

**Karrubi Responds to Larijani Requesting a Meeting with the Heads of Establishment**

Wednesday, August 19, 2009

In the name of God, the merciful and the compassionate,

To the honorable Parliament,

The honorable Mr. Larijani,

Greetings. As you are well aware, an enduring chronicle was born with our nation's great and glorious participation in the tenth presidential elections. If the authorities had taken proper care, people's participation could have been an inexhaustible asset for the Islamic Republic of Iran. It could have also endowed the establishment with global political legitimacy. Sadly, a deep nationwide divide has been triggered with the incompetence that respective authorities have displayed towards the ensuing demonstrations: a violent reaction to the peaceful rallies of millions that caused great harm to a large number of demonstrators, the murder of some, and the imprisonment of others. Furthermore, the "velvet revolution" label attached to this calm protest movement is increasingly remorseful.

Since the days following the 22nd of Khordad and until this very moment, I have issued numerous statements and letters addressing the nation as well as a number of officials, including the judiciary chief and the minister of intelligence. I have attempted to settle the feud and create national cohesion by encouraging transparency with regards to the election results and defending the rights of the people. Sadly, I had not received a satisfactory response. Meanwhile, security officials, the national police and the paramilitary relentlessly antagonized the opposition with continued crudity.

I continued my objections in this format until recently, when I received reports documenting evidence that in addition to physical torment, the prisoners have been subjected to sexual harassment. I communicated this information in a letter addressed to the Chairman of the Expediency Council and requested that he rigorously investigate this issue considering his extensive influence within the establishment. I pointed out that if such an unforgivable act had indeed occurred, the supervisors and perpetrators of the crime must be identified and punished by law. Moreover, if it had not, it would be announced to the public that there is no such concern and that none of our officials are to blame.. Unfortunately, those who desire a turbulent national atmosphere not only refused to yield to a fair and impartial investigation of this issue, but also used it to attack me and to distort the public view. This reaction clearly revealed that there is information they seek to conceal with an uproar.

As a result, I have been slandered and ridiculed from the holy tribunes of the Friday Prayers in such a way that is improper even for an ordinary Muslim, let alone a Friday preacher. In particular, at the Friday Prayers in Tehran, the speaker went beyond the limits of Shari'a law. The national media also caused public distress by misrepresenting me and the people.

Therefore, bearing in mind that according to our departed Imam “the parliament is at the forefront of affairs” and is in fact the house of the nation, and also considering the fact that you are aware of the many issues, I ask you to convene a meeting with the Heads of Legislature, Judiciary and Executive branches, and the honorable Head of the Expediency Council and Assembly of Experts in the presence of the honorable Attorney General Hojjatolislam Mr. Dorri (since the previous honorable Head of Judiciary assigned him as my point of contact). If you deem it appropriate, a representative from the Fact-Finding Committee of Parliament can accompany the proceedings as well. I am prepared to personally present my material regarding the sexual harassment experienced in several detention centers. As the respected officials listen to my documented account, it will become clear whether it is I who have been disrespecting the Islamic Republic, or those who call on judicial authorities and security forces to crackdown on protesters from the holy tribune of Friday Prayers. These are the same holy platform to which the revered Imam appointed the pious clergy Ayatollah Taleghani – a man who began his battle against injustice in Reza Pahlavi’s term and continued relentlessly for 37 years in Mohammad Reza’s term. I await your expedited and candid action.

“Salute to you and those who followed the guidance (of God)”

Mehdi Karrubi

August 19, 2009 (Mordad 28, 1388)