

# *Against the Current*

*Organisation of fedaian(Minority) -  
Abroad Committe*

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## 25 Years Uninterrupted Publication of KAR

KAR's 400th issue corresponds with its twenty fifth anniversary. KAR is the main publication of Fedaiyan (Minority) Organisation. In the Iranian communist movement no other publication than KAR has been published non-stop, regularly and continuously over a quarter of a century. Even the hardest impacts on the organisation, in the first half of the 1980's and the crises that our organisation faced at those times, could not stop the consistent publication of KAR.

Consistent publication of KAR, under any conditions, is due to efforts, selflessness and heroism of all members, activists and supporters of the organisation and the unsparing support of all those who consider the KAR a tool that reflects their socialist and humane aims and objectives. What has been and is of serious importance in the continuity of publication of KAR, is the policy and direction that KAR has advanced on during those years and pursued them in the service of the aims of the organisation and the working class.

KAR as the organ of an organisation that has declared socialism and communism it's aim, since its first issue published in March 1979, reiterated the point that it would be in the service of the working class, the aims and demands of that class.

The record of KAR in the 24 years of its existence has clearly shown it has remained faithful to that aim. Continuous and consistent defence of demands, struggles and objectives of the working class, publicity and promotion of socialist ideas and consistent exposure of the nature of capitalist class system, have always been the heading of KAR's duties.

From the position of the working class, Kar has supported the general and democratic struggles and demands of toiling and oppressed masses of people. It has publicised and promoted radicalism.

At sensitive political junctures, when the revolutionary movement of the working class and toiling masses has faced serious threats from the bourgeoisie, Kar has had a remarkable role in advancing the revolutionary policy of the organisation. An instance in the home arena is the role KAR has taken on against the bourgeois and reformist spreading of illusions by quasi left wing organisations and groups during the process of Khatami getting to power. KAR was able to successfully execute its duty in exposing and isolating them. KAR has always consistently followed the policy of the organisation in the struggle against revisionism and reformism. Ideological struggle with revisionists and reformists is one of the remarkable aspects of KAR during its entire life. This struggle has not been limited to the internal arena. Struggle against revisionism on the international arena has also been a significant aspect of the KAR. Whilst several years ago, during the assault of the international capital on the working class, the bourgeoisie declared the end of communism in its dreams and a numerous group of organisations and parties that had socialist claims turned away from Marxism-Leninism, KAR consistently defended Marxism-Leninism as the sole ideology of the working class and assisted the exposure and isolation of the revisionists and reformists. All that the KAR has done during this quarter of a century in the service of the working class and the socialist aim of the organisation have been the duty of KAR as the publication of a communist organisation. Duties that in future

too must be executed more consistently and without defect. These duties would be much heavier in the current situation of Iran and the world.

The whole destiny of future developments in Iran, which inevitably would have effects further than the national boundaries, is dependent on what role the working class would play in those developments. And the nature of that role would have an inseparable relation to the level of organisation and awareness of the working class. Therefore, the constant duty of KAR in the effort to raise the level of awareness and organisation of the working class would have to be more significant than any other time. In order to execute that duty well, KAR must consistently expose and neutralise the reactionary efforts of the bourgeoisie and its reformist servants aimed at diverting the movement. The political crisis in Iran has reached a stage today that the question of overthrow of the Islamic republic and its replacement alternative has become the imperative question of the day. With relentless exposure of bourgeois alternatives, KAR would be the passionate publicist and promoter of workers alternative, the establishment of workers and toilers soviet government.

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## The Lesson Iranian People learnt from the Incidents in Iraq and Practical Conclusions They Must Draw

As Saddam's regime has collapsed, war, slaughter and destruction of Iraq still continues. In spite of the people of the whole world seeing countless scenes of the disaster that this destructive war has caused and the oppression of masses of Iraq via pictures and TV broadcasts, nevertheless, the real dimensions of this tragedy have still not been made apparent.

American and English imperialists, in a most complete form possible, demonstrated their predatory nature. They deployed their latest and most advanced weapons. They dropped tens of thousands of bombs and missiles capable of extra ordinarily high destructive power over the cities and oppressed people of Iraq. They slaughtered thousands of civilians, from women and men to children. They made ruins of most important cities of Iraq. They even destroyed water, electricity and health facilities. Finally in order to exalt their destructive mission, when they occupied cities of Iraq, they became the organisers and encouragers of groups that looted the meagre remains in hospitals, cultural centres and other public services. It was only the mass initiative and the establishment of committees at localities that was able to halt those actions. What was the justification of predatory imperialism for this slaughter and destruction? They claimed that firstly they want to destroy the weapons of mass destruction that Saddam's regime owned and are considered a threat to Iraq's neighbours. But up till now that almost all cities of Iraq have been occupied, there is no news published about discovering these weapons and their use during the war. On the contrary, it was the Americans who used bombs that melted and set fire to tens of meters around the point of impact. Secondly they claimed they had created this war to free the people of Iraq from the evil of Saddam's dictatorship and to bring democracy and freedom. We must pause on this point for a longer while, since this hollow claim is repeated by some local groups and currents.

Here the debate is not about the nature of bourgeois democracy in era of imperialism, the dominance of world monopolies and political reaction that even in the most advanced capitalist countries and parliamentary democracies, the vote and opinion of people are considered nil and as we saw during this war the opposition of millions of people in unprecedented demonstrations in England, America and the whole world were crystallised, did not prevent the imperialists advance their warmongering and expansionist policies. Here the debate is not about the problem that in the very same parliamentary democracies, the opposition of millions of workers and toiling people to the policies of the ruling class is responded to with violence and suppression, with various excuses people's civil and political liberties are limited more and more. Indeed, the debate is about the claim that imperialism with its inherent nature, which is oppressive, expansionist, militarist, dominance seeking, politically reactionary, and plunderer has brought about democracy even to the very same vulgar and bourgeois meaning of the word. The masses of workers and toilers of the Middle East region know well that this is the very same imperialism that for years has supported and protected open dictatorships in the region. The dictatorships that rely on the power of bayonets to keep people in ropes and thus the internal capitalists and world monopolies can exploit the working class mercilessly, plunder the resources of those countries and every year pocket billions of profit without a worry. Is it any other than the world's imperialist powers, particularly American and English imperialisms that are the international protectors and supporters of the reactionary and tyrannical sultans and sheiks ruling the countries of the region? Was it not the open dictatorship of Saddam's regime that enjoyed the protection and support of world's imperialist powers for years? Was it not the American and English imperialists, who wanting to keep Iranian people in ropes and even denying them minimum freedom, placed Mohammadreza Shah Pahlavi at the helm of power to establish an open dictatorship in Iran by organising a coup d'etat? Was it not them who in order to suppress the Iranian revolution which aim was to establish freedom, democracy and social justice, decided to support a reactionary named Khomeini and get the religious reaction in power at the Guadalupe conference? Was it not imperialism that in order to suppress the workers and socialist movements of the region stood to protect, support and strengthen the reactionary Pan-Islamist movement and placed the strategy of creating the "green belt" to confront communism on the agenda? Was it not America and its lackey regimes that brought the Afghanistan's Taliban and Ben Laden to power in Afghanistan? All those facts aside, has there ever been freedom and democracy established in the countries that imperialists, with the slogan of setting people free from the yoke of open dictatorships, resorted to armed aggression and direct occupation of them?

Look at Afghanistan, never mind freedom and democracy. There the broad masses of people are even deprived of civil and human freedoms and women still have no right to move a step. And in Kuwait too that has been transformed to a great American military base, no one has the right to utter a word and disagree. The pretending democracy in Iraq too would be the same way. There, after the occupation, brigade after brigades of fresh military forces are arriving, so that with militarization of the whole country, any kind of opposition and resistance could be suppressed. The right of Iraqi people to sovereignty over their future is nullified to the extent that even the pretence employed in Afghanistan, where the imperialists placed in power their devoted pawns at the helm of power, is put aside and the talk is about the American military establishing a government and ruling Iraqi people itself. While the war has not ended completely and they are continuing their bombings they are acting as the absolute ruler and governor of the place. In the name of people of Iraq they have

concluded tens and hundreds of million dollars contracts with the American and English monopolies. They have taken over the oil resources of Iraq, so that for years they would flood its income to the pockets of their countries' monopolies to pay for the reconstruction of the ruins they have created themselves.

What the imperialists do not place even the least value on are the toiling people of Iraq who face death, hunger, homelessness and ruin of their country. The oppression exerted on these people and the disasters they face are unbounded and countless. What has been done and is being done to Iraqi people are horrific crimes against humanity. Saddam's regime, American and English imperialist powers and their partners are not the only shareholders in this crime against humanity. All those who supported this war and in the name of democracy and benefiting from contradictions, assisted the advancement of reactionary, expansionist and violating policies of imperialism, are accomplices in this crime. History, has registered their names next to criminals right now.

In spite of undeniable existing facts, every intelligent human understands that the claims of imperialist powers about democracy, are justifications for resorting to war, slaughter, occupation, and are nothing other than great lies. They are only after their own imperialist economic and political objectives. Imperialists' current claim about democracy is the copy of their very claim of building civilisation three, four centuries ago.

When European colonialists placed colonial construction in the four other continents of the world on their agenda, they were claiming they wanted to pull the barbarian, wild and backward nations to the orbit of civilisation. The objective, as every one knows now was to enslave the weaker and more backward nations through war, slaughter, bloodshed and annexation of their territories to imperialists own countries with the intention of looting, plunder, exploitation and creation of markets for export of their commodities. The whole ancient colonial history that commenced in the name of building civilisation is written with bloodshed, slaughter and endless crimes of colonisers. With all that, should one assume a microscopic historical justification for that great oppression done in the name of civilisation, it was only that it served the advancement of a world system which was destined to advance the history of humanity a step further and crown the capitalist system on the world stage. But now, the deceptive slogan of democracy has become a justification and cover for imperialist policies as the capitalist system, from a long time ago, has become an obstacle to development of history and advancement of humanity; and imperialist policies would have no consequence other than demolition and destruction of human productive forces and greater blockage of historical advancement and exaltation of humanity. The very great majority of the people of the world understand that now. Hence we have witnessed the most moving protests, opposition and demonstrations throughout the world against this war. What occurred in Iraq and still is occurring is also another lesson and experience for the masses of Iranian people and particularly the young generation; that once again they saw the predatory nature of imperialism and its real aims and intentions objectively.

This problem is of great importance since before the exposure of the disastrous consequences of war in Iraq, groups taking orders and being mercenaries of imperialists like royalist, through vast propaganda facilities provided for them by their bosses, not only supported this loathed war but also supported starting war in Iran.

They claimed and still do that the destructive war of American imperialism would be for freeing the Iranian people from the oppressors. The royalists were those who oppressed the Iranian people for years and established horrendous dictatorships during the era of Reza Khan and his son Mohammadreza Pahlavi in Iran. They oppressed the Iranian people for years and established horrendous dictatorships during the era of Reza Khan and his son Mohammadreza Pahlavi in Iran. They still remain sworn enemies of Iranian people today. For them, who live in luxurious properties in Europe and America, the lives of Iranian people is worth nothing. It is not important for them that thousands and tens of thousands of Iranian people would be murdered under American bombardments, their homes demolished on their heads, and what they have built for years would be turned to ruin rendering them homeless and refugees. What is important to the royalists is their bosses would achieve their inhumane objectives and place them in power as their servants. Imperialists' war in Iraq and its consequences once again have shown their nature to all Iranian people.

The masses of Iranian people have learnt important lessons from the process of the recent occurrences in Iraq. The lesson is if they do not want to meet the same faith as the toiling people of Iraq, in confronting the dangers that threaten them, the Iranian people must use those experiences in the best possible form and draw practical conclusions from them.

The danger is serious and real. American warmongers are currently showing their teeth and claws. Political and military representatives of American imperialism, one after the other, talk of their subsequent objectives and spice it up with threats and ultimatums. Masses of Iranian workers and toiling people, while engaged in a continuous struggle against their internal enemy, whose symbol is the Islamic republic regime, face another enemy- the very American imperialism who has concentrated its military forces behind borders of Iran. The danger of war flaring up, imperialist reaction and religious reaction ruling Iran engaging one another should not be discounted. In any case the consequences of political developments in Iraq and the region would have their effect on making the situation more acute.

American imperialism, apart from war, would employ other tactics to advance its policies. Instigating blind and aimless riots in the service of its future intentions, even making Iranian people face one another through intensification of religious, tribal and national contradictions and differences are examples of such tactics.

In these complicated conditions, only one class- the working class can save the Iranian people from countless dangers that threaten them. Because the aims, objectives and political programme of the working class presents specific solutions to confronting war, realisation of demands of broad masses of people and solution to contradictions. The working class places revolution in front of a reactionary war. There is no serious way to get out of the existing crisis, calamity and misfortune of Iranian people, unless before anything, the revolution of masses of Iranian people whose spine and leading force is the working class, drags down the reactionary and oppressive Islamic republic regime and topples it. That is the first and most urgent solution to confront the crisis and war with.

This revolution, by handing all power over to the soviets of workers and toilers and establishment of the most complete form of democracy and recognition of political freedoms in its broadest and wide spread form, not only would unite the broadest mass

of people in unprecedented dimensions, but would neutralise imperialist tactics on a world scale. Since the revolution of Iranian workers and toilers has clear and constructive aims and programme, it would take the arena off blind and aimless riots and such it would neutralise another one of internal and international bourgeoisie tactics. The Iranian revolution would be the result of unity of workers of all nationalities residing in Iran. This revolution by recognising the right to self determination for all nationalities living in Iran would end national oppression and would defend the voluntary and free unity of the nationalities residing in Iran. Such, the initiative would be removed from the nationalists and chauvinist, hence another one of imperialist's tactics would be neutralised. By realising all the demands of Iranian people, from women to men, the Iranian revolution would unite and mobilise them to confront any foreign and internal enemy.

This unity and general mobilisation of millions of people, women and men, workers and toilers would compel the imperialist powers to retreat. Because they would not be able to smash the power which emanates from 60 million people with bombs, cannons and tanks. World imperialist powers can in a few days overthrow Taliban and Saddam type regimes that do not enjoy the support of masses, but can never smash the power that relies on millions of people. Why? Because imperialism must engage 60 million people from women and men to children, it must fight every house that has become an entrenchment. It must deploy military force in every village, mountain and wilderness. None of that is possible. And the important problem would be millions of people, who have taken power into their own hands and would be establishing the most democratic government on the planet Earth, would enjoy the support of billions of masses of workers and toilers of the whole world. If despite the lack of credibility of Saddam's regime in the world public opinion, millions of people throughout the world, due to their loathing of American imperialism and imperialist war and in defence of Iraqi people, poured onto the streets and demonstrated against the war; a people's and revolutionary power would attract tens and hundreds of millions of human beings in its support onto the streets and even overthrow their reactionary governments.

Therefore, it is clear why the working class of Iran, can rescue the Iranian people from the serious threats they face and why the mass revolution of Iranian workers and toilers is the solution for confronting war and all disasters that threaten the Iranian people.

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## American Imperialism & the Islamic Republic of Iran

American and English imperialisms' aggression against Iraq and occupation of Iraq would have disastrous consequences, particularly for the countries of the region. All evidence indicate that the imperialist block had considered various and complicated scenarios for military aggression against Iraq from a long time ago. But all developments following the fall of Saddam Hussein show that those scenarios could not have predicted all aspects and consequences.

The whole history of foreign policies of imperialism in general and American imperialism in particular, prove imperialism uses various means such as political and economic pressures, support for internal reaction, political conspiracies, coup d'etat;

and also use of existing groups and bands that are prepared to advance its programmes, in order to secure the interests of its monopolies.

Several months before the start of war and specifically after, the foreign minister of England, Jack Straw's visit to Iran in October 2002, the Islamic republic regime declared it would remain "neutral" in case of war starting. Hashemi -e- Rafsanjani at that time said: "We have never said we would not discuss and have relations with the American government." Following that, several ministers and representatives of the Islamic republic's parliaments talked about active neutralism. This was the same policy they had adopted concerning the American attack on Afghanistan in exchange for receiving several concessions. Active neutralism, in reality, had no meaning other than support in practice for the military aggression of the imperialist block on Iraq. It was clear that the American-English imperialists had not gained the active neutralism of the Islamic republic for gratis.

Aggressor American forces air attack on some bases of Peoples' Mojahedin in Iraq during late April, showed that following their dealing and wheeling with the Islamic republic, the imperialists pay the costs of Islamic republic's "neutralism". On the other hand, apparently the Islamic republic dispatched some units of "Revolutionary" Guards to Iraq and or used Iraqi groups connected to it to destroy Peoples' Mojahedin's forces. But in a short time the two reactionary forces of American imperialism and the Islamic republic entered a new quarrel against one another.

The Islamic republic regime could not wash its hands off its Pan-Islamic policies. If there was only one country in the entire region that could have the highest capacity for expansion of Pan-Islamism of the Islamic republic, it was Iraq. Because Iraq is the only country in the region, that according to official statistics has the greatest number of Shia Moslem population. Secondly, for more than two decades the Islamic republic had invested a great deal on a reactionary group named the Iraq's Supreme Council of Islamic Revolution. The fall of Saddam's regime, the expansionist and Pan-Islamic policies of the Islamic republic regime were the best opportunity to commence profiting from millions of dollars investment on the Supreme Council and its armed wing "Badr Army". But on the other side, American imperialism had not come to occupy Iraq so that a regime similar to the Islamic republic is installed there. The era when imperialists used to support the reactionary Islamic movements such as the Iranian ruling group and Afghanistan's Taliban to struggle against the former Soviet Union and communism had come to an end a long time ago. Now the very reactionary Islamic forces have transformed to an obstacle against imperialist policies. American aggressors have realised developments in Iraq do not go forward according to their various scenarios. Some of the demonstrations taking place in Iraq against the presence of occupying forces are organised by reactionary Islamic forces. They have gone as far as openly speaking about the Islamic republic of Iraq and that, under the governance of the Shia Moslem clergy of that country. It was obvious that American imperialism could not agree with such an alternative. It was exactly at this juncture that suddenly suppression and destruction of Peoples' Mojahedin was deleted from the agenda. Saddam's regime had been able to use the Peoples' Mojahedin as a lever to pressurise the Islamic republic and as an auxiliary force for internal suppression. There were no reasons why the new occupying rulers could not use the same lever and for the very same purposes. It was here that a turn in American policies towards the Peoples' Mojahedin occurred. That turning went as far as the aggressor American forces and Peoples' Mojahedin signing a cease fire agreement. Following the



agreement it became clear that Peoples' Mojahedin without being disarmed in Iraq would at least remain in some of their bases. But these tactical changes do not mean the end of work on this specific case.

Islamic republic's deal with American and English imperialist block for suppression and destruction of Peoples' Mojahedin; and the changing of one side of that deal from Islamic republic to Peoples' Mojahedin is a case of non-realisation of parts of the imperialist scenarios for occupation of Iraq and the instability of the situation following the war. This could also occur in relation to the groups ruling the north and the south of Iraq in future. Imperialists would definitely use these means to secure their long term dominance and occupation of Iraq. But as before, a great unknown of the whole of this scenery is the working class and oppressed masses of Iraqi people who are still in shock after tens of years of Saddam's bloody dictatorial regime, several reactionary wars and now the occupation of their country by the most rabid imperialists. When the Iraqi oil workers and all toilers of that country regain their senses, organise and up-rise to free themselves from all shekels of imperialist reaction and Islamic reaction could not be far.