

Tribune

The World After September 11

Part Three:

The Demise of Political Islam

Mansoor Hekmat

Outside today's two opposing reactionary poles - the militarism of US and Western governments on the one hand and the camp of political Islam and Islamic terrorist groups on the other - the prevailing climate for the majority of the world's humanitarians and peace-lovers is one of apprehension and trepidation. It is a climate of despair. Everyone is anxious about the deteriorating situation - the escalation of an insane, terrorist race, the killing and flight of hundreds of thousands of innocent Afghan people, chemical and biological attacks in the west, a political eruption in Pakistan, 'laptop' atomic bombs falling into the hands of political adventurers, religious fanatics and international criminals, 'the USA's new war' and a new phase in global bloodletting on a scale that only the USA has been and is capable of. The slogans and protests of the world's decent people has been mainly focused on maintaining the status quo (stopping the US attack on Afghanistan or returning to the pre-September 11 situation). This is a humanity, which has no hope for a better future. At best, it calls for calm. It wishes to avoid bombs, war and violence. A humanity that despite its naïve, duped and docile daily image knows the brutal and heinous nature of the monsters that have entered this war - political Islam and US militarism. A humanity that simply wants to avoid the next catastrophe at any cost. The dominant policy within the wide spectrum of forces that oppose the war (and this includes relics of marginal Left groups in Europe, which prior to September 11, would not

Content:

The Third Pole is Loud and Clear!
Azar Majedi.....p5

The Report of Campaign in support of Palestinians
Homa Arjomand..... p6

List of endorsements.....p7

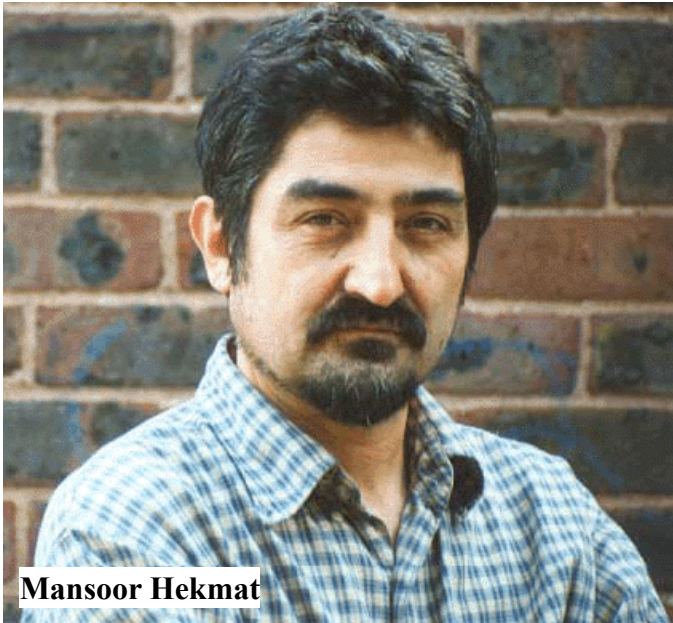
Imminent escalation of war by Israel into Lebanon
Letter from inside Lebanon..... p9

Genocide by the racist Israeli government in Gaza; Where does the "Council of Ex-Muslims" stand?
Homa Arjomand.....p10

Anti-Islamism does not justify racism! Open letter to Oriana Fallaci
Azar Majedi.....p11

Editorial:

Homa Arjomand
Jalil Behroozi
Susan Lari
Azar Majedi
tribune890@gmail.com



agree to anything less than a 'world revolution') is to call for calm, to attempt to halt the current trends and to return to before September 11. Pacifism is the dominant tendency in the resistance movement. And this is an extremely harmful policy that not only does not prevent the next disasters and its consequences, but actually guarantees their taking place.

The pacifist policy and concentrating on the military and armed aspects of the confrontation and the ensuing physical violence actually does harm since it causes political paralysis in people. The condition for preventing this terrorist race and this wave of explosions, destruction and mass murder that they have in store for us is people's intervention in Europe, America, the Middle East and the so-called Third World in the real political processes behind these events - a participation based on an active and positive agenda. If this happens, the future does not have to be bleak.

It is necessary to unearth these political trends and facts from beneath the war propaganda.

Behind the Official Propaganda: Terrorism and Political Islam

I do not think that anyone, even in the US army, believes the story that the September 11 atrocity was the work of a fanatical group taking orders from someone called Osama Bin Laden in Afghanistan who has a personal and blind enmity with the USA, 'democracy' and the American 'way

of life'. The western media are insistent that this incident was not 'the work of Moslems' and has not emerged from 'the teachings of the Koran'. Seasoned journalists are careful not to make any reference to Israel and the Palestinian question. They say linking the Palestinian question to this terrorist attack would mean conceding that this action has been instrumental in making the West pay attention to the Palestinian question. Consequently, instead of political Islam and Israel, they point us to Bin Laden and Afghanistan. The USA's war with Taliban in Afghanistan is an important event with long lasting consequences for the region and the world. This war will definitely affect the future of political Islam and even the Palestinian question. It has nothing to do, however, with capturing and punishing the perpetrators of September 11 and will even increase the possibility of terrorist actions against the West (I will return to this issue).

Islamic terrorism is a fact of our times. This terrorism is one of the main pillars of political Islam's strategy. Political Islam is a reactionary regional, and now global, movement that is nourished by the West and Israel's historical injustice toward Arabs and specifically the people of Palestine. The statelessness of Palestinians and the oppression of the Palestinian people by Israel and its Western allies are a main source of hatred for the West and the USA in the Middle East. More importantly, the Palestinian question and the USA and West's continued unwavering support for Israel against the Arabs both during and after the Cold War have created a huge economic, cultural and psychological rift between the people of the Middle East and the West. But the ability of political Islam to shift from the margins of Middle Eastern societies into the mainstream and to capitalise on this discontent in its endeavour for political power is all directly owed to the West and USA. Political Islam as a criminal movement with a widespread power base is the creation of the West and USA. They have created this monster and unleashed it on the people of the Middle East and now the world. Political Islam was the West's tool during the Cold War against Russia and against the emerging labour and Left movements and revolutions in many countries of the region. It was a means of preventing the Left from taking power in the region after nationalist governments reached an impasse during the '70s and '80s. The Palestinian question and the existence of Islamic

governments in the Middle East are the pillars and foundations of Islamic terrorism. Any popular progressive and active policy must begin from this very point:

- **1) Resolving the Palestinian question.** This historical problem must be resolved. The Palestinian people must have their own independent state. We must force Western governments and the USA to end their one-sided support for Israel. Israel must be compelled to accept peace and Palestinian independence. The resolution of the Palestinian question is the most important element in confronting political Islam and Islamic terrorism and is one of the main aspects of a progressive and active agenda in the current situation.
- **2) The West must end its reactionary support for Islamic and backward governments and various parties in the Islamic movement in the Middle East.** Without Western backing, the Islamic regime of Iran would not have come to power or remained in power. Without the West's support, the assorted sheikhs in Saudi Arabia and large and small emirates would not maintain their brutal and reactionary rule and their system of slavery. Without the West's support, not only Taliban but also the preceding groups of Moslem Mujahedin could not have turned Afghanistan into an immense human tragedy. If the West's military, diplomatic and political support for Islamic movements were to end, the people of the region would quickly overthrow these governments. The demand to overthrow Islamic governments and to prevent dealing and wheeling between Western governments and USA with these reactionary governments must be another important aspect of the anti-terrorist platform of any progressive and popular movement.
- **3) The economic sanctions against the people of Iraq must end.** The suffering of the people of Iraq has turned this into the

2nd Palestinian question in the minds of the people of the region. It is a living proof of Western and US terrorism in the Middle East. The economic sanctions have helped perpetuate the reactionary Iraqi government and pushed back the people of Iraq away from politics to a daily battle for physical survival. The struggle for an end to economic sanctions against Iraq is another vital element in a progressive platform against Islamic terrorism.

4) We must actively defend secularism in Moslem-inhabited countries and in Islamic and Islam-ridden communities in Western countries themselves. The shameful idea of cultural relativism (leaving people at the mercy of 'their own culture') and the systematic and theorised failure to defend people's, particularly women's, civil and human rights in these countries and communities, have given a free hand to political Islam to intimidate people and incite the youth. Universal human and civil rights must be the standard and any compromise with religion and reactionary religious rule to the detriment of human rights must be condemned.

Islamic terrorism is a reality. Terrorism is not the work of Moslems, but it is the official policy of the Islamic movement. This is a phoney movement created by the West in the context of the Cold War and amidst an anti-communist confrontation with workers and freedom-lovers in the Middle East. It is a weak and frail movement. It does not enjoy serious moral and political support in the region's major countries. It is out of step with the region's social realities. Without the West's support, political Islam would be defeated by socialism and secularism in the region. In Iran, which like Palestine is one of the main scenes where the fate of political Islam shall be sealed, the demise and downfall of political Islam has already begun.

In the Next Part

* The US war in the region, which has started in Afghanistan is not a war against terrorism, since it not only does not address any of the conditions

necessary to fight terrorism (which I referred to earlier), but it even relies on sections of that very Islamic movement. Nonetheless, in my opinion, the USA has entered into a confrontation with political Islam. This is a power struggle. This conflict will logically lead to the weakening of political Islam. But the objective of the West is not the elimination of political Islam. It rather seeks to weaken it, tame it and remould its ranks in order to create a new equilibrium. The war in Afghanistan is about redefining the West's relationship with political Islam. We must break this framework and thwart this new reactionary alliance. We must pursue our own independent policy for ridding the region of this reactionary force much more rigorously under the new conditions.

** The pacifist position does not see this new conflict between the West and political Islam, does not recognise its importance for the people of Middle East who have been victims of this reactionary movement and for future political developments. The pacifist rank shirks its responsibility towards these realities. We must take our criticism of this pacifist and cautious position into the popular movement against terrorism and militarism.*

** Because of the global and historical dimensions of this confrontation, the ideological and psychological characteristics of the people of world today, particularly in the West, are very different from the period of the attack on Iraq and even Yugoslavia. With people's mass participation in politics and civil struggles, US militarism will come out of this conflict politically weakened. With the active intervention of progressive forces, the current conflict which is itself about aspects of the new world order after the fall of the Soviet Union, can turn into a mass critique of this entire notion, re-examining the USA superpower status and its continued military intimidation of the world. From the point of view of freedom and equality, this is a much more important debate than the future of political Islam.*

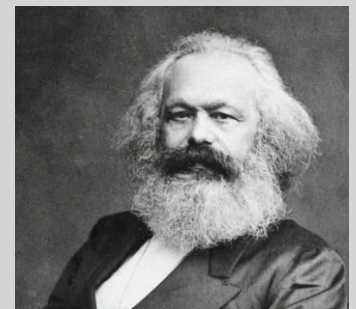
The English version is a reprint from WPI Briefing.

**Read Mansoor Hekmat's articles
here:**

www.hekmat.public-archive.net

www.m-hekmat.com

**Karl Marx wrote in The Civil War in France:
(1870-1871)**



"All the chorus of calumny, which the Party of Order never fail, in their orgies of blood, to raise against their victims, only proves that the bourgeois of our days considers himself the legitimate successor to the baron of old, who thought every weapon in his own hand fair against the plebeian, while in the hands of the plebeian a weapon of any kind constituted in itself a crime."

"Thus with nations as with individuals. To deprive them of the power of offence, you must deprive them of the means of defence. You must not only garrote, but murder."



Azar Majedi

(June 16, 2024)

The Third Pole is Loud and Clear!

The horrible mass murder of 9/11 gave America a divine justification for the destruction of the Middle East under the pretext of war against Islamic terrorism. Following this atrocity, America committed genocides in the region. Since 2001, the Middle East has become a constant battlefield, a total ruin. Millions of people have been killed; millions have been displaced. During these twenty-three years, the Middle East has not seen a peaceful day. Bombs are flying in the sky. The final curtain of this crime is the genocide in Gaza.

America and Western imperialism produced and nurtured Islamic terrorism. Islam, as all other religions, has always been one of the tools of colonialism and imperialism to suppress freedom, progressive values, left and socialist tendencies and movements in the region. Since the 1970s, this movement has acquired a new form. It was with Brzezinski and Carter and their Green Belt project, creating an Islamic belt against the Soviet Union, that the first Islamic state with the mask of “revolutionary” was created.

The US and the West managed to suppress the 1979 revolution in Iran by organising a regime change and bringing the Islamists into power in one of the biggest and most powerful countries of the region. By creating an Islamic state in Iran, US created a monster and then declared war on its self-made monster.

Then, the Islamic movement was expanded; one organisation after the other was created: Mujahideen, Taliban, Al-Qaeda and Hamas. America and the West used the pretext of these terrorist organisations/movement to justify the bombing and destruction of the Middle East. But the documents were leaked. The truth was revealed. All these organisations are made by America and the West with the intervention of Israel. In the "Arab Spring" they created ISIS that helps US steal the oil from Syria. Recently, it has been revealed that wounded ISIS soldiers are going to Israel for treatment.

Against this world that was divided into two hate and warmongering poles: state terrorism against Islamic terrorism, we emphasized the third pole. We said that the third pole, the pole of freedom, equality and justice, the pole of humanity, should be awakened and organised. This is our only hope; the only practical way to justice and freedom.

8 months of genocide in Gaza proved the role of the third pole in this struggle. Millions of people who poured into the streets in defence of the people of Gaza and Palestine, condemning Israel's genocide and the complicity of America and the West in this massacre, and despite the repression by the police, have not yet left the scene, thousands of students who expressed their anger against this genocide by occupying the universities; they are the third pole.

The third pole did not accept the false and ridiculous narrative of Israel and Western ideologues that this is Israel's war with Hamas and it started on October 7. The eyes of the world were opened to the historical facts of Israel and Palestine. 75 years of occupation, genocide, apartheid, daily police repression is the history of Palestine under Israeli occupation. The Palestinian people's resistance movement has now become the spokesperson for the international movement for justice.

The third pole has come to the streets in millions and demands justice; condemns crime and genocide, condemns Israel, America and the West. This huge movement has the potential to defend political and civil liberties and justice in the West against the growth and rise of fascism. The demand for justice for Palestine has become the symbol of the demand for justice in the whole world. People's eyes have been opened. The masks of lies and hypocrisy of the ruling class have been torn. Society has woken up. Now a golden opportunity has been created for the organization of a huge left and socialist movement.





Report:

The formation and activities of the Campaign of the "Women's Rights Movement against genocide and in defence of the Palestinian people"

www.wrmagainstgenocide.com

Homa Arjomand

June 16, 2024

An online conference titled "Where does the Gaza Genocide Conference and the Women's Rights Movement stand?" was held on 25th March 2024, with the participation of 12 women's rights activists from the countries of Syria, Lebanon, Iran, Algeria, Palestine-West Bank, Sweden, Caucasus, Canada, and France. **Evelyn Accad** the founder of shelter for homeless mothers and children, resident of Lebanon; **Homa Arjomand**, the International Coordinator of Campaign for One Secular School System from Iran, resident of Canada; **Chafia Outerbah** feminist Laique-Secretary General of INSERM, resident of France, **Soad Baba Aissa**, feminist Laique from France; **Aoucicha Bekhti** women's rights activist from Algeria, **Helale Taheri**, the executive director of Middle Eastern Women and Society Organisation from Iran, who lives in England; **Dalala AbdelGani**, Palestinian writer who lives in Sweden; **Buthina Canaan Houry** Palestinian filmmaker who lives in the West Bank; **Keto Kurtskhalis**, the head of the Caucasus Feminist Institute, **Azar Majedi**, the head of the Organization for Women's Liberation from Iran; **Maria Hagberg**, writer and activist for women's rights - Sweden

This conference was basically an effort to strengthen the international solidarity of the women's freedom movement in support of the protests of freedom-loving people and justice seeking people in the world in order to strengthen the third pole (people's protest movement) to end the genocide in Gaza. At the same time, this conference was an effort to break the wall of silence that exists amongst the secularist movement and sometimes the feminist movement in the West about the crimes of the racist government of Israel and its allies, the Western governments, led by America.

The report of this conference was published in Arabic in the Lebanese media by a journalist present at the conference who had participated from Beirut, which helped to spread the conference discussions to a larger audience, and following that, many activists from Arab-speaking countries contacted the conference participants and offered their cooperation.

After the end of the conference, a network of participating speakers was formed, after which a joint statement was issued in which, while condemning the racist government of Israel and its allies, it called for an immediate end to the genocide in Gaza. The full statement was published in Tribune issue number 1. This statement was translated into 7 languages, French, German, Kurdish, Arabic, Swedish, Italian, and Farsi, and it was widely distributed among social networks, which reflected more and more the discussions of this conference at the regional and world level. More than 150 women's rights activists and organisations defending the rights of the Palestinian people and many anti-racism, anti-apartheid, anti-genocide activists too supported and signed this statement. This is how the international campaign "Women's Rights Movement against Genocide and in Defence of Palestinian people" was formed.

July 5th is the Independence Day of Algeria. On 6th July, the Algerian activists of the campaign are planning to hold a non-governmental special event about Palestine. They have expressed their enthusiasm to join this campaign to assist in creating a united action in mobilising social forces to end genocide and apartheid.

Some of the activities of the members of this campaign, are participating and strengthening the demonstrations and gatherings against the genocide of the people of Gaza. They are to defend the human rights and freedom of the Palestinian people, including active participation in the students' struggles against the genocide and making a statement in defence of their protest sit-ins; speaking at various meetings and conferences related to the Palestinian issue; writing articles; actively participating in exposing the crimes of the Israeli government and its partner governments and the mainstream media; and collecting financial aid and sending it directly to the West Bank to reach the people of Gaza.

Endorsements of the conference statement

“Genocide in Gaza, Where Does the Women’s Rights Movement Stand?”

More info: youtu.be/siTLEc570dg?si=U8lfjTgEeMYC5wZH--

The statement issued by the conference has been received warmly and positively by many progressive and left activists and organisations.

Amal Khreishe, General Director of the Palestinian Working Woman Society for Development since 1995.

Tomador Meihuizen, Netherland. President of Arab- Dutch Women Organization- Hague-Netherlands born in Syria
www.weeportal-lb.org

Kashiefa Achmat, Chairperson Housing Assembly South Africa - Cape Town, housingassembly.wordpress.com/about/

Suzanne Daou , Journalist specialising in environmental and gender topics and Media advisor-translator- Lebanon.
www.jinhaagency.com

Campaign to Open borders for Afghan Women and Children Fleeing the Taliban!,

www.nosharia.ca

Maria Sookias, Women’s rights activist -London
Middle Eastern Women and Society Organization (MEWSO)
www.mewso.org

Linanan Lebanon , Assisting victims of domestic violence, forced marriage, FGM,and women affected by honour killings.

Debbie Humphrey, Open University, Research Fellow Open University & Oxford Brookes University - London, England

Lilette Benavad-Cherif , Algerian Women’s Rights activist, from Constantine-Algeria

Middle Eastern Women and Society Organisations ,A women's charity run by and for women from ethnic minority communities.www.mewso.org

The International Campaign to closedown Iranian Embassies
www.facebook.com/groups/2529762493920085

Majed production, Professional video *production* for YouTube, Web or TV. Directing.
www.majdproduction.com

Asmaa Alatawna, Activist- Palestinian writer. Gaza. Palestinian militant films archival. Cinémathèque de Toulouse. “A long Walk from Gaza” and blogger
youtu.be/Zhv9nyn7Dxc?si=NEDcGkfWdqx455eu

Buthina Canaan Khoury, Independent Palestinian Filmmaker. She established Majd Production Company in Ramallah in 2000 in Ramallah city, objective is to produce documentaries about various crucial Palestinian issues, focusing on women's social and political problems.
www.womeninstruggle.net
www.majdproduction.com

The International Campaign For One Secular School System
www.facebook.com/groups/1774089539581042/

The International Campaign For One Secular School System
Khedija Arfaoui, Tunisian, Professor at Ministère de l'enseignement supérieur.

Khedija Arfaoui, Freelance feminist researcher lives in La Marsa from Sousse-Tunisia
projects.iq.harvard.edu/files/violenceagainstwomen/files/women_on_the_move_-_maghreb.pdf

Ghada Zeidan, Gender and Development expert, and Advocate for Palestinian Rights-UK
thehagueacademy.com/associate-experts/

Zohra Belghiti, Free-lance writer, poet, human rights and women rights activists, a community organizer and volunteer with the Palestinian Women from Belgium and Luxembourg

Organization for Women’s Liberation
www.azadizan.org

The Confederazione dei Comitati di Base (Cobas), Rank and file trade union centre in Italy
www.cobas.it

Radio Avaye Zan- Sydney, Australia
www.triplefm.com.au/shows/radio-avaye-zan-2/

Irmgard Emmelhainz, Independent scholar, researcher and writer, from Anahuac Valley (Mexico City)
vcfa.edu/visiting-faculty/irmgard-emmelhainz/

APEL-Égalité, association féministe en France est
www.helloasso.com/associations/apel-egalite

Guilene Marco, Chair of Middle Eastern Women and Society Organization MEWSO- from Lebanon
www.mewso.org/trustee-bio-guilene

Evelyne Accad, Lebanese American Professor Emerita in French Comparative Literature at the University of Illinois
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evelyne_Accad
archon.library.illinois.edu/archives/index.php?p=creators/creator&id=2955

Dr. Grace Khoury, Professor of Management at Birzeit University- West Bank-Palestine She is an author, co-author, and editor of a number of books and journal articles and a member of the editorial board of The Learning Organization Journal- Emerald
<https://independent.academia.edu/GraceKhoury>
<http://www.birzeit.edu/Challenging-Conditions/Muna-Khoury/p/book/9781409454960>

Rami Zahi Khoury, Chair to promote Entrepreneurship, as well as social science and humanity at Birzeit University-West Bank
www.birzeit.edu/en/news/new-chairs-promoting-entrepreneurship-well-social-sciences-and-humanities-introduced-birzeit

Dr. Tomador Hassoun Meihuizen, Founder and President at Arab Dutch Women Circle. The Arab Dutch Women's Circle is a human rights organization established in 2002. Professor, researcher in the field of women's and children's rights and as editor-in-chief of a woman's magazine (Hajes). Born in Syria from Netherlands
www.weeportal-lb.org/websites/arab-dutch-womens-circle

Sharifa Kheddar, Présidente de l’association Djazairouna des Famille Victimes du Terrorisme

Jalil Behroozy, Worker activist and active member of "Campaign to Open borders for Afghan Women and Children Feeling the Taliban”, from Toronto - Iran

Lilette Benayad chérif , Women’s Rights activist, from Constantine-Algeria

Khedija Arfaoui, Tunisian Women’s rights activist

Nicole Surprenant, Activists
www.facebook.com/nicole.surprenant.984

Haideh Daragahi, Women's rights activist, previous representatives of Women's Network, previous professor of English literature and Maryland-Sweden
www.cbc.ca/player/play/1.5049498

Mahin Alipour, active member of the International Campaign against Sharia court in Canada and Campaign stop execution, a women's right activist, -Sweden.
www.facebook.com/mahin.alipour.7/

Sussan Lari, Member of Organisation for Women's Liberation-Iran-UK

Taybeh Ramallah, Activist from Palestine

Mitra Mahmoudi, Political activist, feminist-Australia and host of Radio Avaye Zan- Sydney, Australia

Suzanne Said Daou, Journalist specialising in environmental and gender topics.

Milad Rabei, Cader of Worker communist Party of Iran
Freedom, equality, prosperity, and justice for all, Gothenburg, Sweden-Iran

Saman Aras-concern, Global citizen -against any crime of any kind by anyone, group, government for any reason-Sweden-Iran

Dlavar Munzir, Political activist Melbourne Australia -Kurdistan-Iraq

Parvin Ashrafi, Socialist, Women's rights activist from Vancouver-Canada

Saffar Saad, Writer and translator from Vancouver- Canada

Mohammad Safavi, Workers' activist from Vancouver Canada /Iran

Koosha Shayan, Communist labor activist from Toronto-Canada

Satar Rahmani, Workers' activists- London from Iran
www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZnFkDgN9zU

Morteza Afshari, Workers' activist from Vancouver-Canada

Camillia Odeh, Activist, USA-Palestine

Anahita Rahmani, Political activist, former political prisoner Iran/Canada

Sardar Abdullak Hama, Spokesperson of the Kurdish-worker Communist Party of Iraq -Toronto-Canada

Suzanne Maely, Jordanian International and labour lawyer -New-York

Ashraf Baheer, Secular activist-German from Afghanistan

Siavash Daneshvar, Activist of socialist movement -Sweden from Iran

Dordaneh Beige, Women's rights activist Toronto from Iran

Moha Nerghrassi, Women's rights activist -Morocco

Aman Zanoon, Middle Easter Women & society Organization MEWSO -UK

Shiva Mahbobi, Psychotherapist, Campaigner and Women's rights activist-UK from Iran

Janine Sinno Janoudi, Activist for Free Palestine

Yasmin Rehman, Feminist Human rights activist

Rima Nazzal, women's rights activist – Ramallah-Palestine

Afshin Moradi, Political activist-Canada from Iran

Myriem Cherti, Women's rights activist-London

Parvin Kaboly, Socialist and women's rights activist

Fatmeh Kassem, Activist-lives in USA from Palestine

Islah Jad, Activists from Ramallah-Palestine

Omar Karimi, Political activist, from Canada from Sanandaj- Iran

Malaka Izzati Azati, Women's rights activist -Oslo Norway from Sana

Babak Azad, Workers' activist-Canada-Iran

Hassan Pooya, Social activist-Toronto-Canada

Amal Threishe, General Director of the Palestinian Working Women Society for Development from Jordan-Egypt

Arash Kamanger, Political activist and Media activist-Canada

Yaver Atemadi, Political and Media activist -Norway

Ghfar Gholamveysi, Political activist-Iran

Taybeh activist, Ramallah- Palestine

Saeed Arman, Socialist political activist-UK from Iran

Said Yeganeh, Political activist, socialist- Iran

Malaka Izzati, Politbureau Member of Worker – Communist Party -Hekmatist

Naser Moradi, Iran -Member of the Central Committee of Worker-Communist Party-Hekmatist

Jalal Mahmoudzaheh, Member of Worker-communist Party-Hekmatist -Germany-Iran

Sakar Ahmadian, Political activist-Iran

Fakhri Javaheri, Worker's and Women's rights activist-Toronto-Iran

Rahman Husien zade, Politbureau Member of Worker – Communist Party -Hekmatist from Sweden-Iran

Zari Asli, Political and women's rights activist -Canada-Iran

Hashem Saeedy, Political activist Vancouver -Canada

Mona Moussaellm Andraos, Activist lives in Paris-France from Beirut, Lebanon

Khadijeh Habashneh, Women's rights activist - from AlKarak-Jordan

Amina Mama, Women's rights activist

Sara Rezvanfar, Activist from Iran

Said Wahedi, Political activist from Iran

Vorya Roshanfekar, Political activist, lives in Stockholm, Sweden -from Sanandaj-Iran

Ghada El Yafi, Médecin spécialiste en hématologie clinique et biologie at Compte Privé- from Beirut-Lebanon

Fariba Kurd, Member of Cologne Council in solidarity with people's struggle in Iran

Ahmad Abbas Nezhad, Socialist activist, Norway

Visit this site to support our campaign

www.wrmagainstgenocide.com
tribune890@gmail.com

Imminent escalation of war by Israel into Lebanon

There is talk of imminent escalation of war by Israel into Lebanon. The last time Israel attacked and invaded Lebanon was in July 2006, resulting in killing more than 1300 and displacing one million Lebanese, and severe damage to some important Lebanese civil infrastructure including the Hariri international airport.

There are voices of deep concern from Lebanon. Here you read a letters we've received from Dr Kamel Mohanna, president of Amel International Association in Lebanon.



“Dear partners and friends,

Today, as I return from a field visit to South Lebanon, it is with indignation and sadness that I announce to you that two of our health establishments, which are identified and which must therefore be protected, have been damaged, in South Lebanon: our primary health care centres (CSSP) located in Arkoub and Khiam.

On Monday June 17, the CSSP of Amel Association International (Amel) located in Arkoub was damaged by an artillery shell which exploded nearby. This resulted in the destruction of all the centre’s windows and damage to some small equipments. I was able to see, during my field visit, that the renovation of the centre is now necessary. Today, Wednesday June 19, during my visit to South Lebanon, the Amel CSSP located in Khiam was seriously hit by an airstrike by an Israeli fighter jet near the centre, resulting in substantial damage to the structure of the centre and its equipments. The situation remains very tense in the region and attacks continue.

Patients and healthcare workers have not been physically affected, but their psychosocial distress is palpable. We stand in solidarity with all people residing in the affected areas. Our centres have had to review their working methods, supported by our mobile units, in order to ensure continuity of care. However, it is clear that such deliberate attacks threaten access to healthcare for Lebanon's most vulnerable populations.

Since October 2023, a genocide has been underway in Gaza. We welcome the demonstrations of solidarity with Palestinians and strongly denounce the loss of humanity and the double standards we observe. At the same time, the situation in Lebanon is particularly violent and acute, seriously affecting our country, already affected by multiple crises. Civilians, healthcare workers, journalists and healthcare establishments are targeted, particularly in South Lebanon.

This is unacceptable and we strongly denounce it. I will make sure to keep you regularly informed of developments in the situation in Lebanon. We are counting on your support and solidarity with us, the people of Lebanon and the Palestinians, and to call for an immediate end to the crisis in South Lebanon and an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

*In solidarity,
Dr. Kamel Mohanna
President, Amel International Association
General Coordinator, Lebanese and Arab NGO Network”
www.amel.org*

Genocide by the racist Israeli government in Gaza

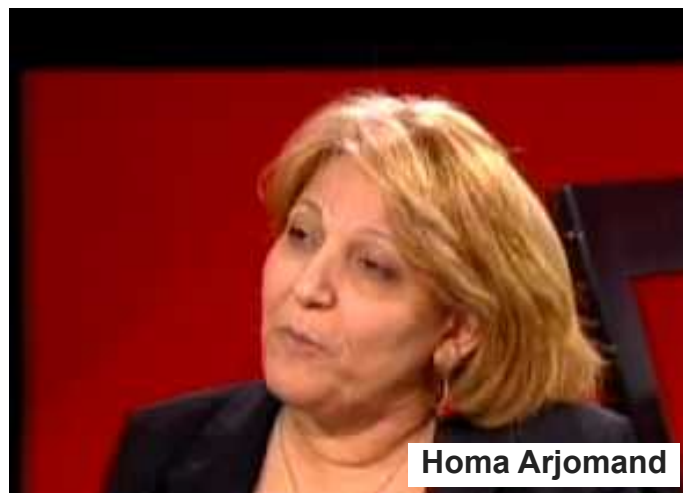
Where does the “*Council of ex-Muslims*” stand?

In the midst of an open genocide in Gaza and the Israeli army's daily attacks on the people of the West Bank, the *Council of Ex-Muslims* has announced its second conference. In the first conference in December 2023, two months after the beginning of the genocide, it criticised Islam, talked about secularism and freedom and human rights, but did not talk at all about the genocide of the Palestinians by the Jewish state of Israel that commits these atrocities under the name of Torah and Judaism. We don't even see a minute of silence for the thousands of people and thousands of children whose rights they claim to defend.

An organisation that has been silent for more than seven months in front of a horrible crime in Palestine, in a world where the right-wing movement uses all its strength against people from countries described as Muslim, especially immigrants from countries under Islamic rule, and hate mongering against Muslims has become government propaganda, under the title of anti-Islam holds meetings, roundtables, conferences, and demonstrations against Islam, and during the month of Ramadan, its members drink “alcoholic drinks” in front of places attributed to Muslims. It seems that the prophet of British atheists and one of EX-Muslim's financiers, Professor Richard Dawkins, has come to believe that Christianity and Judaism, unlike Islam, are civilised, peaceful and humane religions.

I am not talking about how this institution was formed and why it named itself as such, what is important is the activities of this institution in this recent period with regard to the international crisis surrounding the issue of Palestine and the genocide in Gaza. This question arises: What goals and forces do the activities of this movement serve? For organisations and parties that have a significant impact on the current developments, the role of this organisation may be insignificant, it may even not be considered at all. Some might be convinced that in any way, in a world where the religious establishment is under the support of movements and governments, it is better to have such an organisation than not to have it! One of my concerns is that some of the comrades I worked with in different secular campaigns such as the international campaign against Islamic courts in Canada, against executions in Iran, for a single secular education system, against children's hijab, and the campaign against honour killings, are among founders, activists and promoters of Ex-Muslims

The basic question is why this organisation, which considers itself freedom-equality-justice-seeking, has remained silent in the face of the killing of tens of



thousands of children, women and defenceless people of Palestine? What happened to defending the rights of children, the right to life of Palestinian children and the right to life of people in Gaza? Why does their anti-religious fight not include fight against the religious regime of Israel? What is the difference between the Islamic regime's sexual apartheid and the Israeli government's racial apartheid? They seem to justify their silence against Israeli genocide by arguing that condemning Israel is tantamount to strengthening Hamas and Islamic regime. Or does it have special benefits? Are the millions of people all over the world who came to the streets in defence of the Palestinian people and against the genocide, supporters of Hamas and the Islamic Republic? This is the argument of the spokespersons and activists of this organisation who have shamefully repeated. They have, by referring to the presence of only a few flags of the Islamic regime in the demonstrations of several hundreds of thousands of people, labelled the entire protests as pro-Hamas and dismissed it! It is regrettable that one of the main spokespersons of this organisation answered with an apparent clear conscience in a meeting when faced with the question that a genocide is going on in Gaza: “Of course, genocide is a negative thing, but let's not be fooled, we must be aware that the Islamists in Europe are getting stronger?” (indirect quotation)

In response to this up-side down argument that support for the Palestinian people and condemnation of the genocide in Gaza will go to the pockets of the Islamic regime and Islamic movement, it should be emphasized that to stay silent about this genocide, is in effect to leave the battlefield to Hamas and the Islamic movement. Therefore it serves Israel's aims. One must add that supporting any movement against oppression and racism and for a better world is part and parcel of an international struggle for the freedom and happiness of all humanity.

I emphasise these not because the activists of this organization are not aware of it, but because I hope that they can review their records specially that of the past months in order not to repeat the path that led to the joining of yesterday's atheists to Christianity.

Anti-Islamism does not justify racism!

by Azar Majedi

07 July, 2006

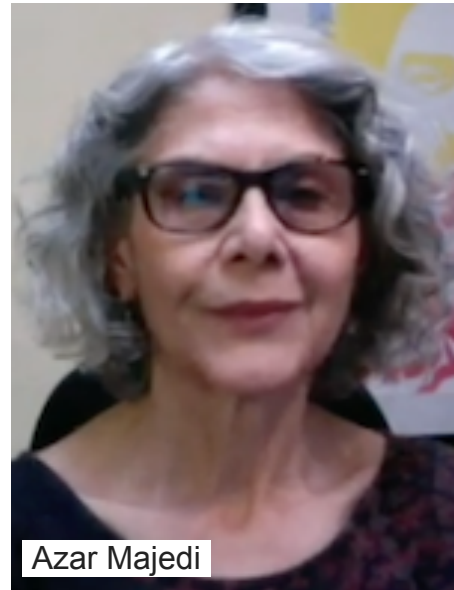
Dear Oriana Fallaci

As a life-long activist for women's rights, for freedom and equality, as a first hand victim of political Islam, and a veteran fighter against it, as an atheist who is a staunch believer in a secular state and secular education system, as a woman who has opposed the hijab, as a secularist who has defended the latest French secular law to ban bearing of any conspicuous religious symbols in public schools, as a campaigner for banning the veil for underage girls and banning religious schools, as a campaigner against honour killings, Sharia courts in Canada, against Islamism and Islamic terrorism, as a staunch defender of unconditional freedom of expression and criticism who defended the right of those who ridiculed Mohammad in the row over the caricatures, I share some of your beliefs and find some very offensive, and let me make it clear, not to Islam, but to human values, to freedom and egalitarian values which are also part of "European culture".

When you came to Iran to interview Khomeini, I was fighting against him and Islamic regime for women's rights, against the hijab, and for freedom. I knew you first and foremost for your interview with the Shah. I admired your courage and frankness then. I feel indignant now when I read some of your comments and your latest interview with Margaret Talbot in New Yorker. Your justified hatred against Islam and Islamism has been extended to all Moslems and everyone living under Islam. I am sure you do not need anyone to remind you that this is racism. I am bewildered when I read your comments against immigrants and immigration from countries under the rule of Islam, and find this in contrast with the justified pride you take in your history for fighting against Nazi-Fascism.

It seems to me that the hate against Islam has pushed you towards Christianity. You have even visited the Pope asking him to take a stronger stance against Islamism. This I find puzzling. How does an atheist in hate of one religion take refuge in another? Your hate against Islamism and political Islam finds expression in Euro centrism. Your disapproval for multiculturalism and cultural relativism has led you to defend "western culture", instead of universal rights and secular, humanitarian and values and freedom.

As a young girl growing in Iran, under the rule of Islam, I read western philosophers and writers to



Azar Majedi



Oriana Fallaci

This Open letter was written in 2006, 18 years ago, when the Secularist and atheist entities and personalities in the West had not lost credibility; their hypocrisy was not exposed. Their real role in making acceptable the dominant Ideological and political narrative of the New World Order, i.e. the Clash of Civilisations, was not revealed. Oriana Fallaci was the sun rise of the truth. I must admit that at the time I thought this was a small minority; I still regarded the secularist movement as progressive, as I still think secularism is a necessary condition for a free society. However, the genocide in Gaza exposed them all; tore the mask of lies and hypocrisy. All these heroes and Gods of godless are promoting Christianity as opposed to Islam. They have all received divine revelation that Christianity is the pillar of civilisation.

educate myself with enlightened principles and values regarding equality, freedom and women's rights. I chose the egalitarian and freedom-loving side of Western culture, and I am bewildered why, you an atheist, a fighter against fascism, had to resort to Euro centrism and racism in order to defend "Western culture".

Your defence of a superior culture goes as far as expressing more concern about the beheading of Buddha's statue than murdered, maimed women and men in Afghanistan whose rights are violated daily, who are victims of political Islam and American militarism. This perplexes me. I found it offensive that a human being who enjoys a freedom fighter stature in the eyes of many, cares more about the cultural and physical ambiance of her native country than all those men, women and children who are killed, maimed and violated daily in Iraq. It seems that in defence of "your culture" you, a self-professed atheist, in attacking mosques end up defending the church. As a staunch campaigner against terrorism, I feel indignant when I see our "Western" anti **Islamist** can only voice condemnation of terrorism taken place in the West. All terrorist acts which take place daily in countries under Islam are mentioned at best only in passing. Are people who have by draw of a lottery been born under the rule of Islam not worthy of your attention, passion and rage?

All these become so ironic when one looks deeply into the root of political Islam. When one remembers how the Western governments unleashed this monster on the people of the region, how they created the Mujahideen in Afghanistan in the cold war era, and then helped the Taliban, how in the fear of a leftist revolution in Iran dumped Khomeini on us and helped bring about an Islamic state, when one remembers these recent historical facts, one cannot help but discern a profound sense of hypocrisy and double standard. Sadly the saga of helping political Islam and Islamic terrorism by the Western governments is an ongoing effort. Just look at Iraq! The US and Britain, by invading Iraq, helped Islamists grow monstrously therein. Have you forgotten who the friend of Bin Laden was? The tragedy is that as long as this monster was strangling the "native" people, our rage could stay under control, our passion not moved. Those people were not worthy of our passion and compassion!

The Western academia and journalists invented and nurtured the concept of cultural relativism, so that on its basis they could justify compulsory veiling, stoning, maiming and torturing of the people under the rule of Islam. That gave justification for turning one's head while one's government made deals with those Islamic states. This concept was invented so under the guise of "respect for other cultures" the brutal crimes and violation of human rights will be brushed aside "respectfully". We have witnessed how European courts have resorted to cultural relativism in defending deportation of immigrants fleeing the rule of Islam. They have gone as far as stating that the

prison conditions in those countries are suitable for those people.

I must state that these arrogant, hypocritical and racist attitudes and policies are an important tool to foster political Islam. If one does not distinguish between the Islamic movement, a reactionary and brutal political movement, and ordinary Moslems who are the first hand victims of this, if one does not distinguish between the oppressor and the oppressed, one becomes an accessory to Islamic brutality.

We must try and understand the root causes of Islamic recruitment among the so-called Moslem communities in the West. The dominant racism in state policies and attitude and systematic marginalisation of these communities plus the aggression and militarism of the Western governments led by the US against the people in the Middle East, namely, Palestine and Iraq, have directed the youth in these communities to despair and frustration. The revolt of the "suburb" in France is a vivid and sad example of such policies. By rejecting these communities as part of "us" we leave them at the mercy of the "leaders of the community", who foster traditionalism, Islamism, sexism, and glorification of the "home land". These are poisonous brain washings. And I must say that your stance is aiding this process.

I find it so hard to understand that in despising the oppressor and oppressing ideology you come to despise the victims just as much. No sympathy, no compassion for the victims. No rage and passion provoked for these people who live under these inhumane and brutal conditions. It is amazing that in Mexico witnessing the brutal crushing of a student demonstration, and becoming a victim of it, you came to hate the sufferers just as much as the oppressors. So flippantly, you state you hate "Mexicans" and as a result despise the most impressive show of power and solidarity in the US for the rights of immigrants in recent months.

I was enraged by reading your racist comments. I was indignant by sensing your Euro centrism, by your lack of human compassion for millions who fled the rule of Islam and took refuge in the West in the hope of a better life. I share your despise and indignation for the Islamic movement. But I denounce categorically the racism that is openly expressed by you. And last but not least I must state that I defend the unconditional freedom of expression, and condemn the court which is to try you for what you have expressed in your books. One must be free to express any opinions. This is the pillar of a free society.

Azar Majedi