

## OFFICIAL STATEMENT • 7



**Subject:** On the dangerous nature of the MKO and the necessity for the whole people to be [members of] the intelligence organization

**The official:** Founder and Supreme Leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini

**The occasion:** Speech delivered at a meeting with relatives of the victims of the bombing of the headquarters of the Islamic Republic Party and with the [surviving] members

**Date:** 2 July 1981

**Source:** *Ettela'at*, 4 July 1981

Today it is everyone's duty, all citizens of Iran, to open their eyes and ears and monitor the movements of these people [members of the Mojahedin Khalq Organization (MKO)]. It is an act of negligence for the people to simply sit by and expect only the members of the Revolutionary Guards, the committees, and the government to perform these duties. Today everyone is duty-bound to remain vigilant regarding this issue. These saboteurs are sleazily performing their subversive work and are, unfortunately, engaged in misleading our unsuspecting young daughters and sons. It is the responsibility of the parents to be more attentive to the fact that their children are the targets of these subversive elements who, in order to muddy the waters, try to corrupt and thus take advantage of our youth for their evil purposes. Every parent and every relative has the duty to guide and advise these misled youths, these boys and girls, and prevent them from embarking on a path that is contrary to that of the people and Islam. They should

not sit idly by while their children go among the people and commit acts of sabotage and then get caught and suffer the consequences of their deeds, here in this world [as opposed to the day of reckoning]; they should not let that happen. These children have been deceived and they need advice and guidance. . . . Today is the day when you, all of you together, must be ready to wrest this country from the hands of corrupt forces and lead it to prosperity. Today, all of you should be the Intelligence Organization, be its members. If we come across any one of these saboteurs, we are duty-bound to point them out to the security agents so that they can arrest them and hand them over to the courts to be put on trial. The trials must be fair and according to Islamic tenets. We should not sit still and allow the saboteurs to continue to expand their subversive activities. These people are mercenaries whose task is to expand their work and incite riots anywhere they can. They are bent on destruction in the hope of gradually scaring people into abandon-



ing their rightful path. Once the nation retreats, the saboteurs will creep onto the stage to destroy a nation and parliament and [replace it with] a political order that looks Islamic on the surface but is in fact what they, and the Americans, want it to be. We must not sit by as mere spectators. We must be active and involved. Those who have sacrificed, [whose loved ones have become] martyrs, must become more active, because they have lost valuable individuals. They must, therefore, track down those who have perpetrated and continue to perpetrate these crimes. . . .

#### Advice for Those Affiliated with the Hypocrites [MKO]

Once again, I call upon those who have not yet become truly deviant to make a clean break with the hypocrites who have taken up arms against Islam. I do not mean for you to advise them to forgo violence and, at the same time, ask me not to have recourse to violence either. For that we mean that they and we are alike [and we are not alike]. You must have known them, and their views and goals, by now. You must have seen and read their manifestos. How could you not separate them from us, since we are, at least, Muslims! We are bad Muslims!\*

I often told Mr. Banisadr to distance himself from them. God knows I repeatedly told him that they [Mojahedin] would be his undoing, that these wolves who don't have any principles, would eventually destroy him. He did not listen. He kept reiterating that those who have surrounded him were truly loyal and such. But I knew that this was not the case. I had told him that the capital-

ist people could not be of any use to him either, that he was being used as a pawn. The Monafeqin would not be of any use to you either. The moment they come to power they will cut you off. For you believe in the verity that there is no God but Allah whereas they don't. They describe monotheism as class-based. They believe that there is no day of resurrection and that there is nothing beyond the material world. But you don't. The day they prevail, God forbid, you shall be their sacrificial lamb. They will have made you their bridge to victory, which will be burned once they cross it.

#### Improvement and Betterment [of oneself] in the Month of Ramadan

. . . It is not you who have forsaken Islam, it is the nonbelievers, [those] who have taken up arms against Islam, who have taken to the streets and killed innocent people. You surely know the punishment in Islamic law for that. Islam has ordained the fate of he who goes out in the street, armed, and frightens [and terrorizes] people; he does not even have to kill anyone. God has specified the punishment of the corruptors who take to the streets and intimidate believers, and you surely know what it is. It is enough for you to explain the problem, state that the answer is in God's Holy Book and such is the punishment of the transgressors. You should explain this Islamic legal issue and have it endorsed by your group. Why are you floundering? What are you expecting them to do for you?

. . .

#### Our War with America and Its Refuse

We should not forget that we are at war with

\*An expression commonly used by the clergy, traditionally as a reminder of the human fallibility that is responsible for faults and not the essence of the creed.



America. We are at war with America and its refuse. These groups of refuse disguised themselves while we were oblivious. They are still there. You should identify each and every one of them and introduce them to the courts. Don't wait until they set fire to some place. They want chaos to take place, or an explosion to happen in order for people to get disengaged. But they saw that the opposite happened. This [philosophy of and desire for] martyrdom united everybody. . . . The goal was that the issue of America be forgotten. A group would discuss the Soviet Union so that America would be forgotten. On the very day of Ashura [day commemorating the martyrdom of Hossein, the third Imam of the Shi'ites, the Prophet's grandson], one group would abandon the cry of Allahu Akbar and would whistle and clap instead. The goal was to make the people forget about the slogan "Death to America." . . .

Advice to People Who Are Associated with *Monafeqin* [hypocrites: reference to MKO]

I repeat my advice to those who have not completely deviated. I advise you to separate yourselves from these *monafeqin*, who have revolted against Islam. You should not ask them to stop the violence and then turn around and ask me to stop the violence. [Here Khomeini refers to moderate oppositionists who blame both the Mojahedins and the government for resorting to arbitrary violence; basically he is alluding to his former Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan.] This means that they are the same as us. I believe they [who think this way] have seen their [the Mojahedin's] *Methodology* [the Mojahedin's book on their ideology]. They [the Mojahedin] have published their ideological texts, and these gentlemen [liberals like Bazargan] have

probably seen them. They equate them with us, while they know that at least we are Muslims, even if bad Muslims! No, they are not separating themselves from them. . . . These *monafeqin* will be of no good to you [Khomeini is addressing Banisadr in this paragraph]. Whenever they get power, they will remove you as well. Because you say, "There is no god but God," and they are opposed to this. They consider monotheism to be about social classes. They consider the afterlife to be right here, in this world. They do not care about anything except this world. But you do. God forbid, on the day that they reach victory, you will be sacrificed. For them, you are only a bridge towards victory. When they pass this bridge they will destroy it. They do not want anyone to bother them. You have not left Islam, but for those who do not believe in Islam, have revolted against Islam, have taken to the streets, and have committed murder—you know what the Islamic punishment is. And you also know that the armed person who takes to the streets—he does not necessarily have to kill people—when he intimidates people, Islam is clear about his fate, and you know this concept. [Khomeini is here equating demonstrators with corruptors on earth whose punishment, according to the Holy Book, is death.] . . . You at least should talk about this one issue. Issue a statement saying, "The concept is in God's Book. These people, who are corruptors, have taken to the streets and are intimidating the people. According to God's decree, this [death] is their punishment." Make a written statement and acknowledge this Shari'a rule, and put your group's signature under it. [Khomeini is asking Mehdi Bazargan's organization to approve of his policy of terror]. . . .

