

Rights of Reply
Islamic Republic of Iran

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful

Mr. President,

With regard to the false accusations made by a few number of countries as well as some NGO's concerning human rights situation in Iran, I would like to draw the attention of the Council to the following points:

First of all, ^{*I should reiterate that the*} Islamic Republic of Iran inspired by the Islamic principles and in accordance with the Constitution of the country as well as its accepted international obligations is fully committed to promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all both in national and international levels and exerted every effort to this end. Iran also has extended its full cooperation to the United Nations Human Rights bodies and mechanisms.

Mr. President;

Regrettably, what we are witnessing today in the Council is the repetition of old habits of politicization, selectivity and double standard policies towards human rights issues which exercised by the so-called champions of human rights in discredited Commission on Human Rights and derailed it from its normal functioning. It was exactly due to this malady that the Universal Periodic Review mechanism was produced to tackle this unhealthy trend in a balanced, transparent and equal manner.

Mr. President,

We call upon the distinguished members of the Council, at least for maintaining the credibility of this august body, ~~do~~ not allow those who derailed the Commission to derail the Council as well.

- Do not let those who hide themselves behind the ^{*Title of*} so-called champions of human rights and violate the very basic rights of their own people including the indigenous people by treating them as second class citizens and ^{*or*} opposing the adoption of International Declaration on the rights of indigenous people against the will of international community, to accuse the others to violation of human rights and preach them to observe it.
- Do not let those who illegally and unilaterally invade and occupy other countries and commit the most serious crimes to advise the others.
- Do not let those who arbitrary detain and torture innocent

people in Guantanamo Bay and Abu-Gharaiband in their secret detention centers to justify their atrocities under the pretext of the war on terror.

- Do not let those who stereotype Islam and Islamic values to justify insulting Islam and the Holy Prophet (PBUH) by publishing blasphemous cartoons and other forms and manifestations of Islamophobia under the pretext of freedom of expression and opinion.
- Do not let those who advocate racism and racial discrimination, to arrogantly learn the others lessons of tolerance.
- Do not let those who put hinder in realization of economic, social and cultural rights and in particular the rights to development through, inter alia, imposing unilateral coercive measures and various forms of sanctions and embargoes on developing countries to blame the same countries for violation of economic, social and cultural rights of their people, and etc.

Mr. President,

We are witnessing a lot of contradictions here and these contradictions are too obvious to be ignored or hidden. This unhealthy trend is dangerous and counterproductive. We call upon the said countries to let the Council to continue its normal functioning in a conducive and constructive manner and do not engage in find faulting with others. Instead, we recommend them to look at home first and try to fulfill their own international human right obligations and commitments.

Thank you, Mr. President,