

# INTERNATIONAL KAAR (LABOUR)



*Fadaian Organization (aghaliyat)*

**July 2026**

## **No to War! No to the Islamic Rgime in Iran!**

The memorandum of understanding created only a temporary pause in the fighting. Today even that fragile pause hangs in the balance. Once again there is talk of renewed war or fresh negotiations. As long as the policies that led to the conflict remain unchanged, the confrontation between the United States and Israel on one side and the Islamic Republic on the other will continue.

During the twelve days of repeated attacks on Iran, more civilians and conscript soldiers were killed. Thousands lost their homes. Prices of basic goods rose sharply. Unemployment increased. Poverty deepened. Society moved closer to collapse. Electricity failed. Water short-

► 2

## **War and the Intensification of Repression in Iran**

Following the end of the twelve-day war with Israel, the Islamic regime in Iran swiftly implemented two complementary measures. First, in October 2025, it passed and promulgated the Law on Intensifying the Punishment for Espionage and Collaboration with the Zionist Regime and Hostile States Against National Security and National Interests. Subsequently, on 3 May 2026, the Ministry of Intelligence issued a directive pursuant to the provision of Article 4 of this law. On 13 July 2026, the directive was published together with an official list entitled “Examples of Hostile Networks, Individual Media Figures, and Anti-Regime Virtual Platforms.”

Officially, these two measures are presented as

► 4



### ♦ In This Issue:

- ♦ No to War! No to the Islamic Rgime in Iran!
- ♦ War and the Intensification of Repression in Iran
- ♦ Selected Labor News from Iran

## No to War!...

ages became even worse. None of this matters to the Islamic Republic.

More than eighty million people in Iran live under unbearable conditions. This reactionary war has made their lives even harder. Yet the Islamic Republic continues to beat the drums of war. The human and economic costs fall entirely on workers and the poor. Those who lost their homes during the 12 day war remain displaced. The regime offers them neither protection nor support.

For the Islamic Republic, the lives and well being of the people have no value. Its priority is political survival and military power. The outcome is war, destruction, poverty and repression. The ruling class wages the war. The working class pays the price.

As we explained in previous articles published in *Kaar*, the war was not an accident. It was the outcome and continuation of the policies pursued by all the states involved.

It is essential to stress this point. Ignoring the policies that led to the war means ignoring the class interests behind those policies. Every state acts in the interests of its ruling class. Failing to understand this can lead to serious strategic mistakes in determining a political position on the war. History offers many lessons in this regard.

Throughout modern history, the defence of the "motherland" has repeatedly served as a pretext for war. It has been used to conceal the real causes of military conflicts and to rally working people behind the interests of the ruling class. The war between Russia and Ukraine is another example. It is an imperialist war over spheres of influence. It is not a war fought in the interests of workers in either country.

This is one of the central lessons of history. As the Prussian military theorist Carl von Clausewitz famously wrote, "*War is the continuation of politics by other means.*" The oppressed people of Iran understand the truth of this statement through their own lived experience.

The Islamic Republic is one of the parties to this war. Like the other states involved, it played a direct role in creating the conditions that led to the conflict and in prolonging it. Yet, like many ruling classes before it, the regime hides behind the slogans of "defending the homeland" and "American Zionist aggression against our country." It uses these slogans to conceal its own responsibility for the war.

For this reason, revolutionary and communist forces expose the real character of the war and its devastating impact on the lives of the masses. Today millions experience its destructive consequences every day. Communists oppose the war while exposing its real causes and class character. They regard the struggle



# Long live the class autonomy of the working class!

### No to War!...

against war and the struggle against the Islamic Republic as inseparable. They refuse to fall into the trap of chauvinism.

Alongside the communist position, it is equally necessary to expose the two camps that support the war. Each wrap in the banner of nationalism. Each seeks to mobilize the people behind the interests of a ruling class. Despite their differences, both stand in the camp of militarism and war.

One camp openly supported the military attack on Iran by the reactionary governments of the United States and Israel. Reza Pahlavi, the leading figure of this current, described the military attack on Iran and the beginning of the 40 day reactionary war as a "humanitarian intervention." He also cynically dismissed the civilian casualties, including the children killed in Minab, by saying, "This is war, and every war has casualties." He further described the war as "a golden opportunity to overthrow the Islamic Republic," in an interview with the BBC.

At the same time, US imperialism and the racist Israeli regime were pursuing their own aggressive, expansionist and hegemonic objectives. Their intervention had nothing to do with freedom, democracy or the interests of the Iranian people.

For a period, this current succeeded in influencing a section of the protest movement in Iran through an intensive media campaign. The war, however, exposed its true character. Many ►

people came to see that this current did not represent the interests of the oppressed people of Iran. Today far fewer people are under any illusion about its political role or its hostility toward the people whose liberation it claims to champion.

The second camp consists of those who can broadly be described as supporters of the "Axis of Resistance." This camp is divided into two currents. Both invoke "imperialist Zionist aggression" to justify the defence of the "motherland." One current openly defends the Islamic Republic. The other claims to oppose the regime. Yet while it appears to reject the war, it shifts the slogan from "No to War" to "No to Aggression" by placing exclusive emphasis on imperialist and Zionist aggression.

This shift is politically significant. Replacing "No to War" with "No to Aggression" erases the role of the Islamic Republic. It ignores the policies that have brought misery to the people and devastation to the country throughout the life of the regime. It also ignores the regime's direct responsibility as one of the parties that created the conditions for the war.

Whether they intend it or not, those who promote this position stand in the camp of the war and of the Islamic Republic. They usually belong to the same political current that, after the Hamas attack on Israel on 7 October, portrayed Hamas as a revolutionary force. They continued to do so during the endless assault by the Zionist Israeli army on the oppressed people ►4

### No to War!...

of Palestine, especially in Gaza. Once again they turned a blind eye to part of the reality and to one of the factors that contributed to the catastrophe in Gaza, namely the role of the Islamic Republic.

There is only one path for the workers and oppressed people of Iran. There is only one path for the 85 million people who are being crushed under the policies of the Islamic Republic, including the burden of war. That path is the struggle against the war and the struggle to overthrow the Islamic Republic.

This is not the war of the people of Iran. It must end. It is a war waged by reactionary states in pursuit of their own class interests and political and economic objectives. They started this war. The people, especially the oppressed people of Iran, are the ones who bear its devastating consequences.

The answer is not to rally behind one ruling class against another. The answer is to build resistance from below. Workers and the oppressed must reject every form of war mongering and raise their voices together: No to War! No to the Islamic Regime!

*A Summary of the Editorial in Kar, Issue No. 1179, 26 July 2026*

### War and the Intensification of...

instruments to combat espionage and protect national security. Yet both their timing and their content raise a fundamental question: Why did the Islamic Republic consider it necessary, at this particular moment, to enact such a law and publish such a list?

The criminalization of political opponents through national security charges, as well as the designation of independent media and information channels beyond state control as threats to national security, is not a new policy. For more than four decades, the Islamic regime in Iran has prosecuted journalists, political, social, and trade union activists, as well as individuals with ties to foreign media outlets, on charges such as “endangering national security” or “propaganda against the system.” What is new today is not this policy itself, but the regime’s attempt to institutionalize and further expand these practices through legislation and formal state mechanisms.

The twelve-day war further reinforced this perceived necessity from the regime’s point of view. During the war, the government not only prevented regular and reliable reporting, but also sought to disrupt the flow of information through internet shutdowns, severe restrictions on internet access, and widespread interference with communications; a method it had already

►5

**The Islamic Republic must be overthrown with a general political strike and an armed uprising!**

### War and the Intensification of...

employed during previous nationwide protests. The experience of both the protest movements and the subsequent war, however, demonstrated that technical restrictions on communication may temporarily slow the circulation of independent news, images, and reports, but cannot permanently prevent them. Such measures are inherently temporary. Once communication channels are restored, the flow of information resumes. For this reason, the regime is seeking to reinforce its technical means of control with legal and judicial instruments, so that sharing information, cooperating with media outlets, or maintaining contact with networks beyond its control will continue to carry serious legal risks and consequences even after communication restrictions have been lifted.

The publication of the list labelled as "enemies of the regime" is therefore far more than a simple administrative measure implementing the provision of Article 4 of the new law. It forms part of the Islamic regime's broader security strategy. Through this list, the regime is not merely identifying specific media outlets, organizations, or individuals. Rather, it is drawing a boundary beyond which any form of contact may become the object of investigation and prosecution by the security and judicial apparatus. The list is therefore intended less to inform than to deter. Its purpose is to raise the political and legal costs of

any cooperation with organizations and individuals that the regime places outside the boundaries of political legitimacy.

At first glance, the list may appear to be directed primarily against media organizations and groups operating abroad. However, many of the individuals and organizations named are beyond the regime's direct reach. Precisely for this reason, the list exerts its principal effect inside Iran. The sharing of news, photographs, and information, giving interviews to the media, or maintaining any professional or political relationship with the listed organizations can serve as grounds for security investigations and criminal prosecution. The primary objective is therefore not the direct suppression of media abroad, but the securitization and criminalization of information and communication networks within Iran.

Another important feature of the list is that it places politically and socially diverse tendencies and activities under the label "enemies of the regime". Alongside media organizations representing different political currents, it includes human rights organizations, independent professional associations, activists, and individuals with widely differing political positions and objectives. This heterogeneity is by no means accidental. By erasing the distinctions between political, journalistic, human rights, and professional activities, the regime subsumes them all under a

► 6

## Work, bread, freedom – council government

### War and the Intensification of...

single security category. What determines this classification is not the nature of the activity itself, but solely the judgment of the security apparatus regarding its relationship to the regime.

The principal function of the new law therefore lies not merely in increasing penalties, but above all in expanding the range of activities that can be prosecuted as security-related offenses.

Even before its enactment, the Islamic regime subjected journalists, labor activists, teachers, students, women's rights activists, relatives of political prisoners, and other opponents of the regime to repression for publishing information, speaking to the media, or reporting on protests. What is new is that the law now explicitly places many of these same activities under criminal charges such as "collaboration with the enemy," "espionage," or "endangering national security," thereby considerably broadening the scope of punishable conduct.

The Law on Intensifying Punishment for Espionage and the publication of the list of "enemies of the regime" cannot be understood separately from the political and security conditions that followed the twelve-day war. Although the war ended with a ceasefire, the Islamic regime's confrontation with Israel and the United States, the continuing military tensions, and the climate of securitization that emerged from them all persist. At the same time, the economic crisis, declining

purchasing power, widespread uncertainty about the future, public distrust of the state, and the deep rift between the regime and large sections of society remain unresolved. The consequences of the war have further intensified these developments. Against this background, the new law and the accompanying list serve to transfer the security logic of wartime into the political and social conditions of the post-war period—not only to repress existing opposition, but also to intervene at the earliest stages in the formation of communication and protest networks.

The consequences of this policy extend far beyond tighter control over the flow of information. Protests by workers, teachers, pensioners, students, and other social movements can transcend their local boundaries only when their news, images, and demands circulate more widely and forge links among different sectors of society. By criminalizing such channels of communication and raising the risks associated with them, the regime seeks to keep protests fragmented and isolated, make the transmission of experiences of struggle more difficult, and suppress them at a lower political cost. The issue, therefore, is not simply the control of individual news reports or media outlets, but the control of the circulation of information itself as one of the essential preconditions for solidarity, organization, and the expansion of social protest movements.

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## Long live freedom — long live socialism!

## Selected Labor News...

though the factory was shut down eight years ago.

According to the annual report of the Human Rights Activists in Iran (HRAI), during the year 1404 (2025/26), at least 672 monthly wage payments were delayed or withheld entirely in 188 industrial and service enterprises across the country. The report also documented 2,457 dismissals, 658 cases of unemployment, 560 months of unpaid social insurance contributions, and the closure of nine factories.

These figures demonstrate that unpaid wages, mass layoffs and precarious employment are not isolated incidents but rather expressions of the deepening social crisis confronting Iran's working class.

*Thursday, July 23, 2026*

### Protest by Dismissed Petrochemical Workers

Fifty-two dismissed workers from “Takht-e Jamshid Petrochemical Company” in the city of “Mahshahr” protested against their dismissal and demanded immediate reinstatement.

Mahshahr is one of the principal centres of Iran's petrochemical industry and, at the same time, one of the country's harshest industrial environments. During the long summer months, temperatures reach 60°C, accompanied by extreme humidity that makes breathing itself difficult. Under these conditions, workers perform physically exhausting labour in twelve-

hour shifts. Intense heat, constant dehydration and relentless physical strain have defined their daily working conditions for years.

The protest of these workers highlights the contradiction at the heart of Iran's capitalist labour regime: even years of hard labour under some of the harshest working conditions provide no guarantee of job security or social protection. Instead, experienced workers are discarded whenever profit considerations dictate, while subcontracting and precarious employment continue to serve as instruments for intensifying exploitation and undermining workers' collective power.

*Friday, July 24, 2026*



## Selected Labor News...

Saturday, July 25, 2026

### Mass Layoffs at Isfahan Steel

Around 100 workers employed by “Tosan Company”, a subcontractor of “Isfahan Steel Company (Zob Ahan-e Esfahan)”, were dismissed simultaneously. According to the affected workers, the mass layoffs were carried out without any legitimate explanation and form part of the escalating assault on the job security of contract and agency workers throughout Iran's heavy industry.

The dismissals affect workers who had laboured for years under precarious employment conditions through subcontracting companies. Replacing permanent employment with subcontracting and temporary contracts has become one of the principal mechanisms used by employers and state-owned enterprises to suppress wages and weaken collective workers' resistance.

The dismissed workers demand their immediate reinstatement and an end to the wave of layoffs and the outsourcing of employment through subcontractors. These latest dismissals once again expose the extreme insecurity under

which hundreds of thousands of contract and agency workers in Iran are forced to live and work.

Friday, July 24, 2026

### Brutal Assault by the Regime's Repressive Forces on Unemployed Youth

The security forces of the Islamic regime in Iran violently attacked a peaceful protest by unemployed young people from the village of “Khodairat”, located along the Ahvaz–Abadan road. According to eyewitnesses, the demonstrators were severely beaten and several were arrested. The protesters were demanding jobs and protesting against the systematic discrimination faced by the local population in access to employment.

Friday, July 24, 2026

### Unpaid Wages and Continuing Uncertainty for Hundreds of Workers

Around 350 workers at the “Sarjin Baft textile factory” in the city of “Zanjan” have received neither their wages nor their social insurance contributions since the beginning of the current Iranian year. At the same time, approximately 300 workers at the “Azna Steel Plant” in “Lorestan” Province remain in limbo, even



**Long live the international solidarity of the working class!**

## Selected Reports from the Workers' Movement in Iran

### Protest Against Mass Layoffs

More than 100 long-serving workers employed in the cafeteria and kitchen department of „Jam Petrochemical Company” protested against their collective dismissal. They condemned the layoffs as a blatant disregard for their years of experience and dedicated service.

The workers had been continuously employed for between two and twenty years through a subcontractor in the company's catering and industrial kitchen facilities. According to the workers, although the subcontractor's contract expired, the operation itself was never suspended. Instead, the department continues to function under the direct management of Jam Petrochemical.

Despite the uninterrupted continuation of production and services, all experienced workers were dismissed without any transparent justification and replaced by new employees. The dismissed workers see this as yet another manifestation of the precarious labour regime and the systematic replacement of contract and agency workers that characterises Iran's oil and petrochemical industry.

Through their protest, the workers demand immediate reinstatement and an end to the policy of replacing experienced employees with cheaper, more vulnerable labour lacking basic job security. ► 8



The Organisation of Fadaian (aghaliyat) is a communist organisation that fights for overthrowing of capitalist order and establishing of a communist society.

Our Organisation fights for establishing a society without classes where every sort of exploitation, oppression, discrimination, social inequality and suppression are abolished. All the society's free and equal members live in happiness, welfare and their abilities are thrived.

The immediate goal of the our Organisation is overthrowing the Islamic Republic of Iran and establishing the Soviet State of Workers and Toilers. Soviet State, which is the manifestation of the most consequent and complete form of democracy, will establish the broadest and most complete form of political freedoms, and with fulfillment the democratic, social and welfare demands the socialistic changes will begin.

**Long live Socialism!**

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