

(Video) The Enduring Influence of Iranian Universities: PMOI Resistance Units Celebrate Iran's Student Day

The ruling theocracy founder Khomeini, was able to hijack the revolution, universities were the last bastions of freedom, opposing the mullahs' backward rule.

PARIS, FRANCE, December 8, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [The National Council of Resistance of Iran-\(NCRI\) Foreign Affairs Committee](#) in an article stated that December 7 marked the National Student Day in Iran. On December 7, 1953, three students were gunned down by the Pahlavi regime's oppressive forces outside Tehran University. On that day, the Iranian universities became the "bastion of freedom" and have stayed true to the form.



The National Student Day in Iran. On Dec.7, 1953, three students were gunned down by the Pahlavi regime's oppressive forces outside Tehran University. Since that day, the Iranian universities became the "bastion of freedom" and have stayed true to the form.

The memory of this national day, also known as "16 Azar," has been kept alive with ceremonies and protests held by students in nearly all universities across Iran.

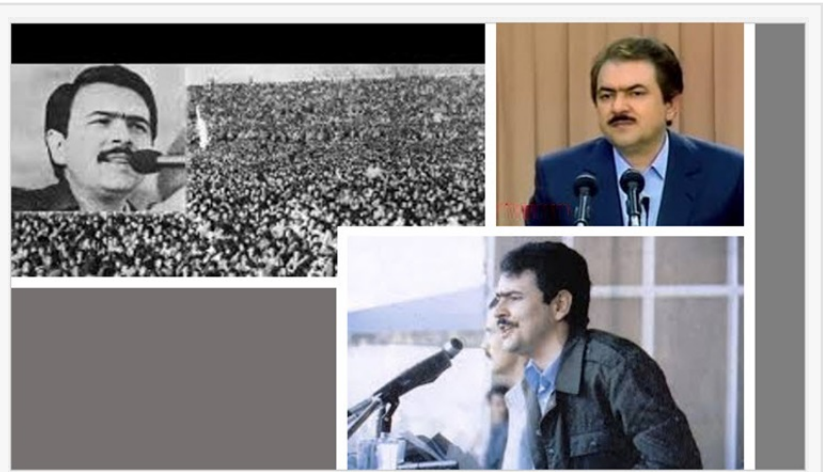
Despite the Shah's brutal crackdown on the students' 1953 protests, Iranian universities stayed as the hub of resistance, where countless rebellious youth were attracted to the country's opposition movements, the [People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran \(PMOI/MEK\)](#), and the Iranian People's Fedai Guerrillas.

These students later became the leading figures of these movements, helping to raise awareness in Iran's society and leading the 1979 anti-monarchial revolution.

While Ruhollah Khomeini, the ruling theocracy's founder, was able to hijack the revolution, universities were the last bastions of freedom, opposing the mullahs' backward rule.

While Khomeini was trying to impose his reign of terror, twisting the real message of Islam, tens of thousands of Iranian university students attended classes of PMOI leader Massoud Rajavi, where he conveyed the real message of Islam: Freedom.

Seeing his regime's legitimacy at stake, Khomeini called for the so-called "Cultural Revolution," and his thugs stormed universities, killing and arresting those who sought the Iranian people's longtime goal of democracy during the 1979 revolution.



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Tens of thousands of these university students, mostly MEK supporters, were brutally massacred during the early 1980s. Many of them form a large part of the over 30,000 victims of the 1988 massacre.

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The regime's tactics are met with the efforts of the Resistance Units slogans, "Neither its warmongering nor its suppressive tactics will save the regime from its inevitable overthrow.""

NCRI

To strengthen its iron grip on universities, the mullahs' regime established several oppressing institutions and bodies in universities, tasked with identifying and oppressing dissidents. Many of the regime's agents were sent to Iran's universities as "professors" or "students," without any scientific background.

Yet, the mullahs failed to control the "bastion of freedom." In 1998, thousands of Iranian university students in Tehran held protests and clashed with the regime's security forces. Despite the regime's heavy crackdown, university students

continued their opposition to the regime.

They played a leading role in the following uprisings in 2009, 2011, 2018, and 2019, and the major protests in 2022. In other words, the torch and banner of fighting for freedom passed from one generation to another across Iranian universities.

The Iranian university students played a very important role during the 2022 major protests, which erupted after the tragic death of Mahsa Amini in September 2022 and lasted for about seven months.

While the regime and its overt and covert allies were trying to resuscitate the long-decayed monarchy, the Iranian universities and students preserved the democratic nature of the revolution in the making by popularizing the chant of “down with the oppressor, be it the Shah or the mullahs.”

A testament to the university students’ bravery and commitment to realizing democracy and freedom in Iran is the letter penned by Amir Hossein Moradi and Ali Younesi, two elite students arrested a few years ago for allegedly supporting the MEK.

“We observe this year’s 16 Azar in a context where the Islamic Republic, apprehensive of a potential uprising persisting until the attainment of freedom, has executed mass arrests and executions. Simultaneously, it aims to perpetuate a cycle of despair, possibly intending to prolong its stay in power amid this interplay of fear and desperation. This effort, however, has proven futile, unable to thwart the uprisings of 1998, 2009, 2018, and 2019. The regime is incapable of impeding the imminent uprising,” they wrote.

Moradi and Younesi further explained, “University students have demonstrated their significance both during and after uprisings. Today, as both youthful individuals and intellectuals, they have the capability to dispel any hesitations and unfounded theories, such as speculation about ‘who will succeed the current regime.’ The reality is that no one is poised for success. Indeed, dictatorial regimes, be they the Shah’s or the Mullahs’, are destined to collapse, making way for the establishment of a genuine and democratic republic. This underscores the potential and impactful role of university students, a force that unsettles the regime, prompting it to intensify its oppression against both students and their professors.”



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In Tehran, the Resistance Units projected images of Maryam Rajavi in public locations with the messages “The university is the fortress of freedom against the Shah and mullahs” and “Keep the memory of the martyrs alive with uprisings and protests in universities.”

In a nutshell, Iranian university students not only play a major role in guiding Iran's society toward freedom and democracy, but they are also guardians of the democratic essence of revolution making. As Ali and Amir Hossein wrote, "The university students have shown that they will not surrender in this fight, which is our real fight."

On the anniversary of Student Day, Resistance Units, the network of PMOI supporters inside Iran, held activities across the country. They reiterated their commitment to continue the path of the students who have laid down their lives for freedom and the martyrs of Iran's uprisings for overthrowing the mullahs' rule.

In their activities, the Resistance Units repeated the slogans of Iran's uprisings demanding for regime change and rejecting any form of dictatorship.

In Shahr-e Rey, Resistance Units attended the graves of the three students murdered by the Shah regime and laid flower wreaths on their graves on behalf of the PMOI and the Iranian Resistance.

On the graves, they placed the message, "Hail to the martyrs of December 7, hail to the student martyrs of the 2019 and 2022 uprisings. Down with the oppressor, bet it the Shah or the mullahs."

In other cities, Resistance Units installed posters with the photos of the three students as well as other students and youths murdered by the regime in the uprisings that have taken place across the country in different cities.

In Semnan and Shahrud, Resistance Units mark Iran's Student Day by commemorating the students murdered by the Shah regime by posting their pictures with messages such as "Students are awake and they despise the Shah and the mullahs."

In Rasht and Tehran, Resistance Units mark Iran's Student Day with images of students and youths murdered by the regime and the message: "Students are defending freedom."

Also in Tehran, the Resistance Units installed posters of the martyrs of the uprising with the message: "Every university is a bastion of rebellion and revolution."



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In Astara and Shiraz, the Resistance Units projected images of Massoud Rajavi with messages such as “Universities are the fortresses of freedom.”

Today, the regime is terrified of its diminishing power and the growing power of the Iranian Resistance and the Resistance Units. The regime is resorting to different tactics to contain the next round of protests, including ramping up protests and increasing repression under the fog of war in Gaza.

But at every corner, the regime’s tactics are met with the efforts of the Resistance Units. Neither its warmongering nor its suppressive tactics will save the regime from its inevitable overthrow.

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