

(Video) Iran: Interview with Ms. Sarvnaz Chitsaz, Chair of NCRI's Women's Committee

The People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI / MEK) Secretary-General is a woman and for many years, women have been leading the organization.

PARIS, FRANCE, November 6, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Anti-regime protests continue to expand across Iran. Since its outset, the Iranian people's uprising was spearheaded by women. Facing a misogynous regime, Iranian women are the most motivated driving force behind what many consider Iran's democratic revolution.

But their leading role is not a spontaneous phenomenon. It is rooted in 43 years of struggle against the ruling misogyny.



Today, we conducted an interview with Ms. Sarvenaz Chitsaz, chair of Iran's (NCRI) Women's Committee. In this interview, Ms. Chitsaz shed light on the Iranian women's role in the current uprising and the history of women's struggle for freedom and equality.

A testament to this fact is the role of women in the Iranian Resistance, who not only act as trailblazers of the struggle for freedom but hold senior leadership positions.

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We believe Iranian women must be free to choose what they believe in, what they want to wear, and how they want to live. We reject compulsory veil, compulsory religion, and compulsory government.”

NCRI

Today, we conducted an exclusive interview with Ms. Sarvenaz Chitsaz, chair of the [National Council of Resistance of Iran \(NCRI\)](#) Women's Committee.

In this interview, Ms. Chitsaz shed light on the Iranian women's role in the current uprising and the history of women's struggle for freedom and equality.

The world is watching that Iranian women are playing a leading role in the current protests in Iran. Can you elaborate on this? Why women?

Question: How come they are leading the protests?

We are facing a misogynous regime, which, over the past forty years, has violated the most basic rights of women, including their right to choose their attire. Therefore, women are more motivated to fight against this regime.

The role of women in protests is not a spontaneous phenomenon. It is rooted in the struggle of Iranian women for the past 43 years, during which tens of thousands of women have been imprisoned, tortured, and executed.

The number of women executed for their political beliefs in Iran, mostly for being affiliated with the MEK, is unprecedented in modern times.

Their sacrifices are an inseparable part of Iran's contemporary history and are embedded in the conscience of the Iranian people.

In addition, women have been playing a key role in the Iranian Resistance at all levels. 56% of the NCRI members are women. The NCRI President-elect is a woman.



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A testament to this fact is the role of women in the Iranian Resistance, who not only act as trailblazers of the struggle. But of course, their leading role is not a spontaneous phenomenon. It is rooted in 43 years of struggle against the ruling misogyny.

The [People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran \(PMOI / MEK\)](#) Secretary-General is a woman and for many years, women have been leading the organization.

Question: What are demands of the Iranian women? Is it purely a demand for gender equality, including the right to choose their attire?

The Iranian women certainly demand gender equality in all aspects, including the right to choose their attire and their social life, and more importantly, equality in law in economic and political opportunities.

However, they know that so long as the fundamentalist regime is in power, they will not achieve their goals. Therefore, their prime objective is to overthrow this regime. Anything short of that would be a misrepresentation of the demands of the Iranian people and a gift to the mullahs' regime.

Question: As a Muslim woman, what is your view on the right of women to freely choose their attire?

I strongly believe in freedom of choice for women to decide about their social life, their attire, their field of study, and their careers. In my view, true democracy is to respect the views of others and to defend their rights.

What the mullahs are doing is against Islam and is an insult to the true believer.

Dictators want to impose their views on the people. The father of the deposed Shah tried to force women to remove their scarves and the mullahs' regime tried to make wearing them compulsory. I think both are wrong. Women must be free to choose, not be told what to do.

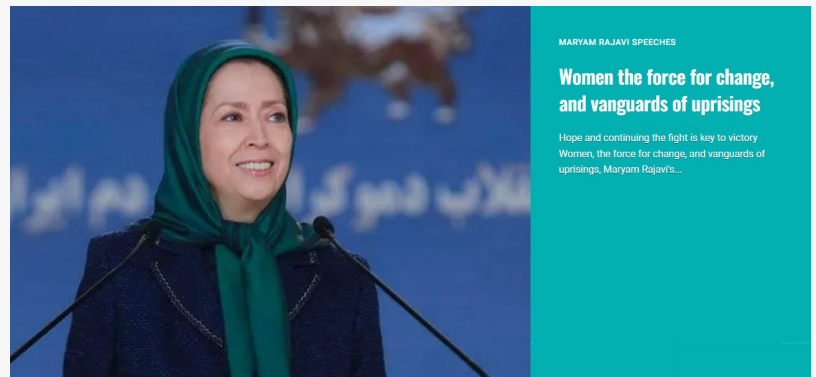
In 1979, when Khomeini started to force women to wear the veil, the MEK supporters, who were Muslim and wore the headscarf, were lined up in the first rows of the demonstration against compulsory veiling.

We believe Iranian women must be free to choose what they believe in, what they want to wear, and how they want to live. In short, we reject compulsory veil, compulsory religion, and compulsory government.

There are reports of a number of teenagers, including young girls, having been arrested or even



Ms. Chitsaz said, "women have been playing a key role in the Iranian Resistance at all levels. 56% of the NCRI members are women. The NCRI President-elect is a woman. The MEK Secretary-General is a woman who is leading the MEK for many years."



Ms. Chitsaz also said, "It has been declared by Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, NCRI's President-elect that all written or unwritten laws on controlling the clothing or behavior of women under the rubric of "mal-veiling" shall have no place in tomorrow's Iran."

killed. The Iranian regime has denied this.

Question: What is the truth?

We have identified at least 26 underage girls and boys who have been killed by the regime during the recent uprising. One example is the 15-year-old Asra Panahi. She was beaten to death by plainclothes agents because she had refused to participate in the propaganda ceremony for Khamenei.

The regime falsely claimed that she had committed suicide. There are currently many juveniles in prisons around the country and the UN and international community must act immediately to compel the Iranian regime to release them.

Question: What is the NCRI plan for women?

The NCRI ratified the plan 35 years ago, guaranteeing full equal rights for women in every aspect of their life.

For us, women's equal rights are not limited to their attire but encompass all fundamental rights, equality before the law, and more importantly, equal participation in political leadership and equality in the economic arena.

Mrs. [Maryam Rajavi](#), NCRI's President-elect has declared that all written or unwritten laws on controlling the clothing or behavior of women under the rubric of "mal-veiling" which have violated Iranian women's right to freedom and security, shall have no place in tomorrow's Iran.

In particular, she has said that the mullahs' sharia law will be abolished in future Iran and all discriminatory laws will be repealed after the overthrow of the regime.

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