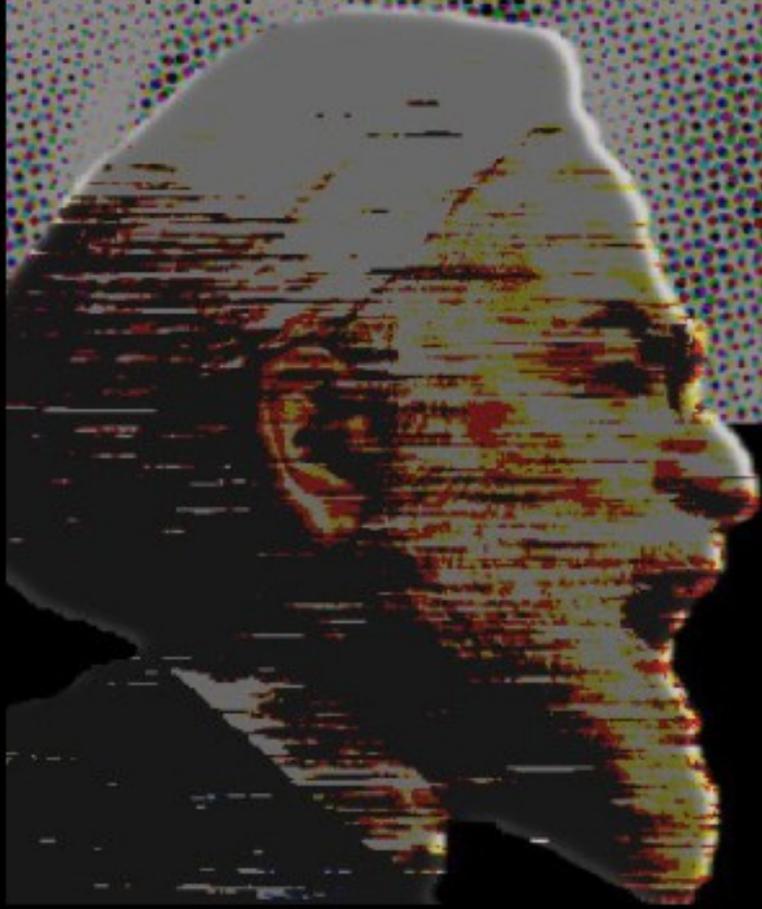


# WHO IS ROUHANI



*“The beautiful cry of  
‘Death to America’  
unites our nation!”*

Rouhani, May 1995

As quoted by Wall Street Journal, August 7, 2013

Media Contact:

2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 201

Washington, DC 20006

Tel: 202-403-0744

[info@oiac.org](mailto:info@oiac.org)



# ROUHANI'S BACKGROUND

- Hassan Rouhani has been a high-ranking official of the regime throughout the last three decades, mainly in the realm of intelligence, military and national security.
- In that capacity, he has been involved in and has supported the regime's policies and actions, including suppression of the opposition and regime's pursuit of nuclear bomb. His positions lay bare his colors and his real stance on key issues.

*"I am proud of my cabinet filled with intelligence officers."*

IRGC affiliated Mehr News Agency  
July 27, 2013

*"Saying 'Death to America' is easy. We need to express 'Death to America' with action."*

Speech on May 8, 2013

- For 16 years, starting in 1989, Rouhani served as Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council (SNSC), the highest body responsible for all issues related to foreign policy and national security matters. He is currently Khamenei's representative in the SNSC. He was National Security Advisor to the President for 13 years (1989-1997, and 2000-2005. Prior to 1989). Rouhani was Deputy Commander-in-chief of regimes' armed forces (1987-1988), and Member of Regime's Supreme Defense Council (1982-1988). He was the chief nuclear negotiator from 2003 to 2005.

## ON THE NUCLEAR ISSUE

- Supporting Iranian regime's nuclear program, trying to keep it secret, and pushing it forward has been one of Rouhani's fortes.
- As the Secretary of the Iran's SNSC, he was intimately familiar with the secret construction of Iran's illicit nuclear facilities in Arak, Natanz and Isfahan.
- In 2003, Rouhani became Iran's lead nuclear negotiator. Years later he boasted of duping the West while continuing the drive to obtain nuclear weapons as expeditiously as possible.

*"Our government will not give up one iota of its absolute rights" on the nuclear issue, Rouhani said, repeating a mantra frequently used by his predecessor Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.*

AFP - September 10, 2013

*Rouhani played for time and tried to dupe the West after its secret nuclear programme was uncovered by the Iranian opposition in 2002.*

Sunday Telegraph - March 5, 2006

- During his election campaign, Rouhani credited himself with pursuing policies determined by Khamenei and successfully deceiving Western powers on Iran's intention to continue the nuclear program. He further said that at the time the political environment was different but we managed to prevent any action against us while not giving up our rights.
- In his first press conference following his victory on June 17, 2013, Rouhani rejected the notion of halting uranium enrichment, noting that: "That era is over with."

- In a privately-held meeting of the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution in October 2005 (after he had left the position of chief negotiator), Rouhani detailed how he duped the West. He said:

*"...Another issue that was raised was the fact that the Europeans gradually realized that we did not accept suspension in the areas that we had technical difficulties and only agreed to suspension in the areas that we faced no technical problems. This is a point that they point out to in the talks recently. For instance, we completed Isfahan that is the section for U.C.F. and the factory that converts yellow cake to UF4 and UF6 was completed during the suspension period. When we were negotiating with Europeans in Tehran, we were still installing some of the equipments in Isfahan site and there was plenty of work to be done to complete this site and finish the work there. In reality, by creating a tame situation, we could finish Isfahan."*

*"...I should tell you that we need some time to implement our capabilities. I mean if we could complete the fuel cycle and make it fait- accompli for the world, then the whole situation would be different."*

### Rouhani on duping the West:

*"We did not accept suspension in the areas that we had technical difficulties and only agreed to suspension in the areas that we faced no technical problems."*

October, 2005

- In an interview with the Arabic daily Al-Sharq Al-Awsat on June 15, 2013, Rouhani said "Iran's nuclear program is entirely a peaceful program. Therefore, it is not in violation of international law and there is no room for any discussion on this issue. There is a major and politically-motivated campaign to mislead and create ambiguity about the peaceful character of this program. This mobilization is primarily done by Israel."

# ON SUPPRESSING THE OPPOSITION

- During his tenure on the National Security Council, Rouhani took hard-line positions in dealing with opposition and dissent.
- He led the crackdown on the university student uprising in 1999. On July 14, 1999, as the student uprising was growing, Rouhani said at a pro-regime rally: "At dusk yesterday we received a decisive revolutionary order to crush mercilessly and monumentally any move of these opportunist elements wherever it may occur. From today our people shall witness how in the arena our law enforcement force... shall deal with these opportunists and riotous elements, if they simply dare to show their faces." The "opportunists and riotous elements" to whom Rouhani referred were demonstrating university students demanding freedom and democracy. According to the Wall Street Journal of June 17, 2013 "More than a dozen students were killed in those protests, more than 1,000 were arrested, hundreds were tortured, and 70 simply 'disappeared.'"

*"At dusk yesterday we received a decisive revolutionary order to crush mercilessly and monumentally any move of these opportunist elements [university students] wherever it may occur."*

Rouhani on crackdown of student uprising in July 1999

# ON SYRIA AND SUPPORT FOR TERRORISM

- In an interview with the Arabic daily Al-Sharq al-Awsat on June 15, 2013, Rouhani praised regime's alliance with Syria. "All parties must utilize their efforts to end this situation. However, there are facts that cannot be ignored. Syria is the only country in the region which had resisted the expansionist policies and conducts of Israel. The conflict among our brothers in Syria has been inflamed by some governments in and outside the region," he said.

*"If your definition of terrorist groups are Hezbollah and Hamas, they are not terrorists... We have humanitarian help to all these groups... We recognize Israel as a terrorist nation."*

September 12, 2002, Interview with ABCNEWS' Chris Wallace

*"[Israel is] the great Zionist Satan."*

Huffington Post - June 16, 2013

- Rouhani was the Secretary of the Supreme National Council when Iran masterminded the 1994 bombing of the Jewish Cultural Center in Buenos Aires, killing 85 people, and of the Khobar Towers in 1996, killing 19 U.S. airmen.

# WHO HOLDS THE ULTIMATE POWER IN TEHRAN?

- In the mullahs' regime the actual power is in the hands of the Supreme Leader. As once described by Khatami the President is no more than the "logistics man".
- According to article 110 of the constitution, Vali-e Faqih, lifelong leader of mullahs (Ali Khamenei) has all levers of power: Determining main policies of the regime; ordering referendums; He is the Commander in Chief of Armed Forces and appoints members of the Guardian Council, Chief of the Judiciary, Head of the State Radio and Television, The Joint Chiefs of Staff, Commander of the IRGC, senior Commanders of military and security agencies; ratifying the president or sacking him; etc. All key issues on issues relating to state matters are decided by Vali-e Faqih. As such, as it was acknowledge by Rouhani and also very recently by the outgoing President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, all decisions regarding the nuclear program are made by Khamenei.
- The survival of the regime (Islamic Republic) is based on the notion of the absolute rule of clergy (*Velayat-e-faqih*). Therefore, any deviation from this principle will inevitably lead to regime's downfall. For this reason, Khamenei has resisted against any political maneuvering in Iran let alone serious political reform.

*"When some [the United States and Israel] say that all options are on the table and when a miserable regional country [Israel] says such things, it makes you laugh," Rouhani said in an address to Iran-Iraq war veterans, according to Iranian media reports. "Who are the Zionists to threaten us?"*

AFP - July 17, 2013

# IS ROUHANI A FORCE FOR CHANGE?

- Rouhani was vetted and approved by the Guardian Council for the election as one who has proved his complete allegiance to the absolute rule of Supreme Leader (Khamenei) both in theory and practice. Even someone like Hashemi Rafsanjani, one of the pillars of the regime, failed this test. This shows the level of Rouhani's loyalty to Khamenei.
- On July 14, 1999, in the midst of the July 1999 uprising, he said insulting Khamenei *"is an insult to Iran, Islam, Muslims, the constitution, and those who recognize Iran as the ultimate decision maker for the Islamic world. In which country, these riotous moves are tolerated? Yesterday evening the decisive order to harshly suppress any movement by these elements was issued."*
- As Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, the President-elect of the National Council of Resistance of Iran, underscored in the major international gathering in Paris on June 22, there are clear benchmarks for change and moderation in Iran. *"Nothing will change so long as freedom of expression and human rights are non-existent, so long as political prisoners and political parties are not free, so long as the regime's intransigent policy in Syria and Iraq remains intact and so long as the regime insists on obtaining nuclear weapons,"* she said.
- Sadegh Sharafkandi, Secretary General of the Iranian Democratic Party of Kurdistan and three Kurdish exiles were gunned down by masked gunmen in a Berlin restaurant on September 17, 1992. A German court in April 1997 determined the attack was perpetrated by "the highest levels of the Iranian State." The attack occurred while Rouhani was a member of the Special Affairs Committee and Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council. As such, he was involved in the decision to authorize the murders of the Kurdish leader and exiles.



# MURDEROUS 'MODERATES' IN IRAN'S NEW REGIME

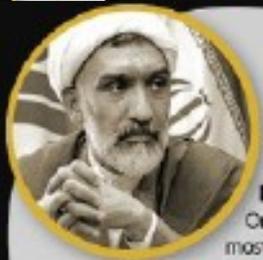


## DEFENSE

**Hossein Dehghan**

Dehghan **founded Hezbollah of Lebanon** and was one of the

student militants who took over the U.S. Embassy in Tehran on November 4, 1979 and took 52 American diplomats hostage. His role was whitewashed from public biographies after rising to power.



## JUSTICE

**Mullah**

**Pour-Mohammadi**

One of the regime's most brutal officials,

**Pour-Mohammadi was a member of the Death Commission** that murdered 30,000 political prisoners in 1988. Included in his former titles: 'Revolution Prosecutor.'



## ISLAMIC GUIDANCE

**Ali Jannati**

Jannati was a member of the 'Supervisory Council for Radio and Television', which paved the way for mass censorship across the regime. He also led the state-run Channel 1 TV network and **played an active role in sending supporters of free speech into exile.**

The world's media may portray Iranian president Hassan Rouhani as a moderate, but his cabinet tells a different story. Packed with hardliners, Rouhani's cabinet includes war criminals, repressors of human rights and an unprecedented number of state security agents.

# MURDEROUS 'MODERATES' IN IRAN'S NEW REGIME



## ENERGY

**Hamid  
Chit-chian**

Chit-chian is a former commander of intelligence section of IRGC in Tabriz. He also headed the "department for extra-territorial operations in Eastern Europe" — a bureaucratic title for **coordinating terrorism outside Iran.**



## LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

**Ali Rab'i**

Minister of Labor and Social Affairs: **Led the Revolutionary Guards' Intelligence Department in West Azerbaijan Province** and became director general of the Ministry of Intelligence Labor Unit.

# GROSS VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS UNDER ROUHANI

NCRI - Deceiving international community and justifying trade with and appeasement of clerical regime by fanning myth of regime's temperance and moderation

NCRI - Since the beginning of 2013 until October 10, the International Day against Death Penalty, 471 executions of prisoners by mullahs' regime henchmen have been registered with 231, including execution of 10 women, carried out since the sham June 14 Presidential election. This is while information on many executions never leaks out of prisons. Some victims were youth of below 18 at the time of committing their alleged crimes. By decree of judicial henchmen, some of those executed received dozens of lashes hours prior to their executions.

In many cities, prisoners were hanged in public to create horror and terror. Some cities that were scene of public executions were Noshahr, Babol, Ghaemshahr, Tonekabon, Shiraz, Jahrom, Fassa, Ahwaz, Dehdasht, Hendijan, Shahr-e Kord, Ilam and Karaj. Many were mass executions in groups numbering 10 to 20 prisoners. State media widely publish horrifying pictures of these executions to generate further terror.

Shocking examples of publicly executing two prisoners of 20 and 23 for stealing less than 35

Euros, executing three youth who were 12, 15 and 17 years old at the time of their arrest, hanging a young man of 28 with a body injured and drenched in blood in Bandar Abbas prison who had committed suicide hours before his execution, and hanging a 23 year old prisoner who hours prior to execution had died of heart attack in Zahedan prison more than ever exposes the anti-human nature of the criminals who have spared Iranian people no atrocity and barbarism during their 35 years of reign.

*Since Rouhani's election  
(June, 2013),  
an average of  
63 prisoners per month  
have been  
executed in Iran.*

Meanwhile, just in Ghezel Hessar prison, 3000 prisoners are on the death row. To facilitate group hangings, the clerical regime has put up stages in Ghezel Hessar prison for concurrent hanging of 24 and covertly hangs a number of prisoners every week.

Concurrent with arbitrary executions, medieval punishments such as hand amputations, blinding and cutting off the ear complements the cycle of atrocity and terror in mullahs' regime. Six verdicts of hand amputation in Shiraz, four sentences of stoning, including that of two women in Tabriz, and a decree to gouge out the eye and cut off the ear of an imprisoned laborer in Tehran, is another example of the atrocity of henchmen ruling Iran.

Mrs. Maryam Rajavi, President-elect of the Iranian Resistance, while reiterating on the need to present the dossier of systematic and barbaric violation of

*In 2013, at least  
660 prisoners were  
executed, with 430 of  
them under Rouhani.  
Many executions  
in Iran's prisons  
go unreported.*

human rights in Iran to the UN Security Council, said: The heightening trend of executions in Iran demonstrates that fanning and crowing temperance and moderation of the religious fascism ruling Iran has no aim but to deceive the international community or to justify trade with and appeasement of this medieval regime. She added: While through empty gestures in New York the regime is after removal of sanctions, through heightening of executions, conducting massacre in Ashraf by Maliki's government in Iraq, ruthless slaughtering in Syria, increasing export of fundamentalism and terrorism, and expediting the nuclear weapons project, the clerical regime is attempting to avert outpouring of public rage and its certain downfall.





## SENATORS MENENDEZ AND GRAHAM TO PRESIDENT OBAMA:

### “THE TEST OF IRANIAN SERIOUSNESS MUST BE VERIFIABLE ACTION”

Dear Mr. President:

As you prepare to deliver remarks to the United Nations later this week, we urge you to re-state the United States position that we will not permit Iran to achieve a nuclear weapons capability and demand verifiable action from Iran that will permit the possibility of a diplomatic accord with the international community.

Like you, we viewed the election of Hassan Rouhani as an indicator of discontent amongst the Iranian people and we have taken note of recent diplomatic overtures by Iran. However, whatever nice words we may hear from Mr. Rouhani, it is Iranian action that matters. We would welcome a credible and verifiable agreement with Iran. A real agreement would have real benefits for Iran.

We also recall, however, Iran's prior use of negotiations as a subterfuge for progress on its clandestine nuclear program, as well as Iran's continued financing of terrorist activities – from those carried out by its own Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps to its support for Hezbollah whose actions have most recently strengthened the brutal hand of Bashar al-Assad. Iran is not a friend whose word can be taken as a promise. The test of Iranian

*We will not permit Iran to achieve a nuclear  
weapons capability and demand verifiable action...  
whatever nice words we may hear from Mr.  
Rouhani, it is Iranian action that matters.*

AS THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS SET TO BEGIN,  
SEN. MENENDEZ AND SEN. GRAHAM WRITE OBAMA:

“IRAN IS NOT A FRIEND WHOSE WORD CAN BE  
TAKEN AS A PROMISE.”

seriousness must be verifiable action by Iran to terminate its nuclear weapons program, including compliance with the mandates of four UN Security Council Resolutions.

In the letter sent to you on August 2, signed by 76 Senators, we expressed our belief that there are four strategic elements necessary to achieve a resolution of this issue: an explicit and continuing message that we will not allow Iran to acquire a nuclear weapons capability, a sincere demonstration of openness to negotiations by Iran, the maintenance and toughening of sanctions and a convincing threat of the use of force. We reiterate those views in this letter.

The national security implications of a nuclear Iran are unimaginable – threatening the very existence of our ally the State of Israel, as well as launching an all but certain nuclear arms race in the most volatile region of the world.

As you prepare to address the United Nations next week in New York, we urge you to make clear the United States’ goal of achieving a diplomatic solution, but also our resolve to take whatever action is necessary to prevent Iran from become a nuclear state.



*We also recall Iran’s prior use of negotiations  
as a subterfuge for progress on its clandestine  
nuclear program, as well as Iran’s continued  
financing of terrorist activities*

## CHAIRMAN ROYCE STATEMENT ON PRESIDENT OBAMA'S PHONE CALL WITH IRAN'S PRESIDENT ROUHANI



*“Our damaging sanctions have gotten Rouhani on the phone. We must increase the economic pressure until Iran stops its nuclear drive.”*

September 27, 2013

Washington, D.C. – Today, U.S. Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA), Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, issued the following statement on President Obama's phone conversation with Iran's President Rouhani:

“Our damaging sanctions have gotten Rouhani on the phone. We must increase the economic pressure until Iran stops its nuclear drive.”

## CONGRESSMAN ENGEL'S STATEMENT ON OBAMA-ROUHANI CALL

*“Iran will have to take meaningful and verifiable steps to freeze, and ultimately end its nuclear weapons program.”*



September 27, 2013

Washington D.C.—Ranking Member Eliot Engel, the senior Democratic member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, released the following statement regarding the phone call between President Barak Obama and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani.

“The President's telephone conversation with Iranian President Rouhani marks an important step in efforts to find a peaceful end to Iran's quest for a nuclear weapons capability. While such engagement is an encouraging sign, for real progress to be made, Iran will have to take meaningful and verifiable steps to freeze, and ultimately end its nuclear weapons program.”

## REP. ERIC CANTOR

U.S. HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER

“*Iran’s government remains — in spite of President Rouhani’s rhetoric — a brutal, repressive theocracy.*”



I am concerned that President Obama did not press Iranian President Rouhani to halt Iran’s ongoing support for radical Islamic terrorism, its repeated violations of U.N. and IAEA resolutions, and its support of Bashar Assad’s war against the Syrian people. These topics were not publicly addressed by the President today, but require his urgent attention.

Iran’s government remains — in spite of President Rouhani’s rhetoric — a brutal, repressive theocracy. It is particularly unfortunate that President Obama would recognize the Iranian people’s right to nuclear energy but not stand up for their right to freedom, human rights, or democracy. The President suggests there is ‘new leadership’ in Iran, yet Supreme Leader Ayatollah Khamenei remains the true ruler in Tehran, and we are only fooling ourselves when we suggest otherwise.

## REP. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

CHAIRWOMAN, HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

“*Rouhani is the same man who bragged about deceiving the West in order to buy more time to continue and expand its nuclear program.*”



There’s a reason why the United States for three decades has not maintained diplomatic relations with Iran. It’s a State Sponsor of Terrorism that is responsible for the deaths of Americans, is one of the world’s worst human rights violators, and has continued to develop nuclear weapons.

Reaching out to Rouhani and giving him credibility on the world stage will only further embolden the regime to continue its crackdown on its citizens and will buy it more time to complete its nuclear weapons program — exactly what Rouhani’s charm offensive had planned.

This is the same man who bragged about deceiving the West in order to buy more time to continue and expand its nuclear program while he served as chief nuclear negotiator for Iran a decade ago, and he cannot be trusted.

## U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs

June 28, 2013 - Following Iran's recent election, U.S. Rep. Ed Royce (R-CA), Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and Rep. Eliot Engel (D-NY), the Committee's Ranking Member, along with 43 members of the Committee, sent a letter urging President Obama to increase the pressure on Iran to dismantle its nuclear weapons programs.

In a letter to the President, the House Foreign Affairs Committee

members highlighted the recent International Atomic Energy Agency report that Tehran is dramatically expanding its nuclear infrastructure, writing: "Iran's election unfortunately has done nothing to suggest a reversal of Iran's pursuit of a nuclear weapons capacity." The members concluded the letter by stating, "It is important that you leave no doubt in the minds of the Iranian government that the United States will do all it can to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability."

*"Iran's election unfortunately has done nothing to suggest a reversal of Iran's pursuit of a nuclear weapons capacity. President-elect Rouhani, who served as a nuclear negotiator for Iran at a time its illicit program was well underway, indicated his support for Iran's nuclear ambitions in his first post-election press conference. Indeed, there appears nothing "moderate" about his nuclear policies, which are a continuation of the policies that have been roundly opposed by the international community. Moreover, decisions about Iran's nuclear program and foreign policy rest mainly in the hands of Iran's Supreme Leader Khamene'i. Khamene'i has recently reiterated his view that Iran has no reason to normalize relations with the United States."*

# CHAIRMAN ROYCE, RANKING MEMBER ENGEL, COMMITTEE MEMBERS URGE PRESIDENT TO INCREASE PRESSURE ON IRAN

Edward R. Royce  
Christopher H. Smith  
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
Dana Rohrabacher  
Steve Chabot  
Joe Wilson  
Michael T. McCaul  
Ted Poe  
Matt Salmon  
Tom Marino  
Jeff Duncan  
Adam Kinzinger  
Mo Brooks  
Tom Cotton  
Paul Cook  
George Holding  
Randy K. Weber  
Scott Perry  
Steve Stockman  
Ron DeSantis  
Trey Radel  
Doug Collins  
Mark Meadows  
Ted S. Yoho  
Luke Messer

Eliot L. Engel  
Brad Sherman  
Gregory W. Meeks  
Albio Sires  
Gerald E. Connolly  
Theodore E. Deutch  
Brian Higgins  
Karen Bass  
William Keating  
David Cicilline  
Alan Grayson  
Juan Vargas  
Bradley S. Schneider  
Joseph P. Kennedy  
Ami Bera  
Alan S. Lowenthal  
Grace Meng  
Lois Frankel  
Tulsi Gabbard  
Joaquin Castro

Media Contact:  
2020 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 201  
Washington, DC 20006  
Tel: 202-403-0744  
[info@oiac.org](mailto:info@oiac.org)

