

The New York Review of Books

VOLUME 54, NUMBER 2 • FEBRUARY 15, 2007

On the Holocaust Conference Sponsored by the Government of Iran

By [Gholam Reza Afkhami](#) and over one hundred others

To the Editors:

We the undersigned Iranians,

Notwithstanding our diverse views on the Israeli–Palestinian conflict;

Considering that the Nazis' coldly planned "Final Solution" and their ensuing campaign of genocide against Jews and other minorities during World War II constitute undeniable historical facts;

Deploring that the denial of these unspeakable crimes has become a propaganda tool that the Islamic Republic of Iran is using to further its own agendas;

Noting that the new brand of anti-Semitism prevalent in the Middle East today is rooted in European ideological doctrines of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and has no precedent in Iran's history;

Emphasizing that this is not the first time that the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has resorted to the denial and distortion of historical facts;

Recalling that this government has refused to acknowledge, among other things, its mass execution of its own citizens in 1988, when thousands of political prisoners, previously sentenced to prison terms, were secretly executed because of their beliefs;

Strongly condemn the Holocaust Conference sponsored by the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Tehran on December 11–12, 2006, and its attempt to falsify history;

Pay homage to the memory of the millions of Jewish and non-Jewish victims of the Holocaust, and *express our empathy* for the survivors of this immense tragedy as well as all other victims of crimes against humanity across the world.

Delnaz Abadi, Filmmaker, USA

Shahla Abghari, Professor, Life University, USA

Siavash Abghari, Professor/Chair, Department of Business Administration, Morehouse College, USA

Janet Afary, Faculty Scholar/Associate Professor of History, Purdue University, USA

Gholam Reza Afkhami, Senior Scholar, Foundation for Iranian Studies, USA

Mahnaz Afkhami, Executive Director, Foundation for Iranian Studies/Women's Rights Advocate, USA

Mahasti Afshar, Arts/Culture Executive, USA

Ali Afshari, Human Rights Advocate/Political Activist, USA

Ramin Ahmadi, Associate Professor, Yale School of Medicine/Founder, Griffin Center for Health and Human Rights, USA

Farideh Akashe-Bohme, Social Scientist/Writer, Germany

Hamid Akbari, Human Rights Advocate/Chair/Associate Professor, Department of Management and Marketing, Northeastern Illinois University, USA

Payam Akhavan, Jurist/Senior Fellow, Faculty of Law of McGill University, Canada

Shadi Amin, Journalist/Women's Rights Activist, Germany

Bahman Amini, Publisher, France

Mohammad Amini, Writer/Political Activist, USA

Kurosh Amjadi, Human Rights Advocate

Mary Apick, Actress/Playwright/Producer/Human Rights Advocate, USA

Daryoush Ashouri, Writer/Translator, France

Akbar Atri, Student Rights and Political Activist, USA
Hossein Bagher Zadeh, Human Rights Advocate/Former Professor, Tehran University, Great Britain
Abbas Bakhtiari, Musician/Director, Pouya Iranian Cultural Center, France
Monireh Baradaran, Human Rights Advocate/Writer, Germany
Massoud Behnoud, Writer/Journalist, Great Britain
Jaleh Behroozi, Human Rights Advocate/Iranian Mothers' Committee for Freedom, USA
Niloofar Beyzaie, Theater Director/Playwright, Germany
Ali-Mohammad Boroumand, Lawyer, France
Ladan Boroumand, Historian/Research Director, Boroumand Foundation, USA
Roya Boroumand, Historian/Human Rights Advocate, USA
Chahla Chafiq, Sociologist/Writer/ Women's Rights Advocate, France
Javad Dadsetan, Filmmaker
Abbas Daneshvar, Chemist, Netherlands
Hassan Daneshvar, Mathematician, Netherlands
Reza Daneshvar, Writer, France
Arta Davari, Painter, Germany
Mohammad Reza Djalili, Professor, L'Institut Universitaire de Hautes Études Internationales, Switzerland
Farah Ebrahimi, USA
Ahmad Eskandani, Entrepreneur, France
Reza Fani Yazdi, Political Activist, USA
Fariborz Farahmand, Engineer, USA
Fahimeh Farssai, Writer, Germany
Keivandokht Ghahari, Historian/Journalist, Germany
Farhang Ghassemi, Professor in Strategic Management, France
Ghodsji Hejazi, Professor/Researcher, Frankfurt University, Germany
Hormoz Hekmat, Human Rights Advocate/Editor, *Iran Nameh*, USA
Ali Hojat, Entrepreneur/Human Rights Advocate, Great Britain
Dariussh Homayoun, Writer, Switzerland
Didier Idjadi, Professor/Associate Mayor, France
Golroch Jahangiri, Women's Rights Advocate, Germany
Marjan Jahanshahi, Professor, Institute of Neurology, University College London, Great Britain
Center for Persian Studies, University of Maryland, USA
Kazemi, Monireh Karimi Hakkak, Director, Women's Rights Advocate, Germany
Minoo Khajeh Aldin, Painter, Germany
Nasim Khaksar, Writer, Germany
Nahid Khazenie, Remote Sensing Scientist/Program Director, NASA, USA
Zari Khodaparast Santner, Landscape Architect, USA
Mehrdad Khonsari, Political Activist, Great Britain
Hadi Khorsandi, Poet/Writer, Great Britain
Azar Khounani, Educator/Human Rights Advocate, USA
Massoud Mafan, Publisher, Germany
Sirus Malakooty, Composer/Chairman, Artists Without Frontiers, Germany
Alireza Manafzadeh, Writer, France
Ahmad Mazahery, Engineer/Political Activist, USA
Lily Mazahery, Lawyer, President of the Legal Rights Institute/Human Rights Advocate, USA
Mariam Memarsadeghi, Freedom House, USA
Iraj Mesdaghi, Human Rights Advocate/Writer, Sweden
Abbas Milani, Director, Iranian Studies Program, Stanford University, USA
Samira Mohyeddin, Graduate Student, University of Toronto, Canada
Mohammadreza Moini, Journalist/ Human Rights Advocate, RSF, France
Afshin Molavi, Journalist, USA
Faeze Monzavi, Women's Rights Advocate, Germany
Golmorad Moradi, Political Scientist/Translator, Germany
Homa Moradi, Women's Rights Advocate, Germany
Ziba Moshaver, London Middle East Institute, SOAS, Research Fellow, Great Britain
Shahrokh Moshkin-Ghalam, Ballet Dancer/Actor, France
Khosro Mourim, Sociologist, France
Mehdi Mozaffari, Professor of Political Science, Denmark
Majid Naficy, Poet/Writer, USA

Azar Nafisi, Writer/Johns Hopkins University, USA
Reza Nassehi, Human Rights Advocate/Translator, France
Jahan Pakzad, Teacher/Researcher, France
Bagher Parham, Writer/Translator, France
Shahrnush Parsipour, Writer, USA
Mohammad Parvin, Human Rights Advocate/Founding Director of Mehr/Adjunct Professor, California State University, USA
Jaleh Pirnazar, Professor, Iranian Studies, University of California, Berkeley, USA
Farideh Pourabdollah, Human Rights Advocate, USA
Saeid Pourabdollah, Human Rights Advocate, USA
Shahrouz Rashid, Poet/Writer, Germany
Yadollah Royaie, Poet, France
Mihan Rosta, Human Rights Advocate/Refugee Adviser, Germany
Hamid Sadr, Writer, Austria
Houman Sarchar, Independent Scholar, USA
Homa Sarshar, Journalist, USA
Marjane Satrapi, Writer, France
Parviz Sayyad, Actor/Playwright, USA
Sheila Shahriari, World Bank, USA
Parvaneh Soltani, Actor/Theater Director, Great Britain
Shahran Tabari, Journalist, Great Britain
Ahmad Taghvaie, Founding Member, Iranian Futurist Association, USA
Roya Toloui, Human Rights Advocate, USA
Hellen Vaziri, Germany
Wahied Wahdat-Hagh, Social Scientist, USA
Fathieh Zarkesh Yazdi, Human Rights and Refugee Rights Advocate, Great Britain
Arsalan Ziazie, Writer, Germany

Copyright © 1963-2008, NYREV, Inc. All rights reserved. Nothing in this publication may be reproduced without the permission of the publisher.