

## English

Message No. 73 – SHAMA

**Rejecting the two lose–lose options of humiliating unconditional surrender and devastating war, and offering a “Third Way”**

In this *dark night, with fear of waves and a whirlpool so dreadful*,  
by presenting a “**Third Way**,”  
we address you, the great people of Iran:

**Great People of Iran,**

Our bitter historical experience of a **regressive trajectory**—the secret behind Iran’s **chronic backwardness**—is, regrettably, repeating itself. For example, from the “**Sheikh versus Shah**” dichotomy before the Constitutional Movement—aimed at removing the Sheikh’s hand from power and limiting the Shah through the slogan of “**Justice House and National Assembly**”—after seven decades we made a painful **regression** in 1979 by **concentrating absolute power** of both in a single person, the Sheikh. We even deprived ourselves of the security margin created by the **conflict between Sheikh and Shah**, submitting to a system of **unchecked personal absolutism**. Now we hear whispers of a **return** to a despotic system which, as the Shah himself said, we overthrew in 1979 due to its unholy compromise of political and financial corruption, repression and lawlessness, oppression and subservience to foreigners, a one-party Rastakhiz system, SAVAK repression, and the impossibility of reform. We share the following points with you:

1. If asked: having experienced BBC’s deception in elevating a criminal cleric—capable, and at least seemingly independent of foreigners—such as Khomeini, why, after half a century and despite so many media outlets, are you now deceived by **Iran International**, which works day and night to elevate an individual whose **incompetence** and **subservience to Israel** have been proven—what will you answer?
2. You have repeatedly been informed—on **legal grounds and religious criteria**—of the **nullity of Ali Khamenei’s guardianship and his removal**, and of the **illegitimacy and illegality** of the Islamic Republic as a whole. You have lived the **inefficiency** of this government—emblematic of a **failed state**—through your own catastrophic lives, and you know that today’s deplorable situation is the **result** of this regime and its removed leader. You also know that the **precondition** for exiting the current lose–lose impasse is eliminating its **cause**, namely the ruling system over Iran.
3. Three years ago, the spokesperson of this Council, in an interview with International Visual Radio France, described a **war between Iran and Israel as inevitable**.
4. With Trump’s return to the White House, the anticipation of a new **revolutionary** moment and the current **lose–lose** condition prompted the formation of the **National Council of the Revolution of Iran**—as a precautionary measure—to **guide the revolution** and prevent **state collapse**. Repeatedly, a **national uprising with urgency and necessity** has been proposed as the **Third Way** against **humiliating unconditional surrender and devastating war**.
5. Multiple indicators—including Araqchi’s statement that if we take **one step back** we must surrender to all of Trump’s demands—signal the **next phase of war**. Even surrendering to

- Trump's demands, beyond the humiliation, would mean **complete disarmament** of Iran, loss of **deterrent power**, and would lead to **fragmentation and collapse** of the country.
6. The great people of Iran are now **mourning and seeking justice** for an unprecedented massacre—caused by the **incompetence coupled with cruelty** of the government, the calls of **reckless claimants of leadership** who lacked any understanding of Iran's conditions and the removed leader's resolve for **total repression**, as well as the role of foreign actors. At the very least, the **pure blood** spilled obliges us to **strip the killers of power**.
  7. Given the threats by the head of the **Butchery Judiciary**, the evidence at hand, and the assignment of the **second phase** of the massacre to this body—potentially **worse than the 1980s**—the great people of Iran bear not only the **duty of justice** for phase one, but an even **greater responsibility**: to **prevent** the second phase at the hands of the judiciary.
  8. As stated in Message No. 72, with a **change of tactics**—from **street protests** to **nationwide strikes, civil disobedience, and cutting the regime's financial and economic arteries**—and with **full cooperation** of the great people, the National Council of the Revolution of Iran **commits to and guarantees** the victory of the national revolution. With a **renewed covenant**, we ask that from **29 Bahman**—the **40th day** of the first phase of the massacre and also the anniversary commemorated by the heroic people of **Tabriz** for the **40th day** of the Qom martyrs in the 1979 revolution, which breathed new life into revolutionary anger—you resume nationwide strikes, civil disobedience, and cutting the regime's financial and economic arteries. Clearly, this tactic provides **no pretext for repression** to the removed government and, given the regime's bankruptcy, will **paralyze it sooner**, foster **national cohesion**, strengthen it, and **shift the balance of power** in favor of the people.

Subsequent messages will be issued as developments and conditions require.

**Proud be the people of Iran**

**Long live Iran**

National Council of the Revolution of Iran

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