

Impending Holocaust Watch

According to the latest opinion polls, the **most likely winner** of the forthcoming Iranian Presidential election is former President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

"regarded as a pragmatist ... has raised the possibility of improved relations with the United States"

says the press. None of the mainstream reports of this, so far, has mentioned Rafsanjani's pragmatic opinion about the Jews of Israel. Namely, that they should be **exterminated by a nuclear attack**.

If one day, he said, the world of Islam comes to possess the weapons currently in Israel's possession [meaning nuclear weapons] – on that day this method of global arrogance would come to a dead end. This, he said, is because the use of a nuclear bomb in Israel will leave nothing on the ground, whereas it will only damage the world of Islam.

Not important enough to mention.

Wed, 06/15/2005 - 00:16 | [digg](#) | [del.icio.us](#) | [permalink](#)

grrrr

Damned MSM. It *is* important. God, in the US you could be in trouble if you inhaled pot in college or said something nasty about Mexicans 20 years ago. We can't have racists in office, after all, nor drug users.

But I guess being genocidal must be different from being a racist.

-- Elliot Temple
<http://www.curi.us/>

by [Elliot Temple](#) on Wed, 06/15/2005 - 01:13 | [reply](#)

Ganji, the leading Iranian dissident facing death in prison

Many Iranian dissidents have called for a boycott of the elections. Some of those calling are now on hunger strikes and facing death. One of them is Naser Zarafshan, the lawyer of the victims of the

chain killings of dissidents back in the ninties.

Another is Akbar Ganji. The leading Iranian dissident who has been in prison for the past six years. He was released for a week a short time ago, where he gave interviews asking for a boycott of the elections. He also asked for an end to the position of the Leader of revolution and the formation of a true democracy. He has returned again to prison by himself and is now on hunger strike.

In prison he has written two important manifestos elaborating on his demand for a secular democratic republic and promoting nonviolent resistance.

You can read his second manifesto in English here:

www.freeganji.blogspot.com

(The translation is still continuing for later sections)

Please support Akbar Ganji, Naser Zarafshan and other dissidents. Spread the news. Ask public officials to take a stance.

by Freedom Lover on Wed, 06/15/2005 - 03:51 | [reply](#)

Devil's Advocate

Is it clear that Rafsanjani was advocating the *use* of nuclear weapons, rather than suggesting that the *threat* of such a use would be sufficient to end the arrogance he criticized?

Maybe something was lost in the translation, but I think that I can read it either way.

Gil

by **Gil** on Wed, 06/15/2005 - 17:43 | [reply](#)

Re: Devil's Advocate

The "arrogance" in question centres on the presence of Jews in Israel. He says:

Jews should wait for a day when this "extraneous matter" would be removed from the region and the world of Islam, and those who have gathered together in Israel would one day be dispersed again.

To achieve this, he advocates, at the very least, threatening nuclear genocide, and is in fact threatening it. Evidently he would prefer the Jews to leave under this threat – because as he says, Muslims would be "harmed" too if it were carried out – but in reality he and everyone else knows that the Jews are not leaving. And the logic of a threat is that if it is not obeyed, it will be carried out.

Yes, his remarks can be interpreted either as advocating a genocidal attack or the threat of such an attack (and this is no doubt deliberate), but either way, the fact that the probable next

President of Iran advocates even the *threat* of nuclear genocide as a

means of ending the presence of Jews in Israel *is news*. The fact that it is not being reported is itself an event of major significance. What is going on?

by [Editor](#) on Wed, 06/15/2005 - 18:19 | [reply](#)

I agree that it is news and s

I agree that it is news and should be brought up as much as possible, especially to put pressure on the Iranian regime and to delegitimze the elections and its results.

As far as the nuclear issue is concerned, again I agree that there is a real threat. However rafsanjani becoming president or not wouldn't affect that matter at all. President in the power structure of Iran is just a title out there for show. The real power is elsewhere, especially when it comes to the nuclear issue. Rafsanjani is a major element of that real power, president or not.

by AIS on Thu, 06/16/2005 - 00:25 | [reply](#)

Re: I agree that it is news

Good point, AIS. Thanks.

by [Editor](#) on Thu, 06/16/2005 - 00:44 | [reply](#)

Shape of things to come

Dear friends,

I am writing here to let you know in advance how things are most probably going to play out after this Friday (election day in Iran). The past city council elections and parliament elections in Iran were boycotted by most of the people. This came after the huge participation in 1997 and afterwards in support of the reform. This time, after all that has happened since 9/11, the regime in Iran could no longer endure another boycott, another blow of this magnitude to its legitimacy. At the beginning the usual obvious hardliners were nominated and were about to win again, like the past two elections when ordinary people simply didn't participate. But their candidates were considered by the heads of mafia power to be too direct and uncanny to be able to handle the present difficult situation. Rafsanjani has entered the race first and foremost to have the official position once more to go on with the new strategies of buying legitimacy in the international arena. His second and perhaps more important reason has been to stir up the election atmosphere, discredit the too obvious hardliners and bring people into voting booths. But given his infamous reputation they needed still more tactics to reach this aim. So the reformist candidate was barred and then re-accepted by the leader's decree and has ever since been giving a bit more radical mottos. This combination was meant to bring more people to vote, believing they will hinder Rafsanjani or the hardliners from becoming president. So

if the people do show up in considerable numbers and the

reformists win, the regime will have its desired turnout to show as its popular backup. The reformists themselves would be mere proxies for the likes of Rafsanjani. If not, Rafsanjani himself will do the job. In any case they are sure the hatred of hardliners and the sheer despair of the people will bring enough voters to the booths to neutralize a complete boycott. Unfortunately the polls seem to show they are right. About 50 to 55% will probably vote on Friday because of this game of good cop/bad cop that has been staged. After the elections, they are going to resume talks with the United States and most probably recognize the Peace Plan, and so indirectly the State of Israel, to send a nice face to a world that is already looking for excuses to start the bargaining. At the same time, they will pursue their nuclear ambitions. In short, we will have an entire oligarchy of Yasser Arafats, actually more canny and deceitful than him, smiling to the rest of the world and steps away from Nukes.

Whatever may come of this, please remember that there were many men and women who called for a boycott, some from within prisons, and who put their lives at stake to prevent this from happening, that the main student body supported the boycott with all its risks, that there are many who will go with the boycott nevertheless on Friday, and that we saw almost no international support this time when it was so desperately needed.

Anyway, as one of the people, and in behalf of those clueless men and women who are going to vote on Friday for the continual of their servitude, let me say in advance and for all it's worth, how sorry I am about this and all that will come of it.

by AIS on Fri, 06/17/2005 - 03:14 | [reply](#)

:-)

You're awesome, AIS. I'd pray for you if I wasn't an atheist.

-- Elliot Temple
<http://www.curi.us/>

by **Elliot Temple** on Fri, 06/17/2005 - 03:46 | [reply](#)

Thanks a lot.(I didn't expect

Thanks a lot.(I didn't expect this :)

But seriously, when you grow up under their boots, you get to know them a bit.

by AIS on Fri, 06/17/2005 - 07:22 | [reply](#)

Well, it seems people didn't

Well, it seems people didn't fall for this good cop/bad cop anymore to the great surprise of many (including myself). The regime is the big loser of these "elections" , with huge internal strife and calls of fraud from the governmental observers themselves. They lost a big

chance to buy legitimacy and continue to deceive this time around.

by AIS on Sat, 06/25/2005 - 00:51 | [reply](#)

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