

Iranian Domestic Monitoring Media

April 12 – 18, 2010

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(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1535 GMT, 18 April 2010)

- President Ahmadinezhad remarked that:
- "Efforts for dismantling nuclear weapons have prepared grounds for expansion of cooperation between Iran and Indonesia""
- Since proliferation and development of nuclear bombs are on the agenda of some countries, it requires collective cooperation between the two sides for dismantling of nuclear weapons worldwide"
- "If countries such as Iran and Indonesia fail to play an active role in global developments, those favoring hegemonic system will take the initiative once again,"

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1515 GMT, 18 April 2010)

- Foreign Minister Manuchehr Mottaki addressed the Tehran International Conference on Disarmament of Nuclear Weapons and Non-Proliferation emphasized the need for Disarmament:
- "Certain states have envisaged weapons of mass destruction in their defense doctrine and want to stockpile WMDs as a privilege for themselves. They resort to various excuses deceiving the international community to justify possessing nuclear arms and at the same time posing threats to the international community with WMDs,"
- "Given victims of weapons of mass destruction, chemical and biological weapons in Iran during the US-backed Iraqi imposed war on Iran (1980-1988), they used chemical weapons against civilians in Sardasht, other parts of Iran and the people living in Halabja of Iraq."
- "In 1990-1993 the international community witnessed endless efforts of the United Nations member states in Geneva to reach consensus to draw up a convention on elimination of chemical weapons, but, regretfully the efforts were left as an offensive or defensive issue. The convention had defined its goals for the next 20 years so that the target year is 2012. According to this convention all chemical weapons should be eliminated by the end of 2012."
- "If global community takes serious action to annihilate chemical and biological weapons, the issue should be applied to wider issue that is elimination of nuclear weapon,"

(Source: Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran Network 1, Tehran, in Persian 0430 GMT, 18 April 2010)

- Iran's President Mahmud Ahmadinezhad urged the withdrawal of foreign troops from the Middle East region, state IRTV1 channel reported on 18 April.
- Addressing the military parade, the president of Iran said: "They must leave the region. This is not a request or an entreaty. This is the order of regional nations."

- Speaking at the military parade in the Iranian capital, Ahmadinezhad said that the “main reason for the deployment of foreign troops in the region was the seizure of the rich resources and exploitation of talents of the Middle East under various populist pretexts.”
- The Iranian president described foreign troops as “the root of the hostilities and insecurity in the region, adding that there is no need for their presence in the region.”

(Source: Islamic Republic of Iran News Network, Tehran, in Persian 0423 GMT, 18 April 2010)

- The president of Iran blamed Israel for being “a tool of other states for the implementation of their plans in the region.”
- In a live address on state-run Iranian news channel, Mahmud Ahmadinezhad alleged that “the main reason for establishment of Israel in the region is to dominate the region and implement arrogant plans.”
- Speaking at the military parade to mark the Army Day, the president said that "the main reason for establishment of the Zionist regime in our region is to dominate the region and implement arrogant plans and colonize it. This regime is aiming at hatching plots and create conflicts in our region. I am calling on supporters and protectors of the regime to give up protecting them [the people of Israel] and let them free".

April 17 2010

(Source: The Green Voice of Freedom website, en.irangreenvoice.com, in English, 17 April 2010)

- Green Voice of Freedom: “Following a court session held on Saturday 17 April, journalist Mohammad Nurizad was sentenced to three and a half years in prison plus fifty lashes.”
- Mohammad Nurizad, a former writer for the radical Keyhan newspaper has been sentenced to three and a half years in prison plus fifty lashes. He has twenty days for appeal.
- According to the Kalemeh website, “the journalist was imprisoned 120 days ago after he wrote three letters critical of the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamene'i as well as an article criticizing the head of the judiciary Sadeq Larijani”.
- Nurizad was found guilty of “propagating against the Islamic Republic and tarnishing the 30-year reputation of the Islamic Republic, insulting the Supreme Leader, president and head of the judiciary and Ayatollah Alamolhoda, the leader of Friday prayers in the city of Mashhad and member of the Assembly of Experts”.

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1005 GMT, 17 April 2010)

- Tehran, 17 April: Spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry Ramin Mehmanparast alleged that “the US threats against some countries was in no way different from the terrorists' acts targeting defenseless people.”

- Noting that the world is “presently worried about the threats posed to nations by the US, France and a number of other countries”, he believed “the biggest terrorists were those who threatened nations with use of nuclear weapons”.
- Asked to comment on allegations that Iran posed a danger to regional security, the Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed “there were no reasons for the regional countries to worry about Iran's nuclear program simply because it was solely for peaceful purposes.”

(Source: Islamic Republic of Iran News Network, Tehran, in Persian 0701 GMT, 17 April 2010)

- Speaking live on TV, the head of the Atomic Energy Organisation of Iran, Ali Akbar Salehi, condemned “the double-standards and discrimination by nuclear powers against NPT member states.”
- He submitted a 15-point charter for reforming the NPT and enhancing the disarmament regime.

(Source: Islamic Republic of Iran News Network, Tehran, in Persian 0640 GMT, 17 April 2010)

- Speaking live on Iranian TV on the occasion of the Tehran nuclear conference, Iran nuclear negotiator, Sa'id Jalili, called for “a truth finding commission on Israeli nuclear arms”.
- He urged that the commission “ought to answer who provided nuclear arms to Israel”. He said that this commission must report to the UN

(Source: Islamic Republic of Iran News Network, Tehran, in Persian 0551 GMT, 17 April 2010)

- Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinezhad accused the UN nuclear watchdog of preventing non-nuclear states from using nuclear energy.
- "The [International] Atomic Energy Agency, instead of disarming those who have atomic weapons in line with its philosophy of existence and helping its members to make appropriate and peaceful use of nuclear energy under Article 4 of its statute, has unfortunately turned into a tool of pressure on members who do not have the weapon and is preventing them from benefiting from their legal nuclear rights," he said.

April 16, 2010

(Source: Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Tehran, in Persian 0755 GMT, 16 April 2010)

- Speaking live on state-run Iranian radio, Iranian Foreign Minister, Manuchehr Mottaki, alleged that “Obama's soft war is exposed to the people of the region and the world.”
- "What is your record in the Far East? What is your record in Diego Garcia? What is your record on the island of Okinawa? What are your secret prisons in Europe set up for? Is it for defending democracy and human rights? In supporting coup governments in Latin America what objectives do you pursue? No, Mr Obama, no, today your soft war is exposed. Today, the nations analyse issues speedily and

understand the behind the curtains truths. Today, the nations of this region understand that you have staged a play using the excuse of war against terrorism."

(Source: The Green Voice of Freedom website, en.irangreenvoice.com, in English, 16 Apr 2010)

- 16 April: A court of appeal has approved a six-year prison sentence journalist Mas'ud Lavasani as well as a ten-year ban on any journalistic activity.
- According to the website Green Prisoners, Lavasani's initial eight-year sentence was reduced to six years after appeal, and he will be banned from any journalist-related activity for the next ten years.
- The reformist journalist has been in prison since 26 September 2009.

(Source: Press TV website, Tehran, in English 0056 GMT, 16 April 2010)

- Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinezhad has called for "full brotherhood" to be established in the Middle East in order to foil enemy plots.
- Ahmadinezhad added that the atmosphere of the region should move towards full brotherhood, stability and security, since insecurity benefits no country and it will only allow enemies to put distance between brothers.

April 15, 2010

(Source: Press TV website, Tehran, in English 1528 GMT, 15 April 2010)

- An Iranian lawmaker alleged that the United Nations must look into US President Barack Obama's threat to launch a nuclear attack on the Islamic Republic.
- "The United Nations must pursue the US threats against Iran and the United Nations Human Rights Council must condemn the threats," Zohreh Elahian, a member of the Parliamentary National Security and Foreign Policy Commission said on Wednesday [14 April].
- According to the Iranian lawmaker, "the whole world will be insecure if other nations give in to US bullying."
- "If the international community fails to show a reaction to the US threats against Iran today, it will be some other countries' turn in future," she added.

April 14, 2010

(Source: Press TV website, Tehran, in English 1414 GMT, 14 April 2010)

- A senior Iranian lawmaker says the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington is intended to cover up US infringements of international nuclear treaties.
- "There are more than 10,000 nuclear weapons in the United States. This is an obvious infringement," ISNA quoted Ala'eddin Borujerdi, the chairman of the Iranian Parliament (Majlis) National Security and Foreign Policy Commission, as saying on Wednesday [14 April].
- The Iranian official further referred to Tehran's readiness for a nuclear fuel swap with the West.
- "We are still ready for the nuclear fuel swap due to 850,000 patients who are in need of radio medicines produced by the Tehran research reactor," Borujerdi added.

- "The Islamic Republic began producing 20 per-cent-enriched uranium in the presence of the IAEA representative, after Tehran faced the West's lack of interest in nuclear fuel swap," he went on to say.

April 13, 2010

(Source: Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran Network 1, Tehran, in Persian 1705 GMT, 13 April 2010)

- Speaking live on state-run Iranian TV channel one, Iranian President, Mahmud Ahmadinezhad, confirmed that he is sending a letter to USA's President, Barack Obama. "Mr Obama has only got one chance and that is Iran. This is not emotional talk but a scientific statement. Mr Obama cannot do anything in Palestine. They will not allow him to do anything. They will not allow him to. He has no chance to do anything. What formula has he got in Palestine for a change in that country which he can present as an achievement to confirm his political position in America?"
- "They [Americans] also have economic and cultural problems. They are now even facing security problems at the international level. They have lost their influence. They faced heavy challenges, in Iraq, Afghanistan and [other parts of] our region. When they review [the situation], they realize that a power is emerging in the world. This is not an arrogant, economic or military power. It is a cultural power. And wherever they go, they hit the closed door of this cultural power. When they take a look they realize that on its [the door's] back it is written made in Iran.
- "They want to dominate this region and through this region, the world. At the first step, they have failed, because they do not have Iran. Iran will not allow the previous situation to prevail.

April 12, 2010

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1440 GMT, 12 April 2010)

- Commission Isma'il Kowsari said on Monday [12 April] that "US and western countries should remain committed to NPT and destroy all their nuclear weapons".
- "If they truly review their crimes and atrocities at the end of World War II, they would easily find out how they brought death and annihilation to world nations," he said.

(Source: Iranian Labour News Agency (ILNA), Tehran, in Persian 0531 GMT, 12 April 2010)

- Tehran Province's Court of Appeal has issued final sentences for two prominent reformist detainees.
- According to the Iranian Labour News Agency, ILNA, on 12 April, senior member of the reformist Participation Front, Mohsen Safa'i-Farahani, who was formerly sentenced to six years in prison, has been sentenced to five years in prison.
- As for another senior Participation Front member, Ali Tajerniya, whose previous sentence was six years in prison and 74 lashes, the court of appeal has commuted the sentence to one year in prison.