

# Children in Iran



## Children's Rights Now!

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### Children and Education

Children's Education in Iran is one of the most important family issues, problems and known to lack in our society. In fact, not being secular, free and having good quality, the education system has been depriving many children of education making them neutral in regards to schooling and makes education unattractive to them.

Lack of budgetary planning and carelessness of authorities towards education, forces establishment of non-profit schools being found by parents' investments, therefore, partly playing the roll of private schools. Classification of these schools into categories, i.e. schools founded and managed by the employees of Ministry of Education and Training, special schools for talented poor children, public schools and so on, is a sign of the fact that: The education system is not being cared for by government; not enough budgetary funding is being devoted to it and society is forced to offer its own alternatives and personal actions.

According to the enclosure number 55 of "Gozareh" magazine-specially adapted for education, 67% students of non-profit schools are the children of government employees. Mr. Zarhany the vice president of the Ministry of Education and Training in the interview with this magazine says: "There are many ways offered by article number 13 of Council Laws that create liaisons between all provinces in order to ensure resources. By enforcing this law, after ten years, we can expect to have schools with no more than two or three shift classes, with labs, workshops, libraries and chapels and no teachers living under poverty line." He continues: "The manifesto of Ministry of Education and Training is to enforce Council Laws. That means every Iranian citizen would pay a small portion to the Ministry of Education and Training through additional consumer tax. In United States 10% of consumer taxation is used for this purpose, but here we are only asking for 2%. In Germany the industrial fields are financing 85% of the secondary school expenditures. We are not asking for anything from industries. We are collecting from consumers. The industries and services sections are only the connections to secure collection of this money and the deposit to the government treasury. There are rumors at the industries and services sections questioning why they should pay

2%. We explained that you are not paying this 2%, people are paying this."

If we compare the high expenses of living, poverty, unemployment and decrease of purchasing ability of Iranian families to astronomically increase of the cost of basic and even most primary things, like bread, utilities and housing during last few years, 1995-1999, the regret of education system would become manifest. Despite all miseries, children go school; the standards of the education system would make them escape school.

#### **"The Pattern of Model Student Attributes":**

"We make a tree from cardboard. We attach flowers to it and write the name of one attribute of model students on each flower. I.e. Hejab, praying, fasting, not backbiting, not accusing someone, respecting school staff and other students, studying, direction to do what is good and not to commit unlawful acts. Any student who has all these attributes would be chosen as the superintendent of class."

It is interesting that in the same issue of this magazine it is written, "17,000 Iranian students are studying in 117 educational institutions located in foreign countries. These schools are operated by thousands official personnel of Ministry of Education and Training or cadres who get paid for teaching. To operate these schools, there is a need of an annual cost of \$18,000 that is not included in the budget of the Ministry of Education and Training for the current fiscal year. It seems that too ensure this amount these schools have to move to self-operating."

Meaning that before this decision, the Ministry of Education and Training would spend \$18,000 annually to teach religion and the Farsi language to the children of ambassadors and diplomats of Iran in foreigner countries.

*Source: (These ways can... the title of an article regarding the effect of encouragement published in "Gozareh" Enclosure number 55, specially adapted for education)*

**The Best Poem Books and Stories for Children and Youth that Are Published with the Contents of Islamic Revolution and Emam Khomeini within**

### the Last 20 Years Will Be Chosen.

The Children and Youth Thoughts Training Center invited the writers, poets and publishers, who published books for children and youth in regards to Islamic revolution issue and the biography of Emam Khomeini, to send two copies of their publication to the Children and Youth Book Festival.

(Source: "Neshat" News Paper, August 26, 1999)

### Proposal to Make Youthful Lives for Youth

Hojat Al Islam Meshkini, who is in charge of organizing the participation of non-governmental organization at the conference of "The Cooperation of Youth Generation, National Essentials and the Youth Expectations", announced: "The non-governmental organizations will take responsibility to ensure the accomplishment of some of proposals regarding youth. The concern of many national agencies should be the increase of understanding of family and school units in regards to youth characters."

Mohammed Hussein Malekooty Manesh the executive director of "The Proposal of the National Youth

Consulting and Discussion" said: "If we could not be able to create an atmosphere for purposing youth sights by themselves, of course, youth relationships will be led to small groups. Since we have no control over these groups, we can not call them on account."

The juvenility age engineering means to create a series of conditions and facilities for "Youth to have youthful life in Islamic Republic of Iran." In other word, providing conditions for the creative roll of youth, national organizations, family and civil agencies is to ensure the ruling legitimization over the youth world.

(Source: "Iran" News Paper, Tuesday, September 21, 1999)

### Students Want Better Schools Families in Search of False Home Rental Agreements!

In addition to the high cost of purchasing books, stationary,

uniforms and the high cost of tuition to go to public schools, the quality of education in public schools is poor and combined with religion. Despite the increasing crisis in private (non-profit) schools, many families try all possible means to send their children to non-profit schools. They even deceive the authorities to ensure their children's education and future. The following news is in regards to children's education in Iran:

These days, families are strongly attempting to enroll their children in a school that is more sufficient than public schools. Many of them would spend 10,000 to 40,000 Toman (Iranian currency) to obtain a false home rental agreement from realtors. They would provide

the non-public schools with false information that confirms they live in a specific region where they want their children to attend school. By using these false documents, families would be successful in registering their children in a non-public school that provides more opportunities to children in order to develop their intelligence.

According to one of the authorities of the Ministry of Education and Training, about 850 of 900 registrations in

non-public schools have been obtained by providing false home rental agreements.

The authority of Enrollment Office of Tehran mentioned: "Most parents' referrals to that office were based on dislike of their children's school in their region." He said: "This year the enrollments are based on the region of their dwelling."

Another authority of the Ministry of Education and Training emphasized: "The capacity of public schools, especially in north Tehran is not being fulfilled, but there are applications for non-profit schools even though they have reached full capacity."

Source: (Massoumeh Sharyari, "Toos" News Paper-Thursdays, August 12, 1999)



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