



***This is Issue No. 10 of the "IRAN: View from the LEFT" which will be published for those who want to get to know the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) positions. Each issue contains selections of the party's positions on a monthly basis. The current issue covers October, 2020.***

***"IRAN: View from the LEFT" may occasionally contain news from Iran that media might not have drawn attention to.***

### **Juvenile suicide because of poverty!**



The shocking news of the suicide of an 11-year-old student named Seyed Mohammad Mousavizadeh in Bandar Dir, Bushehr province, in the first days of the current academic year has caused widespread grief across the country and provoked public anger. In an interview full of anger and regret, the teenager's mother announced that her 11-year-old son had ended his life due to lack of access to a phone and laptop and the stress of being excluded from the online classes. This is a real catastrophic tragedy.

Unfortunately, the suicide of Seyed Mohammad Mousavizadeh is not an isolated case. In recent months, there have been at least 10 suicides in the western provinces of the country, most of them among young people and adolescents in these provinces.

With the onset of the coronavirus epidemics and the government's inability to control it,

the Ministry of Education introduced an online system as an alternative to face-to-face training. However, according to the ministry, out of about 14 and a half million students in the country, more than four million students practically dropped out of school due to poverty and the inability of their families to provide the necessary facilities to connect to this system. As a result of the government's irresponsibility in providing the necessary infrastructure for virtual education, these students were excluded from the educational environment.

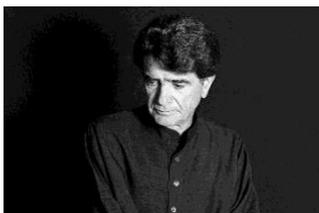
The emergence of the global Covid-19 crisis and the virtualization of education have deepened inequality in the distribution of educational facilities. It has increased the number of dropouts but this global crisis should not be considered the reason for educational inequality and the dropout of Iranian children and adolescents. Article 30 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic states that "the government is obliged to provide free educational facilities for the entire nation until the end of secondary school." According to this article, not only is education free and public, but it is also the specific duty of the government to provide it.

The Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian), while offering its condolences to the family of Seyyed Mohammad Mousavizadeh, the country's education community, and all the people of Iran who are going through difficult economic times, considers the Islamic Republic and specifically the government and the Ministry of Education responsible in his tragic death. Undoubtedly, neglecting the right to free education of more than four million children and adolescents is a shameful misfortune and the cause of the emergence and intensification of social crises, especially among poor. The government has a duty to address this issue as soon as possible and provide the necessary accommodations.



Link: <https://bepish.org/node/4422>

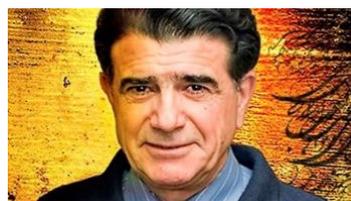
## The voice of the people is enduring



The great Persian classical music singer, Mohammad Reza Shajarian, known as "The king of songs" passed away on October 8, 2020.

Shajarian is known as the greatest singer of Iranian music. He was an artist who sang the extraordinary styles of Iranian music with lyrics from the great sonnets and poems of the ancient and contemporary poets of this land throughout his life. He not only added to the treasure of the singing art of this land, but also gave it a unique richness. All his songs and recites went beyond an ordinary performance. They became exemplary in the tradition of singing. However, what put Shajarian in the hearts of the Iranian people was his political and social views. He was with the ordinary people throughout his artistic life. He was from people, with people and sang for his people. Whenever the people struggled for change and transformation, they regained the reflection of their national will in his warm voice. Wherever the apparatus of power struck the people with a razor blade, Shajarian shared in the pain and anger of the people by singing in sorrow. Shajarian's voice is immortal, both in singing and being with his people but the most flamboyant song he sang in his

whole life and he himself did not hear it was the song that came from the throat of the nation shortly after the announcement of his death. The song that people sang in front of Jam Hospital, the streets and houses of Tehran and other cities that resonated in the Iranian sky.

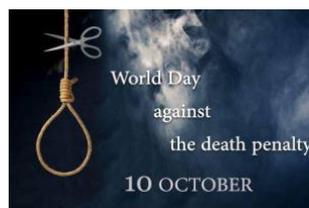


The announcement of the political-executive board of the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) on this occasion, considered Shajarian's death a loss for the Iranian people and the artistic community of the country. It reads:

*In these sad moments our party wishes his voice, message, name and songs inspire artists to stand against the murderous, anti-culture, oppressive and repressive Islamic Republic. We offer our condolences to his children, Homayoun and Mojgan, to his wife and other survivors, and to the millions of lovers of his voice and we share the national grief with the people.*

Link: <https://bepish.org/node/4393>

## Stop executions!





Many Iranian opposition and human rights activists declared October 10, World Day against the Death Penalty, as the day of the campaign against the death sentences for protesters in December 2017, August 2018, and November 2019. They expressed disgust with the repeated process executions in Iran.

Unfortunately, executions are a daily reality in Iran. The Islamic Republic imposes this punishment not only on the opponents and protesters of its policies, but also on many non-political crimes, against youth offenders and people with mental or intellectual disabilities. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres recently presented his report on the state of the death penalty to the Human Rights Council between July 2018 and May 2020, addressing various aspects of the death penalty and how it is implemented. In this report, the name of the Islamic Republic has been mentioned many times.

Nowadays, in the face of this bloody record of the Islamic Republic, the demand to stop and abolish the death penalty has become unprecedented in Iran. Following the confirmation of the death sentences of Amir Hossein Moradi, Saeed Tamjidi and Mohammad Rajabi in the Supreme Court, the hashtag "Do not execute" was tweeted and retweeted millions of times and did not subside until his lawyers' request for retrial was accepted. "No to execution", "Stop execution", and "Enough blood", which considers the death penalty as a source of state revenge and the continuation of a chain of violence in society are widespread among the people.

The political-executive board of the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian), issued a statement on the occasion of October 10. It reads:

*The Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) as a party whose platform is based on the values of human rights and the recognition of the "right*

*to live" as one of the highest human rights, considers the inhuman, cruel death penalty to be "deliberate state murder". Unfortunately, it is still run by some governments and preceded by the Islamic Republic. We hope that the joint struggle of all freedom fighters and human rights activists will bear fruit so that our society can be saved from the continuation of the cycle of violence and soon the horrible and hateful word "execution" will be forgotten.*

The Belgian organization of the LPI (PF) also issued a statement in support of the "Campaign in Support of Nasrin Sotoudeh's Freedom" in front of the European Parliament on the occasion of October 10 and called on all freedom-loving, democratic and human rights defenders against execution and torture.

**Link:** <https://bepish.org/node/4367>

**No to the occupation, No to war! Yes to the implementation of UN resolutions!**



The fire of war between our two neighboring countries - the Republics of Azerbaijan and Armenia - has flared up again, leaving more than a few hundred dead and wounded. It has imposed another catastrophic situation on the inhabitants of this war zone. In this center of crisis and conflict for several decades, a new war has erupted which like any other center of tension in the world, due to the geopolitical importance of the region, is the intersection of the interests of different rival and regional and global forces and governments.



Unfortunately, despite the insistence of all countries of the world on the ownership of the Republic of Azerbaijan over the occupied territories of Nagorno-Karabakh, and despite numerous UN resolutions condemning the Armenian government, the government and its local forces refuse to withdraw from the occupied territories and their positions. . International efforts, especially the Minsk Group, have so far failed to put an end to the crisis. However, experience and facts show that there is no military solution to this problem, and the result of the continuation of this rebellion is the formation of neither war nor peace. The sporadic outbreak of war should be considered an inevitable consequence of such a situation. This time, the intention of the Azerbaijani government to retake the occupied territories has led to a full-scale war between the two sides.

*The Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) is deeply sorry and deeply concerned about the outbreak of war between our two neighboring countries. We want an immediate end to this military conflict and a declaration of a ceasefire and the return of the two sides to the negotiating table. Negotiations that bind the Armenian government to internationally recognized conventions, implement the provisions of UN resolutions, renounce occupation and respect the sovereignty of the Republic of Azerbaijan and on the other hand oblige the Republic of Azerbaijan to respect all rights and guarantee the national and humanitarian rights of the Armenian citizens of this republic without any discrimination or harassment. Naturally, the security and national rights of every Azerbaijani in Armenia must be fully observed.*

*At the same time, and especially given that the current tensions and wars are in the neighborhood of our country, we emphasize that the Islamic Republic of Iran must avoid any adventurous and convulsive policy in the*

*area in order to stop involvement of our country in another tension. Participation in this crisis can only be justified if it serves to resolve the crisis and bring the parties to peace.*

**Link:** <https://bepish.org/node/4343>

## Biden or Trump?



Given the tense relations between Iran and the United States, and the recent developments in these relations, the outcome of the US presidential election is very important, especially for our country. The Political-Executive Board of the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) has issued a detailed report of its inquiries allocated to this issue. This report probes the possible effects of choosing Biden or Trump in the international arena, in the Middle East, in relations with Iran, Europe, China, Russia, etc.

Regarding Iran, the report reads:

*"In the case of Iran, if either Trump or Biden wins, we will be facing two different approaches but with a similar theme. Trump's re-election will increase the maximum pressure and misery of the people, strengthen extremist forces within the regime of Iran and increase the risk of escalation to the level of military conflict. The fact that Trump is propagandizing that Iran will offer to negotiate after his victory is not based on any*



*facts. With Trump's presidency, all roads are currently blocked on both sides. There is no softness in either the rhetoric or the behavior of the two parties. There is no negotiation without preamble or mediation. No sign has been seen in this case so far. Therefore, if Trump wins and given Khamenei's insistence on anti-Americanism, one should worry about something beyond economic pressure, even aggression and military confrontation.*

*If Joe Biden wins, a return to the negotiating table will be facilitated by the revival of JCPOA, participation of Europe and other P5+1 members. Biden's prospective policy would be soft on JCPOA and hard towards the Islamic Republic's regional policy. This policy is consistent with the positions of the Democrats and can be accountable to the Israeli lobby and can rely on the European support. Trump's hands are tied on this. Therefore, issues discussed this time will not be limited to issues related to the Iran's nuclear ambition. Any serious opening would be subject to agreement on other disputes such as Iran's missile program, regional policy and the Islamic Republic's military presence in various countries of the region, etc. Of course, form of approach will be different, but the content of the expectations of the two will not be much different. What Pompeo announced as conditions will be discussed at the negotiating table this time. The European allies of the United States also agree on this. How to adjust or even lift sanctions will require dialogue between the two sides and rapprochement on the disputed issues.*

*Furthermore, the change in US-Iran relations cannot be completely separated from next year's presidential election and final balance that will be formed around this election within the Islamic Republic. A change*

*in this relationship immediately after The US election, regardless of the outcome, is not easy to envision."*

## **Political-Executive Board of the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian)**

October 28, 2020

### **Freedom of Narges Mohammadi**



In October, the release of Narges Mohammadi, a Human rights activist after eight and a half years in prison, was good news amidst a lot of bad news.

**Link:** <https://bepish.org/node/4397>

### **Meeting with the European Parliament**

In the last days of October, a virtual meeting took place between the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) and the head of the Iran group in the European Parliament. You will see the full report of this meeting in the next issue of the bulletin.





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October 2020

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