

**Iranian Domestic Media Monitoring Report**  
**August 2 – 8, 2010**  
**Stacy Topouzova**

**August 8, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Sources**

*(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1510 GMT, 8 August 2010)*

- Tehran, 8 August: Secretary of Supreme National Security Council Sa'd Jalili held a meeting with Lebanese Foreign Minister Ali Al-Shami, in which Jalili was quoted as having said that "the Lebanese nation's resistance to Israel accounts for defense and is blessed."
- Referring to the legal proceedings underway in Lebanon to bring to justice assassins of Lebanese former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, he said that "the Zionist regime which benefited more from the assassination is the main suspect of the terror case".
- ***"Once the Zionist regime advanced even towards the Lebanese borders, but now it faces firm reaction over uprooting a tree. It is the blessing of resistance to occupation."***

**Privately-Operated Media Sources**

*(Source: The Green Voice of Freedom website, en.irangreenvoice.com, in English 8 August 2010)*

- Journalist and human rights activist Siamak Qaderi was arrested by security forces ahead of Reporters Day in Iran.
- According to the Kalemeh website, he was detained at midnight on Thursday [5 August]. The journalist has worked for the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), the banned SINA news agency and many reformist newspapers.

**August 7, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Sources**

*(Source: Islamic Republic of Iran News Network, Tehran, in Persian 0752 GMT, 7 August 2010)*

- Speaking live on Iranian TV, President Mahmud Ahmadinezhad has underlined the role of the media in propagating the "historical fabrication" of the Holocaust. Speaking to media delegates at the Sound and Vision Conference Hall in Tehran on occasion of the Reporters' Day, he said:
- ***"They fabricated and spread an issue called Holocaust. They turned it into the basis of the [alleged] suffering of a particular group [of people]. They have spread this in such way using the media, films, news, analysis and reports that it is now institutionalised.*** Then, there are even those inside Iran who lay claim to being in Imam [Khomeyni's] Line and revolutionary with this sunk inside their mind. This is so much so that they cannot believe that this issue [Holocaust] is a historical fabrication."

*(Source: Mehr news agency, Tehran, in English 1710 GMT, 7 August 2010)*

- Tehran, 7 August: Expediency Council Chairman Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed "the importance of news and journalism for the country and said censorship of the news will destroy peoples trust."
- Rafsanjani made the remarks in Tehran on Saturday [7 August], one day ahead of Iran's national Journalists Day.
- ***"We should not let others report Iran-related news to our people (first)," he added.***
- ***"The wider the circle of news fabrication and the denial of truth, the less the people will trust the national media, and (they) will shift (their) attention to the foreign media," he added.***

**August 6, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Sources**

*(Source: Press TV website, Tehran, in English 1744 GMT, 6 August 2010)*

- 6 August: The Iranian government has enhanced its boycott of Israeli goods, saying it will closely monitor the enforcement of a ban.

- "No state or non-state-owned company is allowed to sell Israeli products in the Islamic Republic [of Iran] and the government closely monitors the matter," said Iran's Vice President for Parliamentary Affairs Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Reza Mir-Tajoddini.
- Speaking at a conference titled "Popular Intifada and Boycotting Israeli Goods" late Thursday [5 August], Mir-Tajoddini condemned the "occupying nature" of the Israeli regime, IRNA reported.

*(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1350 GMT, 6 August 2010)*

- Beirut, 6 August: Ali Akbar Velayati, senior foreign policy adviser to Supreme Leader of Islamic Revolution, warned that the **"Muslim world cultural elite should be vigilant against the US-Zionist regime conspiracies"**.
- Velayati arrived in Beirut to participate in a meeting of the Islamic Radios and Televisions, organized by the Islamic Press Association.

### **August 5, 2010**

#### **State-Facilitated Media Sources**

*(Source: Press TV website, Tehran, in English 1801 GMT, 5 August 2010)*

- Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamene'i has called on regional states to stand united against enemy plots to cause division.
- Ayatollah Khamene'i met with Afghan President Hamid Karzai and Tajik President Emomali Rahmon, who are in Tehran for the tripartite summit of Persian-speaking heads of states.
- The Leader stressed that the "development, security and prosperity" of Afghanistan and Tajikistan benefits Iran just as "Iran's development and security is beneficial for regional states."
- "There are some who are against cooperation between these three countries," the Leader said, adding that regional states should counter such threats with "vigilance."
- Ayatollah Khamene'i said the problems of the Afghan people stem from foreign military presence.
- "Foreigners who came to Afghanistan with the slogan of establishing security and democracy are now targeting civilians and their presence has nothing but atrocity and corruption for the people of Afghanistan," the Leader said.
- "World powers only pursue their own interests and their never-ending greed in the region, but today the situation of the region and the capabilities of these powers are extremely different from the past."

*(Source: Mardom-Salari website, Tehran, in Persian 05 August 2010)*

- A press jury sentenced Mohammad Jafar Behdad, ex-managing director of the official news agency of the Islamic Republic of Iran (IRNA), to four months of imprisonment for publishing untrue reports and 91 days of imprisonment for insulting (Ayatollah Hashemi-Rafsanjani and the Larijani brothers [Ali Larijani and Sadeq Larijani]).

### **August 4, 2010**

#### **State-Facilitated Media Sources**

*(Source: Press TV website, Tehran, in English 1401 GMT, 4 August 2010)*

- Ahead of the 20th anniversary of the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights in Islam (CDHRI), Iran criticised the West for "spreading Islamophobia to mask its own bleak record."
- "[After the CDHRI] Western theoreticians proposed that [the West] would need a new focal point for confrontation and hostility in order to maintain their expansionist policies," Fars News Agency quoted Iranian Foreign Minister Manuchehr Mottaki as saying on Wednesday [4 August].
- "Instilling Islamophobia,...unreservedly insulting Islamic sanctities, as well as accusing Muslim nations of their own human rights violations, is part of a new chain of actions effectively organized [by the West] in the past two decades," Mottaki said.

*(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 0925 GMT, 4 August 2010)*

- Tehran, 4 August: Foreign Minister Manuchehr Mottaki said the UNIFIL and its commanders have to explain the reasons for their deployment in southern Lebanon.
- He stressed that “the United Nations forces in southern Lebanon should explain why they are unable to hinder such atrocities by the Zionist regime because then the Lebanese army and nation as well as the resistance groups will be able to make their own decisions.”
- “The West’s human rights and democracy record was so weak and unworthy of defense that they have no way but to cloud the issues.”

### **August 3, 2010**

#### **State-Facilitated Media Sources**

*(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1745 GMT, 3 August 2010)*

- Tehran, 3 August: Iran’s Foreign Ministry, by issuing a statement, strongly condemned Zionist regime attack against Lebanon.
- According to the report of Foreign Ministry Media Department on Tuesday [3 August] afternoon, the statement said Iran strongly condemned Zionist regime attack against southern area of Lebanon which caused martyrdom of a number of Lebanese military officers. Iran will follow the incident with sensitivity, the statement said.

*(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1405 GMT, 3 August 2010)*

- Sanandaj, Kordestan Prov, 3 August: “Iran has the largest number of media in the world”, said the director general of the Culture and Islamic Guidance Ministry for Press and Local Media Affairs here on Tuesday.
- Talking to reporters of the provincial media, Ehsan Qazizadeh added that currently, more than 3,700 publications and media have licenses for activity in the country.
- “Some 18 news agencies are operating in Iran”, he went on to say.
- Qazizadeh is in Sanadaj to take part at the inaugural ceremony of the Kordestan Press Exhibition which is to end on August 8.

*(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency, Tehran, in Persian 0838 GMT, 3 August 2010)*

*Note: The following are direct excerpts:*

- Tehran: In a news program, which was focused on reviewing reasons behind the closure of Afghan TV channel "Emroz", the BBC TV channel tried desperately to add fuel to religious and ethnic disputes between the wise Afghan and Iranian people, but their efforts were fruitless due to the awareness of Afghan audiences.
- According to a report by IRNA's audiovisual news team on Tuesday [3 August], a BBC presenter highlighted Afghanistan's constitution with regards to freedom of media, press, and television channels, while he was trying to insinuate that the Islamic Republic of Iran interferes in that country's [Afghanistan's] domestic affairs and asked the viewers to contact the programme to share their views.
- The “biased British medium” reportedly said the main reason behind the closure of the mentioned TV channel was a complaint filed by Iran against the channel. But of course, approving the Afghan government's performance, the wise Afghan viewers said the channel was shut down due to immoral programs it broadcast as well as causing discord among the Afghan people.
- As per Afghan media law, the government has to support, promote and guarantee freedom of media and no legal and natural person, including the government and government bodies can ban, limit or censor free media activities.

*(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 0610 GM, 3 August 2010)*

- Tehran, 3 August: Minister of Defence and the Armed Forces Logistics Brigadier-General Ahmad Vahidi stressed that **“Iran has prepared defensive plans to face any threats by the enemies and to make them regret attacking Iran.”**
- Talking to reporters while departing for Oman, Vahidi made the remarks in response to the US Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Michael Mullen who had referred to a possible military action regarding Iran.

**August 2, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Sources**

*(Source: Mehr news agency, Tehran, in English 1615 GMT, 2 August 2010)*

- Tehran: Expediency Council Chairman Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani proclaimed that "national unity will eliminate the enemy's pretexts for interfering in Iran's internal affairs."
- "Islam and republicanism are two fundamental tenets of Iran's religious democracy", Rafsanjani said in Tehran on Monday [2 August].
- However, extremism in either of these principles will cause irreparable damage to the Islamic Revolution and the future of the country, he added.
- "Some ordinary citizens and some politicians resorted to extremist and irrational actions after last year's presidential election, and that is worrisome," he stated.

*(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1025 GM, 2 August 2010)\*

- **Tehran, 2 August: A senior military official** said on Monday [2 August] that **for many years, Iran's armed forces have been preparing a crushing plan to respond to any possible aggression of the US or the Zionist regime.**
- Political Deputy of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Yadollah Javani made the remarks reacting to the latest statement of the US Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS), Michael Mullen.
- "The US and the Zionist regime will not dare to make a military attack against Iran," said the Iranian official stressing that Mullen's remarks were just a "psychological operation."
- "The Persian Gulf is a strategic region. If its security is in danger, this will jeopardize their (Americans') interests too and our response would be tough."

*(Source: Javan, Tehran, in Persian 02 August 2010)*

*Note: The following are direct excerpts:*

- "The election headquarters of principle-ist's deviated movement has started its work for the 11th presidential election headed by one of the young faces of this group. It is now two months that this current [movement] has established its election headquarter for the 11th presidential election and is in close contact with the reformists and the technocratic forces [groups], "Javan" reported.
- "It is remarkable that only this point is enough for being deviated from this current [faction] and that it has established election headquarters and started its election activities, while there are almost three years to the next presidential election. The Supreme Leader [Ayatollah Ali Khamene'i] has repeatedly warned about this issue [early start of election activities] at several occasions in the past."