

Mrs President

Right of Reply by I.R. IRAN

22 March 2007

I am exercising my delegation's right of reply to the statement made by the representative of Germany. I would like to clarify the issue by making the following observations:

1- ~~Following~~

1- We reiterate that right to assembly and peaceful gathering is guaranteed in the constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran nevertheless, like any country in the world, ^{including Germany} laws are legislated to be respected and groups wishes to assemble or ~~demonstrate~~ ^{demonstrate} should obtain a permit. In case of the recent temporary arrest, the point which was totally ignored and forgotten in the German's representative statement was that they had neither informed the respective authorities nor had they acquired any permission for their gathering. Therefore, their assembly was illegal and they were treated in accordance with existing regulations.

The important point which has to be clarified here is that this unauthorized gathering of some women, 3 weeks ago, which led to their temporary detention.

was mainly due their non compliance with police instruction ~~to~~ to disperse, AFTER THEY FAIL TO PRESENT THEIR PERMISSION.

In this connection it should ^{ALSO} be highlighted that all of the detained ladies were released 24 hours after their detention, and remaining 2 were released last week, and these information were duly reflected to the office of High Commissioner for Human Rights, IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEIR RELEASE.

~~It is surprising~~ ~~that~~ ~~the~~ ~~German~~ ~~representative~~ ~~had~~ ~~not~~ ~~been~~ ~~informed.~~ ~~It~~ ~~is~~ ~~surprising~~ how could they ~~had~~ ~~not~~ ~~been~~ ~~informed.~~

Finally, regarding German representative reference to Bahai's Community in Iran, while fully rejecting his baseless allegations, I should like to emphasize that based on the Government established policy and in particular the Citizenship Rights Bill all Iranian, Citizen from INCLUDING THE BAHAI'S LIVING IN IRAN all walks of life of Iranian Society are entitled to all human rights, ~~and that would include Bahai's~~

~~living in Iran as well~~

Thank you