

# Neda For A Free Iran

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 5, 2010

Calling All Humanitarians....Meaning, You.

By Farnaz Free Farrokhi

To all Humanitarians,

Since June 2009 the world has awakened to the realities of what is really happening in Iran. And, as much as the Islamic Republic of Iran would like, it can no longer hide the truth. On that note, I would like to make it known that the Islamic Republic of Iran does not represent the Iranians you go to school with, or work with, or associate with, or practice your faith with. They fled Iran because of the current regime. Just like many of you or those in your family who immigrated or fled their countries, Iranians have done the same. They fled to North America or Europe or Australasia to experience true democracy and have a chance at a better life.

During the widespread unrest that followed the contested election result in June 2009, thousands of people were arbitrarily arrested, dozens were killed on the streets or died in detention, and many said they were tortured or otherwise ill-treated. On June 20, 2009, a young woman drew international attention after she was shot to death during the protests. Her name was Neda Agha Soltan. You may have remembered watching her struggle for her life as her death was captured on video by bystanders and broadcasted over the internet. Sadly, Neda Agha Soltan was not the first to die this way under this regime, nor will she be the last as long as they are in power.

On February 15, 2010 the UN's official review of Iran's human rights record will take place. There is a united front from organizations such as the World Jewish Congress, Stop Child Executions, Cyber Dissidents, Unrepresented Nations and People Organisation (UNPO), Neda For A Free Iran, and others who have come together to ensure the UN will be presented with enough facts and cases in point, to immediately start implementing recommendations made by the human rights advocates and organizations.

The following are some of the recommendations being made by Neda For A Free Iran to the UN Human Rights Council:

- Appoint a Special Rapporteur to investigate the death, torture, status and conditions of all detainees, women, children, and non-Muslims, and to publish a report on their equality under the law, religious rights and freedoms, freedom of

[www.nedaforafreeiran.org](http://www.nedaforafreeiran.org)

Neda For A Free Iran is a Non-Partisan Human Rights advocacy group working to promote a democratic society with Liberty and justice for all Iranians. It does so by raising public awareness, exposing human rights crimes, and promoting the understanding of it with other NGOs, Human Rights groups and government organizations.

# Neda For A Free Iran

speech, and the teaching of hatred and contempt against the above mentioned.

- Insist that the Islamic Republic of Iran fully respects the Iranian people's right to peacefully assemble and protest (including participation in activities which dissent from the State policies and practices).
- Call upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to fully comply and respect its citizens' rights to freedom of speech, and abstain from actions obstructing the work of the press within Iran.
- Immediately call upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to release and stop the persecution, torture, detaining and execution of Christians, Sunni Muslims, Baha'is, Jews, Zoroastrians, and Kurds; to respect their rights to practice their faith in temples, churches, mosques, and homes without any interference from the Iranian government and/or its Revolutionary Guard — Bassij parliamentary force.
- Demand that the Islamic Republic of Iran provides detainee's access to legal aid; the UN to monitor cases of persons detained by the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure they are given complete access to their legal aid; and the UN to have frequent contact with defence lawyers to ensure they have been given ample opportunities to defend their clients in court.
- Call upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to guarantee the safety and well being of all human rights and defence attorneys.
- Pressure Iran to ratify its commitment to the UN Convention on the Rights of the (Child) and recant: "The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran reserves the right not to apply any provisions or articles of the Convention that are incompatible with Islamic Laws and the international legislation in effect," or else be formally removed from the CRC.
- Send observers to monitor elections during the next Presidential election.

You can be part of the solution by calling upon the Third Secretariat Committee and asking them to accept and start implementing the recommendations made by the human rights advocates and organizations.

Contact info of the Secretariat of the Third Committee: Mr. Moncef Khane (Secretary) Tel: 1 (212) 963-2322, Assisted by Ms. Nancy Beteta, Tel: 1 (212) 963-5722; Mr. Otto Gustafik (Deputy Secretary), Tel: 1 (212) 963-9963, Assisted by Ms. Maureen Otto, Tel:

[www.nedaforafreeiran.org](http://www.nedaforafreeiran.org)

Neda For A Free Iran is a Non-Partisan Human Rights advocacy group working to promote a democratic society with Liberty and justice for all Iranians. It does so by raising public awareness, exposing human rights crimes, and promoting the understanding of it with other NGOs, Human Rights groups and government organizations.

# Neda For A Free Iran

1(212) 963-7855; Ms. Meena Sur (Assistant Secretary) Tel: 1 (917) 367-2454 , Assisted by Ms. Lorna Fidler Tel: 1-(212) 963-2319.

Thank you in advance for your support. This is not something that one person or organization can do alone. It will take a community of humanitarians like you to help stop the heinous acts happening to the people of Iran; especial, since on February 9, 2010 the Islam Republic of Iran will be celebrating 30 years of its totalitarian regime.

Farnaz Free Farrokhi  
Board Member  
Neda For A Free Iran  
[www.nedaforafreeiran.org](http://www.nedaforafreeiran.org)

-30 -

For more information about this article, please email Mr. Homayoun Mobasseri, Founder of Neda For a Free Iran at [Info@NedaForaFreeIran.Org](mailto:Info@NedaForaFreeIran.Org).

[www.nedaforafreeiran.org](http://www.nedaforafreeiran.org)

Neda For A Free Iran is a Non-Partisan Human Rights advocacy group working to promote a democratic society with Liberty and justice for all Iranians. It does so by raising public awareness, exposing human rights crimes, and promoting the understanding of it with other NGOs, Human Rights groups and government organizations.