

Zionist Regime Torture Program

By: Kayhan Int'l Staff Writer

New reports out of occupied Palestine shows that the number of cases of torture of Palestinians in Israeli prisons has soared in the past two years.

The "Israeli" findings goes on to suggest that there have been numerous reports of torture and violent interrogation by the Israel Security Agency, Shin Bet, and the military court system, including sleep deprivation cases and beatings. Still, it is hard to believe the torture program stops there.

According to numerous reports by international rights groups, including the United Nations, the Israeli Torture Program is far more barbaric than that. The systematic crimes against Palestinian detainees – even women and children – are perpetrated from the time of arrest, during transfer and interrogation, to long-term solitary confinement and incarceration. Israeli soldiers and media as well as international lawyers and independent legal groups have all testified these systematic abuses time and again.

The Zionist regime might try to claim otherwise. Unfortunately, the fact is that almost every Palestinian prisoner has been tortured – even minors. Under the Israeli Torture Program, Palestinian prisoners are:

Sexually abused and raped, including homosexual rape; attacked and bitten by dogs; penetrated in the penis with a pen; metal rods up urethra; exposed, blindfolded and pelted with rocks by settlers at sporting events; forced to drink urine; forced to grasp barbed wire and endure electric shock; forced to stand in electrically charged water; forced to run the gauntlet of beatings by soldiers; dragged by rope around neck; tortured in front of family members; crushed under bulldozer and blindfolded and hung from helicopter.

The torture program is remarkably well documented in Israel, where torture has to be reported to the courts, but is usually not treated as any particular problem!

This is while international rights groups have on several occasions and reports urged the Zionist regime to honor the sanctity of life and its responsibility to prevent the torture and ill-treatment of Palestinian prisoners, whose only crime is protest against occupation and land theft.

Rights groups have also expressed their deepest concerns about the practice of torture and ill-treatment of Palestinian children arrested, prosecuted and detained by the military and the police, and about the regime's failure to end these practices in spite of repeated concerns expressed by international treaty bodies.

Under international law, the usurper regime has to stop its large-scale torture program that includes physical and verbal violence, humiliation, painful restraints, physical violence, and sexual assault against Palestinian prisoners or members of their family.

The international law also makes it unquestionably clear that all those Zionist war criminals behind the torture regime should be brought to justice at the International Criminal Court in The Hague. There is no other way to instigate justice.

Vice President Heads to New York

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – Iran's Vice President for women and family affairs Shahindokht Molaverdi left Tehran for New York on Saturday to participate in a UN conference on the status of women due to open on Monday.

The 59th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (Beijing+20) will take place at United Nations Headquarters in New York from March 9 to 20.

Heading a high-ranking Iranian delegation, Molaverdi will attend the conference and deliver a speech.

Representatives of member states, UN entities, and NGOs affiliated to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) from across the world are to attend the session.

The main focus of the session will be on the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, including current challenges that affect its implementation and the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women, according to the official website of the session.

The commission will undertake a review of progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 20 years after its adoption at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995.

The review (Beijing+20) will also include the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly, the first five-year assessment conducted after the adoption of the Platform for Action, which highlighted further actions and initiatives.

IAEA Experts to Visit Iran for Talks



Iran's Ambassador to IAEA Reza Najafi, left, and IAEA Deputy Director Tero Varjoranta deliver a statement in Vienna.

TEHRAN (Fars) -- A team of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will arrive here on Monday to discuss two remaining issues in cooperation with Iran, spokesman of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) Behrouz Kamalvandi said on Saturday.

The team will be headed by IAEA Deputy Director Tero Varjoranta for two days of talks with AEOI officials and experts, Kamalvandi said.

The official said the IAEA has delayed responding to the information sent by Iran about two recent issues mentioned in the third stage of their cooperation agreement.

One of the issues is related to al-

leged experiments in Marivan, and the other to papers published in Iran about neutron transports and associated modeling and calculations and their alleged application to compressed materials.

"Iran has told them (IAEA) that if they think some explosions have taken place, they should specify its location so that the country gives them access to the place," Kamalvandi said.

The official said Iran and the IAEA's step-by-step cooperation is based on the agreement that the two sides deal with other steps only after finalizing different subjects mentioned in the previous step.

Diplomat: Zionists Angry Due to Isolation

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – Iran's former ambassador to Lebanon said the occupying regime of Israel's anger at nuclear talks between Tehran and six world powers is due to the fact that the negotiations have focused on the nuclear case alone.

"The Zionists have become exasperated since diplomatic talks on Iran's peaceful nuclear program involve only nuclear issues and have nothing to do with Israel's security," Ghazanfar Roknabadi to state radio on Saturday.

He said the Zionist regime is angry about a possible nuclear deal between Iran and the Group 5+1 (Russia, China, the U.S., Britain, France and Germany), since it had

used to see its security as an overriding priority in all international developments.

Roknabadi said the Zionists do not know what kind of a nuclear agreement would be reached, and subsequently what the fate of the anti-Israeli resistance movements, Palestine and the Zionist regime would be.

Israel will do its utmost to undermine the nuclear talks and obstruct a final deal between Iran and the six nations, he said.

Meanwhile, chief commander of Iran's volunteer Basij force Brigadier General Muhammad Reza Naqdi described Zionist PM Benjamin Netanyahu's recent address to the U.S. Congress as a show to "comfort" an ailing regime that is on the brink of collapse.

Speaking to reporters here, General Naqdi underscored that Iran does not care about Israel's opposition to a nuclear deal between Tehran and world powers.

In a Tuesday speech to U.S. Congress, Netanyahu warned of a "very bad" nuclear agreement between Iran and world powers, accusing Tehran of seeking a nuclear bomb.

Naqdi said a good agreement is the one that recognizes Iran's entire nuclear achievements and its right to uranium enrichment, and also leads to the removal of all anti-Iran sanctions immediately after taking effect.

Thus, Tehran and the IAEA will not deal with other issues before concluding those related to the Marivan and neutron transport cases.

The last technical meeting between the two sides was held in November last year.

Last Monday, the IAEA verified lack of any diversion towards non-peaceful purposes in Iran's declared nuclear material.

"Concerning safeguards implementation in Iran, the agency continues to verify the non-diversion of nuclear material declared by Iran under its Safeguards Agreement," IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano said in an address to the agency's Board of Governors in Vienna.

The Holy Qur'an

And remove the rage of their hearts; and Allah turns (mercifully) to whom He pleases, and Allah is Knowing, Wise.

The Holy Qur'an (9.15)

PRAYER TIMINGS

Noon (Zohr)	12:15
Evening (Maghreb)	18:23
Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow"	05:02
Sunrise "Tomorrow"	06:25

Iran to Unveil Homemade Defense System

TEHRAN (Tasnim) – A high-ranking military commander says a long-range version of Iran's home-grown air defense system, known as Talash (Endeavor), will be unveiled in April.

Head of Khatam al-Anbia Air Defense Base Brigadier General Farzad Esmaili said the Talash 3 is compatible with long-range missiles and has been integrated with the S-200 missile system.

He said the homegrown system's previous versions, employed for short and medium ranges, have already undergone successful operational tests. "The new long-range model will raise fear among the enemies," he said.

According to Esmaili, integration of Talash with the S-200 enables Iranian forces to shoot down "any kind of enemy targets" in the sky.

Meanwhile, Iran's navy commander unveiled plans for manufacture of a homegrown version of the Phalanx, a close-in weapon system (CIWS), on board military

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Press Digest

The Enemy

VATAN EMROOZ: Israel is our enemy and we are proud to be Israel's enemy. What Israel has, has been stolen from others. What we have belongs to us because we earned it by working very hard. Those who shout that we must give up these scientific achievements - including the nuclear program - are repeating what the Zionist regime and its warmongers have been saying for years. Israel wants a deal that would serve its own illicit interests. That would be a win-lose deal for Iran.

Press Freedom

JOMHOURI ESLAMI: There are four basic stages at which freedom of the press can be limited: Access to information; prior restraint on publishing inflammatory information; libel and invasion of privacy; and requiring reporters to testify or otherwise disclose sources/materials gathered. Nothing is certain or ever will be about the subject. Like any precious and constantly threatened right, its only hope for life rests in the unrelenting vigilance of those who understand it best and most appreciate its value - the members of the press themselves.

Zionist Aggression

SIASAT ROOZ: The Zionist policy of aggression is still ongoing while the West continues to impose its unjustified sanctions against the Palestinians! Any conscientious human being is pretty much aware of the never-ending suffering of the people of Gaza. They can also judge which side committed crimes against humanity in the besieged enclave and created an intolerable situation for the other, and deserves a campaign of international sanctions and boycott.

Tackling Terrorism

HEMAYAT: Iran, Iraq and Syria must work together to prevent and crack down on all terrorist activities. Tackling the causes, resources and capacities of terrorism, as well as coordination between law enforcement agencies, security and volunteer forces, are among other measures that they need to take to ensure the effectiveness of combating the ISIL goons.