

# Iran bows to Kurd demands

From Reuter  
in Tehran

Iranian religious and Government leaders yesterday announced a plan to give more self-rule to the country's minority Kurds, who staged a violent three-day uprising last week in the western town of Sanandaj.

The plan includes the appointment of a Kurd as Governor General of Kurdistan for the first time. It also promised the Kurds a say in a new Iranian Constitution, freedom to continue their own culture, and participation in decisions concerning Iran as a whole. The new Governor General is Ibrahim Yunesi, who was once sentenced to death, then reprieved by the Shah.

The plan was aimed at cooling tempers in the Kurdish areas after the Sanandaj battle between besieged Army troops and Kurds, most of whom were demanding autonomy.

Iran radio said the plan had been accepted by Kurdish leaders after four days of negotiations with the Tehran religious leader, Ayatollah Mahmoud Taleghani, and the Interior Minister, Mr Ahmad Sadr Haj Seyed Javadi.

But there was some doubt as to whether the plan would be accepted by all the Kurds, who are split into factions.

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More than 100 Kurdish prisoners, captured by troops around the garrison, have been freed, and installations captured by guerrillas, including the airport, local radio and television station, and the Army administration offices, will be handed back to their original authorities.

Ayatollah Khomeini yesterday appealed to voters to endorse his plan for an Islamic Republic to replace the overthrown Government of the exiled Shah.