Iranian Domestic Media Monitoring Report June 7 – 13, 2010 Stacy Topouzova

June 13, 2010

(Source: Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran Network 1, Tehran, in Persian 1724 GMT, 13 June 2010)

President Mahmud Ahmadinezhad commented on matters pertaining to the Gaza flotilla: "They [Israelis] attack [ships] in open waters, kill, occupy and yet the Security Council doesn't show any reactions but at the same time it issues a resolution against us. I think the two incidents are blessed. We are not happy that people died. No. But the two reactions by the Security Council. I would like to congratulate the Iranian nation. The Iranian nation's resistance caused them to dig their own grave. This behavior led to their end. In my opinion the measures taken in the past few weeks were like coup de grace. The first coup de grace was for the Security Council. And this is a great victor for all nations because the biggest hegemonic and bullying means is the very same Security Council. They are sitting there and go and start a fight and then issue a resolution and implement it themselves."

(Source: Fars News Agency website, Tehran, in Persian 1111 GMT, 13 June 2010)

- Tehran's governor general has said some of those arrested on 12 June, are members of the opposition group, Mojahein-e Khalg Organization (MKO)
- According to Fars News Agency, Morteza Tammadon, said: "According to the information [we have] obtained, there are a number of Monafeqins [MKO members] among the individuals who were arrested by people yesterday, and the intelligence and police forces will inform the public in this respect at an appropriate time." June 12 marked the first anniversary of the disputed presidential election in 2009.

(Source: Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Tehran, in Persian 0940 GMT, 13 June 2010)

- [Presenter] Majlis Speaker Ali Larijani addressed recent nuclear developments and emphasized that "America's recent behavior towards the nuclear fuel exchange issue as deceitful America started this game but it will not be the one who ends it."
- In the open Majlis session, Larijani referred to "America's open and secret efforts regarding the nuclear fuel exchange in the past few months" by asking Turkey and Brazil to "mediate between Iran and America in order to materialize this, as well as the Tehran Declaration and the ratification of the anti-Iran resolution in the Security Council"
- "They witnessed how the USA used its right of veto on sending aid to the oppressed people of Gaza and its attitude towards the cruel behavior of the Zionist regime. However, despite its false pledges regarding Iran's nuclear issue, it used the Security Council as a tool and showed its criminal attitude towards Muslims. Of course, America knows that this is not the end of the story. This process started with the game these gentlemen started, but will not end by them."

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 0905 GMT, 13 June 2010)

- Rapporteur of Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Commission Kazem Jalali commented on Resolution 1929 adopted by the UNSC on 9 June against Iran's peaceful nuclear activities, noting that "The White House radical rulers are not seeking to resolve issues through negotiations,"
- He stressed that the resolution was "not acceptable", adding that it proved that the US officials were not to settle the nuclear dispute through diplomatic channels.

(Source: ISNA website, Tehran, in Persian 0814 GMT, 13 June 2010)

- In an interview with the Iranian Students News Agency, ISNA, General Sajediniya, said: "Yesterday, no particular incident happened in the capital [Tehran] and the police arrested a limited number of individuals, 91, as suspects, and introduced them to the judicial sources."
- He continued: "Yesterday, there was no clash in Tehran; so none of our forces suffered any injury."

(Source: The Green Voice of Freedom website, en.irangreenvoice.com, in English 13 June 2010)

- "Not for the first time, pro-government websites in Iran have initiated a series of baseless rumors about the arrest of opposition leader Mir Hoseyn Musavi and alleged "protests" outside his house in Tehran after Yesterday's Friday prayers."
- "Musavi's official website Kaleme has denied both stories and has stated that such rumours serve the purpose of radicalising the ambiance among the general public as well as distracting the people's attention from the country's real problems as a result of the incompetent and illegitimate government's disastrous policies."

June 12, 2010

(Source: Mehr news agency, Tehran, in English 1635 GMT, 12 June 2010)

- "The Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamene'i is personally pursuing the case of those who suffered in the post-vote unrest," Abdolhoseyn Ruholamani told the Mehr News Agency.
- Ruholamini lost his 25-year-old son Mohsen last June. He was arrested at a demonstration following the presidential election. Mohsen died while in captivity in the Kahrizak detention centre.
- Following the incident Ayatollah Khamene'i ordered the notorious detention centre to be closed.
- The remarkable participation of people in support of the system on various occasions should not be construed as a pretext to conceal the inefficiency and incompetence of some state officials, he underlined.
- Last year "I deemed it appropriate that president Ahmadinezhad would not stay in the office". At the time I was supporting another candidate and I believed that he was qualified and competent to become the next president, Ruholamini stated.
- Ruholamini criticized the performance of the national TV prior and after the election in supporting a particular candidate.

- Such performance gave rise to the belief among the public that the national TV is taking side, thus the root cause of some regrettable events after the election could be attributed to such impartial performance, he added.
- Without providing a "tranquil environment" in the society based on "reason and understanding" it would be impossible to properly run the country, he explained.
- Unfortunately a group of people who claim to support the principle-ist axioms has totally ignored moral principles and in order to harm their rivals resort to any immoral means, he lamented.
- Under such environment, it is noticed that critics and those who are serving the system are removed from their duties under different pretexts.
- "I should say that such an approach is not an appropriate strategy to resolve problems" he added.

(Source: ISNA website, Tehran, in Persian 1633 GMT, 12 June 2010)

- Iranian Students News Agency: "NAJA [Law Enforcement Force] deputy commander praised people's awareness with regards to enemies' propaganda."
- A few minutes ago, Brig-Gen Ahmad Reza Radan added: "Based on NAJA's earlier predictions, fortunately, despite extensive propaganda by the enemy, no problems were reported today from across the country due to people's awareness."
- He further added: "Just a few people were arrested as suspects in Tehran by the intelligence agents and they will be referred to the judiciary tonight after completing their files."
- NAJA deputy commander emphasized: "The Iranian people proved their awareness once again and acted as per the guidance of the jurisconsult and proved that they would not be influence by enemies' propaganda."

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 0940 GMT, 12 June 2010)

- Head of Iran's Atomic Energy Organization Ali Akbar Salehi warned the West on Saturday [12 June] "against putting itself more in a stalemate regarding the way it was dealing with Iran's peaceful nuclear issue."
- Salehi made the remarks commenting on the latest resolution adopted by the United Nations Security Council against Iran for its civilian nuclear activities.
- He advised the Western states to try to find "a graceful way out of Iran's nuclear dispute" by accepting the country's "proposal on nuclear fuel exchange".
- "The best graceful way out of Iran's nuclear issue for the Western states is to accept the nuclear fuel exchange,"

(Source: Fars News Agency website, Tehran, in Persian 0741 GMT, 12 June 2010)

- Quoting "an informed source", Iranian Fars news agency on 12 June 2010 published a report detailing the way in which he was "tortured" in the USA after his reported abduction in Saudi Arabia last June.
- In the clip, Amiri talked about his alleged abduction by the CIA in collusion with Saudi security forces. He said that he had been sedated and brought to the USA where he was living under surveillance in Tucson Arizona.

- A clip was also put on YouTube apparently on the same day, 8 June, in which Shahram Amiri said that he was free and is continuing his education in the United States.
- The Fars report on 12 June, quoting "an informed source", explained the way Shahram Amiri was "tortured" in the US, how the first video clip was filmed and adding that America was pursuing to produce another video.

(Source: Fars News Agency website, Tehran, in Persian 0436 GMT, 12 June 2010)

- "Britain's state TV has urged [Iranian] people to continue [anti-government] rallies, while airing interviews with some members of the opposition to the Islamic Republic of Iran that are residing abroad."
- According to a Fars report, "after Musavi and Karrubi who are treated in foreign circles as the leaders of the opposition to the Islamic Republic - withdrew their previous request to hold demonstrations on 22 Khordad [12 June], their supporters are hopeless and at a loss."
- "Media specialists believe that such a hasty and non-professional behaviour of the BBC is because of the reality that the trend opposed to the Islamic Republic of Iran is increasingly loosing its supporters."
- "It seems that the extensive propaganda which has been carried out by foreign media, especially the internet sources in recent weeks in order to make rioters come onto streets, has lost its effectiveness."

June 11, 2010

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1450 GMT, 11 June 2010)

- Foreign Minister Manuchehr Mottaki on Friday [11 June] called on "certain UN Security Council members not to further downgrade the Council."
- Addressing the 10th Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on Friday, Mottaki said "the UN Security Council took no action to allay major security concerns over Zionist troops' savage attack on Freedom Flotilla activists and their killing or injury as a result."
- Mottaki said "the UN Security Council in a behind-the-curtain game passed a resolution against Iran over its peaceful nuclear activities."
- "It substantiates sincere approach and firm belief of the Islamic Republic of Iran in indiscriminate nuclear disarmament, including the nuclear weapons free Middle East. Iran emphasizes legitimate, legal and peaceful use of nuclear sciences as an indisputable right of all the NPT signatories. [Sentence as published]"
- "Is recent political and unfair sanctions, which lack any legal backing and were approved without global consensus, the answer to the good will and practical measures of the Islamic Republic of Iran?" questioned Mottaki.

(Source: Fars News Agency website, Tehran, in Persian 1214 GMT, 11 June 2010)

• The governor general of Tehran Province, Morteza Tamaddon, has announced: "No permits have been granted for any gatherings on 12 June [anniversary of the presidential elections] by authorities", Fars news agency reported.

- "They [the opposition] told a big lie in connection with the elections and that was the claim that the elections were rigged."
- "If by putting forward this request these individuals want to celebrate 22 Khordad [12 June], they should call it the festival of lies."

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency, Tehran, in Persian 0527 GMT, 11 June 2010)

- "The behavior that American governments have been consistently showing towards other nations and even towards their own nation, not only lacks any trust and value but is also disgusting", Mahmud Ahmadinezhad, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, said while in Shangahi.
- Addressing high-ranking officials from the Chinese Communist Party's local branch, people in charge of the exhibition and hundreds of Iranians residing in China, Ahmadinezhad said that no nation in the world would accept egoistic and despotic behaviour, IRNA reported.
- "Egoism and despotism, wars and military invasions, the production of nuclear bombs and injustice that prevail in economic and political relations not only do not promote culture and civilization, but they are doomed to disappear," he added.

June 10, 2010

(Source: Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran Network 1, Tehran, in Persian 1440 GMT, 10 June 2010)

- "Iranian TV on 10 June launched a bitter personal attack on Nobel Peace Prize laureate Shirin Ebadi in the run up to the anniversary of the 12 June presidential elections and the protests that ensued."
- "State-run TV channel one, which describes itself the "national medium", accused Ebadi of collaborating with the whole spectrum of the Islamic revolution's "enemies", ranging from the reform movement to the communist Tudeh Party, followers of the banned Baha'i faith, "Zionists" and foreigners in general."
- According to a 12-minute "investigative report" broadcast by the station's "News Magazine" programme, Ebadi, "a woman whose family life had reached a dead-end", held a "grudge" against the Islamic revolution, because she had been demoted from the position of judge by the revolutionary authorities in 1979.
- The station went on to interview her husband Javad Tavasolian. He accused his wife of "carrying out orders from abroad" and having played a role in organizing the postelection demonstrations.

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1230 GMT, 10 June 2010)

- Majlis Speaker Ali Larijani has said that "internal unity and reliance on the Revolution's ideals will neutralize foreign pressure."
- Addressing a gathering of Friday prayer leaders on Thursday [10 June], he added,
 "We should strengthen our unity in all political, economic and social fields."
- "If artificial challenges are not created inside the country, foreign challenges will be doomed to failure," he reiterated.

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 0835 GMT, 10 June 2010)

- Foreign Ministry spokesman Ramin Mehmanparast on Thursday [10 June] denounced "the double-standard approach of the West", stressing that "such an approach is not correct."
- He added that "Tehran believes that such approaches cannot be practical".
- He underlined that "the best way to respect rights of all nations is avoiding discriminatory attitudes and removing the existing injustice at the international arena".
- Referring to the imposition of new sanctions on Iran, the spokesman asserted that such moves are "incorrect and illegal".

(Source: Fars News Agency website, Tehran, in Persian 0705 GMT, 10 June 2010)

- Esma'il Kowsari, Tehran MP and vice-President of Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Commission has said: "America, UK and France, which are illogical and bullying countries of the world, have been pursuing a resolution against the Islamic Republic of Iran for a long time."
- He added: "Through this resolution, these countries' aim is to adverse new climate
 and to control public opinion across the world to save the Zionist regime from the
 disgrace it created by attacking the Fleet of Freedom."

(Source: Iranian news website Sahmnews, in Persian 0001 GMT, 10 June 2010)

- Iran opposition leaders Mehdi Karrubi and Mirhoseyn Musavi in a statement, have called off the planned demonstration which was due to be held on Saturday 12 June marking the first anniversary of the disputed presidential elections.
- Parts of this statement which was published on Sahamnews says: "According to Article 27 of the Islamic Republic Constitution, in order to prevent tensions and to deprive the oppressors of the regime from any excuse, and in order to safeguard the security of our nation, we had submitted a request to the Tehran's governor-general's office and the Interior Ministry for holding demonstrations... In view of the report by the representatives of the reformist groups and in order to safeguard the lives and properties of the people we hereby announce that the planned demonstrations are cancelled."

June 09, 2010

(Source: Press TV website, Tehran, in English 1752 GMT, 09 June 2010)

- The commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) says the nature of threats against the Islamic Revolution of Iran has changed.
- "Last year's (post-election) sedition lasted for around eight months only, but it was much more dangerous than the (eight-year Iraqi) imposed war", said Major General Mohammad Ali Ja'fari.
- He said that he believes that the "seditious moves were aimed at diverting the Islamic Revolution from its right path and slowing the momentum that the Islamic Republic had gained."

(Source: The Green Voice of Freedom website, en.irangreenvoice.com, in English 9 June 2010)

- Human rights activist Kuhyar Gudarzi as been sentenced to a year in prison by branch 26 of the revolutionary courts.
- According to the Committee of Human Rights Reporters, Gudarzi's trial was held on 2 June under Judge Pirabbasi. He was sentenced to one year in prison for "propagating against the regime through effective cooperation with the website of the Committee of Human Rights Reporters, gathering and circulating news directed against the regime and passing on this news to terrorist organizations based outside the country as well as giving interviews to foreign media and publishing articles on websites."

June 08, 2010

(Source: Islamic Republic of Iran News Network, Tehran, in Persian 0554 GMT, 8 June 2010)

- [Ahmadinezhad addressed multiple questions in an interview for the Islamic Republic of Iran News Network]
- "Last year's election was a very great election and in a way, the freest election. Forty million people participated in it 85 per cent of eligible people. It is a record in democracy. In Iran, elections belong to people. It is the people who hold it, and it is the people themselves who oversee and elect. The Iranian nation is happy with its life and the freedom and democracy that it has, and they sacrifice themselves for that. The Islamic Republic of Iran is the most stable country in the world, because the bases of the Islamic Republic are in the heart of every Iranian."
- "...the Zionist regime tried to reverse its countdown. They showed that there is no room for them in the region and no-one is ready to live with them in the region. In fact, no nation has recognized them officially. You know that the Zionist regime is the pillar of the existing brutal regime. When it is affected, it is the brutal regime that is collapses. It is possible that it will have some influence at the Security Council temporarily. With this action, the Zionist regime totally closed its path to staying in the region."
- "The Iranian nation has repeatedly dispatched humanitarian aid. Last year, it did so as well. The Iranian nation is well-known in the world. Even when Hurricane Katrina struck five years ago, the Iranian nation announced its readiness to help Americans affected by the hurricane."
- "The basis of this Security Council is discriminatory and unfair. The most undemocratic international institution is the Security Council. Several countries have the right of veto, and they rule the whole world by themselves. Unfortunately, their erroneous behaviour has put the Security Council even above the international community and has made it dominant over the international community. In most of the Security Council resolutions, we see that non-permanent members and even some of the permanent members say that they are under American pressure. What sort of institution is that if it makes decisions under pressure?"
- "It is clear that this cannot continue. It has reached the end of the road. We need new institutions or substantial reforms in order to establish justice and real democracy.

- Documents have been published saying that it is helping this false and illegal regime to produce the atomic bomb. The time of double standards has ended, and the faster they move on this path, the faster they will reach the end. Their resolutions have no value."
- "The path of the Iranian nation is the path of all nations. We protect the interests of all nations. It is not a sectional or political subject. It is a strategic and religious policy. It is a political and historical pivot. And we are sure that victory on this path is certain."
- "You saw that the American government spent one year, trying to turn the NPT reforms to its own advantage and to the advantage of the Zionist regime and those who possess the weapons. But you saw that Iran and other countries stepped in and changed the trend with cooperation and collaboration. The NPT Review Conference was a victory for independent states and nations. This shows that victory is certain on the path of nations, justice and purity."

(Source: Islamic Republic of Iran News Network, Tehran, in Persian 0553 GMT, 8 June 2010)

- Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinezhad has said that the UN Security Council is the most "undemocratic" international institution and called for the setting up of a new organization or substantial reforms at the UN.
- "The basis of this Security Council is discriminatory and unfair. The most undemocratic international institution is the Security Council," he said at a news conference in Istanbul broadcast live by Iran's news network IRINN on 8 June.
- "It is clear that this cannot continue. It has reached the end of the road. We need new institutions or substantial reforms in order to establish justice and real democracy," the Iranian president said.
- "Several countries have the right of veto, and they rule the whole world by themselves," he said. "In most of the Security Council resolutions, we see that non-permanent members and even some of the permanent members say that they are under American pressure. What sort of institution is that if it makes decisions under pressure?" Ahmadinezhad said.

(Source: Islamic Republic of Iran News Network, Tehran, in Persian 0553 GMT, 8 June 2010)

- Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinezhad praised the 2009 presidential elections in Iran. Asked about the forthcoming anniversary of the elections at a news conference in Istanbul, he said "in Iran, elections belong to the people. People hold them and people themselves oversee and elect".
- "The Iranian nation is happy with its life, freedom and democracy and are making sacrifices for them. The Islamic Republic of Iran is the most stable country in the world," he said at the news conference in Istanbul broadcast live
- "The Iranian nation does not belong to any party. They vote freely and love each other. In Iran, there is no boundary between parties," Ahmadinezhad said.

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 0055 GMT, 8 June 2010)

- IRI president said here Monday [7 June] night at a gathering of worshippers, "the Zionist regime's attack against Gaza Peace Flotilla was a big step of that regime and its masters towards death and total annihilation."
- Elsewhere in his address the president said, "In the name of freedom and the human rights the materialist powers have launched many wars against the mankind, having killed more than 100 million human beings so far."
- Ahmadinezhad reiterated, "The materialist powers have imposed the Zionist regime resorting to military force against the world nations, particularly against the Middle East and regional nations, and they have thus been creating many unmatched crimes in the course of sixty some years of its history, that have been unprecedented in the history of mankind, the last of which has been invading the Gaza Peace Flotilla.

(Source: Iran, Tehran, in Persian 8 June 2010, p 3)

Text of report headlined "BBC's insult to Imam Khomeyni" published by Iranian newspaper Iran on 8 June 2010

- According to the report, BBC Persian that claims impartiality has shown its complete dislike to the late Imam Khomeyni in its "Your Turn" program.
- The BBC was in charge of guiding seditious media during the post-poll sedition in Iran and has launched a wave of desecrations to Imam Khomeyni on the threshold of 14 Khordad [4 June, death anniversary of Khomeyni] 2010.
- "This website has published views, which were full of insults towards the late Imam Khomeyni. The BBC used expressions such as violence, mercilessness, seeking brutality and monopoly, having reactionary tendencies and [inflicting] adversity, misery and catastrophe [on people] to describe Imam Khomeyni."

June 07, 2010

(Source: The Green Voice of Freedom website, en.irangreenvoice.com, in English 7 June 2010)

- Labour rights activist Alireza Akhavan has been arrested.
- Alireza Akhavan is a member of the Council for Defence of Labour Rights. The charges against are still not clear.