

بِنَامِ اِیران

از او نام خاک چون خاک شد جهان از بد او همچپاک شد

Joint Statement by Iranian Student Associations in Canada

We speak on behalf of **Iranian Students' Associations across Canada** in solidarity with our **people in Iran** who are risking their lives to **reclaim our country** from the **dictatorship of the Islamic Republic**. While our groups are non-partisan, we refuse to ignore or censor the voices of the millions of people on the streets, whatever they may call for, and will strictly strive to echo their voices in the spirit of freedom of expression and democracy.

Even though a constantly growing economic crisis sparked the current revolutionary movement, its roots extend into political, social, and cultural demands suppressed for generations. For nearly **five decades**, the people of Iran have lived under a **violent theocratic dictatorship** imposed by killing Iranians, violating international law, and destabilizing the region for its own gain. For **47 years**, the **Islamic Republic, recognized as a supporter of terrorism by the government of Canada**, has ruled through the execution, torture, censorship, economic destruction, and systematic repression of Iranians. This is not a government; it is an occupying regime.

* * *

A Message to the non-Iranian Community

Iranians have been **actively opposing** this regime's existence since its conception in 1979 through nationwide protests over the years including in **1999, 2009, 2017–2018, 2019, 2022**, and presently, in **2026**. Each time, the regime has responded with bullets, prisons, torture chambers, and mass graves.

The crimes of the Islamic Republic against the Iranian people include, but are not limited to:

- **Gender apartheid** including suppression of women and enforced hijab laws
- **Massacres and mass executions**, including over 321 confirmed killings according to Amnesty International over three days known as the "**Bloody November**" in 2019, with other sources citing 1500+ deaths; over 550 deaths during the **Woman Life Freedom movement** according to the UN, and more than 200 deaths claimed of unarmed civilians so far only in the capital of Iran, Tehran **since this uprising**
- **Killing protesters**, including women and children, with live ammunition
- **Systematic torture**, rape, arrest and sexual harassment of minors, and forced confessions in prisons
- **Persecution of religious, ethnic, and sexual minorities**, including members of LGBTQ+, Bahá'í, Kurdish, Baluch, Jewish, Christian, and Sunni communities



- **Economic plunder:** for instance, stealing national wealth and using it to fund terrorists while millions live in poverty
- **Internet shutdowns and information blackouts** to hide crimes from the world
- **State terrorism abroad** endangering global security

Today, millions of Iranians across **all 31 provinces** are demanding an end to this regime. They are not responding to “foreign pressure.” They are responding to **decades of brutality and ideological hijacking of the nation.**

We are witnessing widespread internet and communications shutdowns. Unofficial figures point to **hundreds of civilians killed so far**, including over **200 in Tehran alone according to an article on Time Magazine**, with military-grade weapons used against unarmed people.

The people of Iran are **not asking for reform**. They are **demanding freedom.**

They are demanding:

- **A secular state**
- **A democratic system**
- **Human dignity**, freedom of expression, and equality under the law

Consequently, supporting the Islamic Republic under any pretext, including its geopolitical positions, is unjustified. The regime has oppressed and plundered Iranians, and it has fueled violence beyond Iran’s borders in the name of “exporting” its revolution, deepening suffering across the region.



Our Collective Call

We unite our voices to amplify the demands of the Iranian people.

- We call on **all Iranian student associations not undersigned in Canada, and beyond**, to join us
- We call on **Iranian organizations advocating for a free, secular, democratic Iran** to count on our full support
- We call on **international media** to provide accurate coverage that centers Iranian voices and rejects regime narratives
- We ask **the international community** to approach this revolution with compassion and understanding for a people fighting for their basic rights
- We will actively support **gatherings and advocacy efforts** that demand accountability from politicians and the media
- We commit to **echoing the voices of those inside Iran**, who cannot safely speak for themselves
- We call on all Iranians in the diaspora to **unite together** in the shared aim of helping our people in Iran acquire **freedom, equality, and democracy**





A Message to Our Community

We acknowledge the emotional burden of advocating for our country in exile, and the diversity that exists within the diaspora. Regardless, our resolve to fight for a free Iran is what brings us together. We encourage all members of our community to engage with one another with empathy, respect, and care. Let us continue to uplift and support one another as our beloved Iran rises again while honouring the shared cultural heritage that connects us.

Our diverse backgrounds, rooted in a common Iranian identity, form a bond that no regime can fracture. To those currently silent: this is not a time for caution or quiet endurance. We are no longer asking to be heard, we are **demanding to be free**. We call on our community to turn grief into organization, anger into discipline, and love for Iran into collective action, until tyranny is dismantled and Iran belongs to its people.



How We Are Taking Action

We are taking concrete steps to support Iranian students during this time. In the coming weeks, we will:

- Collaborate with other Iranian student groups to amplify our collective voice
- Work with university departments to ensure students receive academic accommodations and mental health support
- Create spaces for community dialogue, support, and reflection
- Share multilingual resources related to mental health, emergency funding, and academic relief
- Launch campaigns to promote compassionate and responsive university policies



Silence in the face of tyranny is complicity.
Misrepresentation of this revolution is injustice.
The future of Iran belongs to its people.

In Solidarity,



Fellow Iranian Students

Iranian Students' Association at the University of Toronto (UTIRAN)

Iranian Students' Association of Toronto Metropolitan University (ISAMET)

Persian Students' Association at the University of Toronto Mississauga (PSA.UTM)

Iranian Students' Organization at the University of Toronto Scarborough (ISO)

Iranian Association of Queen's University (IAQU)

University of British Columbia Persian Club (UBCP)

Simon Fraser University Iranian Club (SFUIC)

Iranian Students' Associations at York University (ISAYU)

Iranian Graduate Student Association of the University of Calgary (IGSA)

Persian Student Network of the University of Calgary (PSN)

