



IRAN UNCENSORED - Media harassment and reality



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Trump announces new sanctions against Iran. Iran would be the “biggest supporter of terrorism worldwide” and “the regime would suppress their own people violently”, Donald Trump says. The US president therefore wants to impose new sanctions against Tehran. “History has shown that the longer we ignore a threat the more dangerous that threat becomes.” (SPIEGEL ONLINE, October 13, 2017)

Missile strike in Yemen: Iran defends itself against the accusations from Saudi Arabia, to be responsible for the missile strike on the airport of Riad. (SPIEGEL ONLINE, November 6, 2017)

US-Foreign minister Tillerson warns Europeans against business with Tehran. In Saudi Arabia and Qatar he is currently looking for allies for new sanctions against Iran. (SPIEGEL ONLINE, October 23, 2017)

Welcome to Kla.TV. The mainstream-media reporting about Iran is dominated by emotions. Daily the population is presented with accusations against Iran of which there is no proof. While the mainstream media, as a mouthpiece for Western politicians denounces and vilifies Iran, the film industry also presents a uniform and frightening picture of this country. Just one example, the US drama – and elaborate movie production: “Not Without My Daughter”. This US production, filmed in Israel, cements Iran as a religiously radical desert state in the heads of the viewers. Iran is presented as backwards, as atrocious, the people oppressed by the regime. Three excerpts from the movie:

An American foreigner in Tehran who does not wear her headscarf properly is threatened by the government regime with machine guns and is reprimanded...” Every hair seen is like a dagger stabbing into the hearts of our martyrs!”

An Iranian who returns to his country from the USA describes Iran after the disengagement from the US regime, as set bac, into the Stone Age... “I’ll tell you one thing: this country was on the way to becoming civilized before the revolution. We had chemical factories, oil refineries, multi-million dollar industry. And what happened? Everything rotting in the desert because no one knows how to run them. I feel like I’m in the stone-age!”

The destiny of a woman who is abused by her husband is misused to damage the reputation of a whole nation.

However, what is media harassment and what is reality? Where does this negative attitude of the West towards Iran originate and why do western powers see themselves threatened?

Kla.TV traveled to the country to get an uncensored first-hand impression concerning the situation and the people on site. We were surprised.

First of all, there was nothing to be seen of a backward desert state. Hardly any country has so many different sides of the landscape like Iran. Iran, about 40 times bigger than Switzerland, has a difference in temperature of 40 degrees every season. Whilst the hottest place on earth is the desert Lut, there is water overflowing in Iran's "green lung" on the Caspian Sea. While people on the Iranian Isle of Qeshm take a bath in the Persian Gulf and lie under palm trees, people at the same time can use ski lifts in the Iranian mountains which invite to comfortable skiing.

Iran has more agricultural land than Spain and France together. In this country the big difference in climate allows almost everything to grow in every season. If you want to embarrass an Iranian, ask him if there is something that is not available in his country. As beautiful as the landscape is, as warm-hearted are the people in Iran. They are hard to beat for their deep genuine affection, helpfulness and hospitality. For example, we were waiting for our travel guide for only a few minutes at the Grand Bazaar in Tehran. Despite the masses of people, we were nicely asked at least 5 times during these few minutes if everything was alright, if we were okay or if we needed help. All days of our stay went by in such cordial care and openness.

The people convey the impression to be part of ONE big family. The roadsides and bridges are decorated with pictures of young men who died in the fight against terrorism. During our stay, there was a funeral of one victim – a young family father of two small children who was beheaded - over one million people attended the funeral and expressed their rejection against war.

While the Western press warns against the "police state Iran", we hardly saw police patrols during our stay in Tehran – contrary to the USA and Western countries. According to the Swiss newspaper "Neue Zürcher Zeitung NZZ", Iran is considered as surveillance state. However, we experienced in Tehran for the first time what it is like not to be surrounded by surveillance cameras, speed traps, police and government controls all the time. We also could not discover any policeman who for example made sure that traffic rules were obeyed. "Following the traffic rules is not the only thing that is not controlled," we were explained. With a gas price of less than 20 Cent per liter, no parking prices and inexpensive cars from factories within their own country, entirely new problems arise: Driving a car is affordable for almost everyone which results in intense traffic. "It is more like anarchy than a police state," the politician of the Iranian Ministry for Foreign Affairs says with a smile on his face while cars keep overtaking him from left and right. "Even paying or not paying taxes is handled with far more mercy than in the West", we hear much to our surprise. The average tax rate is 1 %. Furthermore, there is only a very low personal payment for medical care. According to the government, Iran has only half as much people suffering from cancer than other countries. Among ten thousands of people, we rarely saw overweight people. Most people were looking very well and healthy.

Iran is one of the most independent countries of the world and no longer under the control of the US administration. We realize this not only as we see the former American embassy which is now a museum and documents the US crimes against the Iranian people, but also as we visit the magnificent residence of the Shah of Persia.

For that, we go back to the year 1953...

In August 1953, the American secret service CIA overthrew the nationally oriented Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh and made the more obedient Shah a strong man in the country who had already ascended the Peacock Throne in 1941 at the age of 22. In the following years, US corporations made sure that the Iranian oil flowed again according to their interests. The black gold offered a solid income source and with Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, a controllable ruler was at hand who filled the pockets of the US corporations. The Shah dreamed of making the Iran a superpower under the control of the USA, whereas in reality the Iranian people became impoverished and were starving. People protested in the streets of the capital against the lingering misery, the starvation wages and the social decline. The money from Washington only enriched their brutal corrupt puppet regime. The revolutionary leader Khomeini, in exile since 1964, passed the following message to his followers:

“In some villages, children are so hungry that they eat the grass on the pastures. But this tyrannical regime wastes millions of dollars for diverse shameful parties. The most terrible of all is the 2500th anniversary of the foundation of the monarchy (estimated expenses: 100 million US dollar). Everyone who is taking part in it betrays Islam and the Iranian people.” The torture museum “Ebrat” in Tehran witnesses this dark past until today with enormous evidence. It shows recordings of bloody tortures of Iranians that were not loyal to the regime. Torturers of the Shah regime trained by the CIA and Mossad are shown with name and picture. They tormented those fighters for an independent Iranian country with indescribable brutality, sometimes until death.

In 1979, the “Islamic Revolution” broke through. Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, the US-American puppet and his third wife Fahra Diba were chased out of the country; Ayatollah Khomeini returned and installed a government faithful to the people that rules independently from the West until today.

Contrary to how it is presented by the media and film industry, we discover Iran as a country that has gained wealth, stability and cohesion since the revolution in 1979. Modern districts, most beautiful parks and recreation areas with drinking water for everyone, artful bridges, a modern road network for example with bi-level highways and so on show an increasing prosperity and innovative spirit of the country. Iran’s economy has strongly expanded and modernized since the revolution. In moderate climate zones, successful industries of all kinds have settled. There is a high level of education for both sexes.

We take part in the Ashura festivities in Iran. In the past, the German magazine “SPIEGEL ONLINE” published headlines about the Ashura festival like this: “Bleeding for God – and against the USA” and describes the celebration as follows:

“It is Saturday, it is Ashura. In Iran, Iraq, in every country where Shiite Muslims live, believers commemorate today the death of Husayn and his followers. (...) Blood squirts on pedestrians, pools form on the ground: All over the world, Shiites lash themselves today, often until unconsciousness. The believers celebrate the birth of their religion...”

On site, we are told about the true sense of those festivities. Besides: We don’t see any drop of blood during the procession. It is not permitted to beat oneself bloody, even if radical minorities sometimes tend towards such actions, the organizers of the Ashura celebration in Tehran explain to us. According to a 1,300-year-old custom, the Shiites commemorate the martyr death of the third Imam Husayn during those 10 days. During those days, food and drink is offered for free everywhere in the streets. Most restaurants close during Ashura

because people are provided first and foremost by the rich. In processions and common singing, all people beat their chests and commemorate the Imam who stood up for justice and was killed. We are told that this celebration still has a deep meaning even today. It is more than a commemoration, because each individual is asked to start with himself, with one's own life to stand up for peace and justice based on the model of the Imam. They warn each other against hostility, call for ensuring peace, starting with oneself. Thus, future wars will be avoided. Even men are crying everywhere in the streets without restraint.

“Allah Allah! When will the victory come? When will humanity be freed from their misery? The world is full of noise and screams for happiness but man destroys himself. On one side, brutality erupts; on the other side we hear voices of misfortune. The cry of happiness has become silent and there is no hope anymore.

Dear God, the hearts suffer from loneliness. Brutality is becoming stronger and stronger. Sadness is spreading more and more.

Patience and rest have left our world. Look at the hostility; look at the warning smoke and fire. We have destroyed our world.

Look how people kill each other.

Look how faith disappears.

Allah Allah! We cry because of injustice.

Allah Allah! We cry because of Satan's destruction.

Man has remained in ignorance.

Faith has been destroyed through temptation.

Dear God, where is Jesus' healing breath?”

During the festivities, we discover the adoption of Christian customs and a love for Christianity. For example, Jesus with the cross is presented in the processions. A positive attitude of the Islam towards Christianity is also shown in several verses of the Quran.

“And you will surely find the nearest of people in affection to the believers those who say “We are Christians.”” (Surah 5:82)

Also regarding the separation between Shiites and Sunnites, we repeatedly hear that this is an agitation caused by the media in order to promote political goals. The separation has more or less the same importance as the division of Christianity into Catholics and Protestants. For the people, this does not play an important role in daily life. Even intermarriage is common between them.

Other subjects that are criticized and condemned by Western society are for example the obligatory headscarf, the ban on alcohol, the censorship of news or immoral websites in Iran. We finish our travel report with questions that everyone can answer for himself and that will also be of importance in the future.

Obligation to cover oneself in public:

Why does the US government apply double standards regarding the women's rights in Iran and in the US-befriended Saudi Arabia? The women's rights in the USA's strategic partner Saudi Arabia are many times lower than in Iran. Why are those not criticized at all?

Censorship of news: Well-founded research shows that our news in the West basically come from three press agencies and that these moreover exclusively report pro USA.

Consequently, the NATO wars – allegedly in the name of “humanitarian aid” – are automatically justified. Counter-voices on all subjects, like Middle East politics, wars, science, pharmaceutical industry, economy, finance and so on, are categorically censored in the

Western press. In the Iranian press, we found counter-voices and background information about war scenarios, terror attacks and more that can only be found here with us in alternative media. We were surprised by the Iranian people's widespread awareness about political events. Where else is our one-sided media reporting going to lead us?

Ban on alcohol in Iran: Where is the excessive alcohol consumption in our society leading? As statistics show, the number of alcoholics in our countries is constantly increasing. Today, the average starting age for alcohol consumption for children in European countries is even between 11 and 12 years. Annual social damage running into double-digit billions only in Germany. How will this development affect our society, our social insurances and our future? Will those grievances leave us unscathed?

Censorship of immoral websites: Every 8th website is pornographic, 10 to 25 per cent of all search engine requests are of pornographic nature and the current starting age of our children in the internet is at 9 or 10 years. Today immoral, inhuman content is only one mouse click away. Will this development leave our society unscathed? What if those developments cause lasting damage in the coming generations? Who will be able to handle the resulting addictions and problems when they have already in our times spread like cancer in society?

So, have Iran's efforts to maintain spiritual and physical health emerged for absolutely no reason or developed without justification – or will we finally better understand their consistent attitude one day? Does our own ignorance towards the mentioned problems in our countries entitle us to point our finger at Iran...? ...When it obviously simply tries seriously to find solutions to these problems.

We got to know happy, open-hearted and friendly people in Iran with a modern, enlightened mentality and behavior. But despite Iran's current independence, the fear of an unjustified, illegal US-Israeli military attack – according to the pattern used in Iraq, Libya, Syria and many more – seems to be a constant matter of prayer for the Iranian people. Therefore, please help to spread this counter-voice and by this, to take the wind out of the sails of the media harassment and unverified accusations against Iran.

In short, Kla.TV got to know Iran exactly the way Iranian wise sayings already proclaimed it long ago:

Human beings are member of a whole / in creation of one essence and soul. If one member is afflicted with pain / other member's uneasy feelings will remain. (Saadi Shirazi)

„Recreate a world of peace and love and may our all dreams come true. In case creatures listen by the innermost sense, piece praise God in hymn.“ (Mohammed-Hossein Shariar)

Living like a tree alone and free, living like trees of a dense forest in a brotherly manner. This is our dream.“ (Nazim Hikmet)

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