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*Mission Permanente  
de la République Islamique d'Iran  
auprès des Nations Unies  
et des autres Organisations Internationales à Genève*

*In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful*

Ref :2050/12969

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and with reference to the communication number UA IRN 1/2018 dated 4 January 2018, has the honour to submit herewith the reply of I.R. Iran to the joint urgent appeal from the Special Procedures.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the assurances of its highest consideration.



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In the name of God  
The Compassionate, the Merciful  
Reply of Islamic Republic of Iran  
to the joint urgent appeal from the Special Procedures

In connection with the statement of a number of the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council, dated January 3, 2018, on some recent social unrests and events in Iran, the High Council of Human Rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes to raise points for the purpose of providing the necessary information and for correcting of approaches made by the Special Rapporteurs.

- The Islamic Republic of Iran, as one of the safest and most stable countries in the Western Asia region, ensures the rights of the nation, based on the principles of the Constitution, religious teachings, and within the limits of its internationally accepted commitments and similar to all democratic states, it is determined to protect these rights as well as to ensure the security of its citizens against acts of violence and sabotage. The Iranian government has always responded to the legitimate and legitimate demands of its citizens, including the right to participate in political and social affairs, security, and the right to assembly and peaceful gatherings.
- The right of protest is recognized and guaranteed in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Article 27 of the Constitution recognizes the establishment of gatherings and marches without carrying weapons, provided that they are not detrimental to the principles of Islam, and that, according to Article 34 of the Constitution, litigation is the absolute right of everyone.

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- The prejudicial approach outlined in the statement issued by the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council and some unwarranted allegations in that regard, without any examination and presentation of any solid evidence in this regard, is regrettable. In the statement of the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council, the issue of the need for independent investigations has been mentioned; issues that are essentially in line with Iran's laws and their safeguards and the necessary mechanisms have already been anticipated by relevant laws which have been also observed and implemented by the judiciary system and the state security forced in a precise, independent and impartial manner during recent unrests. Meanwhile, the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that peaceful demonstrations have always been a legitimate area of the country's democratic process and should be respected.
  - Security and stability in the Islamic Republic of Iran is rooted in religious democracy and is inspired by the people's power and not an imported product. It was highly expected that the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council, with a proper understanding of the root cause of some recent unrests, made its statement in accordance with the contents of the United Nations Charter, and while emphasizing the need to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the countries, made reference to the roots and main supporting elements of the unrests and to the widespread and open interference of some particular governments and their supporters in the region, whose actions were in contravention and explicit violation of the fundamental principles of international law, and condemned them. Not surprisingly, the flare up of recent incidents and violence unfortunately resulted in loss of lives of several innocent people, including law enforcement personnel (police officers), as well as the destruction of part of the public property.
  - It is emphasized that in recent events, no one has been detained for peaceful protest or mere expression of opinion, and the police force, as officers for maintaining of the society's order and security, who receive the required

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continuous on-job trainings, demonstrated their ultimate self-restraint and tolerance, which was encouraged by people.

- Following easing of the unrests, the pertinent agents of the Islamic Republic of Iran, like all the world's responsible governments, investigated the roots and reasons for the unrests and while responding to legitimate objections, been handed over to the justice system those who, under the disguise of ordinary people, created chaos, assaulted innocent people and plundered the public property.
- The Government has consistently observed and implemented its obligations under the relevant human rights instruments and has ensured that those laws are complied in its national laws and regulations. Accordingly, it is necessary to draw the attention of the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council to the Charter of Citizens' Rights and the resolution of the Administrational Supreme Council on the "Charter of Civil Rights in the Administrative System". Undoubtedly, the present Charter, which is the subject of extensive discussions and consultations at the levels of elites, intellectuals and other stakeholders, is another manifestation of the decision and determination of the Government to promote and protect citizenship rights.
- It is seriously expected that the issue of human rights to be examined, supported and promoted in an atmosphere free from pre-political judgments in protection of human dignity; and human rights mechanisms, appropriate for the above objectives and for objective assessment of developments, to be pursued on the basis of information free from political motives, in a spirit of cooperation and respect for the principles of the United Nations Charter.

Here, it is necessary to draw the attention of the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council to the interventionist, ridiculous and disgraceful measures taken by the United States administration in addressing the recent unrest in Iran to the Security Council and the abuse of this international body:

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- The US action on the issue of the protests of a number of our citizens in Iran due to some of their economic complaints, which have been exacerbated by escape of the United States from fulfillment of its obligations under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), is the abuse of a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council from its authority and abuse of Council as well. There is much to be regretted that contrary to the resistance of some UNSC Members States, the Council allowed itself to be abused by the current ruling coalition of the United States and to convene a meeting on a matter outside the scope of its duties and, thus, displayed its inability to fulfill its real task of maintaining international peace and security.
  - This is a discredit for the UN Security Council to embark on an agenda that has a completely internal nature, while on real issues, including the long-term occupation of Palestinian territory, as well as Yemeni blind and unplanned bombardment over the past three years which has led to the deaths of thousands of people and has brought about hunger, disease and destruction to their people, it has been ashamed for not being able to take the slightest necessary measure.
  - American bullying in the United Nations has a long history, but its current example, i. e. interference in the internal affairs of a nation, is the most ridiculous one. In this recent case, the protests were treated in full respect to their rights by the Iranian government treated them in full respect for the rights of the protesters, and in spite of the existence of violent intruders and the encouragement by foreign forces, such as the president of the United States, the government has tried in any way to deal with them in a peaceful way. That was not an issue to be raised in the most important political organ of the world.
  - We need to remind to those who might have forgotten, the long history of interventions of the United States in Iran's internal affairs. The onset of a continuing pattern of disruption by the United States on the path to democracy in Iran was a coup led by the United States against the Iranian prime minister elected

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in 1953. The hostile actions of the United States intensified with the rise of the Iranian people and the overthrow of the American favorite dictator in Iran. Since then, the United States has been working on a number of measures against Iran, including unsuccessful attempts at military coups and subversive acts in Iran, the imposition of illegal and inhumane sanctions against ordinary Iranian citizens, the unconditional support of Saddam Hussein during his eight years of devastating war against Iran, and also arming him with chemical weapons and finally its direct intervention in the imposed war. Here it is necessary to mention the loss of life of 290 innocent passengers, including 66 children, of Iran Air flight number 655, which was shot down by the US Navy in Persian Gulf in July, 1988. However, it is also worth mentioning that the United States was shamefully proud to give a medal of honour to the US criminal commander who shot down the Iranian civilian flight!

- The reality is that, in every democratic country, citizens may occasionally come to streets to protest this or that issue, and Iran is no exception. In each country, security forces are either police or gendarmerie or national guards or otherwise to ensure peaceful protests. Therefore, Iran has not been an exception.
- While the United States accuses Iran of "suppressing" protests, images of the beatings and protests of the occupation of Wall Street, by police forces, killing of students by the US National Guard forces during a peaceful protest at the Kent State University, or watching a protest film outside of the Democratic Party Convention in Chicago in 1968, astonishes man from America hypocrisy. Or closer to the 1992 Los Angeles uprisings followed by Rodney King's brutal assassination by the police; and we are all well aware of the killing of African Americans by the police at a smooth paste. Then, the National Guard of the Armed Forces of California, infantry forces and special naval forces were called to restore order. During the protests, 63 people were killed, 2383 were injured and more than 12,000 people were arrested. We do not remember that any of the members of the

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Security Council might have requested the issue of killing and suppressing of people by the US government to be raised in the UN Security Council.

- We have strong evidences that the violence in Iran, by a small number of protesters, has been clearly directed from abroad, which in some cases resulted in the loss of life of police and security forces. Violence-seeking elements appeared in the days of unrest and at the outburst of the demonstrations, among people. Then, hands of elements from outside Iran, including the instigators stationed in the United States and Europe, encouraged people to use Molotov cocktails, seize ammunition depots and resort to armed insurrection. As an example, a resident of the United States in virtual networks ordered the killing of 120 of our security officers and threatened to target their families in their homes. The same person living in the United States has clearly and openly told American media that protesters should set fire to mosques and police stations.

Further details on the statement of the OHCHR are as follows:

- The Islamic Republic of Iran, on the basis of its constitution, guarantees the right to peaceful assembly, and similar to other democratic systems in the world, is determined to protect this right as well as to protect its citizens from acts of violence and subversion. Despite the fact that Article 79 of the Constitution permits the establishment of emergency situations with the approval of the Islamic Consultative Assembly, but despite the important challenges and situations, such as the eight-years of the imposed war, the assassination of more than 17,000 innocent people by terrorist groups, in particular, the MKO terrorist group as well as the cruel and illegal sanctions, the Islamic Republic of Iran never used this legal instrument, while some European countries, with one or two limited cases of terrorist attacks, imposed emergency situations for months and limited freedoms and liberties of their people; while Iran displayed a style of popular governance.

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- Recent events were another test for human rights claimers. The name of the United States, Britain, the Zionist regime of Israel, the regime of Saudi Arabia, ISIS (Daesh), the terrorist cult group of the MKO and particular hostile media outlets are on the list of supporters of turmoil and sabotage. Meanwhile, Britain's history is fraught with crimes against independence-seeking nations. Hands of the Israeli Zionist regime, with its occupying and aggressive temperament, is in the blood of the oppressed Palestinian people every day; The Saudi autocratic regime does not even have a single record of holding an election in its black list and it has not left an stone unturned in its crimes against the Yemeni and Bahraini people; the hands of the MKO terrorist group are soaked in the blood of more than 17,000 innocent people of Iran, the group which continues to carry out its violent acts while traveling freely in European countries; The crimes of ISIS have whitened the history of atrocities of bloodthirsty criminals throughout the history. As noted in the previous paragraphs, the US government, under Trump, further demonstrated, in its recent unrest, its expanded intervention in Iran's internal affairs in a disgraceful way. America's support for turmoil, violence and devilry in Iran is a measure for covering the defeats of its policies and those of its regional allies.

- What we highly regret to see in the current situation, is the hasty and pre-determined comments and positions of the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council and those of some Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council on recent unrests in Iran, derived and based on unreliable and unverified stories. Unfortunately, he expresses concern over the arrest of saboteurs and implicitly ignores and does not mention their actions in destroying public property, disrupting public order, killing and wounding innocent people, including women and children. While the active role of the MKO and other hired and guided terrorists from outside the country has been evident and unarguable in the killings that have taken place; and it should not be protected in the name of human rights. In addition, with the announcement of official support by governments such as the United States, the Zionist regime and Saudi Arabia of the turbulent, causing



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financial and financial losses, it was anticipated that the rioters would be condemned in the statement by the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council while, unfortunately, in the statement, no single reference is made to the mass demonstrations of the people (whose children, religious sites and mosques were fought by rioters).

- These statements, while criticizing and expressing concern about the limits imposed on the Internet and social networks, turn a blind eye toward promoting violence, sabotage, and instructions for bomb making, tear gas and how to confront with the police and security forces through these very social networks; and somehow they are beside them. They talk about protecting the freedom of peaceful gatherings, while simply pass by violent and sabotage gatherings, and not only do not express their concern but also they do not make any reference to them.
- In some cases, international human rights mechanisms have been transformed into human rights defenders as a safe haven for such individuals and groups through their support for terrorist groups, criminals and desperados. Such statements and expression of positions, not only are detracts from the mission of human rights institutions, but also undermine their credibility and dignity.
- The project of unrest in Iran was designed by an external think tank. Considering the social and economic conditions of the country and the existence of social demands and some economic problems that are addressed by a significant number of people, this foreign think tank set targets and even it had set the date for the unrest. Violence and conflict with officials and authorities, as well as the creation of insecurity in the community, and the gradual accumulation of forces inside and outside the country, with the ultimate goal of creating chaos and insecurity was the next phase of the foreign plot.
- In gatherings that took place in the past days with the guild goals, unfortunately, some people intended to misuse the situation and surf on these gatherings and to

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take actions, including the death scenario, which was the target of orchestrators from outside the country. Fortunately, the Iranian people separated themselves from these people. As noted in the previous paragraphs, some hostile mal-wishers from outside the country had planned to take actions which would destroy the private assets of people and state property. These people and their followers sought goals other than livelihood issues of people. A large number of individuals who took such actions were identified and prosecuted. The arrested individuals were further found to have no livelihood concerns and their leaders and the main elements were referred to the judiciary. Many of them who were deceived by the emotions of their young age, were released upon completion of the required procedures. During these incidents, police officers resorted to their authority, rationality, intelligence and their past continuous trainings and restraint, encountered these people and struggled to protect the security, the lives, the wealth and honor of people.

- The allegation on intervention of Revolutionary Corpse (Sepah) in recent unrests is categorically denied. Police of the country, as the pertinent official organ responsible for dealing the unrest issue, with detailed intelligence and knowledge of the plot of enemies and using their clever and deliberate actions combined with authority and self-restraint, while separating people, members of the civil society and protesters who had legitimate demands, from the planners and leaders of riots, identified and arrested the lawbreakers, in the shortest possible time. Among the detainees are individuals who insulted the holy flag of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The main perpetrators of releasing the fire engine car toward people which unfortunately resulted in death of a man and his son, were also arrested. The cause of deaths of a number of individuals during the onslaught of armed attack and shooting at the police headquarters is also ambiguous. Police officers made warnings and deterrent measures. The issue is under investigation. In addition, some of the police and other military forces were injured and, unfortunately, one of these loved ones was martyred.

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- The free current of information, were followed in particular occasions, by scattering of fabricated news and other forms of “war of information”. These threats are to be faced by all free and independent countries. We are not the sole country which deems it necessary to introduce solutions to deal with such challenges. These type of measures are not only required for encountering forged news as well as riots and election unrests, but also they will be utilized in a more important battle against terrorists such as ISIS (Daesh).
  - There is a need to pay attention to the effort made by some countries, including Saudi Arabia, who tried to stimulate the internal events of Iran through cyberspace. What is happening in cyberspace about Iran can be considered a "war of proxy" against the Iranian nation. The hash tags in relation with Iran, are produced and monitored in the United States, Britain, Saudi Arabia and elsewhere. 27 percent of the hash tags that have been launched on the Internet about Iran are owned by the Saudis. The Saudi government is launching these hash tags and its operators are Israeli, the westerner and the terrorist group of the MKO.
  - In conclusion, it should be reiterated that the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran has provided democratic structures for legal protection of the civilian demands of people and it is quite possible to follow these demands in the framework of the rule of law. The people of Iran are the greatest support for the security and progress of the country, and the participation of people in the elections to determine their fate and the active presence of people in monitoring and criticizing the administration of the country is a guarantor of the flourishing and prosperity of Iran and the Islamic Revolution. The intelligent presence of people is the most important element of resistance against mal-wishers and enemies of the country. Iran's security and stability rests on its own people, who, contrary to the peoples of the countries which are Trump's friends in the region, enjoy the right to vote and oppose. These rights will be safeguarded with great effort and Iran will not allow perpetrators to violate these rights with violence and destruction. The

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Islamic Republic of Iran has always supported peaceful and legitimate demonstrations as a constitutional right recognized since the beginning of the Islamic Revolution.

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