

Mr. President: the days of this brutal regime in Tehran are numbered. With or without America's help, this brutal regime will soon collapse into the dustbin of history where it belongs.

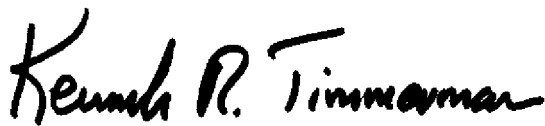
But don't you want to be on the right side of history, on the side of the people against dictatorship?

Mr. President: we urge you to reconsider your silence, your refusal to commit.

We urge you to remember the words of one of your predecessors, Teddy Roosevelt, who said,

"It is not the critic who counts, not the one who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena... [who] knows his place shall never be with those timid and cold souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

Sincerely,



Kenneth R. Timmerman
President and CEO

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