

Iranian Domestic Media Monitoring Report
May 31 – June 6, 2010
Stacy Topouzova

June 6, 2010

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency, Tehran, in Persian 1506 GMT, 6 June 2010)

- Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) quoted Abdol Ra'uf Adibzadeh, Iranian Red Crescent manager for international affairs, who confirmed that “Iran is planning to send two ships carrying humanitarian aid to Gaza by the end of this week”.
- According to IRNA, Adibzadeh said that “one of the ships will be carrying donations made by members of the public, including food and medicine, and the other one will be carrying Red Crescent and rescue and relief personnel.”

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1345 GMT, 6 June 2010)

- Iran's Foreign Minister Manuchehr Mottaki on Sunday [6 June] provided an OIC [Organization of the Islamic Conference] session with ten Iranian proposals to “deal with the Zionist regime's criminal attack on Freedom Flotilla and break siege of Gaza”.
- “Zionist regime's criminal invasion of humanitarian aid convoy in free international waters is nothing but a terrorist move, state piracy and violation of all international and humanitarian laws.”
- Mottaki provided the meeting with “10 proposals to get rid of the Zionists' crimes which included the trial of Zionist rulers, breaking the siege of Gaza through swift aid shipment of medical and food aid by air, land and sea, judicial prosecution and punishment of Zionist rulers, imposition of tougher sanctions on the Zionist regime, suspending membership of the regime in the international and regional organizations, severing diplomatic relations with the Zionist regime, sending a clear political message to the Zionist regime and its allies, and urging the UN Chief to provide Palestinians with more support.”

June 5, 2010

(Source: Fars News Agency website, Tehran, in Persian 0859 GMT, 6 June 2010; Tabnak news website, in Persian 1032 GMT, 5 June 2010)

- The arbitrary board of the Majlis Principlist Faction summoned Ali Motahhari “explain about his stances concerning the sedition current [hardliners use this term for the post-election incidents and the opposition leaders].”
- “Following several cautions by the members of the Majlis Principle-ist Faction, the arbitrary board of the faction summoned Ali Motahhari this morning asking him to explain about his stances regarding the post-election incidents, particularly his yesterday's note about the anniversary of the passing away of the Imam (peace be upon him) [the late Ayatollah Khomeyni].”

(Source: Press TV website, Tehran, in English 1728 GMT, 5 June 2010)

- Iran's President Mahmud Ahmadinezhad commented that “the Tehran declaration has provided the West with an opportunity to return to diplomacy and respect the rights of other countries.”
- "They are free to choose their path, and while we hope they choose the path of justice and respect, if they move in another direction Iran will naturally adopt a position according to later conditions," President Ahmadinezhad said in an interview with the Lebanese television channel LBC.
- "The Tehran declaration is not solely for Iran, Brazil and Turkey rather it is a statement of the demands of all nations and all who seek to assert equal rights for everyone in the world."
- President Ahmadinezhad went on to say that there is no tension in Tehran-Moscow relations and that Iran only expects Russia to refrain from cooperating with countries that work against the Islamic Republic.
- "The era has ended in which a few countries think they own the world, decide for other nations and employ double standards," said the Iranian president, adding that the Tehran declaration has provided an opportunity for all nations to interact based on law and justice.

(Source: Al-Alam TV, Tehran, in Arabic 1304 GMT, 5 June 2010)

- Following the Israeli Navy seizure of the Irish Rachel Corrie ship, which was carrying humanitarian aid to the population of the Gaza Strip and which was redirected to the Israeli port of Ashdod, Al-Alam TV interviewed spokesman for the popular committee to break through the blockade Dr Ali al-Nazli live from Gaza.
- Al-Nazli said the seizure of Rachel Corrie ship was a "continuation of the succession of Israeli crimes, terrorism and an escalation against the freedom-loving people of the world who came to convey this humanitarian message. As everyone knows, years ago the young woman Rachel Corrie came to express solidarity with the population of the Gaza Strip and she was crushed by the tanks of the Israeli occupation army which was demolishing homes in Rafah Town. This ship has been given the name of Rachel Corrie. While on its way to the Gaza Strip today, the ship was stormed by the Israeli pirates and commandos and was redirected to the Israeli port of Ashdod. The move indicates the extent of the Israeli arrogance and defiance of the whole world, which today understands that Israel is a terrorist and a criminal state that perpetrates massacres against the Palestinian people and the freedom-loving people of the world who came to convey this humanitarian message. Redirecting this ship to the port of Ashdod means that Israel continues its criminal and terrorist acts against any freedom-loving person in the world and against anybody who dares to express solidarity with the population of the Gaza Strip."
- In response to a question on the fate of the ship, its crew and the aid which it carried, Al-Nazli said: "Any criminal and terrorist act, similar to the one perpetrated by the Israeli occupation against Freedom Flotilla, would mean that Israel continues in its defiance of the world and consequently this would lead to its isolation. Today, the whole world is united in one front in the face of this Israeli occupation state. This front represents all freedom-loving people in the world who try to prevent Israel from continuing its policy of terrorism and crimes".

- Al-Nazli urged the entire world to condemn Israeli acts and to "take practical measures against the Israeli occupation state, by imposing sanctions on the Israeli occupation state and by boycotting it politically and economically".
- In response to a question whether Israel has defied the international law by seizing the ship in international waters, Al-Nazli said: "This is not a surprise as far as the occupation state is concerned. This state is known for its repression and terrorism since it was established in Palestine. Today it extended its terrorist acts to include all freedom-loving people of the world who are standing in one front against the Israeli occupation. This piracy is not something new for the Israeli occupation state and is not a surprise for us, Palestinians."

June 4, 2010

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 0700 GMT, 4 June 2010)

- "Iran Supreme Leader, Ali Khamene'i, saw the NPT conference held in New York, May 2010, as a failure".
- "Instead of being able to constrain the non-nuclear powers from developing this technology; they became duty-bound to disarm themselves."
- "Another important issue that our nation must understand the significance of is the event that happened in the long NPT meeting that was convened in New York.
- "Principally, this meeting had been convened so that, thanks to this meeting, the bullying powers can constrain the nations that do not possess [nuclear] technology. It was so that the obstacles in the path of these nations are increased.
- "And, of course, what they really wanted and had planned for was that in this conference they would display their vindictiveness towards the Islamic Republic of Iran.
- "In fact the opposite of what they had planned to do happened. This meeting lasted one month approximately. Instead of being able to advance their objectives - and constrain nations like the Islamic Republic - the result that this long conference achieved was to make the powers duty-bound by 189 nations - to destroy their own nuclear weapons [nuclear powers]."
- Source: Islamic Republic of Iran News Network, Tehran, in Persian 0804 gmt 4 Jun 10

(Source: Islamic Republic of Iran News Network, Tehran, in Persian 0651 GMT, 4 June 2010)

- Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinezhad criticized the country's opposition groups in his speech at the ceremony to mark the 21st anniversary of the death of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the 1979 Islamic Revolution.
- "It is one of the strangest things in our history that some people, that's to say pro-monarchists, hypocrites, the arrogant media and arrogant leaders, side with the sworn enemies of the Imam and confront all the values and principles of the Imam and the nation of the Imam. They claim to be followers and monopolistic owners of the Imam and his line. The strangest thing is that they expect the people to accept their false claims and extremism," he said.

(Source: Islamic Republic of Iran News Network, Tehran, in Persian 0651 GMT, 4 June 2010)

- Iranian President Mahmud Ahmadinezhad has praised the anti-Western and anti-Israeli policy of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the 1979 Islamic Revolution.
- "He identified anti-arrogance as a religious essence, faith in God and movement on the path of divine prophets," Ahmadinezhad said at the ceremony to mark the 21st anniversary of Khomeyni's death in Tehran on 4 June, which was broadcast live by Iran's news network IRINN.
- "With sharp-sightedness and divine guidance, he called the Zionist regime the biggest tool of hegemony and pressure on nations," he said.

June 3, 2010

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency, Tehran, in Persian 1540 GMT, 3 June 2010)

- Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council Sa'id Jalili has said that the approach adopted by enemies against Iran will cost them, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported.
- Speaking at a meeting of the members of university governing boards and research centres on 3 June, Jalili said: "The enemies should be certain that the approach they have adopted against the Islamic Republic will cost them and, for sure, Iran's capacity in the nuclear issue will be imposed on them".

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 0425 GMT, 3 June 2010)

- The IRI Parliament speaker alleged, in a meeting with his Syrian counterpart, that the "establishment of a parliamentary front is an important step in campaign against Zionist usurpers"
- "The role of the two parliaments in facilitating bilateral brotherly ties, recent regional developments, and particularly the international wrath and disgust against the Zionists' latest goof off in attacking the international peace Flotilla" were the important axes of the two parliament speakers.
- "The strategic relations between Tehran and Damascus are among the influential factors in regional and international developments today."
- Larijani considered the two countries' parliamentary ties as quite a significant matter, The Syrian Parliament speaker, too, labelling his country's relations with Iran as "very deep-rooted and historic" said, "As two important countries of the Islamic world, Syria and Iran play important roles in regional problem solving, including in Iraq and In Palestine."

June 2, 2010

(Source: Press TV website, Tehran, in English 1818 GMT, 2 June 2010)

- A top Iranian lawmaker alleged that "the recent report released by the International Atomic Energy Agency on Tehran's nuclear issue was mostly positive in content."
- In its latest quarterly report issued on Monday [31 May], the IAEA reconfirmed the "non-diversion of nuclear material in Iran, but then again, voiced concern about Tehran's decision to add a second set of centrifuges to enrich uranium at higher levels."

- The report also acknowledged that “the Tehran government has allowed UN inspectors much better oversight at the enrichment site.”
- Head of the Majlis National Security and Foreign Policy Commission Ala'eddin Borujerdi said Wednesday [2 June] that “the new IAEA report was less skeptical in content and differed from Amano's usually negative take on Tehran's nuclear plans.”
- "Compared with Amano's last reports on Iran's nuclear issue, the new one bore significantly less negative points," said Borujerdi, adding that despite the report's somewhat positive tone, it was clearly obvious that it was tailored to suit US interests.
- "Of course, it is clear that the Americans played their share [in the making] of the report," he noted.

(Source: Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Tehran, in Persian 0951 GMT, 2 June 2010)

- Foreign Minister Manuchehr Mottaki in Brussels speaking at the Centre for European studies, EPC, described America's eight-year presence in Afghanistan as “a mistake and stressed that it will have no result for Washington but defeat.”
- In his meeting with the Iranians residing in Belgium, Mottaki criticized Europe's support for “the US's war-mongering policies in Iraq and Afghanistan” and said:
- “The public opinion makes this judgment that the European Union has not had a foreign policy for eight years. It has had no role in the international decision-makings. Britain, France, Germany and Italy have blindly followed Mr Bush's comments. What role is the European Union playing in Afghanistan and Iraq? When the Americans went to Iraq, they did not even have the UN mandate, and they [European Union] blindly followed America, but they need to be accountable for their actions. Why did they not succeed in Afghanistan? Did they come short of weapons? No, the Americans are militarily the most powerful country in the world. Were they short of budget? [No] They have the most powerful economy in the world? What were they lacking in Afghanistan that they did not succeed? They lacked logic, they could not justify their actions in Afghanistan.”

June 1, 2010

(Source: The Green Voice of Freedom website, en.irangreenvoice.com, in English 1 June 2010)

- Weblog writer and journalist Mahbubeh Khansari has been arrested.
- According to the Free Journalist website, security forces went to her home at 11pm on 31 May and arrested her after inspecting her room and confiscating her mobile phone, computer and a number of other personal possessions.

May 31, 2010

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency, Tehran, in Persian 1853 GMT, 31 May 2010)

- Iran's permanent envoy to the International Atomic Energy Agency [Ali Asghar Soltaniyeh]: “The IAEA has once again confirmed the peaceful nature and non-deviance of Iran's nuclear activities [towards military purposes]. The IAEA has said that it will continue its verification measures.”
- Speaking to IRNA in Vienna on Monday evening [31 May], following the submission of the IAEA report on Iran, Ali Asghar Soltaniyeh said: “This 8.5-page-long

document, which is even shorter than [IAEA director-general] Mr Amano's previous document, shows that all enrichment activities are carried out under the full supervision of the IAEA [in Iran].”

- Criticizing certain parts of the report, submitted by the IAEA chief, he said: “Unfortunately, Mr Amano misleads public opinion by such reports because giving detailed and technical information can confuse the readers who are from various backgrounds.”
- “In addition to that, the persisting request, by the IAEA's secretariat as well as the IAEA director-general, for further information on the so-called "American laptop" alleged studies will harm the credibility of the IAEA a great deal. It is necessary that the IAEA should stop this repetitive and tiring trend.”

(Source: Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran Network 1, Tehran, in Persian 1630 GMT, 31 May 2010)

- “The atrocities of the Zionist regime [Israel] were reflected in the major world news outlets and TV networks. However, some media's approach was different from the others. While some media condemned the crime [Israeli attack on an aid ship bound for Gaza Strip], some other, which were mainly Western, covered the story factually without forgetting to support the Zionist regime.”
- “[Reporter over video of attack] The depth of the Zionist crime was the reason why international and local broadcast media gave such an extensive coverage to the event.”
- “[Reporter] The issue was covered in Western media too. Of course, one side of their story was to have live video link with Zionist officials to justify the crime and even distort the truth.”
- “Zionist officials are trying to distort the truth by using Western international media at a time when footage of the clashes show that the Israeli troops opened fire at the crew of the Gaza-bound aid ship.”

(Source: Islamic Republic News Agency website, Tehran, in English 1135 GMT, 31 May 2010)

- President Mahmud Ahmadinezhad said on Monday [31 May] that “support for the oppressed Palestinian nation is the most important task of Muslim states across the world.”
- "The issue of Palestine is neither an Arabic nor an Islamic, but it is a global issue," the President noted.
- “The Zionists' anti-human measures towards the Palestinian nation is an indication to weakness of that regime, he said, condemning the brutal attack of the Tel Aviv regime on aid convoy ships ferrying towards Gaza Strip.”
- “Support for the Palestinian nation is support for all world nations as well as the global peace and freedom”, President Ahmadinezhad said.