

IRAN:

View from the LEFT

Jan 2024

NO.49

Word of the Month

The challenge to US dominance from the global south has created a crisis for the West. The West, in turn, has transformed this into a potential crisis of international law for the entire world.

The ICJ's preliminary rulings on January 26th essentially supported South Africa's allegation that Israeli actions in Gaza amount to 'genocidal' acts. They issued six preliminary measures in which was expressed serious legal concern with Israeli actions.

Still, the ICJ ruling lacked the all-important demand for a ceasefire in Gaza. This omission should be considered as a concession to the US by the UN's court – the supreme court of the world -- which has jurisdiction over both the US and Israel.

Nonetheless, the US and its allies have chosen to utterly disregard these rulings, continuing to provide unconditional support for Israel.

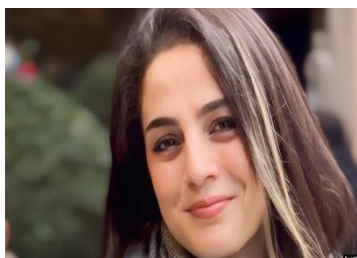
If their disregard is allowed to prevail, what future has international law? When next will it be disregarded, and how? By whom? If genocide is normalised in Gaza, not only the Palestinians but everyone else around the globe can be confronted with disasters of the kind the Palestinians are experiencing today, and even worse (if that is possible!).

We need universally respected international law, obeyed by ALL countries.

Genocide cannot be "spun". It must be ended. NOW!!

■ 'In the name of the woman, in the name of life, the scarf of Slavery been torn, let our dusk turn into dawn, let all the whips be damned ...'

An Iranian citizen, protesting against compulsory hijab, was detained by agents of the Islamic Republic on the night of April 20, 2023, after posting a picture



without a hijab on social media.

Recently, her sentence of 72 lashes was carried out, and she described the experience as follows:

"This morning, they contacted me for the

execution of the verdict of 74 lashes. I contacted my lawyer, and together we went to the Seventh District Courthouse.

I removed my hijab at the entrance gate we passed through. We entered the hall, and cries and commotion of a woman being brought down the stairs could be heard. Perhaps they were taking her down for the execution of the sentence.

My lawyer said, 'Roya, think about it again.' The effects of the lashes stay with you for a long time.

We went to the Execution of Judgments Branch. The branch employee ordered, 'Put your scarf on so you don't get into trouble.' I calmly and respectfully told him that I had come for the execution of my lashes; I wouldn't wear the scarf. They made a call, and the execution officer came upstairs. He said, 'Put on your hijab and follow me.' I said, 'I won't put it on.' He replied, 'You won't? I will lash you in such a way, that you will learn your whereabouts. I will open a new file for you, and you will have 74 more lashes.'

Still, I didn't obey to cover my hair.

We went downstairs, and some boys were brought in for drinking alcohol. The man insisted, 'Won't you put it on?' I didn't. Two veiled women came and forcefully put the scarf on my head. Again, I took it off, and this process was repeated several times. They tied my hands from behind and forcefully put the scarf on me.

We went to the basement. It was a small room at the



"Roya Hashemi was arrested after the publication of this photo."

end of the parking lot. The judge and the execution

officer, along with the veiled woman, stood next to me. The woman was clearly affected by the situation. She moaned several times and said, 'I understand. I understand.'

The judge chuckled mysteriously. It reminded me of a wretched character in "the blind owl" Novel by Sadegh Hedayat. I turned my face away from him.

They opened the iron door. The room's walls were made of cement. There was a bed at the end with iron handcuffs and ankle cuffs attached to both sides. A tool is similar to an easel for large paintings with places for handcuffs and ankle cuffs in the middle of the room, and a chair and a small table full of lashes behind the door—a medieval

torture chamber in full swing.

The judge asked, 'Madam, are you okay? Do you have any problems?' As if he didn't exist, I didn't reply. He said, 'Madam, I am talking to you!' I still didn't answer. The execution officer ordered me to take off my coat and lie down on the bed. I hung my coat and scarf on the bottom of the torture stand. He said, 'Put your scarf on!' I said, 'I won't, and I continued, 'Put your Quran under your armpit and start hitting.' I laid down on the bed without putting the scarf on. The woman came and said, 'Please don't resist.' She used a scarf, to cover my head and tied it up.

The man chose a black leather lash from the whips behind the door, wrapped it around his hand twice, and came towards the bed.

The judge said, 'Don't hit too hard.' The man began to strike. My shoulders. My back. My buttocks. My legs. Again from the beginning. I didn't count the lashes.

I was whispering to myself,

**'In the name of the woman,
in the name of life,
the scarf of Slavery been torn apart,
let our dusk turn into dawn,
let all the whips be damned...'**

It was done. We went outside. I didn't let them see I was hurt. They were more contemptible than to see my pain. We went upstairs to the execution judge. I removed my scarf at the branch door. The woman said, 'Please put it on.' I didn't put it on, and she pulled it back on my head. In the judge's room, the judge said, 'We are not happy about this matter too, but the verdict must be carried out.' I didn't reply. He said, 'If you want to live differently, you can leave the country.' I said, 'This country belongs to everyone.' He said, 'Yes, but the law must be observed.' I said, 'Let the law do its job, and we will continue our resistance.'

We came out of the room, and I removed my scarf."

The HAGUE -The International Court of Justice(ICJ) holds public hearings in the case South Africa v. Israel

On 11 and 12 January 2024, at the Peace Palace in The Hague, The International Court of Justice (ICJ) held public hearings on the request for the indication of provisional measures submitted by South Africa in the case South Africa v. Israel.

On December 29, 2023, South Africa requested the International Court of Justice to urgently declare provisional measures and order Israel to immediately suspend its military operations in and against Gaza and protect residents from acts of genocide. The request alleged violations by Israel of the 1948 Convention on

the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (the "Genocide Convention"). The Genocide Convention defines genocide as "acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group." Hearings related to the request for provisional measures were held on January 11 and 12 in The Hague, Netherlands. South Africa's statement also claims that Israel is inciting genocide and has failed to prevent genocide.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, holds public hearings on the request for the indication of provisional measures submitted by South Africa in the case South Africa v. Israel. Session held under the presidency of Judge Joan E. Donoghue, President of the Court.



UN human rights experts welcomed the commencement of hearings before the International Court of Justice regarding a case brought by South Africa, alleging that Israel is committing acts of genocide against the Palestinian people. The experts emphasized that any decision the Court reaches on provisional measures must be respected and implemented by the parties, as required by the International Court of Justice Statute.

The Left Party of Iran - International Relations, welcomes the holding of the Hague tribunal and sees it as a means to counter the ongoing horrific massacres by Israel. We consider the establishment of an international court to adjudicate the crimes of the extremist government of Benjamin Netanyahu and the text of this trial as a judgment on the actions of Hamas as well. We believe these measures are within the framework of covenants for future peace in Palestine.

The Left Party of Iran - International Relations
January 13, 2024

Read <https://bepish.org/en/node/10244> More:

We Call on All to Protest to Prevent the Repetition of State Killings and to Put an End to Them!



In the morning of Tuesday, the 23rd of January, the repression and terror machine of the Islamic Republic killed Mohammad Ghobadlou, a 22-year-old young man who was arrested during the "Women, Life, Freedom" movement. He was accused of running over police officers with a car during the 2022 street protests and killing one of them. His lawyer had previously announced that the death sentence of Mohammad Ghobadlou was "overturned by the first branch of the Supreme Court", but despite this, the judiciary implemented the overturned sentence.

With the successive executions of freedom fighters, the Islamic Republic is trying to take revenge on the revolutionary movement "Women, Life, Freedom" and its political opponents, obliterating the achievements of this movement, creating an atmosphere of terror in

the society and trying to prevent new protests. But this regime will carry the wish to return before September 2022 to the grave. The transformation that the revolutionary movement "Women, Life, Freedom" has created in our society and the steps taken in the effort to end the Islamic Republic and all its evil effects are abiding.

The Left Party of Iran expresses its deep sympathy with the bereaved family of Mohammad Ghobadlou. We consider the execution and killing of activists of the "Women, Life, Freedom" movement and other political fighters as

an example of revenge and state murder, and we believe that these crimes will continue as long as the Islamic Republic is in power. To put an end to these murders, the regime that rules with repression and murder must be buried.

The Left Party of Iran calls on all to protest to prevent the repetition of state killings and put an end to them. It is important not to remain silent and to spread our protests against the murderous regime of the Islamic Republic inside and outside the country, in any form and on any occasion. The memorial ceremony of Mohammad Ghobadlou is one of these occasions. We call on all the people of Iran to accompany, align and cooperate in confronting the regime of the Islamic Republic, to overthrow it and establish a free and just society. The Left Party of Iran also calls on the people of Iran to protest against the death sentences in any way they can and prevent further executions.

Political-Executive Board of the Left Party of Iran

January 23, 2024

Read <https://bepish.org/fa/no-de/10299> More:

"Four Kurdish Political Prisoners Also Executed.

The execution of these four individuals is another clear example of state-sponsored murder, Monday, January 29, 2024 "



The execution sentence for four Kurdish prisoners was carried out this morning in Gohardasht Prison. The judiciary of the Islamic Republic of Iran's news agency announced that Mohammad Faramarzi, Mohsen Mazloum, Vafa Azarbar, and Pejman Fatehi were executed on the morning of Monday, January 29. The oppressive regime claims that these four individuals were planning a bombing in Isfahan in collaboration with Israel over the past year, although they had been detained by the

Ministry of Intelligence agents in a village near Urmia on July 21, 2023, before the claimed attack.

The Ministry of Intelligence of the regime, a month after the arrest of these four individuals, claimed in a statement that "an operational team affiliated with Mossad, which had entered the country illegally through the Kurdistan Region of

Iraq, was arrested before carrying out a bombing operation at a factory producing equipment related to the Ministry of Defense in Isfahan."

After the arrest of these four individuals, the security forces of the Islamic Republic, through torture and continuous harassment, extracted confessions from them, and the state-run media broadcast films of these forced confessions several times. The detainees and their families have repeatedly emphasized that these confessions

were obtained under duress and are false.

Jouana Taimesi, the wife of Mohsen Mazloum, previously stated to human rights organizations that, "In June 2023, without any weapons for political and organizational activities, they went to Urmia through the Komala Party. They were detained in Urmia. After 80 days of their disappearance, the Islamic Republic released a confession from them, during which all four were forced under torture to say that they were agents of Mossad and spies for Israel, claiming they had come to explode an industrial center in Isfahan."

Numerous political and civil activists, as well as human rights organizations, had called for the cessation of the execution of these political prisoners.

The execution of these four individuals is another blatant example of state-sanctioned murder. Committing such crimes over the 44-year rule of the Islamic Republic has become an integral part of the regime's identity.

Read <https://www.bepish.org/fa/node/10328> More:

Environment in Iran



- Since the beginning of the year, Tehran has experienced only 9 days of clean air.



This year, based on the pollution index count until Dec 24, 2023, the air quality in the capital of Iran has been clean for 9 days, acceptable for 183 days, unhealthy for people with medical problems for 76 days, and unhealthy for all citizens for 10 days. Tehran's air has not been in a very unhealthy and dangerous condition on any day. "News Reporters Club".

- There was a 75% reduction in the snow cover area in the country in the second week of winter. Examining the status of the country's snow cover in the beginning of Jan 2024, in comparison with the same period last year,

indicates a more than 75% reduction and an unfavourable situation.

The amount of precipitation from the end of Sep 2023 until the first week of Jan 2024, compared to the same period last year was 61mm, indicating a 21% decrease.

- Protest gathering in the city of Arak.

Today, about 400 citizens

of Arak gathered in protest against the power plant burning mazut in the Shahid Square of this city.

- Urmia Lake is the world's largest inland saltwater lake in Iran. According to the latest report from the Remote Sensing Research Center Surface and Volume Using Satellite Images," in the last 25 years, from 1998 to the present, 97% of Urmia Lake's surface has been reduced. of Sharif University titled "Analysis of Urmia Lake's Reports indicate that environmental experts and specialists no longer have hope for the revival of Lake Urmia.

We Support the Strike and Demonstration of Ahvaz Steel workers! The Street March of Striking Ahvaz Steel Workers Continues



The extent of the strike of 3 thousand steel workers, which started a few days ago to equalize the wages of the workers of this company with other workers of steel producing factories, to revise the job classification plan and to get rid of the ownership of the National Bank of this company, has been extended to the streets of Ahvaz. The continuation of the enthusiastic march of the workers in the streets of Ahvaz has attracted a lot of attention throughout the country. Another strike that took place in this company a few weeks ago ended after the company management agreed to part of the workers' demands, but after the strike ended, the company management refused to implement its agreement with the workers. The workers, who are in a difficult situation due to the wages

of one-third of the poverty line, went on strike again.

The Left Party of Iran once again announces its support for the strike demands the rights of steelworkers and emphasizes solidarity

with steelworkers. We consider strikes and organizations as one of the obvious rights of the workers, and accordingly, we condemn any kind of aggression to suppress this strike. We invite other

workers and justice-seekers, especially the people of Ahvaz, to neutralize the efforts made to suppress the strike by supporting the steelworkers' strike. <https://bepish.org/fa/node/10337>

IRAN: View from the LEFT" is published for those who are interested to know the Left Party of Iran stance on current issues on a monthly basis.

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

The Left Party of Iran

<https://bepish.org/english>

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