



Iranian TV in the USA
 Watch over 14 Iranian TV Channels via satellite. No monthly fee
 Related Searches: • islamic jihad • islamic

Iraq
 Comprehensive Coverage of All the Day's Events- Get a Free Trial Now!

Ads by Google

Iranian Prospect

Omid Memarian, Iranian Journalist in this weblog deals to situation of democracy and civil society and especially youth in Iran today....and talk about some daily events....and some personal experiences



Tuesday, April 20, 2004

The dragons and the assocaitions

Some of the reformists have established an NGO to support the rights of political prisoner. I think this is the new way for reformist to look forward their goals. At the same time the entry of politician will have some dangers for the civil society sphere. Because during the recent years, conservatives were not sensitive to this section but now it will change. Of course there will be not any danger for the NGOs who are working on humanitarian aids or supporting the patients of even development NGOs. But NGOs which are near to human right and freedom of express will have more problems. The dragon pays attention under his feet. Civil society organizations are the next purpose for dragons. But this time they are very careful. What will they do? They will build a counterfeit civil society. How? Whenever the democrats (I prefer to use democrats instead of reformists) establish a civil association they establish another one with a similar name. So our civil society has two faces. In many conferences they attend as the representative of real civil society. But they are not. I want to write a comment on this subject.... But its too late....it is 4 am.....Woh!!!!!!!!!!!!

Posted by: Omid / 4/20/2004 04:32:13 PM

It is 2 am. I can not spleep these days. i have to work hard. now I am working on a paper about microcredit in Afghanistan. After it I will edit an interview and then finish a unfinished comment...I think it takes long even till 5 a.m.

Posted by: Omid / 4/20/2004 02:39:10 PM

Peace Prize winners honored

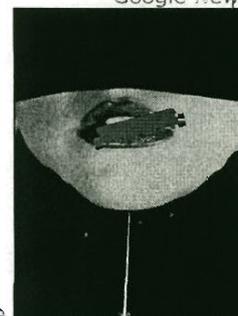
Dalai Lama, Tutu and Ebadi visit B.C.
 VANCOUVER, B.C. -- Three Nobel Peace Prize winners were honored by the University of British Columbia yesterday for their non-violent resolutions to world conflict.

The Dalai Lama, retired South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu and human-rights activist Shirin Ebadi spoke to a gathering at the university before being granted honorary degrees.**(Continued...)**
(Thank you charlie for sending the link)

Posted by: Omid / 4/20/2004 09:47:44 AM

Links

- Gooya website
- Women in Iran
- Hoder(Hossein Derakhshah)
- Mohammad Ali Abtahi
- Tehran Avenue
- Masoud Behnohd
- Gooya Popular Website
- Yahoo Photos
- View from Iran ,..
- Google News



Edit-Me

Archives

- 08/01/2003 - 08/31/2003
- 09/01/2003 - 09/30/2003
- 10/01/2003 - 10/31/2003
- 11/01/2003 - 11/30/2003
- 12/01/2003 - 12/31/2003
- 02/01/2004 - 02/29/2004
- 03/01/2004 - 03/31/2004
- 04/01/2004 - 04/30/2004

SP00147

The dragons and the associations

Some of the reformists have established an NGO to support the rights of political prisoner. I think this is the new way for reformist to look forward their goals. At the same time the entry of politician will have some dangers for the civil society sphere. Because during the recent years, conservatives were not sensitive to this section but now it will change. Of course there will be not any danger for the NGOs who are working on humanitarian aids or supporting the patients of even development NGOs. But NGOs which are near to human right and freedom of express will have more problems. The dragon pays attention under his feet. Civil society organizations are the next purpose for dragons. But this time they are vary careful. What will they do? They will build a counterfeit civil society. How? Whenever the democrats (I prefer to use democrats instead of reformists) establish a civil association they establish another one with a similar name. So our civil society has two faces. In many conferences they attend as the representative of real civil society. But they are not. I want to write a comment on this subject... But its too late...it is 4 am.....Woh!!!!!!!!!!!!

Posted by: Omid / 4/20/2004 04:30:48 AM

Analysis: Iran's influence in Iraq

An official Iranian delegation is in Baghdad at Washington's request to help resolve the impasse between the US occupation authorities and Shia cleric Moqtada Sadr. Middle East analyst Dilip Hiro says this underlies the influence that the predominantly Shia Iran has on the neighbouring Iraqi Shias. The Iranian influence is exercised through different channels - a phenomenon helped by the fact that there is no single, centralised authority in Iran

Posted by: Omid / 4/20/2004 03:11:05 AM

Galaxy, Iran cancel April 28 matc
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CARSON, Calif. -- The Los Angeles Galaxy and Iran national team canceled their April 28 match because of problems securing the necessary paperwork for the Iranians to travel....

Posted by: Omid / 4/20/2004 03:04:55 AM

Shirin Ebadi and Dalai Lama



His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama (C), Professor Shirin Ebadi of Iran (L) and South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu leave the stage after receiving honorary degrees from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, April 19, 2004. Tenzin Gyatso, has lived in exile in India since 1959, but he is still considered by many to be both the spiritual and political leader of the Tibetan people. The Dalai Lama kicks off his 19 day tour of Canada with four days of lectures in Vancouver. REUTERS/Lyle Stafford

Posted by: Omid / 4/20/2004 02:53:03 AM

Today the weather is rainy. Another newspaper will publish in the early weeks. They called me to have cooperation with them. But I am really busy these days. Today i have come to my sister home. Her Husband has gone to the China for business and I spend my time with her. We are twin.

Posted by: Omid / 4/20/2004 01:20:18 AM

The similarities between Iranian civil society and European civil society especially in women NGOs

I had an interview with Simon Susskind the chief of Action in Mediterranean and adviser of a minister in Belgium. She had implemented many projects about dialogue between women in many countries. They have an exchange program between Iranian women and Belgian women in next month with my institute. I will publish the complete interview in a Persian newspaper next week. But here is a part of it in English (Only two question and answers). Thank you Simon for your kindness and sorry if it is not high quality edited...



1-Do you think that there are any common points in the Iranian and the European civil society?

You know I am astonished to discover once again. There are many common points between women In Iran and Europe. Until this morning that we met Dr. Jaleh Shadi Talab and she told us how long and how difficult it was for her to establish the women's study center at university of Tehran. She was telling that when Mrs. Habibi started working as an advisor of president Rafsanjani , she said listen we had one home and now we have two homes .she explained that to get to this women center , she had a fight to get it. They wanted to reach and But they wanted a center, a women study center. So at the end, she explained they how had got the agreement of the minister of the education. She had a copy rushed to the president of the university, and finally she said that we will give you one home and he said that we are not giving you any funding ,and you have to have it your self , then she started to find the funding . And then she said that you have to attention to the rules, and she did it. And it is exactly what happened in Europe .it is not different at all. The same fight is going on in Europe .here people believed that we have achieved any thing in Europe. I will give you an example We had once in Belgium, a woman who became a minister in Sweden. She called Ana Lind. She came for a conference. We organized the conference on parity between men and women in Belgium. And she told us that in Sweden they had more women than men in the government. They have 43 % of women in the parliament .but in the field of university professors, 10% of women there are .and so on So we had much to do to push the women in these fields like university and There is always something that we have to do.

And it is also very interesting that some women were saying "what we have achieved for instance". Really we don't have women in government, but we have achieved in the medium level a lot. Women in academia, in civil society, we have developed very much in the last year. And this is also very important. So I see many similarities, the tone is different but the way is the same....

2-Are there any differences between instruments that women use?May be this is an advantage. We blow the principle that we are equal. I will give you an example. When I finished my studies at university, it was 1970; the women were not allowed to open a bank account without organization of their husbands. So it is not such a long time, so what we are fighting now, one of the men fought in Europe for instance is two fights. One fight is to get in the political decision making. We are fighting for the parity. We believe that it is important to have equal number of women in the parliament or in the government. This is one fight. The other fight which is not less important is to have agenda mainstreaming, which means that in

all levels of the social body, you have taking the consideration this issue of the equality between the men and women. But this is not against men; it is going together with the men. So these are priorities actually of women in Europe. You must know also, until now in Europe, for equal positions, in general, women are 20% less than men, professionally. They have salaries, 20 %, less than men for the same qualification. So this is an important objective also. I see similarities, which are same issues I can see. Also the same awareness I can see in Europe, In the Arab world, in Iran, every where. And I believe that we have to reinforce the networking at the national level. Women have understood that they had common priorities in the society, with the differences, with the specifics. The objectives are very similar.

Posted by: Omid / 4/20/2004 01:08:53 AM

Monday, April 19, 2004

A journalist is dying because of long prison period and....



Siamak Pourzand an Iranian journalist has a hard heart attack in prison and perhaps in the next hours he dies. The security officials have sent him to the hospital but his life is really in danger. He has been in prison for more two years. The name of Pourzand was at the top of a list that European countries asked the official to free him. But it seems that the European countries that always talk about human rights in the public are concluding their contracts.....and their show off has not any effect of the life of journalist and the other people who are under the torture and pressure....

Posted by: Omid / 4/19/2004 02:57:49 AM

Shirin Ebadi has started a new way



During the last days, Shirin Ebadi the Nobel peace prize has shown a new face of herself in international scenes. After winning the prize many people talked about the worthiness of her to achieve this prize. Some of them believed that there are many other remarkable persons that are more effective in peace or human rights. Some of them talked that she has not the capacity for carrying the things that will happen after it. And also many of people admired her. At that time I wrote a comment in Yasseno paper and emphasized that the prize belong to civil society and Ebadi really is worthy for the prize. She had a continually activities in many human right and of course in civil society related activities. At that time she said that there is no conflict between Islam and democracy and human rights but at the same time she didn't use hejab for herself and sail that hejab is only a internal rule for people in Iran but not something obligatory in Islam. It was the first point to confronting

with Islamic rules. Islamic regime has set hejab as a obligatory rite foe women after revolution. Conservatives and also some of the reformists –even- was astonished. But she was the winner of Nobel Prize...it has many expenses for them to object to her. I remember A few months before this event that Zahra eshraghi, grandchild of Ayatollah Khomeini talked with Elaine Schiolino, the reporter of NTtimes about hejab in Tehran. She said that we don't like hejab or something like this...so the conservatives were trying to hold demonstrations against her so she was compelled to deny her interview. So you can see not to use hejab by Ebadi how was important. It has symbolic meaning. It passed and now she little by little talks about things that show she knows the responsibility of the prize. Many of social activist believe that Shirin Ebadi has to play an important role in the changes after election and it seems she has heard this message. During her trip to Europe she has said some critical sentences about the situation of human rights in Iran. She has charged European countries that they are transacting with conservatives because they didn't put the name of Iran in the list of countries which have not observed the human right issues. She said ignoring situation of human rights in iron is an insulting for democratic movement Iran. She appeared as an opposition. Who can believe it? Now just after a few months of winning the prize Ebadi show a picture of a woman who has started a new way to continue her challenging. Is it a spark? Or it is a part of process? We have to wait to answer it

Posted by: Omid / 4/19/2004 02:44:45 AM

Friday, April 16, 2004

It is 3 am. i will work untill 6 . I can sleep untill 12.

Posted by: Omid / 4/16/2004 03:22:21 AM

Today is friday and everyone is off but I have to go to my office for a meeting. What a boring day. I have waken up at 6 to prepare a report and then edit a interview for newspaper and also perpare the framfork of our next newsletter in our center...Wohhhhh...

Posted by: Omid / 4/16/2004 01:14:54 AM

Thursday, April 15, 2004

Wonderful! O-hum Iranian Rock band. Shahram Sharbaf the vocalist and was my classmate in high school. we were members of our school football team. He was smart and kind. They left Iran because Islamic regime never let them to be active in public. they prepared 2 album but they didnt let them to distribute them.

Posted by: Omid / 4/15/2004 04:35:39 PM

Kidnapped, jailed, beaten ... over a bloodied T-shirt

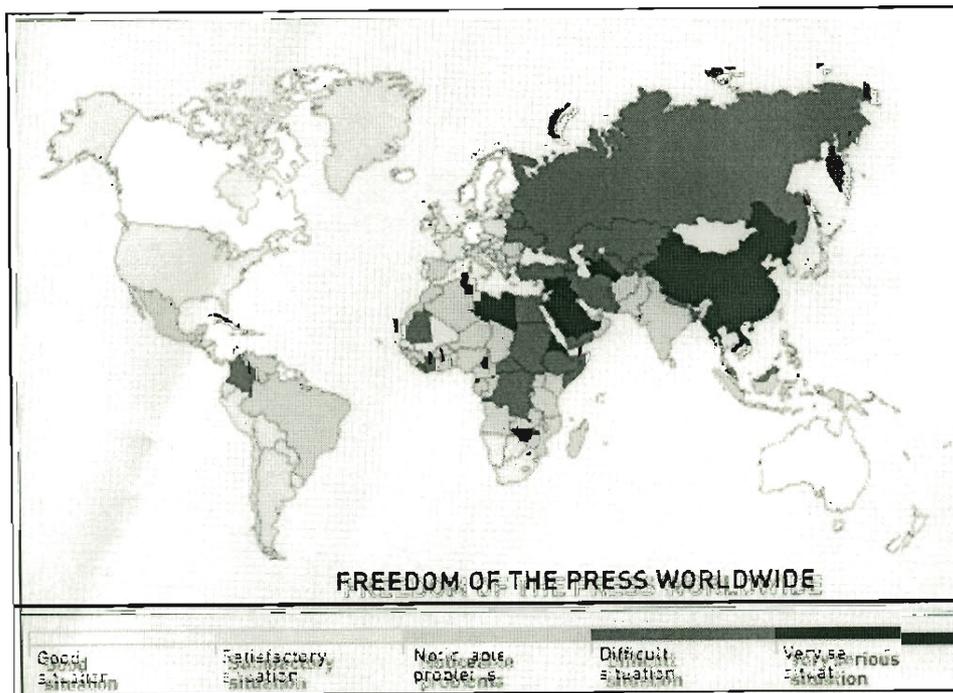
Repression goes on while Iran seeks friendship with the West. Dan De Luce reports from Tehran

Sunday April 4, 2004

The Observer

His handsome face was seen around the world. The photograph, used on the front of the Economist magazine, showed Ahmad Batebi, his hands holding the bloodstained T-shirt of a fellow student beaten by paramilitaries. His look of indignation captured the mood of young Iranians demonstrating for democracy in the summer of 1999.

Posted by: Omid / 4/15/2004 04:07:09 PM



Posted by: Omid / 4/15/2004 03:52:17 PM

Britain sought Iran's help From correspondents in Washington April 15, 2004

BRITAIN invited an Iranian delegation to visit Iraq in a bid to calm the volatile security situation in the south and the United States did not object, a senior State Department official said today. They were invited by the British," the official said. "Obviously, we did not object."

Posted by: Omid / 4/15/2004 02:59:07 PM

Voices in Iran Struggling to Be Heard, April 12, 2004

Posted by: Omid / 4/15/2004 02:51:13 PM

U.N.: Credibility at Stake for Rights Commission

Geneva, March 10, 2004) ? Instead of exposing human rights problems, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights risks drawing a veil across some of the worst human rights situations in the world, Human Rights Watch said today ahead of its annual session.

Posted by: Omid / 4/15/2004 02:43:49 PM

MISSION TO THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN*

Posted by: Omid / 4/15/2004 02:41:10 PM

During the last days I was so busy. I was working on my book. Professor Yoones

(Jonah) Shokrkah who I was his student in journalism 4 days ago accepted to write a preface for my book. I really appreciate him here. I think he liked it. Beside I am working on a magazine about microcredit funds for National Youth Organization. At the same time I have joined to a translation group to collect materials for a book about Good Governance. Fortunately a volunteer joined us a few days ago who is capable in management and many skills which use in social activities.

Nevertheless I have to pay attention to my parents who are getting old and need more kindness. My brother always helps them and also tries to make better time for them but I am always busy. I hate this damned life which has made us tired

Posted by: Omid / 4/15/2004 01:53:21 AM

Wednesday, April 14, 2004

"Vaghaye" will publish Saturday. During these days I had some interview with some social activists and experts about some social issues and working on 3 reports. So I was really busy. But I hope I continue writing in my weblog courteously. If you find any article or news that is related to Iran and people in all and even in the world please send me the link....

Posted by: Omid / 4/14/2004 09:24:28 AM

I had an interview with Mary-Ann Stephenson a member of national commission of women in UK. She has talked about the situation of women NGOs in UK.

Posted by: Omid / 4/14/2004 05:59:55 AM

Two days ago Judge Mortazavi selected as the best manager of Judiciary system. Judge Mortazavi is the man who was involve in the murder file of Zahra Kazemi. When many of people are wondering about the destiny of Zahra Kazemi.

Posted by: Omid / 4/14/2004 02:33:08 AM

Monday, April 12, 2004

During the last days Americans asked the Islamic regime to use their influence to control the Shiite in south of Iraq. It means they asked Iran to help them...

Congratulation....

Posted by: Omid / 4/12/2004 09:40:11 AM

Will Iraq Open Kerry's way to presidency?

The restoration in Iraq was the most important issue during the last few days. Now it seems the face of US is getting more and more notorious in Iraq. Perhaps the US charge Iran officials to interfere in these conflicts, but as anybody know the face of US is not as a partisans for freedom. They are occupier an Islamic territory and killing the occupiers is obligatory for any Moslem and every one of the religious Moslem can implement the JAHAD order or the other Islamic orders. After a few months Iraqi people can see the Americans can not bring them peace and security and also they afraid about their destiny. They are pessimist about any action of US. But nobody can hide tendency of Iran about failure of US in Iraq. As it has many effects on the Iranian society it costs for them even to invest there. This is a common feeling in Middle East countries especially in Saudi Arabia and Iraq and Palestine. In the other hand Americans have many problems to balance the power between the Iraqis. Many of Iranian believes that if US could solve the Iraq problem, they would start the case of Iran. So they think this is gift from the sky for

conservatives that can drive in a one way road without any control and consideration...Because at this opportunity they can rearrange their forces. During these days they talk about the failure of American in Iraq and say it is the result of exporting democracy with gun. But Iranian society as follow the traditional approach after the war between Iraq and Iran, don't pay attention to these events. Now, I think this is a best chance for Kerry to use these entire events as a weak point of President Bush. President Bush can hardly go out of this predicament. So now the question is about the effect of Iraq event on US president process. Iraq events and the blood of American troops will open the way on next president. Can you imagine it?

Posted by: Omid / 4/12/2004 09:33:20 AM

Sunday, April 11, 2004

Civil Society Gossip

During the last days the leader has formed a group to work on NGOs and their role in the society. Leader and some parallel security institutions are trying to know and compare the effects of this association on the people.

During the last month the process of registration for NGOs has become troublesome and bothersome. The ministry of interior is responsible for this part. However they are a part of reformist government, they have no picture about people, NGOs and the other related issues. Sometimes they act as conservatives and we have to confront with these guys. There is a joke when we fall in this kind of troubles. Loose maradona ake MOI.

(The joke: Once Maradona Goes to Tabriz for a friendly match. The coach of Tabriz had a problem with their defender so use a inexperienced man. But he do instead of Maradona to goal for once and twice and more...Suddenly the coach says: " loose Maradona, take Ghazanfar-name of player)

So we have to say it is better to loose conservatives and take MOI. They goal to themselves and people.

Posted by: Omid / 4/11/2004 02:59:10 PM

A political tremor

Apr 7th 2004 | BAM

From The Economist print edition

The hopeful consequences of real democracy in Bam

(THanks Charlie to send this article

BEHIND the dark clouds, a glimmer of hope. Last week, the mayor of Bam confessed to aid workers that Iran's government had done a rotten job of helping survivors of the earthquake that razed his city in December. Surprise at the mayor's candour turned to delight at the prospect of local democracy when a well-known sociologist, Siyamak Zand-Razavi, stood up to announce an earthquake of his own. For the authorities are supporting his proposal that the survivors should elect petitioners to present their concerns to the government. The authorities hope this will prevent a recurrence of last month's rioting, when buildings were gutted and police fired on demonstrators. For his part, Mr Zand-Razavi is attacking the secrecy and paternalism that have made Bam a byword for official failure.

Most of the people in the tens of thousands of tents that line the roads and fill the empty spaces of the shattered city are jobless and glum. Not long ago they regarded the government's main relief agencies as their saviour; now they curse it. UN people rue the government's failure to communicate with the people. From the beginning, government officials neglected to impress on the survivors that most of the almost \$500m pledged by foreign donors would come, not in the form of handouts to the needy, but as help towards rebuilding. More recently, the Iranian authorities promised to provide temporary houses for all by April 5th, yet

only a few have been built.

Squabbling between different departments has contributed to the gloom. It took an unseemly public outburst in March before Iran's Red Crescent Society secured nearly \$2m of international aid that the foreign ministry had received but seemed reluctant to hand over. Most survivors believe that powerful institutions have pilfered the juiciest aid.

Behind the disquiet is a collision between two cultures: Iran's nanny state, which resents foreigners, and the freewheeling agencies that disburse international aid. Yaqoub Derijani, a Bam councillor, blames foreign organisations for raising expectations and causing a "division between people and the state". The truth is that sustained scrutiny has highlighted Iran's crippling insularity. Many more temporary houses would have been built, were it not for the authorities' insistence that Iranian firms should build them. Mindful of its obligations to Iran, the UN is said to have earmarked as much as \$1m for the government's efforts to reunify families split up in the quake's chaos, yet UN workers on the ground are quietly seeking out non-governmental outfits better able to do the job.

Despite misgivings, the authorities have had to tolerate unprecedented outside interference. The UN is using school reconstruction as a pretext for modernising teaching methods. The government is being obliged to stifle its ingrained hostility to independent do-gooding bodies, whether foreign or local.

By the end of this year, Mr Zand-Razavi predicts, Bam will have enshrined popular participation as never before in Iran. It will have two representatives, a man and a woman, for every 30-40 households, plus an operating staff of 120 for the town. Bam's representatives may be the only elected Iranians to escape verification for their loyalty to revolutionary tenets, a process that led to the disqualification of over 4,000 candidates in February's general election. The possible consequences of more democracy in Bam have not been lost on the old guard of revolutionaries. More reverberations may be expected.

Posted by: Omid / 4/11/2004 02:40:04 PM

The "Vagheye e Ettefaghieh" the next reformist newspaper will publish next Saturday. I have a weekly page about civil society in it and also daily column. But I am involved in ICTRC as you know. This is center for training and research for NGOs. I love working in this center. We have a good team and also are focusing on subjects that are really interesting for me. Last month our centered a book about the "Civil Society" by Dr. Dehkordi. He is one of consultant of our center. I like to follow my interests about civil society in our centers that we have established very hard during the last years. how ever in the journalists capacity in am involve in many issues. i prepared my first page last day. If there is any interesting subject about NGOs or civil society in whole that I can use by translating in farsi send me a link please friends...!

Posted by: Omid / 4/11/2004 12:02:29 AM

