



# **IRAN:** **View from the LEFT**

**March 2022**

**N0.27**

## **Word of the Month**

### **New Balance**

*"A new balance is needed in the world, and it is taking shape." This statement is presented in the evaluation of almost all the momentous events of the present century, from the attack on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. From the Arab Spring and the resounding movements like "Occupy!" to the rise of far-right forces in the four corners of the globe, from the rise of ISIS to the setback of the United States in Afghanistan, from the 2008 financial crisis to the Corona crisis, from the Sino-US economic war to the Russia's military invasion of Ukraine, ... These are all direct and indirect evidences of the need for a new global balance and the movement of the world towards a new balance: in the direct perspective, a new balance between states and to overturn the current "outdated balance", but also in the longer perspective, a new balance between nations (and therefore really International) and perhaps even a new balance between nation and state in each country separately.*

*A new balance does not necessarily mean a superior balance. The US withdrawal from Afghanistan, its defeat in the economic war with China, NATO's conflict with its decades-long existence crisis, Europe's relative resistance to the US - including the implementation of "Nord Stream 2" and the strengthening of NATO, and ... expansion of justice demands around the world "thanks" to the Corona crisis are some of the events and trends that have raised hopes for a superior balance - more just globally and more democratically in nation-state relations in each country - and they reinforced such an orientation. Russia's invasion of Ukraine, apart from its inevitable defeat, has severely undermined and even blown away many of the immediate potential of such a balance. This invasion has been called an anti-historical expression of the aforementioned necessity.*

*But what is seen on the front against Russia is also an anti-historical attempt to shape a new balance in the continuation and consolidation of the current balance: The continuation of American supremacy in international relations, the further subjugation of Europe to it, the prance of NATO without a mission, the discrediting of more and more international organizations and laws, ... and even "if possible", shaping a unipolar world and return to "The End of History". Thus, Francis Fukuyama sees Russia's defeat as "an opportunity for the rebirth of freedom, a way out of the declining state of global democracy and the revival of the spirit of 1989" (the fall of the Berlin Wall) and calls on Taiwan to militarize against China and he believes in a fate similar to that of Russia for China.*

*As it has been said, the Ukraine war is an anti-historical expression of a historical necessity, with profound consequences for the immediate potential for the realization of that necessity in an ascending direction. However, the signs of hope that the current misguidance will lead to a shortcut in that direction have not completely faded.*

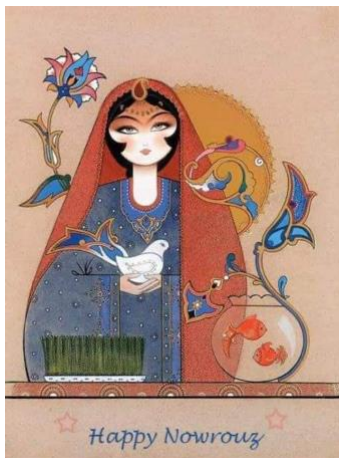


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## **A New Day, A New Year**



March 21st, the first day of spring, is the beginning of the solar new year. The beginning of the day for the nature to flourish; The day when Earth's revolution around the sun reaches "spring equinox"; The day when equality is achieved through Mother Earth, regardless the nationality, religion or the belief in any supernatural power. This day is called Nowruz, and is celebrated in Iran, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and in parts of Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Syria, Iraq, Georgia, the

Republic of Azerbaijan, Albania, China, Turkmenistan, India, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan.

Nowruz is also a time to look back at the bad, good, and ugly aspects of national and international events during the past year:

- Russia's military invasion of Ukraine and the imposition of a devastating war on its people, which has so far caused thousands killed, displaced millions of Ukrainians and devastated the country;

- The return of the Taliban to power in Afghanistan, twenty years after its overthrow by the US military force;

- The election of Ebrahim Raisi, the man who played a key role in the assassination of several thousand political prisoners in 1988, as the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the strengthening of the position of the

"fundamentalists" in Iranian political sphere;

However, we also witnessed:



- The emergence signs of defeating the coronavirus epidemic, an end to the threat which in recent years has destroyed the lives of many people around the world;

- The failure of the expansionist policy of the world's largest economic and military power, the United States, in Iraq and Afghanistan;

- Wider range of strikes and protests by women, workers, retirees, teachers, farmers and other social groups in Iran.



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The announcement of the political-executive board of the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) congratulates Nowruz and the New Year to the people of Iran and anyone else who observes Nowruz:



*On the eve of Nowruz, we salute the political prisoners who are resisting in the most difficult conditions; we salute all the freedom fighters who raise the flag of resistance outside the prisons; we salute the families of the freedom fighters who have been fighting for human rights more than forty years. The Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) greets those who have not allowed the public to forget about the crimes of the government. We commemorate all the those souls who gave*

*their lives for freedom and equality. We salute our fallen comrades who died in the cold and wintry days of rulling tyranny in defense of human values. Happy Nowruz to you all.*

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## **The Importance of March 8**



March 8 in Iran, and in many other countries of the world, is far more important than just a historical occasion. In other words, in these countries, March 8 is the reminder and the

emphasis on the demands and the struggle of a century and a half old of women which finally led to the recognition of 'Women's Day'.

This year, March 8 was held in Iran in a situation where women in our country continue to suffer from discrimination, anti-women rights and patriarchy. A year when women's rights activists are persecuted and some of them are in prisons of the Islamic government. In many countries, too, women are still deprived of many of their basic rights, despite the fact that a century and a half has passed since the beginning of the struggle of women textile workers in New York to demand for their rights. Inequality in wages and salaries in similar jobs than men to the detriment of women and sexual harassment persists, even in the most developed countries.



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Despite all the efforts of egalitarian women throughout history, and despite the progress and achievements through their struggle for political, economic, social and gender equality rights, the gender gap in the legal, political, economic, cultural and social spheres is still deeply visible.

The Executive Political Board of the Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) wrote in a statement on the occasion of March 8:

*The Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian) congratulates all freedom fighting women and men on the occasion of International Women's Day on March 8, We support the relentless struggle of women for full equality with men in all areas of politics, economy and society. Our party believes that women's rights are the rights of half of society and human rights without achieving*

*women rights is not possible. Our party rejects all gender discrimination and considers all human beings, including women, men and LGBT people, to have equal rights. We believe in equal rights for all. The L P I (P F) in the struggle for human rights is along with all those who work for the elimination of gender discrimination, for freedom, democracy, social justice and against religious tyranny, religious and neoliberal policies. We support the demands of the women's movemen and we declare our readiness to cooperate with all those who struggle for freedom and equality.*



**Excerpts from  
Women's Day**

## **announcements; Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian)**

The struggle of Iranian women for equal rights dates back to the establishment of constitutional laws enforced upon Iranian society after the revolution of 1979. Throughout the protests against the Monarchy of Shah in Iran, women supported the revolution and played an important role in its victory, alongside men. In the days proceeding to 1979 revolution, women fought for independence, freedom, and equality, side by side with men. Despite this accompaniment, women were the first social group whose rights were most severely violated by the post-revolutionary Islamic regime. An important part of the achievements of the women's movement and the progressive and egalitarian forces were taken back by the force





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and repression of the ruling regime after taking power post revolution.

Nowadays, women have a tiny share in employment and the labor market. They are being discriminated in the workplace on the basis of wage discrimination and the deprivation of maternity leave and providing daycare service for their young children. The number of unemployed women is almost three times that of men. Most employers refuse to hire married women and they refuse to hire back women after pregnancy.

Moreover they legally refuse the rights of women to return to work after maternity leave. Women are not just pursuing their rights and status in factories and workplaces but also they fight in all other all



areas of social life. They are fighting for a place in the country's decision-making strongholds and they are challenging discriminatory laws.

Despite all the efforts of egalitarian women throughout Iran's history and the progress and achievements of



their struggle for political, economic, social, and gender rights, the gap in the legal, political, economic, cultural, and social aspects of life is still remains deep.

***IRAN: View from the LEFT” is published for those who are interested to know the Left Party of Iran (People’s Fadaian) stance on current issues on a monthly basis.***

***IRAN: View from the LEFT may occasionally contain news from Iran that media might not have drawn attention to.***

**The Left Party of Iran (People's Fadaian)**  
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