

IRANIAN DOMESTIC MEDIA MONITORING REPORT

7 – 14 FEBRUARY 2011

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14 FEBRUARY 2011

STATE-FACILITATED MEDIA SOURCES

(Source: Fars News Agency website, Tehran, in Persian 2016 GMT, 14 February 2011)

- One person has been killed in a shooting incident during the anti-government protests on 14 February, Fars reported quoting unnamed sources.
- "Agents of sedition and the mercenary terrorist group of Monafeqin [pejorative word for Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization] who organized street clashes in certain areas of Tehran today had opened fire on some passers by. As a result, one of our fellow citizens has been killed", Fars reported.
- The website added: "During this shooting incident, a number of our fellow citizens have been severely injured who are receiving treatment now at the hospital."

(Source: Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran Network 2, Tehran, in Persian 1700 GMT, 14 February 2011)

- Iranian state-run TV Channel Two (IRTV2) in its 1700gmt bulletin on 14 February broadcast a video report on rallies arranged by reformist leaders, Mirhoseyn Musavi and Mehdi Karrubi, in solidarity with Arab states' movements on the same day, calling it "A coordinated but failed display by leaders of sedition, the hypocrites [Mojahedin Khalq Organization], monarchists and other anti-revolution groups".
- Video showed people in the streets setting garbage bins on fire.
- The caption said: "A scenario by leaders of sedition-hypocrites-monarchists, coordinated by failed". The voiceover said: "After few days of ballyhoo by media sources of Israel, the West and other enemies of Islam and the Revolution on a statement issued by the leaders of sedition, a number of individuals displayed the coordinated scenario of the leaders of sedition, hypocrites, monarchists and other anti-revolution groups."

PRIVATELY-FACILITATED MEDIA SOURCES

(Source: The Green Voice of Freedom website, en.irangreenvoice.com, in English 14 February 2011)

- GVF: In an attempt to prevent protesters from reaching the sites of pro-opposition protests, some of the capital's metro stations located in the centre of the city have been shut down.
- Tehran metro officials have closed down the metro stops leading to Tehran's centre, in an effort to prevent demonstrators from reaching the protest route between Imam Hoseyn and Azadi Square.

(Source: The Green Voice of Freedom website, en.irangreenvoice.com, in English 14 February 2011)

- Ali Bagheri, a member of the central council of the Mojahedin of the Islamic Revolution Organization has been arrested.
- Bagheri, who held various Interior Ministry positions during the presidency of former president Mohammad Khatami, was summoned to the Intelligence Ministry today [14 February] where he was interrogated for two hours.
- The Mojahedin of the Islamic Revolution Organization is one of the reformist parties and has seen many of its members imprisoned following the fraudulent 2009 presidential election in the country.

(Source: The Green Voice of Freedom website, en.irangreenvoice.com, in English 14 February 2011)

- Former head of the Islamic Republic New Agency [IRNA], Abdollah Naseri has been arrested.

- Within the past hour, security forces inspected the home of reformist figure Abdollah Naseri before arresting him. The agents carried an arrest warrant from the prosecutor general.
- Naseri is also a member of the Mojahedin of the Islamic Revolution Organization,

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STATE-FACILITATED MEDIA SOURCE

(Source: Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Tehran, in Persian 1039 GMT, 13 February 2011)

- [Presenter] The Majlis Speaker has stressed on the Majlis's support for the freedom-seeking movement of the people of Egypt and warned against America's interference in the affairs of that country. Larijani reiterated that the people of Egypt have risen against the allies of the Zionist regime and that America can not sacrifice the Egyptian's revolution for securing the safety of the Zionist regime by promoting militarism.
- [Larijani] The main reason for the uprising of the Egypt's youth was because of the humiliation that the Americans have carried out during these thirty years and it was due to the fact that it trampled on the national dignity of this great and educated nation by cooperating with the Zionist regime. Now they are so shameless to say that the condition for having a democratic future in Egypt is that it should respect the disgraceful Camp David Treaty. What kind of democracy is this which needs to be formed by America's orders and to set its objective in advance?

12 FEBRUARY 2011

STATE-FACILITATED MEDIA SOURCES

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1903 GMT, 12 February 2011)

- The reporter of the Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Commission claimed "that Egypt is a gate for Palestine's freedom."
- Talking to IRNA, Kazem Jalali said that "the escape of Dictator Husni Mubarak from Egypt was a great victory for the Egyptian nation."
- Jalali underlined that "the Western states and the US consider the Egyptian revolution as a threat to the Zionist regime."

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency, Tehran, in Persian 1715 GMT, 12 February 2011)

- Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamene'i has, in two separate decrees, appointed the members of the board of management and board of trustee of two clerical bodies, the Islamic Republic News Agency [IRNA] reported on 12 February.
- In the second decree, Khamene'i appointed the members of the board of trustees of the Islamic Propagation Office

PRIVATELY-FACILTIATED MEDIA SOURCE

(Source: The Green Voice of Freedom website, en.irangreenvoice.com, in English 12 February 2011)

- The International Campaign for Human Rights in Iran called for the immediate release of dozens of journalists and dissidents who have been arbitrarily detained in an apparent effort to intimidate Iranians from participating in a 14 February rally in solidarity with the Egyptian pro-democracy movement.
- "The government is doing all it can to intimidate Iranians and deny their right to peaceful assembly. With recent events in Egypt, we see another round of repression in Iran aimed at silencing a people frustrated and dissatisfied by the denial of their human rights," said Hadi Gha'emi, the Campaign's spokesperson.

- After the 5 February announcement by opposition leaders to hold a rally next Monday [14 February] in support of the Egyptian people's uprising, Iranian officials began to issue warnings that they won't tolerate any public demonstrations on that day.

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STATE-FACILITATED MEDIA SOURCES

(Source: ISNA website, Tehran, in Persian 1816 GMT, 11 February 2011)

- In a reaction to news on Husni Mubarak's resignation, Dr Ali Akbar Salehi [the Iranian foreign minister] issued a congratulatory message: "I congratulate the great Egyptian people on this victory and share their happiness."
- According to ISNA [Iranian Student News Agency] news desk, Dr Ali Akbar Salehi, the Iranian foreign minister, added: "Today [11 February], during their million-strong presence, [in a rally] the beloved people of our country praised the glorious Islamic Revolution throughout Iran, and announced their support for and solidarity with the courageous and justice-seeking movement of the history-making Egyptian people."
- He expressed hope that the proud public movement in Egypt would complete its victory through its resistance, will and determination, and fulfill all its demands successfully and proudly.
- Salehi went on to say that: "The Egyptian army, which has the bright experience of fighting against the Zionist regime's oppressions, is expected to play its historical role at this sensitive juncture and help achieve the goals and demands of the great people of Egypt by accompanying and supporting them."

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1600 GMT, 11 February 2011)

- Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi said on Friday [11 February] that the popular uprisings in Egypt, Tunisia and Jordan have been influenced by Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution.
- "The people of Egypt, Tunisia and Jordan got the message of Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution right and hence they revolted against their ruling systems," he added.

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1445 GMT, 11 February 2011)

- The managing Director of the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) and Presidential Press Adviser Ali-Akbar Javanfekr said on Friday [11 February] that the Iranian nation has acted vigilantly whenever the enemy has come to the scene to strike a blow at the Islamic Revolution.
- Javanfekr alleged that "despite the relentless efforts of the enemies of the revolution, particularly over past two years against the Iranian nation and Islamic Revolution, the people of Iran's participation in the political scene has increased every year."

(Source: Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran Network 1, Tehran, in Persian 0727 GMT, 11 February 2011)

- Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinezhad issued an address to the Iranian people: "I want to tell the arrogant powers of the world [Western powers including America] that you have finally reached the end of the line. In the past 100 years in particular, your conducts have put criminals and usurpers of the world to shame."
- Addressing a large gathering of people at Tehran's Azadi (Freedom) Square Ahmadinezhad said: "You have two options. The first is to stand beside other nations. There is no need for you to show sympathy with other nations and Arabic-Islamic nations. [Persian proverb:] We have no hope of your goodwill, do not cause mischief!"
- "You are partners to all acts of oppression against the nations of the region in the past and right now. If you indeed want to reform your conducts, if you want nations to trust you and believe that

you are honest, first of all you must stop interfering in the affairs of the countries and nations of the region, including Egypt and Tunisia. You must allow nations to do their own work and make their own decisions. You must stop interfering in other countries' affairs too. What are you doing in Afghanistan and Iraq? What are the military bases in the region for? Do you care for nations or are you a deceitful and dishonest Satan? Secondly, you must dismantle the Zionist regime which is the main cause of all crimes. The same way that you established it [Israel], imposed it, you must now dismantle it and let the region be free."

10 FEBRUARY 2011

PRIVATELY-FACILITATED MEDIA SOURCE

(Source: The Green Voice of Freedom website, en.irangreenvoice.com, in English 10 February 2011)

- The sons of 2009 presidential candidate Mehdi Karrubi have been barred from entering their father's home.
- According to Saham News, the official website of Karrubi's National Trust Party, security forces deployed outside the Karrubi home have prevented his children from entering their father's house saying that they would not be allowed to enter the house until 14 February when the opposition's plans to hold mass demonstrations in support of the recent Arab uprisings.
- Saham News adds that Karrubi's house arrest is "most likely" linked with the planned march on 14 February.

STATE-FACILITATED MEDIA SOURCES

(Source: Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran Network 1, Tehran, in Persian 1030 GMT, 10 February 2011)

- [Presenter] Majlis Speaker [Ali Larijani] concluded his consultations in Doha, Qatar. Mr Larijani on the return from his one-day visit to Qatar referred to "the fact that the Americans and the Zionists through different methods attempt to put a hurdle on Egyptian people's way, and the people of other countries should carry out their Islamic and humane duty towards the Egyptian people's uprising."
- Larijani: "We should help the Egyptian and Tunisian peoples. They are calling for the restoration of their rights. As the Americans and the Zionists are blocking the way of the Egyptian nation in various forms and are attempting to through spanner in the works, other countries should carry out their Islamic and humane duty towards the Egyptian people. Therefore, certain consultations were held in this respect."

(Source: Mardom-Salari website, Tehran, in Persian, 10 February 2011)

Text of report citing Ati news headlined "Deployment of US spy mast on Piranshahr [Iran] border [city]" published by Iranian newspaper Mardom Salari on 10 February.

- The US has deployed a communication mast in Iraq's Haji Omran region bordering Iran's Piranshahr Township, near the border with Kordestan.
- According to Ati news report and based on the statements by local officials, this mast was deployed in Iraq's Haji Omran region earlier through which the US carries out spy operations.

9 FEBRUARY 2011

STATE-FACILITATED MEDIA SOURCES

(Source: ISNA website, Tehran, in Persian 1252 GMT, 9 February 2011)

- Iran Judiciary Chief Ayatollah Sadeq Amoli-Larijani has said that if the "leaders of the sedition" were arrested they would have turned into some sort of heroes, ISNA reported.

- According to ISNA, addressing a gathering of the elite and members of the faculty of Hormozgan Province universities, Larijani added: "The Judiciary will deal with the leaders of the sedition based on the expedience of the state. If they were arrested they would have turned into imam's offspring [meaning respectable individuals or heroes]."

(Source: Iranian Labour News Agency (ILNA), Tehran, in Persian 0452 GMT, 9 February 2011)

- Referring to Iranian reformist leaders, Mirhoseyn Musavi and Mehdi Karrubi's request for holding a rally in support on Egyptian and Tunisian people on 14 February, Iranian Judiciary Spokesman Gholamhoseyn Ezhe'i has said that: "A request for a rally on 25 Bahman [14 February] means separating themselves [reformists] from the people, and it is a political move", Iranian Labour News Agency (ILNA) reported on 9 February.
- He added: "If an individual truly shares the brave Egyptians and Tunisians motivation, then he will participate in the rally to be held on 22 Bahman [11 February, anniversary of Islamic Revolution's victory] along with the government and the nation."

8 FEBRUARY 2011

STATE-FACILITATED MEDIA SOURCES

(Source: Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Tehran, in Persian 1030 GMT, 8 February 2011)

- Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamene'i told a gathering of air force personnel that an Islamic awakening is seeing off the "gradual decline" of the West. A recording of his remarks was broadcast by state-run Iranian radio:
- [Khamene'i] "Today, the Middle East has woken up. The world of Islam has awakened. The years of hegemony of the powers-that-be, who were not from this region but due to its great resources raided it and initiated the era of colonialism and neo-colonialism and newer than neo-colonialism, is drawing to an end. This is a reality. The nations of the region are witness to the gradual decline of these powers. In this context, Islamic Iran is the standard-bearer. It is Iran with its great cultural background and the possibilities that exist thereof. And, that is possible by reliance on Islam. Islam is intertwined with the soul, spirit and thoughts of this nation and this collective. This is valuable and must be maintained."

(Source: Islamic Republic of Iran News Network, Tehran, in Persian 0636 GMT, 8 February 2011)

- Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Ramin Mehmanparast blamed the Netherlands for supporting "terrorist groups".
- "Another example of the wrong path of Western countries, especially the Netherlands, is their support for terrorist groups, as we witnessed before. Those who committed over 12,000 acts of terror, unfortunately, get support from these countries which claim to defend human rights. These politicians have turned their countries into a safe haven for criminals, smugglers and terrorists," Mehmanparast said

(Source: Iran, Tehran, in Persian 08 February 2011)

Direct excerpts:

- "The BBC propagandist organization served as a tribune for the opponents of the Islamic Republic of Iran during the unrest by seditionists in [13]88 [post-poll unrest of 2009]. It played a prominent role in motivating the unbridled anti-revolution ruffians and miscreants against the Islamic government."
- "Now, in order to create a greater atmosphere for indoctrination, capturing of minds and psychological operations to gain complete control over the audience, it has launched a new system for the audience."

7 FEBRUARY 2011

EXTERNAL MEDIA SOURCE

(Source: Pajhwok Afghan News website, Kabul, in English 1607 GMT, 7 February 2011)

- Authorities in Iran have deported nearly 2,200 Afghan refugees, including four women, to Afghanistan's western Herat Province, bordering Iran, an official said on Monday [7 February].
- Most of the affected Afghans had no legal documents, but they also included those having legal presence in Iran, provincial refugee and returnee department head, Hamidollah Khatibi, told Pajhwok Afghan News.
- "Iranian police caught me while I was working at an apartment in Aspahan city, and later they deported me and my mother," Abdollah, 20, a resident of northern Konduz Province said.