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Hamid Nouri Released From Prison in Sweden

TEHRAN -- Iran and Sweden carried out a prisoner swap Saturday that saw Tehran release two men in exchange for a former Iranian judiciary official held in prison in Stockholm.

Kazem Gharibabadi, who serves as head of the Iranian Judiciary's High Council for Human Rights, announced Hamid Nouri's release in a post on his X account on Saturday.

"I am delighted to inform the esteemed nation of Iran that Mr. Hamid Nouri, who has been under detention in Sweden since 2019, has been released and will be returning to our country within a few hours," Gharibabadi said.

He also attributed this success to the efforts of his colleagues in the Judiciary, the Ministry of Intelligence, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, particularly late Foreign Minister Hussein Amir-Abdollahian.

Majid Nouri, in a message on Saturday, announced the release of his father.

"On the eve of the Eid al-Adha and Eid al-Ghadir festivals, after 1,680 days of captivity, the tireless efforts of our resolute and courageous officials have paid

off, and my father, Hamid Nouri, is about to return to Iran."

Nouri was arrested upon arrival at Stockholm Airport in November 2019 and was immediately imprisoned. He had been illegally jailed for three and a half years in solitary confinement in Sweden.

He was put on trial on unfounded allegations staged against him by elements representing the terrorist Mujahedin Khalq Organization (MKO) that has openly boasted about carrying out terrorist operations against Iranian officials and civilians perceived to be supporters of the government.

A Swedish court sentenced Nouri to life imprisonment in 2022. The court, which was described by Iran as illegitimate in the first place, convicted Nouri of "war crimes and crimes against humanity" entirely based on claims made by MKO terrorists living in exile across Europe.

Sweden's Appeal Court then upheld the verdict in December 2023.

Nouri himself has vehemently denied the charges brought against him in the case while calling them fabricated.

MKO Used Building in Paris to Snoop on Phone Calls

TEHRAN -- An informed source has revealed new details about the French police raid on a building used as a secret headquarters of the anti-Iran terrorist Mujahedin Khalq Organization.

The terrorist group used the building to eavesdrop on people's telephone calls and as a television studio, the sourced told IRNA.

French authorities seized all the equipment including important files pertaining to the MKO's espionage activities against Iran.

The informed source said three members of the

group were arrested during the raid.

During a trial session at a court in Paris, the prosecutor's representative divulged the role of the MKO's television channel in provoking acts of violence and terrorism against the people of Iran, the source said.

The MKO is responsible for thousands of deaths in Iran in the 1980s and later. The terrorist group is also notorious for allying itself with Saddam's regime, an arch-enemy of Iran, during the Iraqi imposed war in the 1980s.

Leader Calls for Increased Participation in Elections



Ayatollah Khamenei speaks in a meeting with a number of Iranian medalists of national and international scientific Olympiads in Tehran on June 15, 2024.

TEHRAN -- Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei here Saturday called for collective efforts to increase participation in the upcoming presidential election.

"In the very important upcoming election, it is important to increase participation in the first place," Ayatollah Khamenei told a number of talented Iranian students and medalists from national and international scientific Olympiads.

Ayatollah Khamenei called on Iranian students to make efforts in the universities and among their family members to boost turnout in the June

28 presidential election.

The Leader emphasized that Iranian youths should choose a candidate who is closely pursuing the ideals of the Islamic Revolution and has the ability to work towards them.

Ayatollah Khamenei described Iran's political independence as a "tangible reality". He said the Islamic Republic has a position and logic as well as interesting perspectives regarding major issues in the world which even the country's opponents can count on.

"This political independence should not be undermined," the Leader stated,

stressing that every government in the future must safeguard it.

Ayatollah Khamenei said talented students are a source of "great, deep and true hope and a major asset" who are the main factor in helping the country achieve its required scientific development.

The 1979 Islamic Revolution succeeded in making a leap in various political, scientific, technological, moral and social fields, the Leader emphasized.

Ayatollah Khamenei called on the talented students to boost cooperation and synergy to find solutions to different problems and issues.

Plot Against Iran Election Foiled, Two Takfiri Terrorists Killed

TEHRAN -- The commander of the Iranian border police said Saturday his forces foiled a terrorist plot before the June 28 snap presidential election, forcing the militants to flee the country and confiscating a significant amount of ammunition.

Brigadier General Ahmad Ali Goudarzi said the counter-terrorism operation was carried out in the southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchestan close to the border with Pakistan.

He said members of a terrorist group were trying to infiltrate the country through the frontier of Saravan County but they were identified and confronted, thanks to the vigilance and surveillance of Iranian border guards.

The Iranian forces engaged

the terrorists in a heavy exchange of fire, leaving a number of them injured and forcing them to eventually flee, he added.

A sizable cache of munitions, including C-4 high-velocity explosive material, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), electronic fuses, AK-47 assault rifle bullets and cartridges, U.S.-made grenades, and a radio system were confiscated, Goudarzi said.

The general stressed that Iranian border guards would not hesitate to decisively confront any terrorist group trying to sneak into the country to carry out acts of sabotage and terror.

Separately, Iranian border guards killed two members of a takfiri terrorist organiza-

tion and captured another in of Sistan and Baluchestan.

Gen. Goudarzi said border guards deployed at the zero point between Iran and Pakistan detected members of the terror group called "Ansar al-Furqan" as they attempted to sneak across the frontier with the intent to carry out acts of sabotage.

He said Iranian forces did not hesitate to engage in a fierce exchange of fire with the terrorists, killing two of them in the process. A militant was also captured following the armed clashes.

The province of Sistan and Baluchestan, which borders Pakistan and Afghanistan, has witnessed several terror attacks targeting both civilians and security forces in the past several years.

The Holy Qur'an

And it does not beseech the believers that they should go forth all together; why should not then a company from every party from among them go forth that they may apply themselves to obtain understanding in religion, and that they may warn their people when they come back to them that they may be cautious?

The Holy Qur'an (9.122)

PRAYER TIMINGS

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Noon (Zohr) | 12:05 |
| Evening (Maghreb) | 19:43 |
| Dawn (Fajr) "Tomorrow" | 04:48 |
| Sunrise "Tomorrow" | 03:02 |

Envoy: Iran Knows How to Defeat U.S. Plot Against Ansarullah

NEW YORK (Dispatches) -- Iran's permanent mission to the United Nations in New York says Tehran knows very well how to thwart U.S. plots to isolate and destroy Yemen's resistance movement.

The mission made the announcement in reaction to claims that Iran is providing financial and intelligence support to Yemen's Ansarullah resistance movement to target ships in the Red Sea. Iran is also accused of arming Yemen despite UN sanctions blocking weapons transfers.

The mission said the U.S. thinks it can isolate and defeat the Yemeni resistance movement through its military power and political dominance over the United Nations Security Council.

The U.S. believes that Iran will either be afraid and cut off its relationship with Ansarullah or will violate the Security Council's resolutions, it added.

However, Iran "knows how to defeat the U.S. strategy in such a way that Yemen's Ansarullah is strengthened while the Islamic Republic is not recognized as a violator of UN Security Council resolutions", it said.

The U.S. and its allies have been bombing Yemen in recent months in violation of the country's sovereignty and international law.

Yemeni forces have targeted ships going to and from ports in the occupied territories, or whose owners are linked to Israel, in the southern Red Sea, the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, the Gulf of Aden, and even in the Arabian Sea. They have also attacked American and British vessels in the same waters.

Regional tensions escalated after Israel unleashed a ferocious war on Gaza on October 7.