

OPEN LETTER TO THE BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

'The terrorist Mojahedin's flag is self explanatory'



On 13 September when European Foreign Ministers meet in Brussels and the International Atomic Energy Agency meets in Vienna to review Iran's nuclear industry, the terrorist Mojahedin-e Khalq organization (MKO) has organised, using the pseudonym 'Sarfarazan', a demonstration in front of the European Parliament in Brussels.

The purpose of this demonstration is to demand that the MKO be removed from the EU's list of terrorist entities. So, the MKO is listed as a terrorist entity, but through the simple deception of using a different name it has gained permission to hold a public demonstration in Brussels.

...The stance of your government is deplorable. Surely in any democracy 'freedom of expression' does not stretch to giving a public platform to organised crime and terrorism. Yet in Belgium this is exactly what will happen on 13 September.

...We understand the pressure exerted on your country through Canada (whose Foreign Minister is in Brussels for talks with your government) to put pressure on Iran. However nothing can justify use of the MKO for political purposes.

We do not think that closing your eyes to the activities of a terrorist organisation in your country will act as a lever against Iran's government. In fact it only fortifies the position of the hardliners and undermines the efforts of the reformists inside and moderates outside the country. Both the MKO and Iran's hardliners have zealously exploited similar opportunities over the past 20 years.

...In light of what is universally known and acknowledged about the MKO, your government has been singularly unsuccessful in briefing your MPs Maggie De

Block, Muriel Gerkens and Walter Muls. We strongly believe that these people who so recklessly support these terrorists in your country are themselves victims of the orchestrated deception of the MKO agents, and are completely ignorant about the true nature of the organisation, which however your government is fully aware of. Not only is your government not doing enough to honour its obligations accepted in theory concerning terrorism, but it is actually facilitating the activities of terrorists by failing to give enough information to those most at risk of being targeted by MKO agents for the misuse of the democratic institutions in Belgium.

The presence of buildings of the European Parliament in Brussels brings with it a serious responsibility to the government of Belgium. We will strongly recommend that the officials of every country whose foreign ministers are attending the meeting on Monday 13 September put the question to your government and to your good self as to why you have neglected your responsibilities as the host in favour of cheap propaganda against Iran, ...paid for with money stolen from the Iraqi people by the agents of the former regime of Saddam Hussein.

Association for the Support of Victims of the Mojahedin-e Khalq September 6, 2004



EDITORIAL

Children are terrorism's easiest target

This was clear enough to see in the tragedy which befell Russia.

Perhaps it is not so clear in the case of the MKO demonstration in Brussels on 13 September – the children went voluntarily didn't they?. But were they not used by a terrorist organisation for a publicity stunt? Were they not easy targets? Were they not deceived and exploited by terrorists?

If the MKO is a terrorist entity - and as Jack Straw reiterated, there is no reason to believe otherwise - then why is it acting with impunity in Sweden, in Belgium and elsewhere? In June 2003, members of the MKO organisation set fire to themselves in European capitals. Is it not possible they could use their usual methods of deception to convince young people from Sweden or other countries to do likewise.

We cannot expect the heads of schools to have the same knowledge of terrorist organisations and their modus operandi that government intelligence services have, or to vet staff for links to terrorist organisations. Surely the onus lies with the governments of Sweden, Belgium and every other country to properly curtail and limit the activities of such organisations. As a known terrorist entity, the MKO's ability to operate using criminal fraud and deception only extends as far as any country's security services

allow.

In his speech to the UN General Assembly, New York, 21 September, Kofi Annan said: "we have reached a fork in the road. If you, the political leaders of the world, cannot agree or reach agreement on the way forward, history will take the decisions for you, and the interests of your peoples may go by default. "Today I will not seek to pre-judge those decisions, but to remind you of the allimportant framework in which they should be taken - namely, the rule of law, at home and in the world."

Clearly, there is an agenda set by US NeoCons and the right wing Likud Party to utilize the MKO against Iran. The effectiveness of this cannot not depend solely on their agenda however, and will be skewed in great part by the nature of the MKO itself. As a terrorist group the danger is simply too real that it will one day create a crisis which no western country wants to have.

To be an effective tool the MKO must be converted into something approximating an actual political force. Which means firstly that Rajavi must renounce what Mohammad Sobhani calls 'Beautiful Aggression', that is, violence as a means to achieve his aims.

Rajavi must also make clear those aims, because all Iranians who know the Mojahedin also know that Rajavi cannot share power and is fundamentally anti-democratic in his beliefs.

Using the unreformed MKO as a tool to threaten Iran is placing politics above the rule of law which endangers the lives and the interests of every person in society.

To use Rajavi, you must place him, and yourselves as his backers, above the law. The moment you do this, you have reduced yourself to his level. No political gain against Iran, or in any other situation, can be worth such an open invitation for trouble for a country. ■

AVA ASSOCIATION VISITS THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

On 9th September 2004, a delegation of the Ava Association (Germany) represented by Mr Mohammed Hossein Sobhani, Mr Milad Ariyayi and Mr Khosro Jan Nesaran, was received by and had meetings in the European Parliament with:
Ms Angela Subhan, Head of Human

Rights (Iran) in the European Parliament Ms Veronique Dekeyser, MEP (Belgium) and member of the Foreign Affairs Committee Ms Simone Susskind, consultant to the Judiciary Minister of Belgium. The delegation raised their deep concern over the behaviour of the Belgian Government in bowing to

the pressure of the Likudists in Israel and the NeoCons in the US to divide global terrorism into Good Terrorists and Bad Terrorists and therefore allow the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organisation (MKO) to operate freely, to recruit and misuse the democratic institutions of that country.

In this three hour meeting, the delegation gave a briefing about the systematic human rights abuses inside the MKO and its use of imprisonment, physical and mental torture and above all, the handing over of disaffected members and critics to the former regime of Saddam Hussein which resulted in the victims being subjected to severe mistreatment in the prisons of the Intelligence Services and in Abu Ghraib prison of the toppled dictator. Ms Dekeyser and Subhan as well as Ms Susskind were deeply touched by the briefing and the evidence presented by the delegation.

The delegation continued by presenting reports and documents concerning their continued activities in helping the families of the remaining detained disaffected members of the MKO in Ashraf camp in Iraq, and received welcome news from the European Parliament of its readiness in helping to resolve the problem in accordance with international humanitarian law. The delegation emphasised that the MKO cannot be considered as a political organisation as long as it continues its violent and terrorist activities. The group has no social support whether among Iranian

society in general or among the opposition forces against the current ruling regime. In this meeting, the plots by MKO agents to physically eliminate about 25 of their ex members and executives in European countries were discussed. Plots which required the French police to arrest Maryam Rajavi and more than 160 of their members and leaders on 17 June 2003 in Paris. At the end, both sides emphasised expanding their dialogue and briefings in the future.
Ava Association
12/09/2004 ■

SCHOOL CLASSES FROM NÄRKE DEMONSTRATE WITH THE MUJAHEDIN

Stefan Hjertén/TT News Agency – Stockholm, September 13, 2004

At a demonstration for the terrorist branded Iranian movement Mujahedin-e Khalq on Monday in Brussels, students from classes of Oden school in Närke participated together with six of their teachers and a few parents. We see it as part of our civics studies, principal Göran Hedman told TT.

An Iranian organisation in Örebro [The Iranian Society in Örebro] offered to arrange a bus trip to Brussels for four days and stand for the major part of the costs, said the principal. We also took money from the competence development fund and school funds for field trips, and the students were given food money that otherwise would have been used for the same purpose at school.

Only students from the ninth grade were allowed to accept the offer which 65 of the hundred asked did. They had at the time heard about Iran's nuclear plans and the dictatorship in Iran from a newly hired teacher [Mojtaba Ghotbi] with an Iranian background, said Göran Hedman.

USA and the EU

-And they really didn't like what they heard about nuclear arms. They wanted to demonstrate against that. The principal is aware of the Mujahedin being called a terrorist organisation but has heard from the newly hired teacher that the accusation is false. In reality the Mujahedin-e Khalq (MKO) are branded as terrorists by the American State Department and the EU because

of its history of murder, bomb attacks and embassy occupations. For a long time the MKO had their headquarters in Saddam Hussein's Iraq but ended up in difficulties after the American invasion last year. Today the organisation's center, 3800 members, is based in the north of Baghdad under American surveillance.

Want to be released

The MKO is a curious blend of Marxism and Islam. After last year's problems with the American invasion the organisation is gathering new strength. Observers think that the MKO can be used by the USA against the regime in Tehran. This has given the members that are situated in Europe an impulse to intensify their agitation against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

A big effort has been made to get members, activists and others to go along to Brussels on Monday. Outside the EU's foreign ministers' meeting the MKO is to demonstrate against Iran's supposed plans to get nuclear weapons – that the country itself denies – and demands that the Mujahedin should be cleansed from terrorist accusations. ■

TIES WITH MKO INCLUDED IN SADDAM'S CASE

Al-Hayat Newspaper, London, September 20, 2004



As we get closer to the trial of Saddam Hussein, the special court for anti-human crimes published a petition of accusations by which Saddam is introduced as a war criminal. Meanwhile, the Association of Iraqi Lawyers denied receiving requests to defend Saddam on behalf of Iraqi parties.

This petition includes seven accusations posed in the first court session. They are as follows:

"Order to kill tens of thousands of political prisoners and assassinate political, religious and social figures; mutilating opponents and deserters; performing chemical experiments on detainees;

ordering the killing of elites, clergymen and sending them to exile and massacres in the south and center of Iraq; depriving the rights of those who had married with Iranians and forcing Iraqis to join the Ba'ath Party and threatening them in this way.

In addition, invading Kuwait, violating

their rights and attacking Iran and killing and injuring more than 1,000,000 Iranians have been mentioned in the petition. Another crime of Saddam mentioned in this case is his financial and military support for the Mojahedin-e Khalq, an Iranian opposition group. ■

FURTHER REVELATIONS OF MOJAHEDIN DECEPTION

Radio Pezhvak, Sweden, September 19, 2004

Göran Hedman, principal of Oden school in Örebro, whose students, according to TT News Agency, had joined the MKO demonstration in Brussels, said that he was not aware that the costs of the trip had been paid by the Mojahedin-e Khalq, otherwise he would not have allowed it." According to Radio Örebro, this organization had paid 86000 Kroner for the expenses of the trip. The Radio added that the principal of the school now says: "the organization's purpose of this trip is not compatible with the goals of Oden school and issuing the license for the student's trip has been done unknowingly. ■



JACK STRAW: THE ANSWER IS 'NO'

Reuters, September 14,
2004

Thousands of opponents of the Iranian government demonstrated in Brussels on Monday, de-manding the European Union harden its policy on Tehran and remove a key exiled opposition group from its list of terror groups.

Waving banners declaring "The Mullahs are the terrorists", Iranian exiles called for referring Tehran's nuclear programme to the U.N. Security Council, as Washington is seeking. Rally organisers said over 25,000 joined the protest outside an EU ministers' meeting. Police put the figure at 4,500.

The EU put the People's Mujahideen Organisation (MKO), the main armed Iranian opposition group, on its list of terrorist organisations in early 2002. It found that prior to the U.S.-led Iraq war, the group had used the country to zattack Iran and had several camps equipped with tanks, guns and helicopter gunships.

MKO supporters point to a recent decision by the U.S. military to give its members protected status in Iraq after establishing they had not been combatants there. EU officials were, however, unwilling to reassess the MKO. "I have seen no evidence in favour of removing them (from the terrorist list), they were and remain a terrorist organization" British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw told reporters. "The answer to that is 'no'."

WHAT HAPPENED TO ALL THOSE CHILDREN? A crime against humanity which has gone unpunished

Mitra Yousefi, Sweden

The most recent news we have about Massoud Rajavi in relation to children concerns the misuse of a group of Swedish 9th grade pupils last month. The fifteen year olds were bussed to a demonstration in Brussels on 13 September to boost numbers as fake Mojahedin supporters.

This scandal reminded me of Rajavi's old inhuman way of dealing with children which I experienced first hand as a mother in the Mojahedin. Even though those events took place over a decade ago, I have never forgotten them and seeing the same tricks used again against children made me determined once more to speak out about Rajavi's custom of exploiting children.

In Sweden Rajavi had paid an Iranian man, a newly hired school teacher who, after spinning a yarn of misinformation to the children in his care, then enticed them with a free trip. Rajavi worked like that here where he has no actual power over the children; telling lies and offering free a trip using the remainders of Saddam Hussein's filthy money. For sure the youngsters didn't know the slightest bit about the Mojahedin. And worse, some of their educational time has been wasted as they played as 'extras' in a terrorist organisation's show. As usual the Mojahedin donned the mask of a benign organization so the children or their teachers were not aware of what was behind it. Clearly there are hidden dangers in such a strange and illegal trip. The whole matter shows a dangerous over simplification of the threat posed by the Mojahedin.

I look at this event now as another example of Rajavi's mistreatment of children. At the same age as these kids (around 15 years) a lot of Iranian chil-

dren have left their schools in Sweden and gone to Iraq. These Iranian children first arrived in Sweden in tragic circumstances in 1991. And now many have left again in mysterious circumstances. I wonder if the Swedish authorities have paid any attention to the destination of these migrant children. I'll tell you where they have gone; they had to abandon their studies, any pleasure and happiness and a normal life, to become Rajavi's brainless soldiers, a cell in the body of his terrorist organization. They went to aid the Iraqi dictator as his notorious allies. Even before this they suffered great misery in their lives when they were tarnished by Rajavi's cruelty before. They were stolen from their parents, and as evacuees they have been exploited in strangers' houses as slaves, they have been beaten and raped. Their affection has been looted, they have forgotten happiness and sadly in the end many have become prisoners of the war in Iraq. They have lost their happy childhood and sweet youth. They will need psychiatric help to adjust to living in society again. What they don't need is to be abused again. What Sweden needs is to not repeat such mistakes. Above all, Sweden needs to instigate a thorough investigation into what really happened to all those young Swedish Iranians who were citizens or had permanent leave to remain, and who disappeared so mysteriously.

THE HIDDEN FATE OF RAJAVI'S CHILD VICTIMS

Mitra Yousefi, Sweden



On Friday August 20, 1999 The Times published an article 'Evacuees the Untold Story' by Heather Nicholson, herself an evacuee as a child during the Second World War, who had now written a book 'Prisoners of War' about her own and others' experiences as child evacuees. Now, sixty years later these evacuees were telling their own stories.

The article begins: "They thought that they were escaping to a country idyll, safe from Hitler's bombs. Instead, many evacuees were taken from their parents as young children and thrust into the arms of cruel and abusive foster families." When I read this story I had a choking feeling. There was a horrible similarity between the fate of these English evacuees and what happened to the children of the Mojahedin evacuated from Iraq in 1991 during the Gulf War. It moved me to tears to think that the same thing had happened to both sets of children, even though for very different reasons. The Times article ended by saying that "the Government had the best intentions at the time". The same thing could not be said of Rajavi and his reasons for removing children from their parents and evacuating them from Iraq. For one thing, the English children were backed and supported by their own government and they were living in their own country with their own language and customs, and with the possibility of letters and visits from their parents. The Mojahedin's children were scattered in various countries completely foreign to them. These innocent children were billeted with Iranian families – supporters of the Mojahedin – who themselves had had enough of life in exile in a strange country and without the support of their own culture and language. Many of these families were facing financial and social problems. They now had the inconvenience of foster children without the support of the organisation or the parents. At the same time that Rajavi was lavishing his corrupt money on propaganda campaigns which irritated

European parliaments, he not only refused to pay a penny to aid the foster parents to carry out their responsibilities toward the children, but on occasion he would demand money from them in the name of aid and contributions for his campaigns and demonstrations. These families were not only expected to take the children but to help finance the organisation's activities. Rajavi has always had two faces, one for the takers who are people he buys, and one for the givers who are people he exploits. A number of foster families were given grants and financial means of support by their governments for raising the children. Unfortunately however, many of them were tempted by greed, irresponsibility, and above all lacked any affection for the children who had been ruthlessly separated from their own parents. These foster parents would put a part of this financial support aside for themselves, treating it as recompense for the trouble they had been caused. In their minds the children were seen not in their own human state but rather as cheap business goods. The children felt the pain of this to the depth of their hearts. Many of these unfortunate Iranian children had originally come into the world as the result of Rajavi's cynical political manipulations. In the beginning of the struggle after the 1979 revolution, Rajavi encouraged his followers to marry and have a family. He wanted to take advantage of the nation's sense of affection by creating an image showing that the organization cared for families. In fact Rajavi was afraid the organisation would be ambushed by the same labelling as was attached to communist groups of

being cold hearted and uncaring. Having once created the families Rajavi found another use for the children, in terrorist operations. An example of this was that a child would be used to sit on the arms or a box of grenades in order to smuggle them through districts or borders for operations. Once in Iraq where he did not need them any longer Rajavi decided to get rid of them, to somehow obliterate them from the organisation. In spite of the similarities between the experiences of the children, the actual reason for the evacuation of the children was fundamentally different. The English children were taken away from the industrial cities and large metropolitan areas which were in most danger of enemy bombardment, but were still living in their own country; it was for the nation's sake and for their own safety. But for the Mojahedin's children the situation could not have been more different. During the Gulf War Rajavi knew that his organisation would enjoy immunity from attack by the allied forces. The Mojahedin flag was hoisted everywhere to alert attacking troops to their presence. No Mojahedin bases were hit during the war even by mistake. In fact the camps were perhaps the safest places in Iraq at that time. But Rajavi saw with typical opportunism his chance to remove the children from the camp and from the affections of their parents. Rajavi had the children moved en masse from the camps to his administrative building in the centre of Baghdad, travelling dangerous roads and areas to Baghdad during some of the most intense bombing raids of the war. The building was adjacent to a Mokhaberat build-

ding, an obvious military target! The children were billeted in a six story building and at each alarm they had to rush down about 100 stairs in terror to the basements. The lack of electricity and water made everything harder. This was despite the fact that because of the eight year Iran-Iraq war, the Mojahedin had the best shelters and facilities in their camps including independent water and electricity supplies. At the same time a fake food shortage appeared. We had never previously had that kind of problem.

Throughout the period of Iraqi sanctions Rajavi's lavish entertainment and propaganda system never faced any obstacle in Iraq or elsewhere in the world. The Mojahedin's standard of living was so high that in a searching article, one journalist questioned the difference between the Iraqi people's suffering and the Rajavi's colourful tables.

What Rajavi had done was to place the children in direct danger and he did this to force parents to agree to their removal and evacuation. The parents were desperate. They didn't want to send their children to live with strangers, and many had no friends or relatives or even acquaintances in other countries who could take them. The protesting parents were declaring the last fragments of their affection before Rajavi finally crushed them. When the children were inhumanly wrenched from their parents, Rajavi promised an exact time of six

months separation. But the organization never kept its promise. The arrangement has lasted from the winter of 1991 until the present. As the children arrived in the Mojahedin's bases in various countries, mostly Germany and Scandinavia, they were hurled straight out to Iranian foster parents without any real checks on the circumstances they were to live in. And although the majority of families tried to accommodate the children, some had become disturbed and unmanageable and were returned to the Mojahedin bases only to be sent to other families. Some were not fortunate in finding even toleration for their desperate plight. In at least three cities in Sweden, numbers of children have been registered by the police as at risk, including one little girl who had not even begun talking. She was in the horrific custody of an Iranian couple many times worse than described by Heather in her own story, and was a prisoner in a dark dressing room in an atmosphere of terror and horror. She was finally freed when police were alerted and took her away with injuries and her body blue with bruises.

Comparable to the story of a sadistic woman on a farm in the English story, is that of three boys in Sweden. They were all sons of martyrs killed in some of Rajavi's armed terrorist operations. These boys were placed under the control of one of the most ferocious men. They passed a very painful period of their life under his control, actually they lost a

period of their lives. The poor young boys were forced to shave their heads completely because they had showed some interest in their hair. In spite of their pride, which youngsters of their age have, they had to share one banana in front of some other guests even though their necessities were paid for completely and generously by the welfare system. Even that was given by the foster mother; otherwise they wouldn't even dare to ask for that half of a banana. No doubt taking care of three young boys is a really hard job for a family in exile. But the real criminal is the ruthless man who forced parents to give away their children in the first place. The foster families cannot carry all the blame. They had accepted the situation under pressure from Rajavi using insistence and persistence, and with the pledge that the arrangement would only last for six months (it didn't). The foster families in the main were not true volunteers and were not at all ready for the responsibility. But Rajavi achieved his aim of dismantling the family unit so that he could use the members more fully in terrorism and sabotage against their own country. He was developing people without any questions or ideas.

The suffering and unhappiness of the children could not have been unknown to Rajavi who has his own internal spying and intelligence service. But he didn't allow investigation into the cases because the foster families represent a group of extras for faking attendance numbers in gatherings and subscribers for his cheap newspaper. On the other hand, for his own purposes it wasn't bad at all if the children couldn't enjoy a happy and carefree life in Europe and Canada. That way, once they were aged 15 to 16 he could bring them back without too much trouble to the Iraqi desert as members of the organization. In the stories of the English and Mojahedin evacuees there are several bitter similarities.

As with D in England, Sh a young evacuee girl in (Östergötland) Sweden was



'Mojahedin children in Paris shortly before their first transfer to Iraq, circa 1985'

sent to an Iranian family. Some time later the family tore apart; the father was sent to prison, and Sh was sent to a Swedish family. It is unlikely that her mother ever got to know about what happened to her daughter. The same thing happened to M, a girl in another city in Sweden.

Two other boys were taken from other Iranian foster family suffering from nervous exhaustion. According to my last information, they have not recovered yet. Their new Swedish foster family sadly don't know what to do. Their Social Worker had a simple wish, a telephone call to their parents to explain the situation.

The problem of bed wetting and using it to humiliate the child has also sadly been experienced. I met a girl, living with a family in Stockholm, who was shivering with shame and fear that other children would laugh at her. This poor girl had to call the unkind foster woman, 'mother'. One boy, the son of a poet and as sensitive and thoughtful as his father, suffered beating and abuse at the hands of two boys of the family during the whole period of their puberty. To escape from his tormentors, in a dream to see his mother again, he begged to be sent to Iraq aged 14.

Above all of this problem is the issue of censoring letters. Even in this age of instant international communication, Rajavi's victims do not have even a simple post system. So the unfortunate parents of the children don't know anything about what happened to them. One little boy, had coincidentally met his own father in one of Rajavi's gatherings in Paris. The man took a risk to be close to him for a short while. Later the boy happily talked about a nice uncle who gave him a little ball; he didn't know his father at all!

Another similarity with the English story is that mothers charged older children with responsibility for not being separated from their siblings. Alas, it was easier to control children in conditions of isolation and loneliness and so siblings were separated from each other from the

start. I know of one situation in which two brothers were openly separated. One family had accepted to foster three children, but were allowed to foster only one brother. The other was sent to a different family, even though it had been possible for the two brothers to stay together. It is apparent that the basic difference between the English and Mojahedin's separation of families is that the latter was not even the slightest for the children's sake but was a link in the chain of Rajavi's crimes and scandals. They have been Rajavi's two bladed dagger, each side of which was cutting for him. When Rajavi first decided on splitting up families, his original plan was to send the children to Iran. At that time, every parent was stifling one question inside, drowning in Rajavi's mud and paralyzed of any thought. Here is the question: If the Iranian regime is as horrific as we have been taught, how dare we send our children over there? While we are here on the border of Iran's enemy armed and always waiting to attack?! In fact there were no more than two outcomes; the children would be accepted to live in the homes with their relatives, in which case there was no hope left for parents to see them again until the collapse of the regime. An outcome suited to Rajavi's plan for destroying familial love. Or the children would be swallowed up in the anger and vengeance in Iran. This would also be good for Rajavi too, feeding his propaganda machine, showing more crimes by the regime to the world and allowing him to wear his puppy face of innocence in a script written by himself. In the end he had to pull this plan simply because it was not possible to send around 600 children to Iran all together. Then he worked out his other plan, getting rid of the children by sending them to other countries. It is a story reminiscent of Oscar Wilde's *The selfish giant*, in which a wicked giant banished children from his garden and winter descended on the garden. Rajavi's evil aim was to expel children from the garden of their parents affection and to split up every couple,

leaving each person alone and vulnerable before himself. According to his own openly ugly, incredible confession; love and affection for each other creates an obstacle between members and the leadership. A part of every member's sense and affection which they should present to the leadership, has been spoiled by giving it to beloved ones. And he wanted all from us. This madness more than anything displays the lack of people's support. Otherwise how would anyone dare to draw such picture of himself to a religious and traditional nation like Iran, or any other nation for that matter?! In the beginning of the revolution, Rajavi enjoyed popularity and had the possibility of keeping that image. He wore a mask of respecting the family. At the time of his scandalous marriage to his best friend's wife [Maryam Azdonlou wife of Mehdi Abrishamchi], he used an example from the prophet Mohammad: 'marriage is my tradition, and whom takes the opposite, is not with me'. Impudently, he didn't bother himself to give some explanation about this holy quotation when later he brutally annulled the marriages of all his followers, tearing the families completely apart. The unfortunate experiences outlined above arose in only a couple of states in Sweden, a highly civilized country which leads the world in children's rights and also has a just welfare system. Image what could have happened in other countries. The Times article concludes by saying "I doubt that parents today, even if a nuclear war were imminent would agree to sent their children to live with strangers". Alas, painfully, 60 years after those events, a mad man in a desert has shamefully done worse. And still in the world of politics, he has been allowed to send his representatives to 'Conferences on Children'. For those who turn a blind eye to the evil crimes of this man, you should know that believing in Rajavi is easy with closed eyes, misinformation is all you see. But believe me, this does not work for long. ■

BEAUTIFUL AGGRESSION

M. H. Sobhani



Now, if 'political death' is a subset of 'physical death', determining where the roots of political violence lie becomes more tangible for us.

Freud also believes that in order to balance the 'death instinct', the 'life instinct' should be reinforced in human beings. He also considered sexual motivation as a decisive factor in strengthening this 'life instinct'. Whether or not we are in agreement with Freud's theory, a real conclusion can be reached: whenever the balance changes toward the side of 'death' and that includes 'political death', then violence and terror increases.

The Ottoman Caliphs used this theory to create a suppressive force. They took European Christian youngsters out of their society and trained them in military camps, with specific kinds of education and sexual deprivation. These trainees became ruthless, cruel people who could fight and kill easily. In contrast, soldiers who were recruited

directly from normal society to serve in the Ottoman army didn't show enough ruthlessness in the wars and suppression of people.

Hassan Sabbah in 11th century Iran used the same mechanism in order to develop ruthlessness in his fedayeen. He isolated his fedayeen and followers from normal society and secluded them in Alamut Fortress. The fedayeen, trained in such a situation, were able to assassinate their political opponents without question.

Over the past three decades, the Mojahedin-e khalq led by Massoud Rajavi has used the same mechanism. They formed team houses and a People's Militia in 1979, they trained as terrorists and severed the MKO's contact with society with the failed coup d'état of June 1981. By 1983 the MKO's headquarters was transferred to a self-contained camp in the Iraqi desert. The Mojahedin, by imposing various kinds of deprivation in Iraq, increased the

Since man first knew himself and entered into the field of power and politics, there have been violence and clashes to achieve power. One of the main grounds for the employment of violence is the 'death instinct', as Freud described it. In other words, the existence of a 'death instinct' boost the tendency toward violence and terror as an 'action' or 'reaction' to circumstances.

tendency among members and leaders toward violence and death.

The methodology was disguised in an 'ideological revolution' and obligatory divorces, which systematically increased the feeling of 'violence and death and terror' by creating sexual deprivation.

The leader of the Mojahedin cult introduced the violence dictated by himself as 'revolutionary violence' and the violence instigated by rulers as 'reactionary violence'. In the Mojahedin's 1979 Amjadieh Stadium meeting in Tehran, he said:

"A fist for a fist, and a bullet for a bullet, this is our answer."

He defined the first 'fist and bullet' as bad and the second 'fist and bullet' as good. But whichever one comes first or second is in reality irrelevant. In the cycle of violence and repetition of violence, both are first and both are bad and the violence-seekers should be told:

"Violence and terror is ugly and has no beauty."

In essence, ideological and religious cults, whether in the position of rulers or of oppositions, play an axial role in the creation and bolstering of 'death and violence' on one hand and weakening 'life and compromise' on the other. But what cult is it that can transfer its own concept of a 'beautiful aggression' from Ashraf camp in Baghdad to the Champs Elysees in Paris?

In general, all cults share specific features, but the basic factor for the formation and development of any cult, including a religious cult, is to have a self-appointed leader.

Leaders of cults, by using the element of 'indoctrination' (in some cults, the points desired by leaders are transferred to followers through hypnotism) and distorted religious narratives, playing the role of God for members of the cult can lead their members using superstition and selfaggrandization and etc....

In this situation, cults automatically and auto-dynamically develop and elevate specific ideological, political and cultural constructions which later turn into 'features' of that cult and become institutionalized as 'methods and habits' in the cult.

One of the ideological preoccupations of cults, including the Mojahedin-e Khalq cult, is to train obedient members. The victims of the cult should first burn their 'soul' and then (by order of the leader) their 'body'.

Last year, before the fall of Saddam, Massoud Rajavi had predicted a difficult situation in Iraq and transferred more than 200 trusted members of his cult to France (this number has increased to 1000 in Germany and France), among whom was Maryam Rajavi who entered France illegally. In response to the presence of this terrorist cult on its soil, the French government arrested Maryam Rajavi and 166 other members of the organization.

The amazing reaction of this terrorist

cult to the arrest of Rajavi's wife, a reaction which of itself attracted world attention, allowed a very real assessment of the cult to the people of France.

The cult leader's order to members to burn their 'bodies' following his wife's arrest was the initial reaction of this terrorist cult. Sedigheh Mojaveri and Neda Hassani, of Mojahedin organization, were the victims of this approach. However, bear in mind that burning the bodies of cult members cannot be achieved before burning their souls. The leader of the MKO had previously burnt the souls of all his followers in the so-called ideological revolution of 1985. That is he removed their free-will and faculty for critical analysis. The way that the MKO's theorists justified these self-immolations and displays of 'beautiful aggression' in Paris is as follows:

"I remember when we were being trained by a Palestinian guerilla. We came to the training related to hand grenade. The point emphasized was that when a grenade is thrown toward you and there's no chance to run away, the person closest to the grenade should lie on it so that the percentage of casualties is decreased. Now, the dirty hand of imperialism has thrown a grenade toward the Mojahedin and some want to save their organization by sacrificing themselves."

After the capture of Abdullah Ogalan, leader of the PKK, Maryam Rajavi had also said to the MKO members: "If the same thing happens to Massoud and you don't burn yourselves, then you're poltroons."

Of course, these self-immolations were strange for French people and shocked them. But the reality is that the product of ideological cults is nothing except terrorism and violence. When Mr. Rajavi said in Paris, "I want tempered steel", and when the pictures of Maryam and Massoud were hung in all the rooms of the members, the praising escalated to the point where each person could easily burn themselves.

Individuals dissolved in an ideology or a religion and who burn themselves can set thousands of other people on fire, is that not true?

The terrorists of Al-Qaeda did the same thing, didn't they?

What is the difference between the Waco cult of American David Koresh which had been built on a superstition, and the cult of the Mojahedin-e Khalq? David Koresh ordered the members of his cult to eat poison after their base was surrounded by police.

Mr and Mrs Rajavi ordered self-immolations to evade French justice. Is there really any difference between Koresh's cult and Rajavi's cult?

Everyone familiar with this cult knows that not one MKO member does anything without the knowledge and permission of the leaders of the cult.

This cult's control over its members' lives is such that it forces every member to confess their sexual thoughts and even their dreams in daily reports. So, how is it possible for these members to set themselves on fire without an order from the cult's leaders?

At first the MKO leader thought that European public opinion would applaud such a move and sympathize with them. So in the beginning they didn't try to hide the organizational orders for self-immolations. The MKO announced on Mansoor Ghadar Khah's 'Liberty' website that: "Hundreds have put their names on the list for self-immolation, and if France does not end its conspiracies in common with the Iranian regime, they are going to burn themselves."

Mr Ghadar Khah didn't explain where the list is? And who had decided about the selfimmolations?

Confronted by the negative reaction of European people towards the self-immolations, the Mojahedin then claimed that this move wasn't organized but was a spontaneous reaction from MKO supporters. It was claimed that Sedighe Mojaveri and Neda Hassani

were merely supporters of the cult in an effort to show they had not received organizational orders to burn themselves.

Yet photographs of these uniformed women sitting on the tanks in Iraq gave the lie to this deception. These were professional fighting members of the organization. Even if we say they were supporters of the MKO, then what explanation is there for Marzieh Babakhani and Mohammed Sani who also burnt themselves?

Was Marzieh Babakhani merely a sup-

porter of the MKO too? She was a member Rajavi's Leadership Council in the MKO's Paris office.

Wasn't Mohammed Sani - member of the MKO's Central Council since 1985 - ordered to burn himself?

Le Parisian wrote on June 19, 2003: "... contacts were made [by the NCRI] with reporters before and after the self immolation and the NCRI spokesman revealed the name of the selfimmolator..." And:

"After the fire of a self-immolator was extinguished, one Mojahedin member

offered better pictures of the self-immolations to a reporter."

Wasn't this a performance of 'Beautiful Aggression'?

Don't these cases represent an enactment of the organisation's terrorism and political violence?

Of course, nothing else was expected from this cult. After the fall of Saddam, the Mojahedin were disarmed by the Americans. The result? The MKO now use wooden batons instead of their usual AK47s to continue their daily military parades in camp Ashraf. ■

MKO's FINANCIAL SOURCES

Eric Furrier, Jean-Marie Pontaut/ L'Express 20 September 2004



This very opaque movement of Iranian opponents had strange financing circuits. The investigators are unpeeling its accounts. The police force has sought the origin of the million dollars discovered with the seizure of the accounts of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (PMOI), a movement of Iranian opponents established in Auvers-sur-Oise for more than twenty years.

At the end of June 2003, 17 members of the PMOI were put under examination for criminal conspiracy in relation to a terrorist entity. All the people imprisoned have since been freed. Judge Jean-Louis Bruguière and the investigators of the Brigade of Research and Financial Investigations (BRIF) started investigating the strange financing circuits of the organization. At the time of the search in 2003, nearly 8.5 million dollars in cash, and undeclared in customs, were seized as a result. Certain bundles still carried bands of the German, Swiss and British banks. The specialists who translated the Persian said nearly 1 million documents found in the memory of the 300 seized computers revealed today the accounts of the PMOI. They are inter-

sted particularly in the collections organized in France and abroad by the organization. The large amount of money moved by Iran Aid - an association presented as a charity organization, whose humanitarian engagement is of doubtful validity - is suspicious. Donors to the PMOI domiciled in France should be heard soon.

The police officers, intrigued by documents detailing the methodology system for the collections, indeed suspected the existence of pressure or harassing, although no complaint was found up to that point. As for the collections abroad, they alone, would have brought back some 20 million dollars in 2002. To disentangle this complex financial circuit between the United States, Germany, Great Britain

and Turkey, ending up in withdrawals in Dubai, Judge Bruguière recently heard 'protected witnesses' in Los Angeles. Parallel to the investigations on the sources of financing, the investigators are interested in the invoices paid by the PMOI, in particular, a contract signed with a company for the sale of satellite resources, for up to 2 million dollars per annum. With the fall of Saddam Hussein, the Mojahedin lost their principal backer. The DST has a historical document about this issue: an authenticated cassette showing Maryam Rajavi, the wife of the founder of the organization, shaking the hand of the Iraqi dictator. And the study of the accounts could bring other surprises. ■

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES: ALIREZA MIR ASGARI

Betrayal of Trust

My involvement with the MKO goes back to 1979. I learned about the organisation through my uncles who were members, and even though I was very little, I started going to their demonstrations and meetings.



After the start of armed struggle in 1981, my only contact was Radio Mojahed. In 1987, friends of my uncles who were freed from prison (including Ghorban Ali Torabi, later killed under torture by Rajavi's agents in the prisons of Ashraf camp), connected me to the remainder of the organisation inside Iran. In 1988 was smuggled by an MKO agent through Iran's eastern border into Pakistan where I spent about a month in Karachi before being transferred to Iraq. On arriving in Iraq, I had to undergo Ideological, Political and Military training and between 1989 and 1994 was given various responsibilities in Ashraf camp. By mid 1994 I started voicing questions and criticisms which led to my arrest and transfer to an MKO prison in Street 400 of Ashraf camp. From the start I was tortured by MKO prison guards including Hassan Mohasel and Bahram Jant Sadeghi. I was released conditionally in 1995, but since I had witnessed the torture and death of Ghorban Ali Torabi and Parviz Ahmadi in Street 400 prison, I was under severe restriction and the organisation would not let me leave. A message from Massoud Rajavi was delivered by Batoul Rajai, that if I sign an agreement to work for them for 2 years so that others would not discover my situation, then in 1997 they would send me to Europe. I accepted and worked for them in various positions for 2 years at the end of which I mentioned the signed agreement. After receiving no answer and

after protesting in 1999 I was again sent to prison and placed in solitary confinement. I was under severe and constant physical and psychological torture and after a few months I was so crushed that I signed whatever they put in front of me and agreed to go back to work for them again.

In 2001 after Rajavi's unrealistic analyses of the ways the Iranian regime could be toppled, and widespread unrest among the members, the leadership decided to make the internal atmosphere even more terrifying. They began a series of pseudo court cases and sent a number of ordinary and executive members to solitary confinement. I was one of those arrested and under severe conditions for one and a half years.

During these years many ordinary and executive members had been sent to Abu Ghraib prison in the hope that they would either die in the horrific conditions or they would come back and work for the organisation (quoted from Massoud Rajavi in 2001). The aim was to silence the organisation's internal critics and not to allow this news to reach the outside world. But after some of these ex members successfully reached European countries and started talking about their suffering and Rajavi's crimes, the organisation began a new tactic with its critics which unfortunately ended in the loss of many lives. I was also designated to be such a victim. Before the American attack on Iraq, Mahvash Sepehri, one of the MKO's highest ranking commanders, called me into the prison yard and told me: "the organisation would like to send you to Iran so that you can go about your business". At first I did not accept, but due to the effect of solitary confinement and the physical and mental pressure, and with

guarantees from Massoud Rajavi himself that they would take me back to Iran safe and sound, I ended up accepting the proposal. I was handed over to the Iraqi Intelligence service of Iraq (Mokhaberat) by Abbas Davari, who was deputy to Mehdi Abrishamchi (the MKO's contact with Mokhaberat). After two days I was transferred to a village near Basra by two Iraqi Intelligence officers. At night time myself, an Iraqi officer and a local man got into a boat which was towing another small boat and started moving along the Iraqi side of the Arvand Rood (the river bordering Iran and Iraq). After a while, the Iraqi officer, who could barely speak Farsi, ordered me into the small boat at gun point and said "we cannot escort you further than this and this is the order of your organisation".

I had no choice but to board the small boat and start rowing. I hadn't even reached the middle of the river before I heard Iraqis shooting from behind me and instantly heard the Iranians returning fire from in front while I was stuck in the middle with no cover. I was shocked at the total betrayal of years of trust and how I had deliberately been set up to be killed. My little boat was soon hit by bullets so I got into the water and swam towards Iranian soil. I knew Abadan and was able to reach a safe place. I managed to leave Iran for Turkey clandestinely and from there reached Europe. ■

SURVIVORS' REPORT

Association for the Support of Victims of Mojahedin-e Khalq ©2004

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