

اتحادیه ملی برای دموکراسی در ایران

National Union For Democracy in Iran

www.unitediranians.org



April 4, 2008

Via Facsimile

Honorable Senator Dianne Feinstein
United State Senate
331 Hart Senate Bldg
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Honorable Senator Feinstein:

I am writing you to express my displeasure at recent news regarding your sponsorship of a NIAC event to be held at the Russell Senate Office Building next week.

NIAC is an organization that purportedly seeks to advance the interests of Iranian-Americans in the United States. It has spent the great majority of its energy and time, however, on promoting the interests of the Islamic Republic. For this reason, only a small number of Iranians support NIAC or participate in its activities. Most of those who do, excluding individuals with vested interests, do so because they simply do not know any better.

It is very sad that at this pivotal juncture in world history, instead of trying to promote a greater awareness of the corrupt nature of the Islamic Republic and the converse nature of the Iranian people, we are providing the Islamic Republic's apologists with a platform from which to spread their propaganda. Instead of convening to discuss the accomplishments of Iranian-Americans or the challenges they face in the American system, NIAC continues to hold events designed to humanize and rationalize the Islamic Republic's despicable behavioral record. It is unfortunate that NIAC can get so involved with U.S. policy towards Iran behind the cloak of a non-partisan non-political civil society organization.

One must be mindful of the ideological foundations of the Islamic Republic. Indeed, the mullahs in Iran rose to power riding a tidal wave of anti-Americanism. Everyone is familiar with their famous "Death to America" chants. Is it not foolish to consider having normalized relations with a political system founded upon deep-seated hatred for the United States? Is there a realistic chance that the Islamic Republic will suddenly discard its traditional scorn for America in favor of friendship?

Furthermore, how can one legitimize normalizing relations with a state that is implicated in worldwide terrorist activities and is directly connected to the promotion of violence and hostilities in Iraq? How can the democracy and liberty we cherish here in the United States be manipulated to provide those who seek to destroy us with a platform to promote their criminal agendas?

How do we normalize relations with a regime that has deceived you and the entire free world for two decades and continue to do so? How do we normalize relations with a reckless government that calls for the annihilation of the state of Israel or its removal to Central Europe and questions the historical reality of the holocaust? And finally, how do we normalize relation with a government that practices hostage taking, torturing, stoning, flogging, and hanging, most of which are purposely demonstrated in a public fashion for the world to behold. **When are we going to wake up Senator?**

Perhaps most importantly, however, we must recognize that the Iranian people are currently engaged in a struggle for democracy against this brutal theocracy that has suffocated their aspirations, one after another, for almost 30 years. People around the world and the governments that represent them have expressed support for the Iranians in their struggle. Yet by providing a forum for NIAC, a group that seeks to humanize the villainous nature of the Islamic Republic, what kind of a message are we projecting to the world and to the Iranians who have been tricked, tortured, killed, and victimized by this regime? What can we expect from a people who are close to helpless in the face of a fascist dictatorship like the Islamic Republic when we make such a grave error in judgment? What terrible injustice are we doing to the millions of innocent Iranians who have suffered at the hands of the Islamic Republic? What irreparable damage are we doing to the Iranian democratic movement?

Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully Submitted,

Saeed Ganji; Ph.D., Sc.D.
National Union For Democracy in Iran
Secretary General
Washington, DC
301-785-8885