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Exclusive: Pride of Persia, Iran's Glory!

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Thirty years ago, a bloody hurricane called the Islamic revolution raped Iran and its people. Today, the children of that revolution are asking their own parents one simple question: "Why did you allow this to happen to our country?"

Those very same children are today's courageous and fearless heroes who have taken center stage in what can only be described as one of the biggest fights for human rights, freedom and democracy in history. It began with a simple internal power struggle based on an election façade.

A nation of 70 million people, 70 percent under the age of 30, with a 26 percent unemployment rate (despite masses of oil money) and increased violations of basic human rights, Iran has been a ticking time bomb. The massive act of civil disobedience that is being televised and Twitterized 24/7 is well overdue.

As the people's unrest has increased daily – ignoring and derogating the so-called Supreme Leader Ali Khomeini's orders against further demonstrations – this uprising is no longer about the elections, where many people voted for Mousavi as a tactical effort to get rid of Ahmadinejad. Now, the people's objective is about their right to hold elections. The elections are merely being used as an excuse.

And now we hear reports that the Bazaaries are showing their support by keeping their shops and stores closed in protest, despite going to work under duress by the Basiji. The influence of the crowds has begun trickling down to the infrastructure of the country and the very backbone of the nation. Once the Bazaars, factories and oil rigs go on strike the army will soon follow...then the end is nigh for this self-elected regime.

The Iranian people, who have been sacrificing and risking their lives on a daily basis, are the focal point of these amazing developments. It is they who are the beating heart of Iran and her pulse is pounding once more with Herculean strength. Any further restrictions by the regime will only deepen the dissatisfaction of the regime. The people realize these are short-term sacrifices for greater long-term gain. The government is now cornered into defending its survival, whilst the Iranian people have the advantage of taking the offensive. The regime knows that there is strength in numbers and this makes them extremely vulnerable indeed. The daily horrifying pictures and headlines are so astonishing to watch that they arouse mixed feelings of heartache, angst and hope.

Disagreements in USA a Non-Issue

The people want to be heard. They just want their freedom and human rights. It is up to us to tell their story. But it cannot be emphasized enough that although the world is watching with bated breath, the future of Iran is not a decision for the observers on the outside to make. It is not even up to the Iranian Diaspora to determine this dream. Yes, we must stand in support and solidarity, and we should even send out moral messages of outrage. Yet it is ultimately up to those courageous people who are on the frontlines of Iran's streets. Any kind of outside intervention, even by verbal rhetoric, will only undermine, discredit and interrupt the civil movement and as a result it would lose all momentum. To hear some pundits and politicians politicizing, arguing and strategizing this historical event is not only a non-issue and a distraction but it is also a huge insult to the Iranian people, whose blood is being spilled on the streets of Iran daily.

This is not about Obama. This is not about the Republicans and Democrats. This is not about America, Europe and the Middle East and their role. The world had an opportunity to prevent this from happening 30 years ago. That time has passed. This should not be about anything else but the support for the Iranian people and their own independent actions.

In fact, the international community spoke very clearly when the UN invited Ahmadinejad to speak in New York and, during the recent turmoil, the State Department has openly declared that they will continue to engage with the Iranian regime because of U.S. interests.

On September 12, 2001, when all of the Muslim world was celebrating the events of 9/11, the Iranian people inside Iran bravely defied the Islamic regime and held candle-lit vigils in solidarity with Americans. If the world truly wishes to return the same solidarity to the Iranian people then they should avoid the temptation to make this about the efforts of the rest of the world, which would only be playing right into the hands of Khomeini and the regime.

A Force More Powerful!

This has gone beyond Ahmadinejad and Mousavi. The Iranians have begun rescuing their own country. Mousavi is incidental. There is nothing that we can do except support the Iranian people in whatever they, and only they, decide. This is their concern and no one else's, and it would be foolishly presumptuous to think otherwise. They must be the architects of their own destiny, be permitted to stand firm on their own feet, whilst taking the matter into their hands. The right of the people to take back their sovereignty belongs only to them and they have shown that they are more than capable without outside intrusion. They have realized that their capacity and willingness to suffer outweighs any power that the regime has, as the Iranian people have nothing to lose while regime has everything to lose!

If there is any kind of outside intrusion it will no longer be the peoples' power. It would instead be stamped with the barcode of the international community. And that would give a misplaced and undesirable message.

It is the Iranian people who deserve all the credit for taking the matter into their own hands. The credit belongs to no one else or nation.

The will of the people is the driving force towards liberty. They are determined. They are capable. They are effective. And they will free Iran. They own this legacy. The human race should be proud of them. They are marching together, side by side, young, old, women, men, risking everything. They are not asking for freedom. They are demanding it. This is their moment in history. This is their time. They are the Pride of Persia! This is Iran's glory!

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