



PRESIDENTIAL “ELECTIONS” AND REGIME’S INTERNAL CRISES DEEPEN

On the eve of the puppet show of so called Presidential elections for the 9th president of the Islamic Republic, the crises are so deepened that Khamenei was forced to interfere and issue a State order to reduce the tension.

It was meant that the Guardian Council, announce the name of candidates who were declared eligible by the end of May.

It was so obvious that announcing 1,010 persons who have nominated themselves



to be presidential candidates, is just a show.

It was even obvious that nomination of Ebrahim Yazdi, Asghar Zade etc., is

just propaganda and every one knows that only those who have been accepted by this or that faction will be eligible to participate as candidates in the so called election.

Supporters of Khatami were hoping that Moin will be allowed to participate and such; they can get more votes in order to negotiate about the next cabinet.

The rival faction on the other hand wants to get all the key positions and is not willing to share anything with “reformists”.

That is why, on 23rd May, the Guardian Council announced Mohamad Ahmadi

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1st of May Is the Workers’ Day : Worker March!

We are on the eve of 1st of May. On this day, the workers from all over the world demonstrate on the streets to show their strength against the Capitalist World.

1st of May is a day of showing determination and solidarity of proletariat to overthrow capitalism and destroy any form of discrimination, suppression, injustice and exploitation.

The Iranian working class is also among this army fighting for the same cause to destroy capitalism and establish socialism. Even though the working class in Iran does not have any fundamental rights, they annually celebrate 1st of May in various ways and announce their class solidarity with workers world wide.

Reactionary and anti-worker Islamic Republic and its Worker House, as usual, are trying to reject and obtain permission for demonstration and arranging the puppet show of “Worker’s Week”. Programmes include visiting Khomeini’s grave,



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Issue 39

June 2005

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Is it true

Khamenei, Rafsandjani and Khatami and finally attending Friday's Prayer. In short, they do their best to devoid the real context of Workers day.

Workers are observing all these puppet shows and trying to organize their own independent 1st of May. Workers have a lot of experience, especially from last year, in organizing their independent programmes.

Workers in Iran have been facing a lot of attacks from capitalists and their supportive regime during the last year. Thousands of workers have joined the unemployed workers. Tens of thousands of workers are in danger of losing their jobs. Work intensity and working hours have been extended.

Many subsidiaries have been cut. Low wages cause workers to be under the poverty threshold.

Practically 30 million of workers and their families exist below poverty threshold. Even though the regime attempts to suppress workers by all means

and by engaging its intelligence services, workers are determined to celebrate 1st of May and organize it independently.

They are determined to announce their demands once again loudly to show their strength against the ruling class and its supporters.



No pressure and no suppression can stop workers fighting for better working conditions and deliverance from current miserable situation.

Millions of workers are unemployed and do not have any other income, they want to work.

Millions of workers are in poverty and starving. Iranian workers have no political freedom.

They do not have even the right to establish their own organizations. In fact, what have they as alternative than fighting for work, for bread and for freedom?

They have no other alternative than being united in order to destroy the current capitalist system and

establish a soviet one. 25 years of ruling of Islamic reactionaries has not resulted in anything more than unemployment, poverty, misery, starvation, prostitution, disease, drug addiction and other social disasters for the whole society. Experience from these

years and from protest movements have shown that as long as the working class is not united it could not take the leadership of such

movements and thus the society will suffer the same situation as now. It is only the working class that wants fundamental changes in the current system and to solve the problems radically.

It is only the working class that is capable of changing the course the society is traveling. It is only the working class that by entering the political scene can rescue not only itself but also others from such a miserable situation and the ruling system.

1st of May is the day of showing the strength of workers. 1st of May is the day of international solidarity and unity of all workers. Thus as

one body, stronger than before lets come out and shake the ruling class and display our strength in unity and solidarity!

Today is 1st of May workers day, Workers march!

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employment in service companies. They also promised rapid solution to problems.

• **Samico Workers March**

On April 7th workers of Samico Sanaat plant in city of Hamadun marched on the streets in protest to closure of the plant and loss of their jobs. While chanting "Death to cause of unemployment" and "Death or work" the workers gathered in front of the city's labour office and demanded immediate response to their problems. The plant has been closed for the last 2 years while the situation of all workers is still unclear.

• **Meat Plant Workers Protest**

On April 9th workers at Fars Meat plant picketed in front of this plant protesting against closure and dismissal of all workers. The plant has been closed on the pretext of loss making and all workers have been dismissed.

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Nezhad, Laridji, Mohsen Rezai, Mohamad Reza Ghalibaf, Karoubi and Hashemi Rafsandjani as eligible candidates. Rejection of Mostafa Moin caused an aggressive reaction among the Mosharekat Front and Islamic Revolutionary Mojahedin. Mosharekat Front issued a press release in which they announced the election as an unfair, a puppet election and said they will not participate in it. Other groups of so called reformists did the same. A small group of students supporting this faction organized a gathering and demanded apologies from the Guardian Council and accepting Moin as an eligible candidate. These reactions compelled Khamenei to write a letter to the Council and ask them to “reconsider the eligibility of Dr Mostafa Moin and Engineer Mehr Ali Zade”. The council replied it would be done so and declared the candidates of the “reformists” can run their campaign for presidency. The presidential elections in Iran are anti-democratic, a show and miss the most fundamental standards even according to bourgeois norms.

What makes this election different to the last is that people have not even the smallest interest and belief in participating. Spokesmen form both



factions have also accepted the fact there is no tendency among people to participate. During previous periods, people were still afraid of the regime and a section of them, who had some hopes, could be tricked into participating in elections. Fake promises of Khatmai made a large number of people to vote for him, because they thought he will and can make changes, at least on the issues such as political freedom. It did not take a long time for people to realise all the promises and mottos were just a bunch of words. As long as the Islamic regime exists there will be no radical changes in political, social and economical situation of millions of workers and hard working people.

During the past few years, independent struggle for achieving political freedom, social and economical demands has intensified.

Workers struggle, formation of different types of organization for defending social rights and strengthened radicalism among students are just proofs of the fact that people in Iran know there is no way to reform the regime- it should be overthrown. Leaders of the regime know as well that people are going to boycott this election widely. That is why they do their best not to lose face internationally and make sure all the people connected to the leucocratic and suppressive organs and the families of war veterans participate in the election. Due to international, regional and domestic circumstances, the president should be a person who is able to control the

domestic situation, can maneuver even under pressure to limit the nuclear program, tension between Islamic regime and USA and complicated regional issues and relationship with Europe. It seems that the regime has no one other than Rafsandjani to count on. This is why he has entered the arena as an independent candidate while rival candidates such as Lariji, Mohsen Rezai, Mohamad Reza Ghalibaf and Karoubi occupy direct or indirect important positions and have influence over suppressive organs. These are placed on the list just to make sure the election will be a hot issue. Rafsandjani in his interview with Reuter openly said he feels responsible for the current situation and therefore he wants to participate in the election as a candidate. He said his aim, on domestic issue, is to solve unemployment and poverty. Internationally he wants to eliminate the tension between the Islamic regime and Western states. Attempt to end tension in international relations is not some thing new. During the last mandate

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period when Rafsanjani was president, he tried hard to normalise the relation between Iran and especially USA.

Then Khatami continued the same policy with some more smiles and talking about "dialog of civilisations" and "civil rights".

Today, after two mandate periods of Khatami's presidency, the new situation in the region and in Iran demands that the Islamic regime seriously has to reduce the tension in its international relationships in order to be able to resist the domestic enemy-movements and protests that are intensifying and spreading wide day after day.

His statement on struggling against poverty and unemployment is simply a lie.

Execution of new liberalist policies of the World Bank and International Monetary Found in Iran are associated with Rafsanjani's name.

Those policies during gone years have brought about no other result than poverty, unemployment and social misery.

5 year economical plans in Iran consider these policies before executing them.

It is just a joke when

this man who is just an executer of such inhuman policies of financial international organisations, claims to struggle against poverty, unemployment, prostitution, drug addiction and the phenomenon of Street children.

There are just few weeks left to the puppet



elections.

Supporters of Khatami are in a very complicated situation.

On one hand, Mostafa Moin's candidature is accepted by the State Order of Khameni to Guardian Council and on the other hand, he claimed prior he does not accept any advantage given to him by anyone!

Now he has two choices, either to accept such "humiliation" or should withdraw from participating in elections.

If he accepts participation, the very last drops of promises by reformist supporters of Khatami are lost

in vain, but they get some shares in the next cabinet.

If he does not accept, their situation will get worse than before. On the surface, Rafsanjani as an independent candidate rival Laridjani who is supported and nominated by the "Council for Coordination of Islamic Revolution's Forces".

Other candidates, Mohsen Rezai, Ghalibaf, Ahmad Nezhad and Karoubi are just there to make the election a hot issue and gradually will step aside in favor of others.

If every thing goes as planned then Rafsanjani name would be drawn out of ballot boxes with a low number of votes as the president. But beginning of Rafsanjani presidency is the beginning of new unsolvable problems for the Islamic regime.

Rafsanjani's new position, once again, will deepen mass's loathing towards the regime.

The protest of workers on 1st of May at Azadi Stadium when they left the stadium in protest against the House of Worker's support for Rafsanjani is just a proof among hundreds that protests and struggles against the Islamic regime are spreading widely.

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its workers.

2. The future of all 168 workers at Beh Poush closed down shoe manufacturing plant is still unknown. The plant closed down 2 years ago and among the sacked workers are some, who have more than 28 years work experience. They want to be recognised as pensioners, but the labour authorities deny this.

3. 37 years old building worker lost his life in city of Zahedun, while digging a sewerage canal.

4. At the same city another 23 years old building worker lost his young life as he was digging another sewerage canal.

• Protests at Boushehr Nuclear Power Station

In protest to dismissal of 25 co-workers, workers at Boushehr Nuclear Power Station have protested and gathered at city's House of Labour. Protesters demanded reinstatement of sacked workers.

Managers are planning dismissal of 28 more workers, and at the same time promising sacked workers short term



- **Workers protest at Bafiran«**

In protest to management's disposal for privatization of Bafiran textile mill, workers picketed in front of the labour office demanding job guarantee. In the last year wages and benefits haven't been paid regularly and in some cases workers haven't been paid their bonuses yet. In addition, some of the company's properties have been taken and the future of employees is unknown.

- **Petrochemical Workers Picket**

On March 20th workers at Petrochemical plant in Abadan refinery protested against company's compulsory retirement plan. 35 workers couldn't enter the plant for more than a month. With this action workers demanded clarification of their situation.

- **Workers Protest at Salmin**

Workers at Salmin plant in city of Saveh have protested against

“restructuring” and replacing the permanent employees with temps. The action took place in front of the company's head office at Saveh city and lasted 3 days. Workers were promised to go back to their jobs.

- **Strike at Parsilon**

On March 23rd workers at Parsilon plant in the state of Lorestan downed tools protesting delayed wages and bonuses. Workers gathered on the day at the plant while chanting their demands.

- **Protest Against Dismissals**

20 workers at Tam-Baresh firm have been fired, while the whole workforce at is only 22 workers. Workers have been sacked on pretext of their contracts having expired. This resulted in workers' protest. The workers have been employed by the firm somewhere between 2 to 10 years and can not lose their jobs overnight. Meanwhile the owner has replaced the sacked workers with new ones. The former employees have not been covered by the unemployment insurances.

- **Health Workers Protest**

1. Workers at Mahdiye hospital in the city of Kerman-shah are not paid for the last 2

months. For the second time during a month, they picketed in front of the hospital demanding rapid response to solve their problems.

2. On March 23rd health workers at Care Centre of state of Gilan held a sit-in strike in Alzahra Medical School in city of Rasht. Strikers demanded higher bonuses.

- **Teachers Protests**

1. On March 24th teachers in city of Ahwaz and Shoushtar through co-ordinated action held a 2 hour strike. By their action the teachers are demanding rapid solution to their problems plus all delayed bonuses.

2. On March 22nd one hundred hourly paid teachers picketed in front of the Iranian Parliament. They protested against Ministry of Education's wrong rules and demanded permanent employment.

3. On March 25th teachers in city of Dezful, for the second day in row, protested and held a 2 hour strike. Strikers demanded their delayed salaries.

4. On March 25th a number of female hourly paid teachers picketed in front of

Ministry of Education while chanting their demands. Teachers are demanding permanent employment and higher salaries.

5. Once again, on March 29th another group of female hourly paid teachers protested. They gathered in front of National Broadcasting Company while demanding a solution to their problems.

6. On March 25th more than 400 retired teachers in city of Karaj held a protest action in the main square of the city. All the promises about housing co-operatives haven't been realised in spite of the large sums of money, which teachers have paid in expectation of buying a piece of land to build a home.

- **Short News**

1. All the 400 workers at one of the Ghods chain supermarkets have been dismissed just after the New Year holidays. When workers came back after their holidays all doors were shot. They opened the doors and since then they have held a sit-in strike demanding re-opening the supermarket and re-employment of all

**The Organisation of Fedaian (Minority)
issued the following leaflets
in April 2005:**

- Condemning chauvinism, encouragement of nationalism and the ethnic cleansing policies of the Islamic republic regime following the murder of 4 persons and hundreds of injured after the Arab people of Ahvaz (capital city of state of Khozestan) came under attack by the regime's forces. The leaflet supports unity and solidarity of all workers of all the nationalities populating Iran to overthrow the Islamic republic and establish a soviet state in Iran which would abolish all forms of national oppression and establish the unity of all nationalities residing in Iran on voluntary and free basis.
- In support of 210 workers of Iran Khodro Diesel (motor manufacturing complex) who protested against their dismissal in front of the motor works. The workers were employed by a contractor company, Vehicle Development, which is owned by a member of the management board of Iran Khodro Diesel. Islamic republic anti-worker and privatisation policies have intensified exploitation of workers. Organisation of Fedaian (Minority) condemns dismissals and supports reinstatement of workers, payment of their delayed wages and bonuses.
- In support of action and demands of Alborz carpet factory workers in Babolsar who marched to the factory and held a rally in protest to closure leading to dismissal and unemployment. The police attacked the protest rally. And in support of a group of workers of Samico Iran factory in Hamedun who marched in the city against closure of the factory for the past two years. Workers were chanting "Death or Employment" thus turning the right to work to one of their fighting slogans.
- 1st of May, International Workers Day, greeting to Iranian workers and workers of the whole world. The leaflet asks the Iranian workers to intensify their struggle to overthrow the reactionary Islamic republic and establish soviet state as the alternative to capitalism and the Islamic republic who are responsible for unemployment, war, poverty and hunger of millions of workers.

Long Live Socialism

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