

37 percent of street children addicted to drugs

Khorassan daily, Feb. 29 – Some 37 percent of the children who work on the streets are addicted to drugs. Forty-percent of them children make their living by buying and selling drugs.

Youth clash with SSF

Radio Farda, Mar. 3 – At 10:00pm Mirdamad Boulevard was full of crowds. They began by chanting slogans such as "Down with Khamenei", singing the pre-revolution national anthem, throwing rocks with candles sticking on them at the windows of the Sepah and Keshavarzi banks on Mirdamad Ave. and the neighboring alleys.

When the State Security Forces and Guards Corps attacked them, they drew back and took shelter in the alleys... The demonstrators were aged between 15 and 20.

Youth protest, clash in Tehran

Peik-e Iran website, Mar. 3 – A ceremony was held Tuesday night in Tehran's Mohseni Square. At first, the youth chanted slogans against the Iranian regime. Subsequently, the Bassij forces attacked the people and clashes broke out. The youth, many of them girls, engaged in hit-and-run attacks on the paramilitary Bassij, sang anthems and chanted slogans. In the course of the clashes, the youth attacked the Bassijis and State Security Forces (SSF) with stones. SSF agents and the Bassij forces did not intervene, fearing a backlash. Tehran's Mohseni Ave. was completely under the youth's control until 11:00 pm.

The youth set fire to the image of Khomeini that was put up in the boulevard... Some of their slogans were: "Down with the dictator" and "Dictator, get lost".

Stealing international aid and kidnapping young girls in Bam

Peik-e Iran website, Mar. 3 – The head of the German paramedics team who recently returned from the earthquake stricken region of Bam said, "The situation of women and children in the devastated city of Bam is moving and intolerable. Not only did the government not help the earthquake stricken people of Bam but the Guard Corps stole international aid sent for the earthquake victims and only 10 percent of the relief has been used for the earthquake... What we witnessed this time in Bam was very moving. According to German paramedics, a large number of juvenile girls were kidnapped by corrupt gangs in the city of Bam and other women and youngsters who remained in Bam are in unfortunate conditions.

Trafficking gangs rent street children for 1000,000 rials per year

Etemad daily, Mar. 7 – Research shows that a significant number of children who work on the street are leased to mafia-like child labor gangs for less than 1000,000 rials (Approximately \$110) per year because of their families' dire financial needs... These gangs make large profits from children's labor. Sixty-four percent of street children suffer from heart diseases.

As Tehran's influence spreads in Iraq, rights of women have been seriously threatened

Secretariat of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, March 8 - The Iranian Resistance's President-elect Maryam Rajavi congratulated the International Woman's Day to women across the world and particularly the oppressed women in Iran. She emphasized that Islamic fundamentalism, whose heart beats in Iran under the rule of the mullahs, is the greatest enemy of the equality movement in today's world.

Mrs. Rajavi underscored that Islamic fundamentalism emerged when Khomeini took power in Iran and that it rested on gender demarcation and discrimination. In the social realm, it took the form of gender apartheid, violent suppression and most importantly the rejection of women's human identity and their eternal deprivation from leadership

and political participation. Because it is incompatible with the contemporary world, the survival of this backward ideology hinges on the export of fundamentalism and terrorism as well as the spread of misogyny, she added. As the clerical regime's influence spreads in Iraq, the rights and freedoms of women have been seriously threatened...

The mullahs ruling Iran consider the presence of the Iranian Resistance in Iraq as the biggest obstacle to the export of fundamentalism. They are therefore plotting to expel the Mojahedin from Iraq so as to pave the way for greater meddling in that country. However, the support of Iraqi people and tribes, especially Iraqi women, for the Mojahedin and the women in its ranks in the past 10 months again underlined the historic role of the Mojahedin in confronting fundamentalism.

Suppression of youth gathering on Woman's Day

Iran National TV, Mar. 8 – On 5:30 p.m., extensive clashes broke out between youth, especially girls, and suppressive agents. Clashes broke out when hundreds of youngsters gathered in Tehran's Laleh Park on the occasion of the International Woman's Day. The State Security Forces and undercover agents, who had been earlier stationed around the park, attacked the youth, beating and arresting them. As the number of youngsters swelled, they hurled stones at SSF agents and chanted slogans against the Iranian regime and its leaders. The youth chanted slogans such as "Referendum is the demand of all people," and "Freedom, justice, silence is betrayal."

Vigilantes stop Iran women's protest

BBC News, Mar. 8 - A gathering to celebrate International Woman's Day in Tehran turned ugly as militia groups broke up what had started as a peaceful demonstration.

Members of the Bassij paramilitary group beat people with batons and pushed several men and women to the ground.

The authorities had tried to cancel the demonstration, withdrawing permission just hours before it was due to begin. Shouting slogans and

singing freedom songs, several hundred women defied the ban and gathered in Laleh Park...

There are reports that several people were arrested.

How they celebrate women in Iran

The Command Post, Mar. 8 - International Woman's Day (8 March) is an occasion marked by women's groups around the world ...

In Iran, they tried to mark the day, but were unable to do so without bloodshed . First, the regime made it clear that they would not sanction any demonstrations: The regime forces have been mobilized, especially in the capital, to crackdown against Iranian women and their male supporters...

Hundreds of Iranian women along with their male supporters gathered at the Laleh Park located in the center of the Iranian capital...

Slogans in favor of women's rights, release of political prisoners and free elections for regime change are shouted . And then, the regime stifled those in the gathering the only way they know how: Clubs and chains were used against hundreds of brave women of different ages showing once again the brutality of the theocratic regime which has based one of its main pillars on a back warded and sword forced imported ideology dating of 14 centuries to go and which discriminates women .

Faces of several women were seen in blood and many had injuries on their faces . Several male supporters who intended to oppose to the brutal repression were beaten up badly and were seen lying on the ground .

Seven injured as mullahs' agents open fire on Bam protest

Dagens Nyheter (Sweden), Mar. 8 – At least seven people were shot during a demonstration in the devastated town of Bam. This violence was in reaction to the people's protest to the speech delivered by Kerman's governor on the international community's failure to cooperate in sending aid. This is while the United Nations, the Red

Cross and 20 other international bodies have set up large camps in the city and done their utmost for two months to help the homeless and hungry quake-stricken people. A large portion of the extensive international aid was seized upon arrival at the airport by the Guard Corps and officials and sent to large cities to be sold on the black market.

In Tehran, I witnessed how the tents, which should have been given to the quake-stricken people, were up for sale in different stores. The Bam earthquake was the most horrifying quake in the world in the past 27 years.

Al-Atjah Al-Akher, Mar. 13 – The city of Basra is witnessing the emergence of a phenomenon called the religious police formed by extremist groups in an attempt to imitate the Iranian examples. By setting up patrols in the city, Bassijis dressed in black try to enforce Islamic laws in the fashion experienced in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Basra residents say they go outdoors with Islamic attire so they would not be harassed by the new Bassijis who try to wield authority on the city. A woman in Basra says she wears *hijab* (veil) to keep the religious groups away. Meanwhile, a young man says he returns home before 10:00 pm to avoid being confronted by the religious police patrols. Observers say the experience in Basra could be repeated in other cities. The religious police have destroyed the shops lined up on Watan Ave. that sold alcoholic beverages. They also attacked a casino a few months ago and destroyed it after killing its Egyptian guard.

According to the registrar of the Basra police, a woman working at a video store was killed. Fundamentalists claim that she sold and promoted immoral films. At the same time, unidentified persons threw burning chemicals on the face of a girl who was strolling in the street, and beat up a young man who played loud music in his car.

23,000 street children rounded up in Tehran

Hamshahri daily, Mar. 17 – The head of Tehran Province's Welfare Organization said 23,575 street children under 18 years old have been rounded up in the past 11 months.

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